

## Manfrotto 500X Video Kit

# Manfrotto 500X Video Kit Instruction Manual

Fluid Head and Aluminum Twin-Leg Tripod



## 1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential instructions for the safe and effective use of your Manfrotto 500X Video Kit. This kit includes a fluid video head and an aluminum twin-leg tripod, designed for stable and precise camera movements. Please read this manual thoroughly before operating the equipment and retain it for future reference.

## 2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Manfrotto 500X Video Kit is a compact and lightweight system engineered for professional video applications. It features a fluid head with a 5 kg payload capacity, offering smooth pan and tilt movements, and an aluminum twin-leg tripod for enhanced stability.

### Key Features:

- **Fluid Drag System (FDS):** Ensures precise and smooth pan and tilt movements.
- **Counterbalance System (CBS):** Provides consistent and precise camera balancing for payloads between 0-2.4 kg.
- **501PL Sliding Plate:** Allows for quick camera attachment and detachment, and flexible transitions between portrait and landscape orientations.
- **Aluminum Twin-Leg Tripod:** Offers robust support with a mid-level spreader and rubber feet for various terrains.
- **75mm Bowl with 60mm Adapter:** For quick leveling and compatibility.



Pan & Tilt  
Fluid Drag  
System



on/off  
Counterbalance  
System

Image: The fluid head highlighting the Fluid Drag System (FDS) for pan and tilt, and the Counterbalance System (CBS) for camera stability.



Image: The complete Manfrotto 500X Video Kit, showing the fluid head mounted on the aluminum twin-leg tripod.

## 3. SETUP

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### 3.1 Unpacking and Initial Assembly

1. Carefully remove all components from the packaging.
2. Extend the tripod legs by releasing the leg locking levers.
3. Ensure the mid-level spreader is fully extended and locked into position for maximum stability.
4. Mount the fluid head onto the tripod's 75mm bowl. Secure it firmly using the locking knob located beneath the bowl. If using a 60mm bowl, ensure the adapter is correctly installed.



Image: Detailed view of the tripod's aluminum construction, showing the 60mm half ball, telescopic twin leg structure, mid-level spreader, and rubber feet.

### 3.2 Attaching Your Camera

1. Ensure the quick release plate (501PL) is detached from the fluid head.
2. Attach the 501PL sliding plate to the bottom of your camera using the provided screw. Ensure it is securely tightened.
3. Slide the camera with the attached 501PL plate into the fluid head's receiver. Listen for a click, indicating it is locked.
4. Engage the safety lock on the fluid head to prevent accidental release.



**501PL  
Sliding Plate**

Image: The 501PL Sliding Plate being inserted into the fluid head, demonstrating the quick release and 90-degree tilt capability.

### **3.3 Leveling the Tripod**

1. Adjust the length of the tripod legs until the bubble level on the fluid head indicates a level position.
2. Tighten all leg locking levers securely.



Image: Close-up of the fluid head showing the fluid tilt axis, tilt brake, fluid pan axis, pan brake, and the integrated leveling bubble.

## 4. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

### 4.1 Adjusting Pan and Tilt

- **Pan Movement:** Loosen the pan brake knob (refer to image 61H52xlrwPL) to allow horizontal rotation. Tighten to lock the pan axis.
- **Tilt Movement:** Loosen the tilt brake knob (refer to image 61H52xlrwPL) to allow vertical tilting. Tighten to lock the tilt axis. The head supports a tilt range of  $-70^{\circ}$  to  $+90^{\circ}$ .

### 4.2 Counterbalance Adjustment

The counterbalance system helps balance the camera's weight, providing smoother tilt movements and preventing accidental drops. The 500X fluid head offers a counterbalance range of 0-2.4 kg.

- Locate the counterbalance switch on the side of the fluid head (refer to image 71zqqkYdd1L).
- Engage the counterbalance by moving the switch to the 'ON' position. Adjust as needed based on your camera's weight for optimal balance.

## 4.3 Portrait/Landscape Orientation

The hinged design of the 501PL sliding plate allows for quick transitions between horizontal (landscape) and vertical (portrait) camera orientations without removing the camera from the head.

- Ensure the camera is securely mounted on the 501PL plate.
- Loosen the tilt brake.
- Carefully rotate the camera and plate assembly to the desired orientation.
- Tighten the tilt brake to secure the camera in the new orientation.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

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### 5.1 Cleaning

- Wipe down the tripod and fluid head with a soft, dry cloth after each use to remove dust and dirt.
- For stubborn grime, use a slightly damp cloth with mild soap, then dry thoroughly.
- Avoid using harsh chemicals or abrasive cleaners, as these can damage the finish and internal components.

### 5.2 Storage

- Store the Manfrotto 500X Video Kit in its dedicated carrying bag when not in use.
- Keep the kit in a cool, dry place, away from direct sunlight and extreme temperatures.
- Ensure all locking mechanisms are disengaged or lightly tightened to prevent stress on components during long-term storage.



