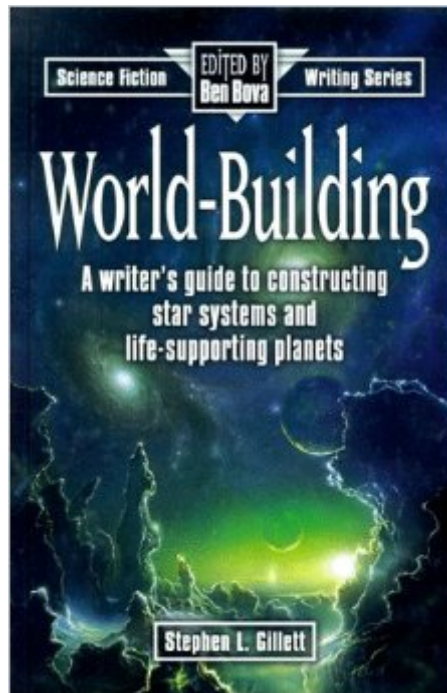


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# World-Building (Science Fiction Writing Series)



## Synopsis

A blueprint in words, calculations, tables and diagrams, designed to help writers transport readers from this world to another. Using what they learn in *Word-Building*, writers will land readers on believable planets, real or invented.

## Book Information

Series: Science Fiction Writing Series

Hardcover: 198 pages

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Language: English

ISBN-10: 0898797071

ISBN-13: 978-0898797077

Product Dimensions: 0.8 x 6.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #409,920 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Science Fiction & Fantasy](#) #1673 in [Books > Textbooks > Humanities > Literature > Creative Writing & Composition](#) #2471 in [Books > Reference > Writing, Research & Publishing Guides > Writing > Fiction](#)

## Customer Reviews

"World-Building" is the volume in the Science Fiction Writing Series edited by Ben Bova devoted to constructing star systems and life-supporting planets. Stephen L. Gillett has a doctorate in geology, was the science columnist at "Amazing Science Fiction" and has written SF under a pseudonym. My doctorate is in rhetorical studies, so I am starting at ground zero when it comes to understanding or at least appreciating the mathematical equations for escape velocity, scaling tidal forces or Roche's limit. While this book thoroughly convinced me that I have no aptitude for writing hard science, I can see how it would be extremely helpful to anyone interested in being on a strong scientific foundation when it comes to writing their own stories. Gillett's volume has eight chapters: (1) *Why World-Build?* looks at the necessity of using real science to create the requisite sense of wonder in your science fiction writing; (2) *The Astronomical Setting* covers the important differences between planets and stars in general and gravity, orbits, seasons and tidal action in particular; (3) *Making a Planet* details how the formation of a planetary system impacts the resulting planets and the options for story writing; (4) *The Earth* looks at the interconnected aspects that make interesting variations possible

with the home worlds you create because of plate tectonics, water and air, magnetic field, colors, etc.

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