Redking Video Camera Stabilizer

(FLCM-RK)

INSTRUCTION MANUAL

INTRODUCTION

Flycam introduces its professional and rugged RedKing handheld video stabilizer with tremendous features which transforms shaky handheld footage into smooth, graceful shots. Its precision camera mounting platform includes sliding dovetail quick release plate that offers quick mounting and dismounting of your camera. The fine-tuning control knobs enable accurate front-to-back and side-to-side adjustments for horizontal balancing. It has a lightweight and sturdy telescopic centre post with guide scale marking for adjustable three axis gimbal to setup low mode operation rapidly. Telescopic post offers a safety knob to avoid the base from detaching from the centre post. The dynamic base platform supports included counterweights which can easily be expanded or contracted allowing you to adjust the balance and rotational pan inertia of the system. All you need is your imagination and you are ready to portray it with our state-of-art handheld camera stabilizer.

IN THE BOX

Please inspect the contents of your shipped package to ensure you have received all that is pictured and listed below.

FOR LOW PROFILE CAMERAS WEIGHINH 2-12 LBS.

CAMERA BALANCE PLATFORM WITH DOVETAIL QUICK RELEASE PLATE

- This is the camera mounting platform with front-to-back and side-to-side movement adjustment knobs.

NOTE: *It is important not to over tighten the adjustable gimbal as it can cause stripping.*

PRECISION GIMBAL WITH HANDLE

- This is the adjustable gimbal assembly with handle for quick balancing.

BASE PLATFORM

- This is the base platform.

ASSEMBLIG YOUR FLYCAM REDKING HANDHELD STEADYCAM

Note: *The threaded stud is located in the center of the base plate for attach it with central post.* Securely tighten the adjustment knob on the telescoping clamp by rotating the knob clockwise. ***NOTE:*** *The adjustment knob should only be tightened by hand.* **WARNING:** Do not over tighten the adjustment knob as it could cause thread stripping.

ATTACHING THE HEAD PLATE ASSEMBLY TO THE CENTRAL POST

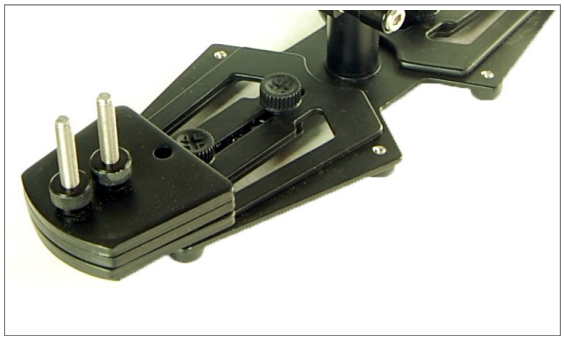
- Loosen the 2x allen bolts at the bottom of camera plate, align the holes with the top of the central post & retighten the allen bolts securing the head to the stalk.

- Attach the quick release plate to the camera base. Slide the release lever to insert the camera set up into quick release adapter. Return the lever to its original locked position.

Note: *The threaded stud is located in the center of the base plate for attach it with central post.*

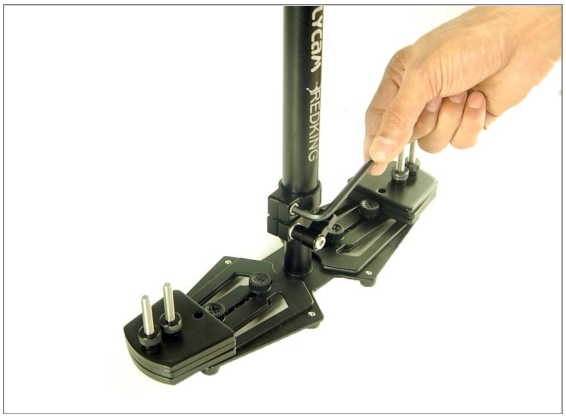
Horizontal adjustment on the base platform is made by loosening the retaining screws and moving the mounted cups closer to or further away from the stalk and then retightening. You will probably need to adjust and re adjust the horizontal position to achieve optimum performance/ personal preference.

Secure the counter weight plate by using the Black thumb nuts to prevent weight movement.



There are two ways to create this correct alignment. The first and easiest is to loosen the adjustment knob on the telescoping clamp and rotate the parts until correctly aligned, then simply retighten the adjustment knob.

