

PROT and PROAT

Bottom Loading Tripod Adapter Assembly and Use Instructions

Description

This adapter is designed to allow the use of a bottom tape loading camcorder with a larger tripod head, such as a fluid head or other type of professional use tripod, while still allowing access to the tape. The PROAT also supports mounting additional accessories through a forward mounting bar.

Contents

Included should be: A thin flat plate, a thicker vertical mount plate with an alignment pin and thumb screw. Also included are two short slotted screws and a small set of felt pads. The user will need a flat head screwdriver for assembly.



Compatibility

The PROT and PROAT models have been tested to work on these Sony camcorder models:

Included Parts
for PROAT

HDR-HC1	HVR-A1	CCD-TRV17	CCD-TRV37
CCD-TRV57	CCD-TRV87	DCR-TRV230	DCR-TRV280
DCR-TRV330	DCR-TRV380	DCR-TRV480	DCR-TRV530

Many other model and brand camcorders are compatible but have not been tested. To make a compatibility or incompatibility report, please email: compat@dm-accessories.com.

Handling

When working with this or any other camera or camcorder, be sure to handle them gently. Camcorders have precise internal components that may be damaged when handled improperly. Consult the camcorder's manual for details.

While working with the the camcorder at a table or bench, placing it on on a soft, clean pad or towel is a good idea. Using excessive force may damage parts. If screws or parts bind such that they don't turn, stop, back up and check to be sure it is aligned.

Assembly

The longest screw is used as a camcorder hold down screw. It should be inserted into the vertical plate, then the base plate should be aligned and screwed on using the shorter screws. The base plate is intended to capture the long screw so it does not get lost when the camera is removed. The user may choose to put the felt pads on the corners of the underside of the base plate.



Align and thread screws



Tighten screws with a screwdriver

Installation

Position the alignment pin of the adapter to the smooth hole on the bottom of the camcorder while positioning the thumbscrew into place. While keeping the adapter and camera parallel, tighten down the mounting screw as tight as possible, but by hand only.



Align pin and thumbscrew with camcorder



Check to be sure the adapter doesn't block the tape door



Tighten thumbscrew

Adding Accessories (PROAT only)

The PROAT is intended to allow the use of accessories that would normally be attached to the camcorder's tripod mount point. Shown is a Bescor VB-50.



Often, accessories can be mounted to either side of the camera.



Be sure to check that the tape door opening isn't obstructed by the mounted accessories.



A front side view of the camera, the PROA and an accessory mount bracket.

DM Accessories sells two accessory mount bars, SAB0820 (8" / 20cm wide bar) and SAB1025 (10" / 25cm wide bar). More information is available on the web site.

Other compatible accessory bars are: Canon SA-1 universal shoe mount, Sony HVL-20DMA dual light, Sony HVL-IRM Night Shot Video Light and Sony VCT-S30L Cold Shoe Adapter.

Service

If there are any faulty or missing parts, email parts@dm-accessories.com to get working parts. Keep in mind that while this adapter is designed to work with many bottom loading adapters, it has only been tested with camcorder models listed in previous pages. If this adapter does not work for your camera, DM Accessories will return the purchase price of the adapter so long as the parts are in re-sellable condition.

Maintenance

The aluminum plates are protected by satin black powder coat. While powder coating greatly improves durability and scratch resistance, the protection is not absolute. Should nicks and scratches appear, they could be touched up with a black ink marker or small amounts of hobby paint.

Fingerprints can be wiped using a clean, lint-free cloth.

For table top resting, you may want to attach the enclosed protective pads to the base plate to prevent abrasion to the base plate and table surfaces. Be sure that the camera does not get knocked when resting on a table. For packing, removing the adapter and isolate it from other equipment using padding.

Parts

The short screws for the base plate are a relatively standard 1/4"-20 thread, with a 5/8" length flat head screw. Using stainless steel screws is recommended for best longevity and best corrosion resistance, but standard zinc coated steel screws will work. Keeping the adapter assembled is recommended so as to not lose any of these screws. For stowage or storage, removing the adapter from the camcorder is recommended.

Should the user lose the base plate screws and is unable to locate replacement parts, replacements can be sent for a small fee. Should any parts be missing on first arrival, please email parts@dm-accessories.com for replacements. Larger base plates are available for a fee.



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