

Walimex Pro StabyPod M

Walimex Pro StabyPod M Steadycam Instruction Manual

Model: StabyPod M (80 cm Aluminium) | Model Number: 19768

1. INTRODUCTION

The Walimex Pro StabyPod M is a steadycam designed to provide smooth, stable, and shake-free video footage for DSLR cameras, camcorders, GoPro, and action cameras. This manual will guide you through the assembly, setup, operation, and maintenance of your StabyPod M to help you achieve professional-looking results.

2. SAFETY INSTRUCTIONS

- Always ensure your camera and accessories are securely mounted before operation to prevent damage or injury.
- Do not exceed the maximum recommended weight for the steadycam (188 grams for optimal performance; while designed for DSLR cameras, heavier setups require meticulous balancing).
- Handle the steadycam with care to avoid pinching fingers in moving parts.
- Keep the device away from water and extreme temperatures. The product is not water-resistant.
- Store the steadycam in its provided bag when not in use to protect it from dust and damage.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all components are present in your package:

- 1x Walimex Pro StabyPod M Steadycam (80 cm)
- Counterweights
- Quick-release plate
- Storage bag

Note: The exact number and type of counterweights may vary.

4. SETUP AND BALANCING

Proper setup and balancing are crucial for achieving smooth footage. This process requires patience and precision.

4.1 Attaching Your Camera

1. Attach your camera to the quick-release plate. Ensure it is securely fastened.
2. Slide the quick-release plate with your camera onto the steadycam's camera platform. Lock it in place.



Image: The Walimex Pro StabyPod M steadycam with a camera attached, demonstrating the general setup. The camera is mounted on the top platform, and counterweights are visible at the base.

4.2 Initial Balancing

The goal is to find the center of gravity so the steadycam remains level and upright when held. This involves adjusting the camera's position and the counterweights.

1. **Horizontal Balance:** Adjust the camera plate (forward/backward, left/right) until the camera remains level without tilting to any side. The integrated scale on the camera plate can assist with precise adjustments.
2. **Vertical Balance (Drop Time):** Adjust the counterweights at the bottom of the steadycam. The steadycam should slowly drop from a horizontal position to a vertical position in approximately 2-3 seconds when released. Add or remove counterweights, or adjust their position, to achieve this "drop time."
3. **Fine-tuning:** Small adjustments to both the camera plate and counterweights may be necessary. This process can be time-consuming but is essential for optimal performance.



Image: A detailed view of the Walimex Pro StabyPod M steadycam, showing the adjustable camera platform and the counterweight system at the base, crucial for balancing.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once balanced, the StabyPod M allows for smooth, fluid camera movements.

- **Holding the Steadycam:** Use the rubberized handle for a comfortable and secure grip. Hold the handle loosely, allowing the steadycam to pivot freely.
- **Movement:** Guide the steadycam gently. Avoid sudden or jerky movements. The well-gliding joints are designed for soft, flowing motions.
- **Walking Technique:** Walk with a slight bend in your knees and a smooth, gliding motion to minimize vertical camera shake.
- **Adjustments:** The steadycam is extendable up to 80 cm, allowing for various shooting heights and angles. Adjust the length as needed for your shot.



Image: The Walimex Pro StabyPod M steadycam from a side angle, highlighting its extended length and the ergonomic handle for operation.

6. MAINTENANCE

- **Cleaning:** Wipe the steadycam with a soft, dry cloth after each use to remove dust and fingerprints. Avoid abrasive cleaners or solvents.
- **Storage:** Store the steadycam in its practical storage bag to protect it from scratches and environmental elements.
- **Joints:** Periodically check the joints and screws for tightness. Do not over-tighten.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

Issue: Difficulty achieving balance.

Solution: Balancing a steadycam requires practice. Start with minimal counterweights and gradually add them. Make very small adjustments to the camera plate and counterweights. Ensure your camera is centered on the plate. Refer to online tutorials for visual guidance if needed, as this is a common challenge for new users.

Issue: Footage is still shaky or uneven.

Solution: Re-check your balance. Even slight imbalances can cause shake. Practice your walking and operating technique, focusing on smooth, controlled movements. Ensure all screws are tightened appropriately.

Issue: Steadycam feels too heavy or unwieldy.

Solution: While the StabyPod M is robust, prolonged use can be tiring. Take breaks. Ensure your grip on the handle is relaxed, allowing the steadycam to do the work. Consider using lighter camera setups if possible, especially given the 188g maximum weight recommendation.

8. SPECIFICATIONS

Model Name	StabyPod M
Model Number	19768
Brand	Walimex Pro
Material	Aluminium
Maximum Length	80 cm
Product Dimensions (L x W x H)	80 x 15 x 20 cm
Product Weight	0.5 g
Maximum Weight Recommendation	188 Grams
Compatible Devices	Camcorder, Camera (DSLR, GoPro, Action Cam)
Color	Black

Note on Product Weight: The provided specification states 0.5 g, which appears to be a typographical error. Actual weight is expected to be significantly higher for a robust steadycam.

Note on Maximum Weight Recommendation: While the product is designed for DSLR cameras, optimal performance and ease of balancing are typically achieved with camera setups weighing closer to or below the 188-gram recommendation. Heavier cameras will require more precise and patient balancing.

9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Walimex Pro products are designed for durability and performance.

- **Spare Parts Availability:** Spare parts are available in the EU for 7 years from the date of first availability.
- **Customer Support:** For technical assistance, warranty claims, or further inquiries, please contact Walimex Pro customer support through their official website or your retailer.

ASK A QUESTION ABOUT THIS MANUAL

Ask about setup, troubleshooting, compatibility, parts, safety, or missing instructions. Manuals+ will review the question and use this page’s manual context to help answer it.

Name

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Question

Example: How do I reset this device or fix this error?

Details

Model number, symptoms, what you tried, or the section of the manual you are using.

Submit question