

Manfrotto 804RC2

Manfrotto 804RC2 Basic Pan Tilt Head Instruction Manual

Model: 804RC2 with Quick Release Plate 200PL-14

1. INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

The Manfrotto 804RC2 is a 3-way photo head designed for professional photographers, offering precise control and robust support for camera equipment. Constructed from ultra-durable and lightweight technopolymer, this head is built to withstand demanding use. It features a unique spring mechanism to assist in tilt motion, compensating for heavier or off-center loads, ensuring stable and smooth adjustments. Ergonomically designed handles provide comfortable and secure grip for effortless operation.

The head includes a standard quick release plate (200PL-14) that fits securely into a low-profile receiver, allowing for rapid attachment and detachment of your camera. Integrated spirit levels assist in achieving perfectly level shots. This manual provides detailed instructions for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Manfrotto 804RC2 pan tilt head.



2. COMPONENTS

The Manfrotto 804RC2 pan tilt head consists of the following key components:

- **Quick Release Plate (200PL-14):** A removable plate that attaches to your camera, allowing for quick mounting and dismounting from the head. Features a 1/4-20-inch screw for camera attachment.
- **Quick Release Lever:** Secures or releases the quick release plate from the head.
- **Pan Handle:** Controls the horizontal (pan) movement of the head.
- **Front Tilt Handle:** Controls the vertical (front tilt) movement of the head.
- **Lateral Tilt Handle:** Controls the side-to-side (lateral tilt) movement of the head.
- **Spirit Level:** Integrated bubble level for precise horizontal alignment.
- **Degree Scales:** Markings for precise measurement of pan and tilt angles.
- **Tripod Attachment Thread:** A 3/8-inch female thread located at the base for mounting onto a tripod.

3. SETUP

3.1 Attaching the Head to a Tripod

1. Ensure your tripod's mounting screw is compatible with the head's 3/8-inch female thread.
2. Carefully align the head's base with the tripod's mounting screw.
3. Rotate the head clockwise onto the tripod's screw until it is securely tightened. Do not overtighten.

3.2 Attaching the Camera to the Quick Release Plate

1. Locate the 200PL-14 quick release plate (included in the box).
2. Align the 1/4-20-inch screw on the quick release plate with the tripod socket on the bottom of your camera.
3. Tighten the screw securely using a coin or the integrated flip-out handle on the plate. Ensure the plate is firmly attached to the camera to prevent rotation.

4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

4.1 Mounting the Camera on the Head

1. Ensure all three control handles (pan, front tilt, lateral tilt) are tightened to prevent accidental movement.
2. Open the quick release lever on the head.
3. Slide the camera, with the attached quick release plate, into the receiver on the head.
4. Push the quick release lever back to its closed position until it clicks, securing the camera firmly. Verify that the camera is stable before releasing your grip.

4.2 Adjusting Pan Movement

1. Loosen the pan handle (typically the lowest handle) by rotating it counter-clockwise.
2. Gently rotate the camera horizontally to achieve the desired panoramic position. The degree scale at the base provides precise angular measurements (0-360°).
3. Once the desired position is reached, tighten the pan handle by rotating it clockwise to lock the movement.

4.3 Adjusting Front Tilt Movement

1. Loosen the front tilt handle (typically the handle extending forward) by rotating it counter-clockwise.
2. Adjust the camera's vertical angle (up or down). The head supports a front tilt range of -30° to $+90^{\circ}$.
3. Tighten the front tilt handle clockwise to lock the camera in position.

4.4 Adjusting Lateral Tilt Movement

1. Loosen the lateral tilt handle (typically the handle extending to the side) by rotating it counter-clockwise.
2. Adjust the camera's side-to-side tilt. The head supports a lateral tilt range of -30° to $+90^{\circ}$.
3. Tighten the lateral tilt handle clockwise to lock the camera in position.

4.5 Using the Spirit Level

- The integrated spirit level helps ensure your camera is perfectly horizontal.
- Adjust the tripod legs or the head's tilt mechanisms until the bubble in the spirit level is centered within the marked circle.

5. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the head with a soft, dry cloth after each use to remove dust and debris. For stubborn dirt, use a slightly damp cloth and mild soap, then dry thoroughly. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Lubrication:** The internal mechanisms are designed for long-term, maintenance-free operation. Do not attempt to lubricate internal parts unless specifically instructed by Manfrotto support.
- **Storage:** Store the head in a clean, dry environment, away from extreme temperatures and humidity.
- **Inspection:** Periodically check all screws and connections to ensure they are secure. If any part appears damaged or worn, contact Manfrotto customer service for assistance.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

This section addresses common issues you might encounter with your Manfrotto 804RC2 pan tilt head.

- **Camera not secure on quick release plate:** Ensure the 1/4-20-inch screw is fully tightened to the camera and the quick release lever on the head is fully closed and locked.
- **Head movement is stiff or jerky:** Check that the respective pan or tilt handles are sufficiently loosened. If the issue persists, ensure no debris is obstructing the movement.
- **Head wobbles on tripod:** Verify that the head is securely tightened to the tripod's mounting screw. Also, check the stability of your tripod legs.

For issues not covered here, please refer to the support information in Section 8.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Product Dimensions	7.87 x 4.72 x 4.33 inches
Item Weight	1.65 pounds (0.75 Kilograms)
Load Capacity	8.82 lbs.

Material	Technopolymer
Color	Black
Front Tilt	-30° / +90°
Lateral Tilt	-30° / +90°
Panoramic Rotation	360°
Quick Release Type	200PL-14 (with 1/4-20-inch screw)
Tripod Attachment	3/8-inch female thread
Item Model Number	804RC2

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This product is sold "As-Is" with no warranty and no returns. For any operational questions or technical assistance, please refer to the official Manfrotto support resources available on their website. Always consult official Manfrotto documentation for the most up-to-date information.