

# User Manual for the Ningbo-Weifeng WT-011H Trigger-Grip Ball-Head

This trigger-grip ball-head is sold under various brand names including *Camrock, Olivon, König, DynaSun, Dolica, Photx Pro*, and probably numerous others. The price seems to vary from about £30 up to whatever a retailer thinks he can get away with.

## Manufacturer's Specification

*Height:* 210mm  
*Weight:* 840g  
*Max Load:* 4kg

(from <http://en.weifengchina.com/d275907614.htm> , accessed 2014 Feb 14)

Maximum loads are usually optimistic, and are based on camera equipment with the centre of mass close to the mounting plate, which is not the case when photographic heads are used with binoculars, which are much more testing. However, retailers cite maximum loads for this head as high as 18 lbs (8.2kg): *Buyer beware!*

## Description

The head comes with one or two WT-003P quick-release mounting plates. These have a ¼-inch Whitworth standard photographic screw, with "tool-less tightening" (a folding handle on the underside), and a sprung-loaded video pin. The screw holding the video-pin retaining spring has a tendency to work loose. It is not necessary for a binocular adaptor, so you can safely remove it if you wish.



The quick-release plate is secured to the head with a thumb-operated quick-release latch mounted on the back of the head, and a securing screw mounted on the left hand side:



The head is also equipped with three bubble-levels. These serve no purpose for binocular use.

The base of the mount has a standard  $\frac{3}{8}$ -inch Whitworth mounting thread. If your tripod or monopod only has a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch fitting, you will need to obtain a thread adaptor. This should be screwed into the base of the ball-head. It has a screwdriver slot so you can get a tight fit.



## Mounting the Binocular

1. Mount the head on a tripod or monopod.
2. Squeeze the trigger and rotate the body and the socket (they move independently) so that the slot in the socket (C in the diagram on the right) is at the back of the head. This will enable you to elevate the binocular to 90°.
3. Mount the binocular adaptor (L- bracket) onto the quick release plate and secure it tightly.
4. Mount the binocular onto the adaptor/bracket.
5. Slide the quick-release plate into its recess in the top plate of the head until you hear it click. (This is the quick-release latch engaging.)
6. Tighten the securing screw.

To remove the binocular, slacken the securing screw, operate the thumb-lever to release the quick-release plate, then reverse the processes 5 to 3 above, ensuring that you support the weight of the binocular throughout.



## Adjusting the Head

The tension of the ball-and-socket joint is adjustable. There is an adjusting screw in the base of the body of the head. To adjust it you need a 3mm hex wrench (allen key).

Its tension will be a matter of personal preference, but I find that an optimal combination of non-slippage when the trigger is released and ease of motion when the trigger is operated is achievable by:

1. Hold the head horizontally and tighten the tension until it just holds the binocular.
2. Slacken the tension gradually until the binocular just slips.



**Tension Adjusting  
Screw (3mm hex)**



## Maintenance

**Never** put any form of lubricant onto the ball-and-socket joint.

The ball-and-socket tension will probably require regular adjustment (3mm hex wrench).

The following screws work loose occasionally and so should be periodically checked and tightened (but not over-tightened) as necessary:

- The four screws holding the two sides of the body together (4mm hex wrench)
- The screw holding the top plate to the body. (4mm hex wrench) You may notice that the whole arrangement feels slightly wobbly when this screw becomes slack. (see picture right)
- The screw retaining the quick-release thumb-lever spring (#0 Phillips **NB:** This is not a Pozidriv screw head. Also, take care not to over-tighten it as it is made of very soft steel)
- The screw that retains the video pin spring in the quick-release plate. (#0 Phillips - You may remove this completely if you wish.)



## Notices

**NB:** I offer this advice in good faith, but you follow these procedures at your own risk. Please verify that they apply to your equipment before you attempt them. I cannot be held liable if you damage your binocular, your trigger-grip ball-head, yourself, or anything else, as a consequence of attempting procedures that I offer in this document.

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