Porta-Jib by Losmandy

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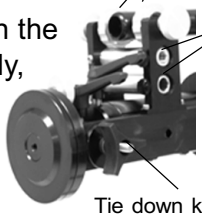
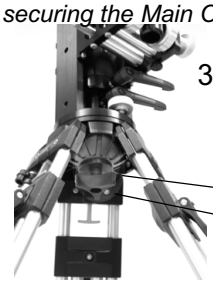
Porta-Jib Traveller Instructions

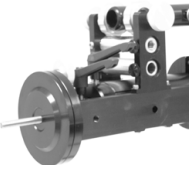


1) The Tie Down Assembly, Weight Shafts, and Weight Shaft Locks are stored on the Traveller. (The Vector Bar and Counterweights are not.) Remove the tie down assembly, and the weight shafts (held in place by two thumb screws).

2) Thread the 3/8-16 rod into the base of the Traveller. No tools are required, finger tight is enough. *(Note: some confusion occurs with customers who are used to seeing the tie-down assembly of a fluid head as a fixed assembly where the 3/8-16 threaded rod is pinned to the knob. They are accustomed to mounting the bolt into the bottom of their fluid head by turning the entire assembly of knob, washer, and threaded rod. Our system does not work this way. If the threaded rod is in our knob, turning the knob does not turn the rod. One may think he is securing the Main Center Assembly to the tripod or dolly, when in fact he may only engage a thread or two.)*



3) Position the Traveller onto the 100mm bowl of your tripod or dolly. From below the 100mm bowl, connect the Traveller to the tripod with the tie down knob and 2" washer.



4) Grasp the two aluminum knobs and turn counter-clockwise. One is a threaded knob, the other is attached to a long through-shaft. Remove the knob and pull out through-shaft. (Place them in your pocket, or somewhere nearby, because you will need them shortly.) Slide the Secondary Arm slightly out and remove the two counterweight locks that are stored on the T-shaped end of the Secondary Arm.

(Set locks aside.They will be used when you add the counterweights)

5) Loosen the lever that clamps the 3" main tube (at the upper end of the assembly).

Lift up slightly on the assembly and gently lift it out of its storage position.

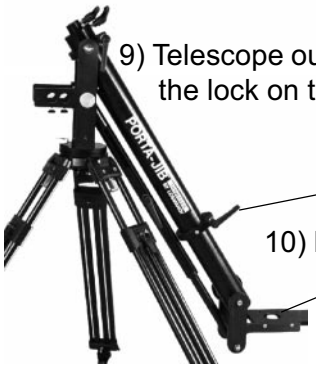
6) Allow it to rotate so that it points downward.

(Make sure the main tube slides all the way down. It will stop when its stop-pin hits the clamp that you loosened in step 5.)

7) Unfold the front assembly.

(As it unfolds, the secondary arm will rotate from being above the main tube to being below it.)

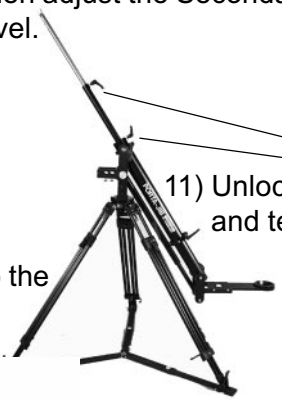
8) Slide the T-shaped end of the Secondary Arm into the guides located on the inner sides of the main upright supports. Secure by inserting the through-shaft and knob you removed in step 4. Lock the lever that clamps the 3" diameter main tube (the clamp loosened in step 5).



9) Telescope out the front section by loosening the lock on the 3” Main Tube and the the lock on the Secondary Arm.

This telescoping allows for the boom to provide a short 41”lift, or a full 68” lift.

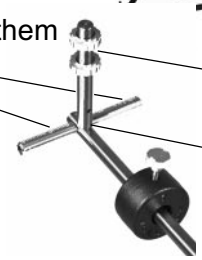
10) Lock the 3” MainTube, then adjust the Secondary arm in/out to level the front plate. Reference the bubble level.



11) Unlock the two levers on the rear assembly, and telescope out the two weight bars.

12) If you purchased the Tuning Weight, slide it onto the stainless steel weight bar.

13) Mount the Weight Shafts by threading them into each other
(through the hole in the weight bar).



14) Mount the Vector Bar by theading it into the 3/8-16 tapped hole in the steel weight bar.

15) For light cameras, prevent tipping your tripod by rotating the front of the jib so that it is parallel to one of the tripod legs. Mount your fluid head and camera to the 100mm cup. For heavier cameras, place the front end of the jib on the edge of an object (your camera case, for example) to support it prior to adding the counterweights.

16) Add the appropriate amount of counter weight to balance the system in the horizontal position. Do not add any weight to the Vector Bar yet. Use theTuning Weight if available. If not, slide the telescoping counter weight shaft in or out to fine tune. (Do this with the camera end down. Gravity will work with you as you push up on the counter weight shaft.)

17) Once the balance is achieved, transfer a small amount of weight, usually 5 or 10 lbs. to the Vector Bar. Note: you are *transferring* weight from the horizontal weight shafts; you are *not adding* more weight.

The Vector Bar gives the jib more stability when coming to a stop. Without it, the jib will want to seek its original balancing point, requiring the operator to apply force to overcome this inertia. With the Vector system, the CG of the vector weight is tilting forward or backwards when it is not horizontal, thereby countering the inertia. It works as if you were automatically moving the tuning weight. This is why it is important to begin your balancing in the horizontal position, before transferring weight to the Vector Bar.

To fine tune the Vector, first make sure you are balanced horizontally, without any drag added to the boom. (The boom drag knob is the 3 ½” knurled knob at the front of the Traveller.) Second, transfer a small amount of weight to the Vector Bar. Boom the camera up about 45 degrees, come to a stop, and let go. If the arm drifts down, raise the weight on the Vector Bar, or possibly add more weight. Check the arm in a 45 degree lowered position as well. It should behave the same way. It is not necessary to make it absolutely perfect, because by adding a small amount of drag to the boom drag knob, you will usually eliminate any small imbalance. If, when you boom the camera up and let go, the jib wants to continue going up, then you have too much weight on the Vector Bar. *Or in the case of extremely light cameras, the Vector Bar itself may be enough weight.*

18)The weight of the camera may have changed the level of the front plate. Adjust **by having someone support the camera** as you loosen the Secondary Arm’s lock. Extend the arm to re-level the front plate.

Get the shot the director wants!