NOTE: *Remember to leave at least one inch of the* telescoping *post showing below the* telescoping *clamp.*

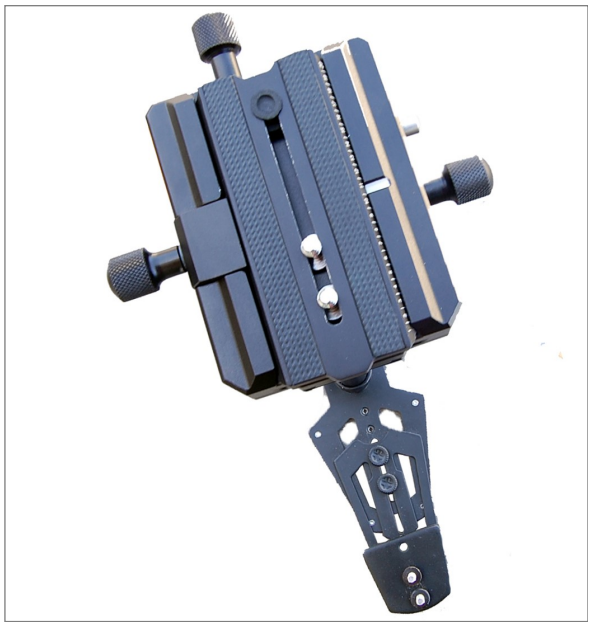


YOUR FLYCAM REDKING VIDEO CAMERA STABILIZER

FULLY ASSEMBLED

- The second method to correctly align the parts is to use an allen wrench to loosen the "Screw" on the top part of the telescoping clamp until you can rotate the parts so they are correctly aligned, then simply retighten the screw.

NOTE: *The second method of alignment is better because it keeps the telescoping clamp adjustment knob aligned correctly. Having the telescoping clamp adjustment knob aligned correctly, although not technically needed to make your Stabilizer function correctly, does make it easier to reach the telescoping clamp adjustment knob later when in use.*



BALANCING THE HORIZONTAL AXIS

Now that your Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer is setup and assembled properly, you can test and setup the horizontal balance of the system. The objective in achieving correct horizontal balance for the Stabilizer is to allow the camera to remain level during operation, given that you are not applying either a pan, tilt, or roll type hand pressure to the Stabilizer. In other words, if the Stabilizer is horizontally balanced correctly, then the camera will remain level, and the central post will remain vertical, unless you intentionally position Stabilizer otherwise. Also, if the Stabilizer is horizontally balanced correctly it will always return to a level and vertical position after you release any pan, tilt, or roll pressure on the central post.

When testing for correct horizontal balance you need to make sure that you pick up your Stabilizer from a flat surface (a table for example) and that you let the Stabilizer hang freely as you hold it. If the Stabilizer is balanced correctly, on it's horizontal axis, then it will be level with the central post in a virtually perfect vertical position.

Most likely your Stabilizer will not be balanced and so you will have to adjust it until it is balanced.

WARNING: If you do not have enough counter weight on the base platform at this time, the entire Stabilizer will flip completely upside down. If this happens add more counter weight below until during this test the Stabilizer remains right side up.

If the Stabilizer tilts to the front, then you will have to turn the adjustment knob counter clockwise. If the Stabilizer still tilts to the front, then move the dovetail quick release plate more to the back by turning the adjustment knob. If the Stabilizer is tilting to the back, then move the dovetail quick release plate to the front by turning the adjustment knob clockwise. Always secure the dovetail quick release plate lock after any adjustments. If you cannot get the front to back axis balanced with this method then try remounting your camera to a different position on the dovetail quick release plate.

BALANCING THE HORIZONTAL AXIS

Balancing the vertical axis now that your Stabilizer is horizontally balanced, it's vertical axis can now be tested and properly balanced. The objective in obtaining correct vertical balance of the Stabilizer is to allow the camera and Stabilizer to remain level during operation, given you are not applying either a pan, tilt, or roll type of hand pressure to the Stabilizer, and most importantly, that the Stabilizer remains vertical, even if you are walking, running, or turning, while the Stabilizer is in operation. In other words, if the Stabilizer is vertically balanced correctly, then the camera will remain level, and the central post will remain vertical, unless you intentionally position the Stabilizer otherwise. If the Stabilizer is not vertically balanced properly, then it will swing about and pendulum when you walk, run, or turn.

HOLDING YOUR FLYCAM STABILIZER

When handling your Flycam HD-5000 Handheld Stabilizer one hand holds onto the handle while the other is used to gently guide the camera in the direction you wish to shoot and frame the shot. For normal shooting, hold the handle in the middle.

For shots that require framing the camera up, down or sideways, hold the handle firmly at the bottom.

