

Parts List

- 1) Base Plate
- 2) U-shaped Mounting Bracket
- 3) Parts Bag including: 1 brass Captive Screw, 1 Allen wrench, 1 Button Head Screw, 2 Knobs

Introduction

Piggy-Cam is a solid platform for piggyback astrophotography with Tele Vue Optics telescopes. The base plate contains a captive lock screw riding in a slot. This feature gives Piggy-Cam great positioning flexibility with a wide range of cameras. Piggy-Cam's base plate tilts in any orientation. To further increase solidity we left the base plate bare, ensuring a positive lock between camera and telescope.

Piggy-back astrophotography is easy and rewarding. You use your telescope as a guiding instrument (we suggest a guiding eyepiece and a Barlow lens if your camera lens is longer than 55mm focal length). A motor driven equatorial mount is ideally suited for both prime focus and piggyback astrophotography.

Installation

Piggy-Cam can be installed on any Tele Vue telescope with **Mount Ring Channels**. If your mount ring lacks channels, contact Tele Vue for information on obtaining a new mount ring.

1) **Installing Mounting Bracket** - The **Mounting Bracket** can be set in either **Mount Ring Channel**. The presence of a Starbeam accessory in the opposite channel determines which threaded hole (a) or (b) – as indicated in the illustration at right – will be used. If using the Starbeam on a 3" Mount Ring, install the **Mounting Bracket** using the **Button Head Screw** and Allen wrench (provided) to the threaded hole marked as (b) to offset the bracket rearward. In all other cases, install the **Mounting Bracket** in the threaded hole marked as (a).

2) **Installing Base Plate** – Note that the cut-out in the **Base Plate** is meant to clear the horizontal adjustment screw of the Starbeam mounted in the adjacent channel. Therefore, if co-mounting with Starbeam on a Ring Mount, place the **Base Plate** with the cut-out towards the front of the scope. Position the **Base Plate** so that the screw holes on each side align with the clearance holes in the **Mounting Bracket**. Screw a **Wing Knob** into each side of the unit. Lock the **Base Plate** in a vertical orientation.

3) **Installing the Captive Lock Screw** - With the **Base Plate** in a vertical orientation, the **Captive Lock Screw** screws into the threaded portion at the bottom of the **Slot**. Though the **Captive Lock Screw** will thread into the **Base Plate** on either side, it is best to position your camera over the telescope tube for best system balance.

4) **Installing your camera** - With the **Base Plate** locked in a vertical direction, slide the **Captive Lock Screw** up to meet with the threaded hole in the bottom of your camera. Lock camera hand tight against **Base Plate**.

Use

1) You can orient the image frame diagonal in the opposite direction by one of two methods: ALWAYS REMOVE CAMERA AND PUT IN A SAFE PLACE WHEN PERFORMING THESE STEPS!

A) Lock the Base Plate in a vertical orientation. Remove the **Captive Lock Screw** and thread it through the opposite side of the **Base Plate**. Re-install your camera.

This method will hang your camera away from the telescope and may affect system balance. The following step re-oriens the image frame diagonal and also places the camera above the telescope for optimum balance.

B) Remove the **Base Plate**. Remove the **Mounting Bracket** and mount in opposite **Mount Ring Channel**. Re-install the **Base Plate** and your camera.

2) After installing your camera, you can orient the diagonal of the image frame by loosening the **Knobs** and tilting your camera. Once in the desired position, simply re-tighten the **Knobs**.

