



Black Widow Gimbal Tripod Head for Heavy-Lens Applications – Both BWG-HD2 and BWG-LW2 Gimbal heads

Thank you for purchasing the **Black Widow Gimbal (BWG) Tripod** head from **Jobu design**.

The new BWG-LW2 and HD2 are newly redesigned with the end user in mind. Your suggestions and requirements have been used to design a newer, better, smoother, stiffer BWG than ever before.

Special Features Include:

- ❑ *Ergonomically soft-touch clamping knobs.* These new knobs are smaller, tougher and rubberized which allow easy movement, strong clamping, and slip-proof usage even when wet.
- ❑ *All weather design.* Double sealed bearings, water-resistant plastics and high strength powdercoat and anodizing all provide high protection from the elements.
- ❑ *Light weight yet High Strength.* Strength and weight are optimized so that the BWG can carry a monster 600 F4 lens, yet be light enough to carry to shooting locations without undue stress on your shoulders. New designs are over 1/2 lb lighter than previous models.
- ❑ *Maintenance free design.* The BWG requires no maintenance for the life of the product. Nylon bushings will never wear out, and double sealed bearings will never require adjustment or lubrications.

Available Accessories:

- **Jobu's WAA Wide Angle Adapter** – An Arca-Swiss™ compatible adapter that allows use of wide-angle lenses or non-collared lenses in any gimbal head, with much the same functionality as a ballhead.
- **HM-2, Horizontal Mount Bracket** – Convert your side-mount BWG-LW2 to a Top-mount BWG-HD2 with simple adapter. Allows somewhat improved usage for 600mm lenses, or older lenses without rotating tripod collars.
- **Skorpion Ground Pod** - The SGP has a solid aluminum base with a unique flip-flop design. One side of the SGP can be used with the 3 skis in order to push it along sand, snow or grass so that you can creep up on your subject. The other side has 3 rubber feet that are suitable for any hard surface, such as a table, car-roof, or cement. A convenient carry handle allows you to carry around your gear with ease.

Installation and Usage Guide

Requirements: A telephoto lens with a rotating tripod collar, fitted with an "Arca-Swiss™" style dovetailed lens plate (such as the Jobu Design "SureFoot Plate", or similar plates manufactured by Kirk™, Wimberley™, Arca-Swiss™, etc.)

1. Holding the BWG vertically, screw the BWG base onto the 3/8" threads on your heavy-duty tripod. Tighten the setscrews on the tripod (or other clamping mechanism) if they are available. Failure to tighten any tripod supplied locking mechanism may cause the BWG and camera to unscrew from your tripod during usage. This is the nature of tripods in general -- it is not a design-flaw. Check periodically for tightness.
2. Firmly attach the appropriate lens-plate to your telephoto lens according to manufacturers' directions*.
 - a) Open up the thumbscrew on the BWG lens-clamp a few turns and either: Slide the lens into the clamp, or:
 - b) If you have a dead-stop style lens-plate: Open up the clamp wide enough to install side-ways. Lightly tighten the thumbscrew.
3. Slide the lens and camera back and forth in the clamp to find the center of gravity. Tighten the thumbscrew firmly by hand. It is not necessary to over-tighten. If properly balanced, you should be able to position the lens in any orientation without it tilting back or forth. If you cannot balance the lens, then you likely have a lens-plate that is too short and will have to buy a special extended-length plate. **Perfect balance is not necessary in most cases.** The addition of teleconverters or a flash will not necessarily require a rebalancing.

Note: Some lens plates are reversible, check for correct usage.
4. Use the horizontal and vertical control knobs, as well as the rotating lens collar on your camera to adjust the position of your camera for optimum shooting. Leave the control knobs loose for panning and tilting, or clamp to slow down movement, or hold a position. Note: The new rubberized knobs act more like a throttle control, not a brake. By turning the knobs you can adjust the amount of friction in your gimbal, adjusting it to your shooting style.
5. Do not overtighten the knobs using any excessive force or mechanical devices. Do not remove the rubber washers under the knobs; they act as a weather seal and prevent over-tightening and damage to the shafts.

6. **TRAVELLING TIPS:** Double check to make sure your BWG is tightly secured to your tripod; and tighten the pan/tilt knobs to hold everything in balance. Only carry a tripod+gimbal+camera all assembled very short distances. Remove your camera and lens when travelling from location to location to keep your expensive equipment safe.
7. **Maintenance Tips:** The Black Widow does not require user maintenance. No grease or oils are used on this product except as factory installed in the bearings. If you really feel the need to give the unit a clean/lube/adjust then you can either return to Jobu Design, or follow some of the following steps:
 - The 2 large clamping knobs are removable – these can be greased periodically (once per year) with a synthetic grease (such as a bicycle grease) to help resist any galvanic corrosion (a condition arising from dissimilar metal contact).
 - Do not use thin 3-in-1 oil, chain oils, sewing machine oils (or similar) anywhere as it may wash out the factory installed grease. Only use synthetic grease.
 - If dirty, wipe with a clean, damp cloth and let air dry.
 - Check threads periodically for sand or dirt. Brush out or blow out with a bulb-puffer.
 - Chips in the powdercoat or anodizing will NOT rust. You may touch them up with permanent marker or automotive touch-up paint.
8. Test your BWG with your camera equipment indoors. Do not wait until you are out on a 10-mile hike, uphill, in the snow before you realized you have missed something!

That's it! Go out and shoot!

*Disclaimer: Jobu Design cannot be held responsible for any damage or losses to equipment incurred due to improper usage or abuse of equipment. Consult your manuals, do not abuse your equipment and only use it for its intended purpose. Check knobs and screws for tightness frequently.

The BWG is designed and manufactured proudly in Canada.