NOTE: *Make sure that your "GUIDING HAND" and "HOLDING HAND" do not touch either the bearing assembly or the "YOKE" during shooting. For unconventional shots, like ones that require aiming the camera either straight up or down, or sideways, hold onto the Stabilizer on the lower part of the post, or down near the weight. This will allow your "GUIDING HAND" to have a greater degree of control over the Stabilizer while shooting erratic shots.*

NOTE: *The Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer being used in different ways. Operating your Stabilizer for extended periods of time can easily tire your "HOLDING HAND". If fatigue sets in while shooting, you can try operating the Stabilizer with your other hand. You can also rest for a while by placing the unit upright on a level surface, docking the sled (if using the HD Series Docking Bracket), or by laying it down on the ground.*

When handling and operating your Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer, always avoid violent, jerking arm, and/or body movements. Doing so could cause damage to the unit, or cause your camera to pull loose from the dovetail quick release plate.

The Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer is water resistant. The Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer does not work underwater, nor is it waterproof (meaning the bearings and of course your camera), so avoid direct exposure to rain or water spray. Also, the bearings are not sand proof, so avoid getting dirt or sand into them.

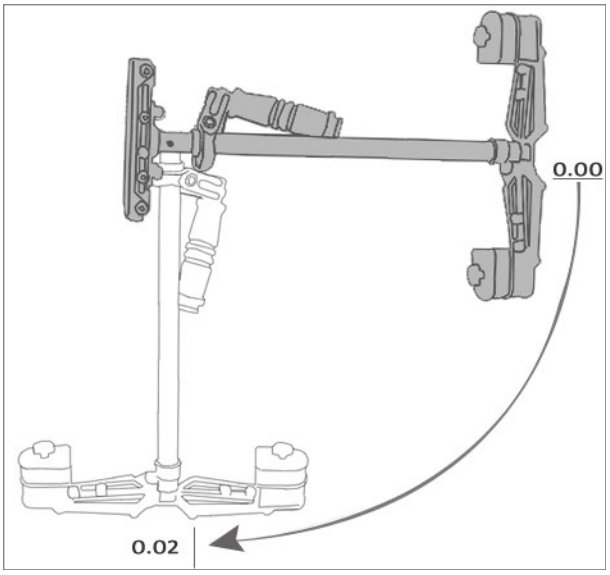
NOTE: *The Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer being used in low mode operation.*

When operating the Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer you will not be able to put your eye right up to the eyecup on the viewfinder. For doing so will cause the unit to be restricted in it's ability to stabilize and eliminate camera shake. Even though you cannot place your eye directly up to the camera viewfinder, you can either use the Camera's built-in LCD MONITOR or attach an external LCD MONITOR (not included) directly to the base platform of the Stabilizer. A 1/4" Monitor "MOUNTING HOLE" is located at both the front and back edges of the base platform.

NOTE: *You can also attach an external LCD MONITOR (not included) to the accessory shoe on the top of your Camcorder. We believe that better results are obtained when you attach the monitor to the Flycam Redking Video Camera Stabilizer's base, because this way you generally have to look slightly down to see the Monitor. In doing so, your feet are more visible to your peripheral vision. This makes negotiating obstacles with the Stabilizer safer.*

Slightly bottom heavy, it will be both stable and easier to control.

Check the vertical balance by using this drop time test.



- Make sure that everything is tight and position yourself behind the stand.
- Grasp the center post near the base and move the center post from vertical to horizontal.
- Hold it there. Be sure that it will not hit the stand when you drop the center post and put your free hand to catch the center post when it drops.
- Count how many seconds it will take to fall to vertical. Try using a stopwatch.
- If the drop time is less then 2 seconds, it is too bottom heavy. You need to move the bottom mass closer to the post.
- If the drop time is more than two seconds, it is top heavy.

A DROP TIME OF 2 - 2.5 SECONDS IS PREFERRED.

Note: *Recheck the balance by looking at the sled. If necessary, use side screws and bottom plate screws to make required adjustments.*

BALANCING REVIEW

Proper system balance can only be achieved once your camera is set up with appropriate accessories ready for shooting. This means batteries, lenses, media cards, LCD viewfinder/ monitor, quick release plate, on-cam lights, and all the gear you will use for your recording session.

- Remove top plate of FLYCAM and line up your camera so that its center of gravity is as close to the center of the plate as possible (basically hold the camera in your hand until it feels balanced both left and right as well as forward and back).

