Oben™

GH-50

Gimbal Head

You're on steady ground™

Thank You for choosing Oben!

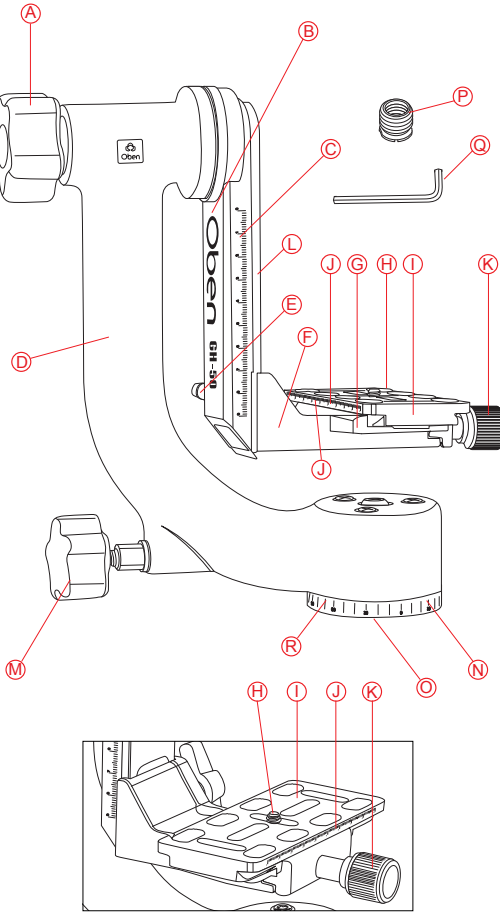
The Oben GH-50 is a gimbal-type tripod head designed to balance a lens along its vertical and horizontal axes. Ideal for wildlife or sports photography, medium or large telephoto lenses can be tilted or swiveled effortlessly and remain securely in place once positioned. This gimbal head is designed to ensure that photographers can quickly achieve the precise position to capture the desired subject.

Engineered with a strong and durable aluminum main curved arm, the GH-50 supports up to 50 pounds, yet balances the load so that even a large lens feels weightless. Designed with security of the lens in mind, the GH-50 features secure grooves that connect the swinging arm and quick-release plate platform. The adjustable platform is designed with a safety pin assuring that the lens will not slip off.

An Arca-type quick-release plate with two 1/4"-20 screws and a 3/8"-1/4" bushing is included for easy attachment to most lens collars. The GH-50 mounts to most tripods with a 3/8" threaded stud.

Photographers using heavy lenses will benefit from the freedom to move the lens along with the solid balance and stability offered by the GH-50.

KEY FEATURES



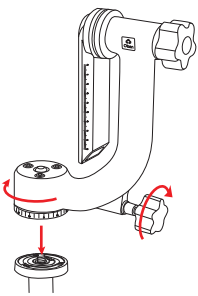
Ⓐ Tension control/Swinging arm lock
Ⓑ Swinging arm
Ⓒ Swinging arm scale marks
Ⓓ Main curved arm
Ⓔ Platform adjustment knob
Ⓕ Plate platform
Ⓖ Attachment grooves
Ⓗ 1/4″-20 mounting screws (2)
Ⓘ Arca-type quick-release (QR) plate
Ⓙ Quick-release plate scale marks
Ⓚ Plate release lock
Ⓛ Secure slot
Ⓜ Panning lock
Ⓝ Panning base
Ⓞ 3/8″ tripod mounting socket
Ⓟ 1/4″-20 to 3/8″-16 bushing (1)
Ⓠ Allen key
Ⓡ Panning scale marks

Mount Gimbal to Tripod

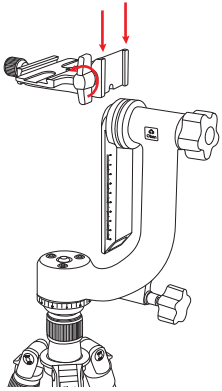
1. Tighten the panning lock until it is secure.

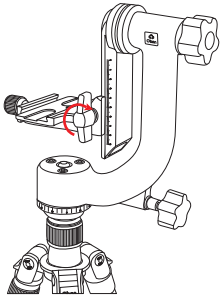
2. Align the mounting socket of the panning base with the mounting post of the tripod. Be careful to hold the GH-50 straight over the stud.

3. Screw the head onto the tripod by turning it clockwise onto the post until it's seated tightly against the tripod platform. Make sure there are no gaps between the base and the tripod.



Important: If your tripod has set screws on the platform, tighten them to secure the GH-50 to the tripod.





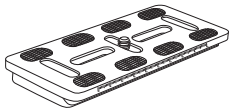
Attach Plate Platform to Gimbal

To attach the plate platform to the swinging arm, do the following:

1. Align the slot of the platform with the grooves of the swinging arm, and slide the platform down onto the swinging arm until it rests on the stop plate at the bottom of the arm.

2. Tighten the platform adjustment knob until the plate platform is securely locked onto the swinging arm.

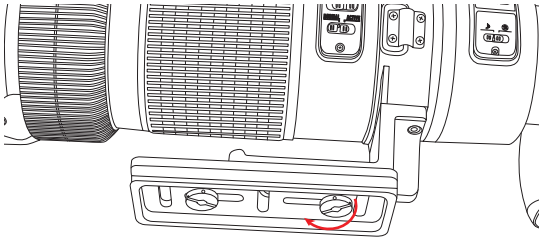
Attaching QR plate to Lens



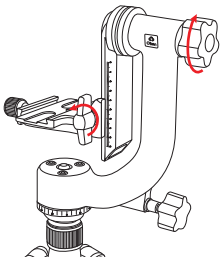
The Arca-type quick-release plate has two 1/4"-20 mounting screws that attach to most lens collars. A 3/8"-20 bushing is included in case the lens collar has both 1/4" and 3/8" sockets.

