

B150-B MACRO FOCUSING RAIL

PACKAGE ID

SPECIFICATIONS:

| Weight of B150-B | 15.2oz/432g |
|---|-----------------|
| Weight of B150-B Package | 18.0oz/512g |
| Weight of B150-B Ultimate Package | .30.4oz/864g |
| Lead Screw Adjusment Range | 4″ / 103mm |
| Total Adjusment Range | 9″ / 231mm |
| Stage Travel per 360° Revolution of Lead Screw | 0.05" / 1.25mm |
| Lead Screw Thread Pitch | 5/16″ x 18 |
| Load Capacity15 pounds, but varies depending upon | n angle of load |

Each B150-B macro focusing rail comes packed in a lightweight neoprene Op/Tech USA Soft Pouch™ protective case with logo and built-in locking belt clip.

AVAILABLE COMBINATIONS

B150-B

- Includes one B150-B Macro Focusing Rail.
 Purchase B150-B when shooting with noncollared macro lenses like the Nikkor 105mm or the Canon MP-E 65mm.
- Camera body must have a Really Right Stuff quick-release plate.

B150-B Package

- Includes one each B150-B, LMT, and B2-FAB mini-clamp.
- Purchase **B150-B Package** when shooting with collared macro lenses like the Nikkor 200mm or the Canon 180mm.
- Lens collar foot must have a Really Right Stuff quick-release plate or replacement foot.

B150-B Ultimate Package

- Includes two B150-B macro
- focusing rails.
 Purchase B150-B Ultimate Package whenever geared motion in both axes is desirable.
- Camera body or lens collar foot must have a Really Right Stuff quick-release plate or replacement foot.



MAINTENANCE GENERAL CARE

Your B150-B is a precision instrument and should be cared for as such. It is shipped to you packed in an Op/Tech USA padded neoprene carrying case. Please keep your B150-B in this case for transportation and storage.

Be careful not to drop your B150-B. The rail is computer-control machined for exact flatness and dropping or otherwise abusing the instrument can distort the rail and will hamper the focusing action.

CLEANING

Keep all rail and stage mating surfaces free of dust, dirt and debris. If you foul the surfaces, please do not work the focusing action without first thoroughly cleaning all surfaces. Dry dust and dirt can be blown off and/or wiped off with a cloth. Mud or salt water should be washed off with clean, fresh water and then thoroughly dried. Do not disassemble your B150-B for cleaning.

LUBRICATION

Action of the lead screw may improve if a small amount of light machine oil is applied to the threads. However, if you intend to use the equipment in areas where windblown contamination (sand/dirt) is likely, we recommend keeping all surfaces clean and dry (i.e.; do not apply lubricant).

The stainless-steel lever on the quick-release clamp rides on a special bronze

bearing surface. This bronze bearing washer slides up and down the stainless-steel shaft which attaches the lever to the clamp body. This shaft and the lever cam was lubricated at the factory with a high-quality synthetic lubricant. Over time, you may need to re-lubricate this shaft or the cam surface of the lever. Sparingly use a high-quality machine oil or lightweight grease only and wipe off any excess.



GUARANTEE

ALL REALLY RIGHT STUFF BRAND PRODUCTS ARE GUARANTEED TO THE ORIGINAL PURCHASER TO BE FREE OF DEFECTS IN MATERIALS OR WORKMANSHIP FOR FIVE (5) YEARS FROM THE DATE OF PURCHASE. PRODUCTS WILL BE REPAIRED OR REPLACED AT OUR OPTION.

WHEN-AND HOW-TO USE THIS FOCUSING RAIL THEORY

Begin by understanding image scale—the ratio of the size of the subject to the size of the image registered "on film" (or on digital sensor) in the camera. Closeup photography encompasses the image scale range from 0.1X to 1X (or "life size"), meaning that the in-camera image size is from 1/10th as big as the subject (ratio 1:10), up to the same size (ratio 1:1) as the subject. And photomacrography defines image scale greater than 1X (ratio > 1:1), where the in-camera image is a magnified enlargement of the subject's true dimensions; e.g. 2X (2:1) signifies an in-camera image that's twice the size of the subject. ("Macro" denotes largeness, or, as a prefix, enlarged.)

