

BWG Micro Gimbal / Ballhead

Adapter *Operating Instructions (BWG-M1)*



BWG-M1 shown with Arca-Swiss type ballhead, not included.

BWG Micro Features:

- ⇒ **Stiff CNC milled main arm**—The Micro is machined from solid 6061-T6 billet aluminum and finished in hard anodized aluminum.
- ⇒ **Ultra smooth tilt mechanism** — needle roller and thrust bearings in the tilt axis provide smooth and controllable motion and easily set friction settings
- ⇒ **Light and small** — 420 grams (15 oz)
- ⇒ **Small form factor** — fits in small bags without taking up much room so it's easier to pack
- ⇒ **Simplifies your kit** — convert any Arca-Swiss style of ballhead to a fully functional gimbal head, without tools, and without the need to carry a second tripod and separate full size gimbal head.

* Maximum weight recommended for camera + lens of 10lbs for continual daily usage.

** Using higher than normal loads will void the warranty on this product.

Installation and Usage:

Requirements—Telephoto or Macro lenses with rotating tripod collars such as: 70-200 F2.8/F4, 300mm F2.8/F4, 400mm F5.6/F4, 180mm Macro. Lens must be fitted with an Arca-Swiss™ style dovetailed lensplate (Jobu Design NX Lensplates are recommended).

An Arca-Swiss style of ballhead with panning base is required for use of this product. We highly recommend ballheads that use a thumb screw-type quick release (not a cam-lever) to ensure proper engagement and attachment of this product.

Please note, the panning quality of this gimbal type setup fully depends on the quality of the ballhead used. Many inexpensive ballheads are very stiff in the panning axis and not intended for smooth motion. Please ensure you use a very HIGH QUALITY ballhead in all situations (we recommend high-end manufacturer's such as Arca-Swiss, RRS, Kirk, Markin's, etc.).

- ⇒ Securely fasten your ballhead to your tripod according to manufacturer's instructions. Use the set-screws on the tripod (or other clamping mechanism) if they are available to prevent unscrewing (which may be inadvertently confused with panning). Failure to tighten any tripod supplied locking mechanism may cause the ballhead, Micro 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.
- ⇒ Flop the ballhead clamp 90 degrees so that it faces vertically. Lock the main friction knob on the ballhead to secure it in place. Slide the Micro into a partially open quick release and lock down firmly. Check and ensure that there is no looseness in any component!!!
- ⇒ Firmly attach the appropriate lensplate to your telephoto lens according to manufacturer's directions.
 - Open up the thumbscrew on the Micro quick release clamp a few turns and either—slide the lens into the clamp, or
 - If you have a dead-stop style lensplate (ie safety screws) —open up the clamp wide enough to install one edge at a time. Lightly tighten the thumbscrew so that you can still move the plate but it can't fall out.
- ⇒ 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 lensplate that is too short and will have to buy an extended length plate. **Perfect balance is not necessary in most cases, adding a very small amount of friction to the tilt knob will generally improve movement and damp motion.**
- ⇒ Do not over-tighten the knobs using any excessive force or mechanical devices. Improper usage or clamping will cause damage to this product negating any warranty.
- ⇒ If you are unsure about usage, please contact our sales specialists for assistance at sales@jobu-design.com or at www.jobu-design.com

BWG-M1 Gimbal / Ballhead Adapter *Operating Instructions*



Tips and Tricks:

- ⇒ *Setup* — The Micro is only 1/2 of your gimbal head system. It converts your ballhead to a gimbal, but it does not provide for panning function and cannot compensate for lack of poor manufacturing: that completely depends on your ballhead. We cannot make specific recommendations on ballheads, but we do ask that you test your equipment to make sure there are no serious shortfalls with your ballhead before you begin shooting.
- ⇒ *Balance and panning* — If you are having trouble turning your new ball-head/gimbal, check to make sure that the foot of your lens is not overly tall. The lens should be as close to the panning axis as possible to make panning smoother and more comfortable. Some lenses (especially Nikon's) have a very tall lens foot, and may require use of the ADPT-M1 offset adapter to move the gimbal head further off centre.
- ⇒ *Travelling*—Double check to make sure your Micro is tightly secured to your ballhead and tripod; and tighten the 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.
- ⇒ *Maintenance*—The Micro 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 than you can either return to Jobu Design, or follow the steps below:
 1. Do not use grease, oil, or solvents anywhere on the Micro. None is required and may wash out factory installed bearing grease or seriously diminish clamping forces. Do not spray WD-40 or similar solvents anywhere on this product.
 2. If dirty, wipe with a clean, damp cloth and let air dry.
 3. If used in a salt spray environment please contact us for care of roller bearings under these conditions.
- ⇒ Test your Micro with your camera equipment indoors. Do not wait until you are out on a 10-mile hike, uphill, in the snow before you realize 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, overloading, 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 tilt friction control knob is NOT removable in order to keep your equipment safe.

