## Contents

	Acknowledgements xv
	List of illustrations xvii
1	What is a black hole? 1
2	Navigating through spacetime 15
3	Characterizing black holes 26
4	Falling into a black hole 37
5	Entropy and thermodynamics of black holes 47
6	How do you weigh a black hole? 56
7	Eating more and growing bigger 63
8	Black holes and spin-offs 77
	Further reading 95
	Index 97