

(TPT-3017) TELE-POD TRIPOD INSTRUCTIONS

PARTS LIST

•Tele-Pod Tripod (TPT-3017) •Carry Bag with strap •Tools: Allen Keys: (1) 3mm & (1) 6mm, (1) Double-sided wrench •(3) Spiked feet.

INTRODUCTION & COMPONENTS

Thank you for purchasing the Tele-Pod Tripod. This lightweight, aluminum tripod consists of the tripod legs with **Bubble Level** and **Leg Angle Locks**, an extending and reversible center column with weight hook, and a center column **Platform** with a reversible 3/8"-16 or 1/4"-20 **Thread Adapter**. A carry bag with strap, tools, and spiked feet are included.

LEG & CENTER COLUMN CLAMP USAGE

A decal above the topmost **Leg Clamps** show the direction to turn these clamps to lock or unlock the legs. You only need to unlock the leg clamps a quarter turn to extend and contract the legs freely. **WARNING: Do not completely unscrew the Leg Clamps. Doing so may allow shims inside the hollow legs to fall out.**

Looking from above, the blue center column **Height Adjustment Lock** is turned a quarter turn counterclockwise from the locked position to loosen. Tighten clockwise until snug.

WARNING: Loosening the Height Adjustment Lock while the tripod is carrying a heavy camera or scope can cause a sudden center column drop that can injure your fingers or topple the tripod. When under load, support the center column with one hand while loosening it just enough to move with the other hand.

LEG ANGLE LOCKS

Normally the **Leg Angle Locks** are kept pushed in. This prevents the legs from spreading past a safe angle and collapsing. Pulling out the **Lock** allows a leg swing out to almost a 90° angle. **WARNING: It is recommended to adjust the legs in this way only if necessary and do so before mounting a camera or telescope to the tripod.**

LEG TIGHTENING

If a leg feels too loose or tight when swung open or closed, use the 6mm Allen Key to tighten or loosen the **Leg Tension Bolt** on either side of the leg hinge.

REVERSE MOUNTING THREADS

The tripod comes set to use the 3/8"-16 **Thread Adapter** in order to mount to our Tele-Pod head. It can be reversed to accept 1/4"-20 hardware. With the tripod level, use the big end of the double-sided wrench to loosen the retaining nut at the base of the **Thread Adapter**. You can then grasp the **Thread Adapter** and turn it counter-clockwise to remove. (**WARNING: Without Thread Adapter locked in place the Platform will be loose and can fall off if the tripod is tipped.**) With the **Thread Adapter** fully removed, spin the locking nut until it is about 1/2" away from the thread tip you want to use. Now thread the **Adapter** back into the tripod by turning it clockwise until the nut is nestled in the **Platform**. Note that the locking nut may spin out of position – so be prepared to spin it back before reaching the end of travel. Use the wide-end of the double-sided wrench to tighten the nut clockwise against the **Platform**.

SPIKED FEET

Depending on the terrain you might want to install the included foot spikes on the bottom of the tripod legs. To do so, first tighten the **Leg Clamps** so the legs don't turn. Unscrew the rubber tipped feet by hand. Screw in the spiked foot and then snug it with a slight twist using the large end of the double-sided wrench. Excessive tightening of the spike will cause rotation of the lower leg section.

TELE-POD HEAD INSTALLATION

- 1) Extend each tripod leg so that the mounting **Platform** is approximately level.
- 2) To install your camera head or telescope head on the 3/8"-16 stud, simply thread it on until it is tight.
- 3) Loosen the **Height Adjustment Lock** and raise the center column a few inches. Lock the center column.
- 4) Using the 3mm Allen Key, tighten the three **Set Screws** on the bottom of the tripod platform to lock your head.

USAGE

WARNING: If setting a up on a slope, ensure that the tripod legs are extended so that the head is approximately level with the horizon. Use the Bubble Level on the tripod for reference. Failure to do so could cause the telescope to tip over! This risk increases when using larger, longer scopes. Extend each tripod leg by loosening the **Leg Clamps** and tightening at the desired height. Make sure the bubble is approximately in the center of the level.

