



C5 - Hand-Held Camera Stabilizer

(FLCM-C5)

INSTRUCTION MANUAL



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INTRODUCTION

The new HAND HELD FLYCAM C5 with new design of weight disc and gimbal. The C5 FLYCAM is a lightweight stabilizer for cameras up to 13.2 lbs. It can be used without any body support system as well. The Quick release plate of the FLYCAM C5 is high quality quick release universal system for camera.

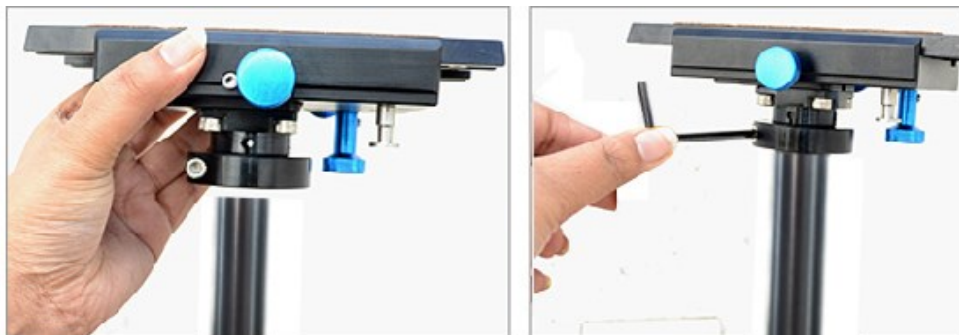
IN THE BOX

Please inspect the contents of your shipped package to ensure you have received all that is pictured and listed below. The grey foam shipping /storage container has been especially designed to protect your purchase while in transit and is a good place to keep your FLYCAM C5 when not in use.



ASSEMBLING THE FLYCAM C5

- First of all attach the FLYCAM Head with central post and tighten it with the provided Allen-key. (as shown in the picture)



- Now, insert the FLYCAM C5 central post into base platform and then tighten it with the provided screw with the help of Allen-key.



- Remove the top plate from the camera base plate just by loosening the blue knob and secure your camera with the plate and tighten it properly with standard 1/4" screw.



- Then, re-insert the top plate into the Camera Base plate.

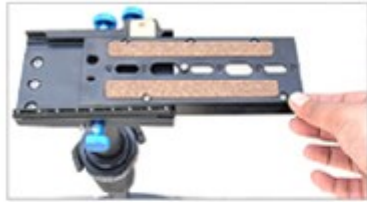


- Loosen the knob, adjust the length of the central post as per your requirement and then tighten the knob to secure it properly.



ASSEMBLING OF FLYCAM C5 HEAD

1. Insert the plate



4. Rotate this knob to adjust the plate



3. Loosen this knob



2. Pull this pin & push forward the plate



5. Use this knob for the horizontal adjustment of the plate



When your FLYCAM C5 is setup and assembled properly, you can test and setup the horizontal balance of the system. The objective in obtaining correct horizontal balance for the FLYCAM C5 is to allow the Camera to remain leveled during the operation. In other words, if the FLYCAM C5 is horizontally balanced correctly, then the Camera will remain leveled, and the Central Post will remain vertical unless you intentionally position the FLYCAM C5. Also, if the FLYCAM is horizontally balanced correctly it will always return to a leveled pan, tilt, or roll pressure on the Central Post. While testing for correct horizontal balance you need to make sure that you pick up your FLYCAM from a flat and level surface (e.g. table) and then you let the FLYCAM hang freely as you hold it. If the FLYCAM is balanced correctly on its horizontal axis, then it is level and upright, with the Central Post in a virtually perfect vertical position.

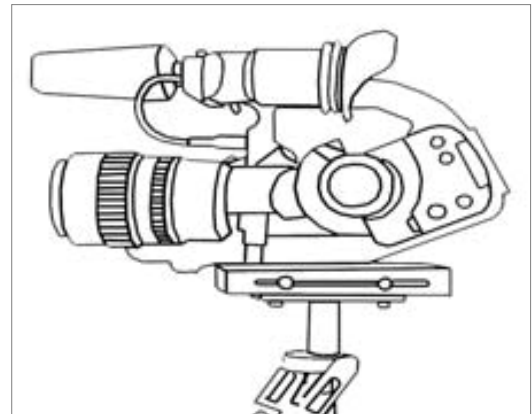


After mounting the camera onto the FLYCAM C5, put the weights according to the weight of the camera.

- The purpose of the counter weight system is to match the low end of the stabilizer to the weight of the camera and accessories at the high/top end with the gimbals handle as the pivot point in between.
- The heavier the camera and accessories, the more weights are required to achieve proper balance. Remember that as you add weight to one side of the central post, an equal amount has to be added to the other side to maintain horizontal balance.
- Both sides added together should equal the weight of your camera plus the head. Return the lids to their original position and retighten for safe operation.

Make sure to check the following mentioned points before beginning the balancing process :

- Camera is securely attached to head plate.
- Lens cap has been removed and secured.
- Telescoping clamp has been tightened.
- Weight cups are added successfully.
- All the screws are tightened securely.
- Battery & all cables should be secured.



BALANCING THE HORIZONTAL AXIS

When your FLYCAM C5 is properly assembled, you can start the test and setup of the horizontal balance. Horizontal balance allows the camera to remain level during operation with the Central Post in a vertical position unless off axis framing is desired.