- Find hole in the plate that is as close to threaded tripod mount on your camera as possible (while you are still holding your camera's center of gravity to the center of the plate). Attach your camera (or quick release mount if you have one). Tighten it down so it won't accidentally rotate.
- Re-attach top plate to the FLYCAM . Center it, but don't worry about getting it absolutely perfect yet.
- Remove most of the weights from Base Platform, but leave one on each side.
- Insert the center post as far as it will go and tighten so it won't slide out.
- Hold the handle normally and turn the FLYCAM so that it is horizontal to the ground. Let go of the stalk while keeping a firm grip on the handle and count how long it takes to return to vertical again. You should be able to count a good, "One-one thousand, two-one thousand", before it rights itself. With only two little weights it might take considerably longer.
- Add one pair of weights at a time and repeat the "horizontal to vertical" test until it falls at the correct rate. It will probably not be perfect.
- You'll get one that's too slow and then you'll add a pair and it will fall too fast. When that happens, take off the last pair of weights that you added.
- Tighten down the weights so they don't slide around.
- To get count perfect, slightly lower the center post that attaches the Base Platform with the weights until you get the "one-one thousand, two one thousand" count to the vertical position.
- Fine-tune the left-right, forward-backward balance. You will have to go back and forth between the two directions to get the balance just right. Loosen the screw sets that allow the sled to move left and right. Adjust the top plate so that it is centered and tighten down the screws like you would a tire slowly and alternating side to side.
- Repeat for "forward-backward" balancing.
- Check to see if your camera is sitting level. If not, repeat the necessary steps until it does.
- Practice walking/movements ensuring your body motion is not transmitted to your hands and then the FLYCAM and camera.

MAINTENANCE

Bearing Maintenance

The main Bearing on your Flycam Handheld Stabilizer is attached to the Central Post about two inches from the top. It is of metal construction and partially enclosed by the Bearing assembly.

If after a period of time your bearings don't turn smoothly, lubricate with a minimum of light machine oil. Light lubricating oil can also be used on the Yoke and Handle Bearings.

Be sure to keep oil away from your camera, & clean up any over spill.

Cleaning

Do not use solvents or harsh cleaners of any kind on your Flycam Hand held stabilizer. If the unit becomes dirty, use a damp soft cloth or sponge and a mild detergent to gently clean external parts.

Storage

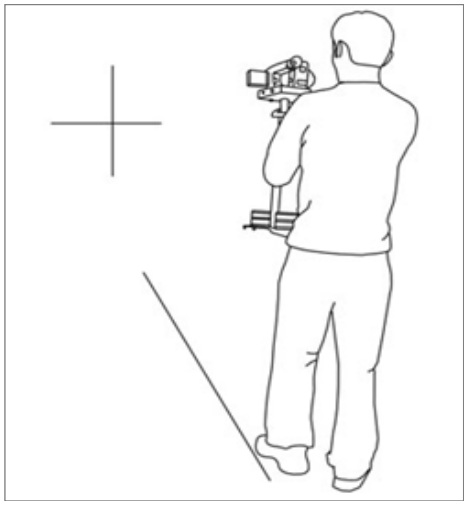
Should you need to store your Flycam Hand held stabilizer for a long period of time then place the unit upright in a dry or low to normal humidity area whenever possible. If you are unable to find this kind of environment then we suggest you store the unit in an airtight plastic container or bag. Standing the unit upright is preferred as it alleviates stress on the system.

NOTE: *Flycam Handheld Stabilizer doesn't work under water, nor is it waterproof. Avoid direct exposure to rain, water spray or any harsh environment. The bearings are not sand proof. Avoid getting dirt or sand in them.*

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT - WALKING THE LINE

Practice this simple exercise to master your Flycam Hand held stabilizer with professional results.

Using masking or gaffers tape, create a cross mark on a flat and even wall. The mark becomes your framing center. On the floor leading up to the cross mark, lay a straight tape line of about 20 feet. Practice walking the line, while keeping the cross mark center framed and in focus. With a bit of effort, dramatic fluid like movements will become second nature and provide production value to all your set ups.



WARRANTY

We offer a limited time warranty for our products. For Mechanical products we provide a 6 month warranty & for electronic products we provide a 3 month warranty from the date of purchase.

We will repair or replace your product, free of charge, in the event of a defect in materials or craftsmanship obtained during normal use or handling based on the user manual. Please note

that we will not cover any shipping costs for returning the product to us. If any VAT or import duties are applied to the return, we will also charge these costs to the customer.

The warranty does not include, by the way of example, damage caused by products that we do not supply or from mishandling in transit, accident, misuse, neglect, lack of care of the product , or service by anyone other than our company.

We are not liable for incidental or consequential damages resulting from the use of the unit or occurring due to any breach of this warranty.

Replacement parts of the product will be provided at nominal cost (covering the cost price of the replacement parts only) to the customers after the Warranty Period has expired. We will cover the complete cost of sending replacement parts within the warranty period. After that, Nominal cost of the product & Actual shipping cost will be charged.

Do not send the unit to us without first getting a response and getting the approval to send back the item.

In case of any kind of dissatisfaction, we urge you to Contact us immediately and we shall do our best to help you out.

For any other assistance you can reach us via email.