

The VZ-DV RODS system for professional and prosumer camcorders allows you to mount various accessories such as focus controls (like the VZ-FC-U), matteboxes, wireless receivers, external battery systems, or any accessory that can be fixed to optional rod-mount brackets. This system was designed to be versatile, flexible, and modular in its applications, something you may have noticed by virtue of the compacted mode in which it came to you. In observing the design, you'll see numerous auxiliary mounting holes and high levels of adjustability and configurability. Although this device is very simple to use, it's important that you read the following instructions to get the most out of the DV RODS.

Includes:

- 3-axis adjustable baseplate w/ extra ¼"-20 holes for mounting additional accessories
- Two 15mm rods
- Two rod end-cap security screws (to prevent accessories from accidentally sliding off the rods)
- Two ¼"-20 camera-mount screws (1/2" L) w/ washers (one set is a backup)
- One locator pin to prevent unwanted camera movement
- One hex key (1/8") for adjusting vertical/horizontal position of rods and camera-mount screw
- Integral hardware: Two 10-32 thumbscrews (3/4" L) for clamping rods in place; ¼"-20 x 3/4" screw w/ washer and ¼"-20 x 1/2" screw w/ lock washer for fixing vertical and horizontal positions



Setting up the DV RODS system will take a bit longer the first time, but it should be a breeze using it in the future once you've learned how to configure it. There are several factors to consider:

- 1 – Camera dimensions and weight distribution
- 2 – Accessories to be mounted on the system rods
- 3 – Type of camera support used (standard tripod head, Zero Gravity head, shoulder support, remote motion control head, etc.)
- 4 – Whether or not you intend to use the entire camera/DV Rods configuration as a portable unit or if you want to be able to quickly separate the camera from the system to go handheld or mount to another support

Basically, all you really have to do is figure out where the rods need to be placed in relation to your camera lens and take that into consideration when selecting a camera-mounting hole on the baseplate (place the locator pin in front of the selected mounting hole to help prevent unwanted camera rotation). Once the baseplate is mounted, adjust the vertical, horizontal, and fore-aft positions of the rods until they reach the desired location. The same 1/8" hex key will be used for mounting the camera and adjusting the vertical and horizontal positions of the rods. The fore-aft position is easily changed with the attached thumbscrews.

The vertical and horizontal adjustment plates can also be inverted so that they aim upward, allowing the entire assembly to slide further back on the tripod and/or for greater upward adjustment range. This configuration could work well for larger cameras (ENG type), or for cameras like the **Sony PMW-EX1 and – EX3** when used in conjunction with a VZ-QRP quick release assembly on top of the baseplate (both pictured below). Although not absolutely necessary for the EX1 and EX3, this configuration **is recommended** because it allows a greater range of aft adjustment on a tripod head, enabling you to better balance the camera's weight in instances where a heavy mattebox / filter / lens adapter setup creates a front-heavy weight distribution. It also allows quick extraction of the camera from the overall configuration with minimal hassle.

The two 1/4"-20 holes on the back end of the base plate are for attaching rods to the rear so that additional accessories can be mounted and aid in counterbalancing the front-mounted accessories. These holes can also serve as retaining spots for extra screws. VariZoom intends to introduce the back end rods and brackets in the near future – please feel free to offer feedback!



Warranty period: 1 year – Warranty coverage: defects in materials or workmanship, does not cover lost or damaged components – Returns/Repairs: RMA # is required – 512-219-7722