Conventional focusing technique can be applied when the closeup range is from only 0.1X (1:10) to about 0.5X (1:2). However, this method becomes a frustration as image scale approaches 1X (1:1) because any rotation of the lens' focusing ring has simultaneous and significant impact on the intended reproduction scale.

So, estimate the approximate image scale that's desired. A U.S. dollar bill is useful for comparison reference—its length (less blank ends) is $\approx 4X$ the horizontal width of the 35mm film frame, so a subject of that size would represent an image scale $\approx 0.25X$ (1:4) if fully framed. Folded in half, the bill would replicate a subject size $\approx 0.5X$ (1:2), or $\approx 1X$ (1:1) if folded again. Apply this guideline to select the approximate image scale that's appropriate for the subject (allow for some "air"), and manually (AF off) set the lens' focus ring for that reproduction scale. (Most "macro lenses", as made for closeup work, have handy image scale settings that are clearly marked on the lens' barrel.)

PRACTICE

Now-with the camera off the tripod (and focus preset per above)-look through the viewfinder, and move the camera toward the subject until it can be seen in rough focus (don't change focus). Note that location, and set up the tripod's apex at the same position. Mount the focusing rail at its midpoint (oriented so that the bigger lead screw knob is facing the photographer); mount the camera body in the top clamp, also near midpoint. Rough focus again by using either or both of the following methods: 1) slide the focusing rail within the ballhead's clamp then lock down with the ballhead clamp; and/or 2) With the Stage Lock Knob fully loose, press and hold the Clutch Release Button and slide the Stage along the Rail. Then, release the Clutch Release Button and twist it to its engaged position. Achieve fine focusing by turning the Lead Screw Knob(s) at the end of the Rail. CLUTCH RELEASE BUTTON MUST BE IN THE ENGAGED POSITION PRIOR TO TURNING THE LEAD SCREW (if Stage skips, check that Clutch Release Button is engaged). Combine both movements with slight focus shifts for desired composition. Lock the stage in position with the Stage Lock Knob before releasing the shutter.

For best resolution (in 35mm format), use (marked) apertures in the f8–f16 range; avoid f22. Use a cable release, and apply mirror lockup if exposure is by ambient light. Supplementary (strobe) lighting is often essential; manually zoom any strobe head to its widest angle setting.

MACRO FLASH

Flash is often used to permit the use of small (f/11-16) apertures to assure adequate depth-of-field at an acceptable exposure duration. Also—closeup subjects may require flash fill to reduce excessive contrast, to produce catchlights, or to enhance modeling.

It is seldom viable, when working close, to mount a strobe in the camera's hot shoe. That position is too low, does not offer the needed 15-30 tilt for beam aiming, and is off-axis in vertical aspect. Add one of our flash brackets for more effective flash placement. More than one off-camera remote strobe may be necessary to lighten a dark background, or to provide rimlight, or backlight, on the subject; to accomplish this, add a second flash mount to your flash bracket.

NIKON SB-R200

Mount Nikon's wireless macro strobe lights to a Really Right Stuff flash bracket. Our brackets include one flash mount, but extra mounts (to mount a second strobe) can be purchased separately. Mounts provide 180° of tilt, and strobes can be placed near & far with the use of extenders. Buy FA-QR200 adapters for Nikon SB-R200 strobes.



CANON MT-24EX MACRO TWIN LITE

Canon's macro strobes can mount directly to Really Right Stuff flash brackets. Just install the FA-QR1 flash adapter that comes with each Flash Bracket (one adapter also included with each Flash Mount purchased separately) and snap into Flash Mount.