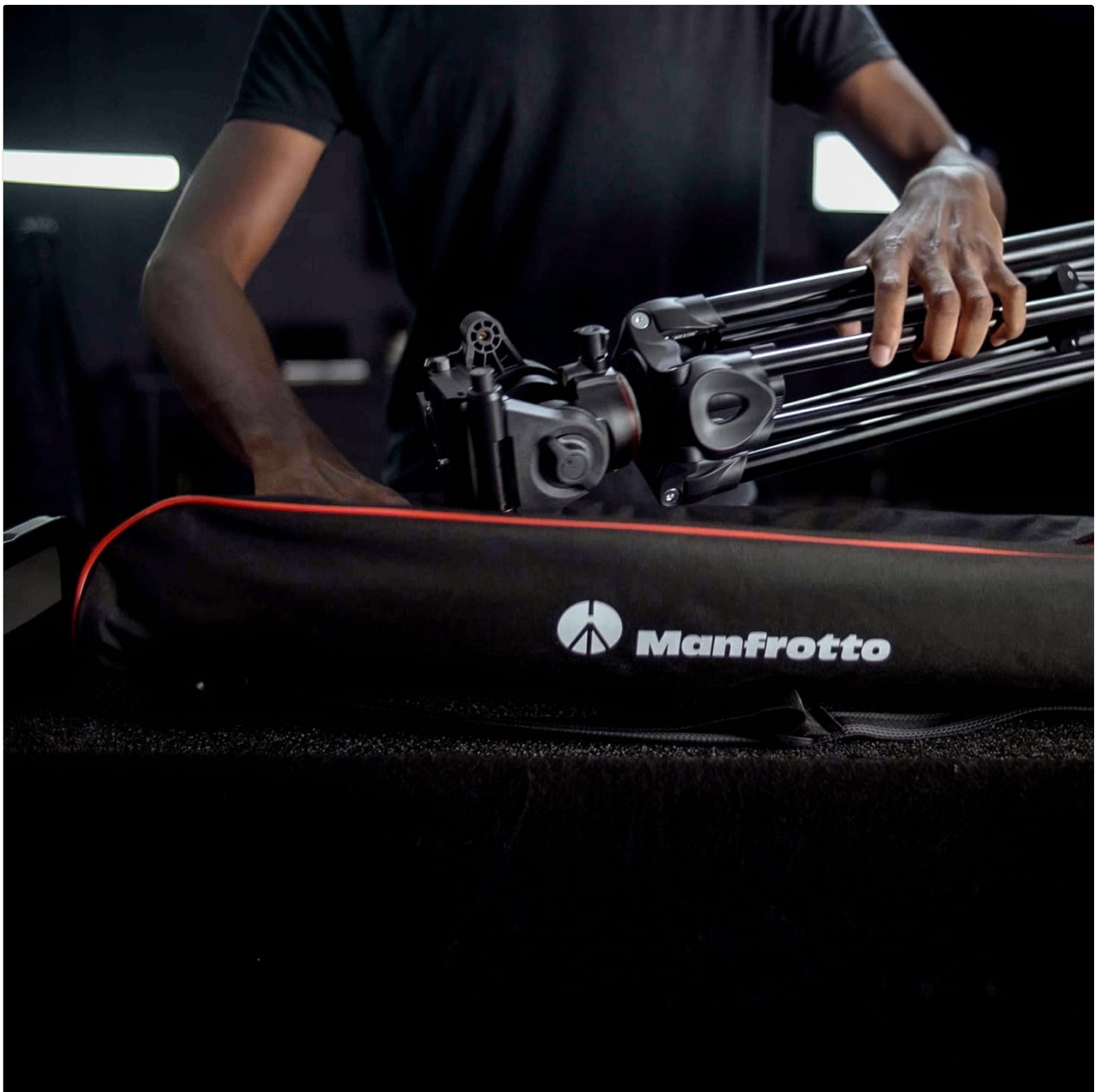


Image: The Manfrotto 500X Video Kit being stored in its custom carrying bag for protection and portability.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

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### 6.1 Stiff Pan or Tilt Movements

- Ensure the pan and tilt brake knobs are fully loosened.
- Check for any obstructions or debris around the fluid head mechanisms.
- Verify that the camera's weight is within the 5 kg limit and that the counterbalance is appropriately set.

### 6.2 Tripod Instability

- Confirm that all leg locking levers are securely tightened.
- Ensure the mid-level spreader is fully extended and locked.
- Check that the tripod is placed on a stable, level surface.

### 6.3 Camera Not Securing to Head



- Ensure the 501PL sliding plate is correctly attached to the camera and fully inserted into the fluid head's receiver.
- Verify that the safety lock mechanism is not obstructed and is engaged after inserting the plate.

## 7. SPECIFICATIONS

| Feature              | Specification  |
|----------------------|--|
| Brand                | Manfrotto  |
| Model Name           | Manfrotto ONE Video Kit 500X                                     |
| Material             | Aluminum   |
| Color                | Black  |
| Weight Limit         | 5 Kilograms  |
| Compatible Devices   | Mirrorless camera  |
| Tripod Head Type     | 2-way head (Fluid)   |
| Special Feature      | Smooth and precise pan/tilt mechanism with counterbalance system |
| Pan Range            | 360°   |
| Tilt Range           | −70° / +90°  |
| Counterbalance Range | 0-2.4 kg   |

## 8. WARRANTY INFORMATION

Manfrotto products are covered by a standard warranty. For detailed information regarding warranty terms, conditions, and registration, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Manfrotto website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

## 9. SUPPORT

For technical assistance, spare parts, or further inquiries, please visit the official Manfrotto support website. You can find FAQs, product registration, and contact information for customer service in your region.

Official Manfrotto Website: [www.manfrotto.com](http://www.manfrotto.com)