When testing for horizontal balance start from a flat and level surface like a table. This will allow the C5 to hang freely as you hold it. If your FLYCAM C5 is correctly balanced on its horizontal axis, then it will be both level & upright, with the Central Post in perfect vertical position.

Warning: If you do not have enough weight on the Base Platform the entire FLYCAM could flip upside down. Should this movement start to happen be ready to catch the stalk before a complete 180 occurs. This type of unwanted movement requires more weight to be added to the base with additional weight discs.

This type of unwanted movement requires more weight to be added to the base with additional weight discs. Another way to accomplish horizontal balance is to move the center of gravity of the camera by re-bolting the camera to a different area of the Head and Mid Plate, either front to back or side to side.

Should the FLYCAM C5 be front heavy, loosen the screws on the sides of the Head Plate and gently slide the Head Plate back until optimum balance is achieved.

Tilting to the back means the load is tail heavy requiring the plate to be adjusted forward on the head.

Always secure the screws after any adjustments.

If you cannot achieve front to back axis balance with this method, then try remounting your camera to a different hole on the Head Plate. Having achieved horizontal balance for the front to back axis, tighten the screws on the Head Plate.

If the FLYCAM C5 leans to the right, then loosen the screws on the bottom of the Bottom Plate and then gently slide the Mid Plate to the left. If it leans to the left from the operator's point of view, then adjust the Mid Plate to the right. A bit at a time until balance is achieved.

Secure all screws after adjustments are made.

It may be necessary to reconfigure front to back adjustments once correct side-to-side fine-tuning has been accomplished.

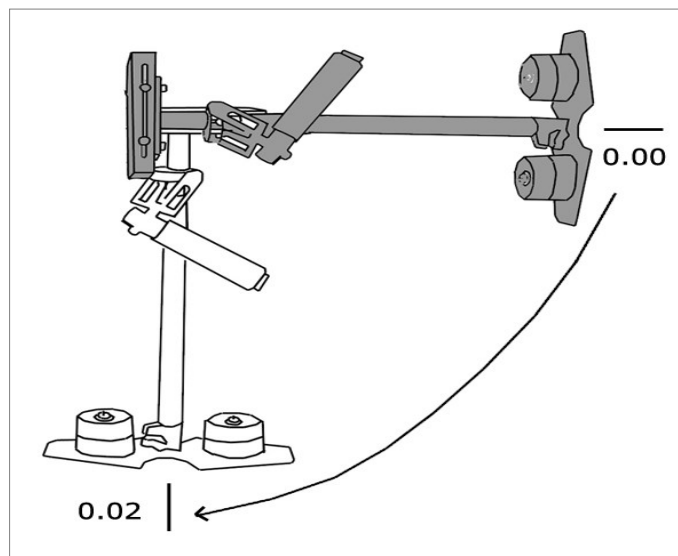
Another option to consider is moving the Counter Weight cups back & forth on the Base Platform by sliding them either closer to or further away from the Center Post via the built in base slots. Make sure to tighten the cups down should you move them.

BALANCING THE VERTICAL AXIS

The sled should be tied up to the docking adapter of your stand or similar so that you can start the fore & after balancing adjustments by centering the camcorder over the central post. To do this,

- Loose the side screws of the head plate and the bottom screws of the bottom plate.
- Look at the FLYCAM C5 from the side. If the camcorder lens is tipped up or down, move the camcorder forward or backwards until the center of balance is situated over the central post.
- Then, look at the FLYCAM C5 from the front. If the post is not vertical, adjust the bottom plate until the center post is vertical.
- You can also adjust the weight cups closer to & further away from the sled as per the requirement till the post is not vertical. The stability of the FLYCAM C5 depends on it being slightly bottom heavy. If it is top heavy, it will tilt more. If it is too bottom heavy, it will be sluggish and hard to aim.

**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 than 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 too heavy.

A DROP TIME OF 2- 2.5 SECONDS IS PREFERRED.

Note: Recheck the balance by looking at the sled.

If necessary, use the side screws and the bottom plate screws to make required adjustments.

BALANCING REVIEW

Proper system balance can only be achieved once your camera is set up with the 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 the top plate of the 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 the hole in the plate that is as close to the 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 the top plate to the Flycam. Center it, but don't worry about getting it absolutely perfect yet.
- Remove most of the weights from the 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 the 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.

HOLDING THE FLYCAM C5

When handling your Flycam C5 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. This will allow the “yoke” part of the gimbal to rotate without hitting your hand or knuckles.

MAINTENANCE

Bearing Maintenance

The Main Bearing on your FLYCAM C5 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 C5.

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 C5 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:

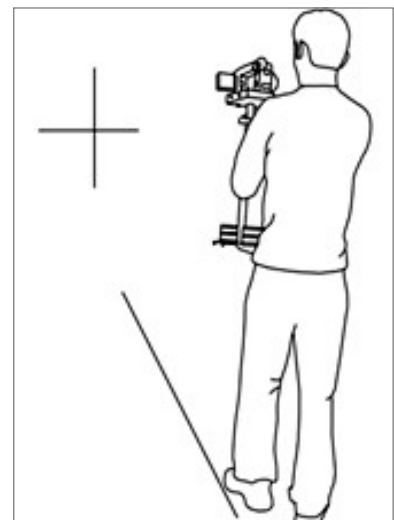
The FLYCAM C5 doesn't work under water, nor is it waterproof. Avoid direct exposure to rain, water spray or any harsh environment.

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 C5 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.



YOUR FLYCAM C5 ALL DRESSED UP AND READY TO GO



Exclusive of Camera and Mic

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.