



Nienna Dovetail Clamp Upgrade for EQ3

Product Manual

Manual Version EQ3DOVETAIL-2024-03-26.1EN



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1. Introduction

This upgrade kit provides improved clamping action for the saddle plate of your EQ3 type mount. The original clamping screw is sufficiently safe to use but causes scratches and marks on the dovetail plate. This can be avoided almost entirely with this upgrade kit. A cleat applies the clamping action over a wider surface rather than a single point.

2. Compatible mounts

This upgrade kit is known to be compatible with the following mounts:

- Celestron: Omni-XLT mount (also known as CG4)
- Sky-Watcher: EQ3 (in all variants, also known as NEQ3 or EQ3-2.), EQ3 Pro, EQM35

3. Incompatible mounts

Unless listed above under "compatible mounts" we ask you to assume that the upgrade kit will not work on any other mount, even if the mount is named something like "EQ3". EQ just stands for Equatorial which is a very common type of mount. Most brands use some type of numbering scheme like "EQ1", "EQ2", "EQ3" etc to denote mounts of different sizes. Thus the name EQ3 alone does not mean this upgrade will fit.

Due to the large number of brands out there it is impossible to provide an exhaustive list. You can contact your retailer or info@nienna.eu to check compatibility with your specific mount.

This upgrade kit is known to be incompatible with the following mounts:

- Bresser EQ3
- Celestron CG-3
- Omegon EQ-3, EQ-320
- TS-Optics EQ3-1
- Anything with another number than "3" except the ones listed under "compatible mounts".
- Anything with "AZ" rather than "EQ".

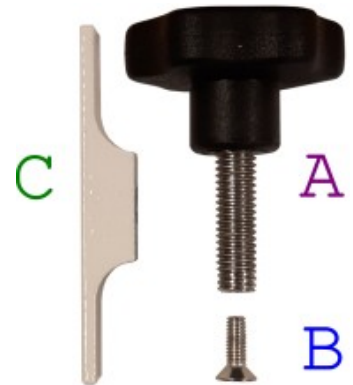
4. Included parts

The Nienna EQ3 upgrade kit consists of the following parts:

- A large M8 bolt with a large knob (A)
- A small, countersunk M4 screw (B)
- A cleat that provides the clamping action (C)

In addition to the above we recommend to use the following (not supplied) if possible:

- Medium strength thread locker such as Loctite.
- Alternatively you can use superglue.

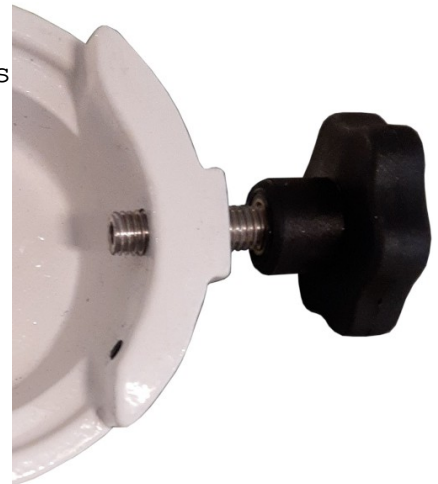


5. Assembly instructions

1. To prepare your mount for assembly first remove the main locking screw and the safety screw from your mount by unscrewing them counter-clockwise. (See image to the right.)



2. Screw in the large screw supplied in this kit until approximately 10mm of its length sticks out inside the mount's saddle plate. (See image to the right.)



3. Place the cleat at the tip of the screw. The correct orientation is with the angled side closer to the mount and the square side further away from the mount. (See first image below.) Make sure the sides of the clamping shoe sit on top of the outer perimeter of the mount's saddle plate. (See the second and third image below.)



4. Screw in the countersunk screw until tight. Now unscrew it again by approximately 1/8 of a turn. The goal is that the clamping shoe should have a little bit of wiggle room.
5. Optional, but strongly recommended: apply a drop of medium strength screw locking agent such as Loctite onto the countersunk screw if available. A small drop of superglue will also work but you have less time to attach the screw once the glue is applied. Please also see note 2 below.

The separate safety screw of your mount is no longer needed and cannot be used with this upgrade kit.

6. Notes

1. Due to the cramped geometry of the EQ3's saddle plate there is not enough space to drop in the dovetail plate in the normal fashion when this upgrade kit is installed. It is therefore necessary to push the dovetail in from either below or above. This will only work with countersunk screws that do not stick out below the dovetail plate.
2. The small screw that fixes the cleat to the large bolt can come loose quite easily due to friction. By the same token it is possible for it to get too tight and lock the bolt. Both of these problems are solved when using a screw locking agent or a drop of superglue on the small screw during assembly.

Do you have questions or feedback? Contact us!

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You find all our product manuals at www.nienna.eu/en/manuals.html