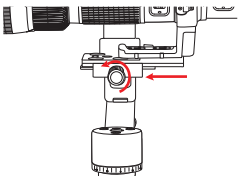
Tighten the screws of the quick-release plate to the lens collar by using the Allen key (included), a coin, or the attached D-ring.

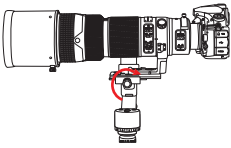
Warning: Always hold the camera and lens while following the attaching and balancing instructions. Letting go of an unbalanced camera can cause it to quickly tilt and cause damage to your camera setup.



Mount Lens







To attach the lens to the GH-50, do the following:

1. Tighten the swinging arm lock and the platform adjustment knob making sure that both are secured.

2. Loosen the plate release lock completely.

3. Supporting the lens with one hand, place the quick-release plate with the lens attached into the grooves of the plate platform and securely tighten the plate release lock. Make sure the quick-release plate is seated properly in the plate platform and is securely tightened.

4. At this point you can slowly ease the camera and lens to a resting position and let go. Your setup can safely rest in a tilted position without being held while you prepare to balance it.

Balancing Camera

First, perform a preliminary balance of the camera and lens by following these steps:

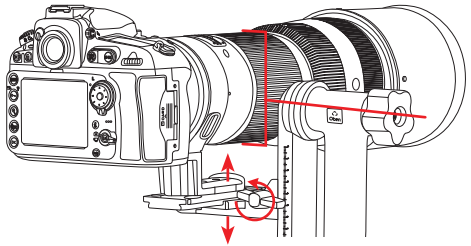
1. While supporting the lens with one hand, loosen the platform adjustment knob with your other hand, and move the platform up or down to align the approximate vertical center of the lens with the axis of the tension control knob. (A)

2. Retighten the platform adjustment knob.

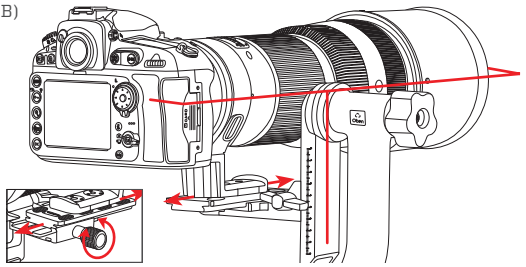
3. While still supporting the lens with one hand, loosen the plate release lock. Move the quick-release plate so that the swinging arm is even with the approximate middle of the camera and lens. (B)

4. Retighten all locks.

(A)



(B)



Balancing Camera

Next, fine-tune the balance by doing the following:

5. Slightly loosen the swinging arm lock to test the balance.

6. Tilt the lens up at a 45° angle, and then down at a 45° angle. If, in both cases, the lens wants to return to a center position, the height of the plate platform needs to be adjusted.

   a. Adjust the height up or down. With one hand support the lens and with the other hand, loosen the platform adjustment knob. Adjust the height of the lens up or down and retighten the platform adjustment knob. After each adjustment test the balance by pointing the lens up and down.

   b. The correct vertical balance is achieved when the lens will remain in place when tilted in one direction. If the lens moves back to the center when tilted in the opposite direction, it will need to be adjusted horizontally (see next page).

Balancing Camera

7. To adjust the horizontal balance:

   a. The direction the lens tilts will determine whether to adjust the quick-release plate forward or back.

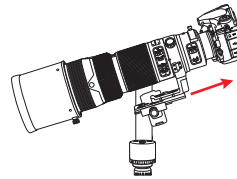
   - *If the lens tilts forward, the quick-release plate needs to be moved back.*

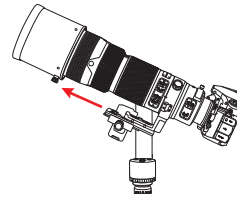
   - *If the lens tips backward, the quick-release plate needs to be moved forward.*

   b. Holding the lens in a horizontal position, support the lens with one hand and slightly loosen the plate release lock with the other hand.

   c. Slide the quick-release plate forward or back in small increments to find the perfect horizontal balance. Retighten it after each adjustment to see if the lens tilts.

   d. The correct horizontal balance is achieved when the lens and camera can be tilted at any angle—up or down—and will remain in place.





With these adjustments, the lens can be moved effortlessly, and will stay pointed in any position without locking the swinging arm.

Pro Tips

1. For each particular camera setup, mark the vertical position on the scale marks of the swinging arm, and the horizontal position on the scale marks along the quick-release plate using masking tape or a grease pencil. By making these marks, balancing the camera and lens will be much faster in the future.

2. To maximize image sharpness, support the camera with your right hand while resting your left hand on the front third of the lens.

3. Follow the manufacturer's suggestions regarding image stabilization modes on the lens.

Base diameter	2.4″ (6.0 cm)
Width	9.25″ (23.5 cm)
Height	9.3″ (23.6 cm)
Weight	3.3 lb. (1.5 kg)
Maximum load	50 lb. (22.7 kg)
Base pan range	360°

Warnings:

- *Please read and follow these instructions, and keep this manual in a safe place.*
- *Do not loosen or remove the three hexagonal screws on the top side of the panning base.*
- *Do not attempt to attach the base head to a tripod with the camera attached.*
- *Remove the camera and lens from the head during setup or transport.*
- *Do not exceed the head's maximum load capacity of 50 lbs. (22.7 kg).*
- *Ensure that all appropriate locks are engaged when necessary.*
- *Keep out of reach of children.*

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