

Kestrel® User Guide

Thank you for purchasing a Kestrel® glassing system, the most versatile and lightweight binocular support system available today!

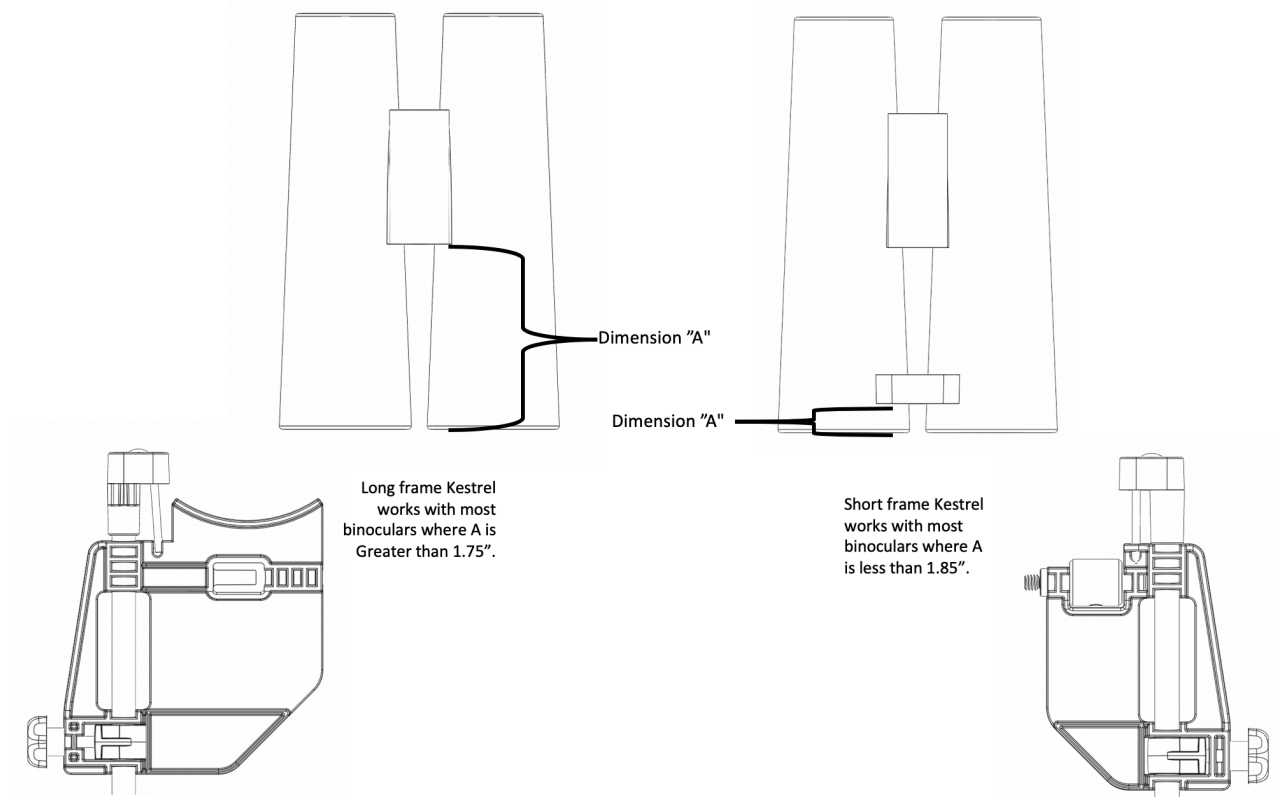
In this document you will find all the information you need to operate your Kestrel®. **Please, take the time to read through this information and feel free to reach out if you have any questions.**

-Kestrel® Team

www.Kestrel@glassingsystems.com

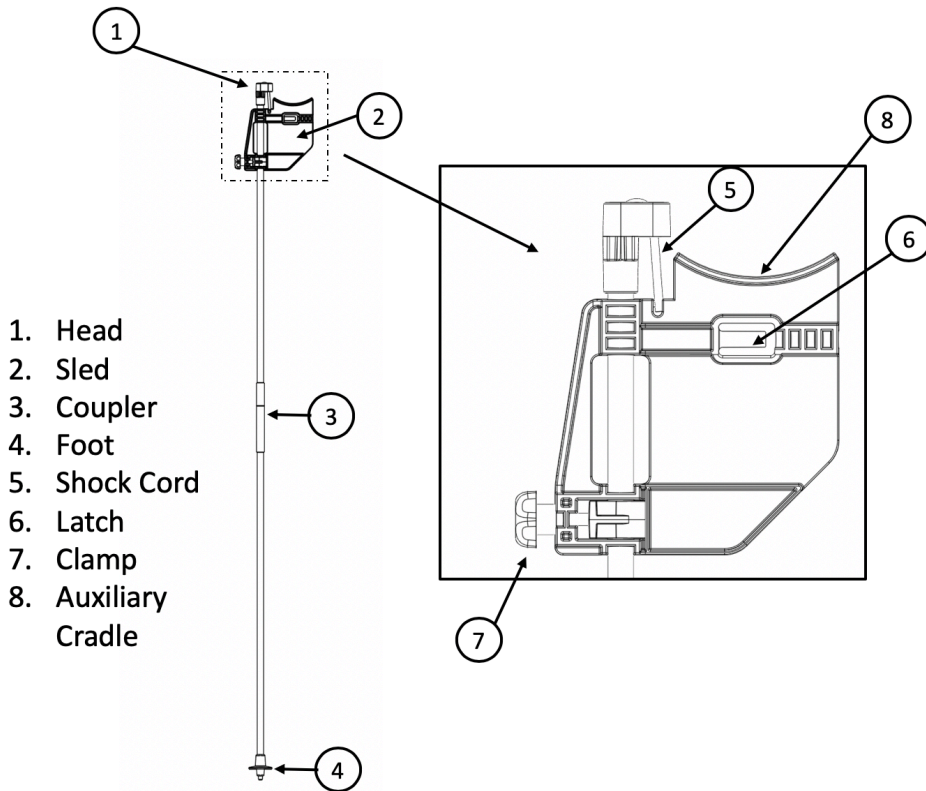
Selecting the right Kestrel®

There are currently two models of the Kestrel® glassing system, we differentiate with “short frame” and “long frame”. Like most binocular support systems, the Kestrel® makes use of a ¼-40 threaded hole found on the front of the hinge (often behind a cosmetic cover) of most binoculars. What we mean when we refer to short or long frame is really just the distance from this hole to the front of the binoculars (Dimension A below). The long frame Kestrel® model is designed to be used with binoculars where this distance is 1.75” or more, where the short frame model is designed to be used when this distance is less than 1.85” or less. Note: you can use the long frame model with binoculars where “A” is less than 1.75” but the balance may be thrown off and the adaptor pin will stick out beyond the front of the binocular.



Long Frame Kestrel®

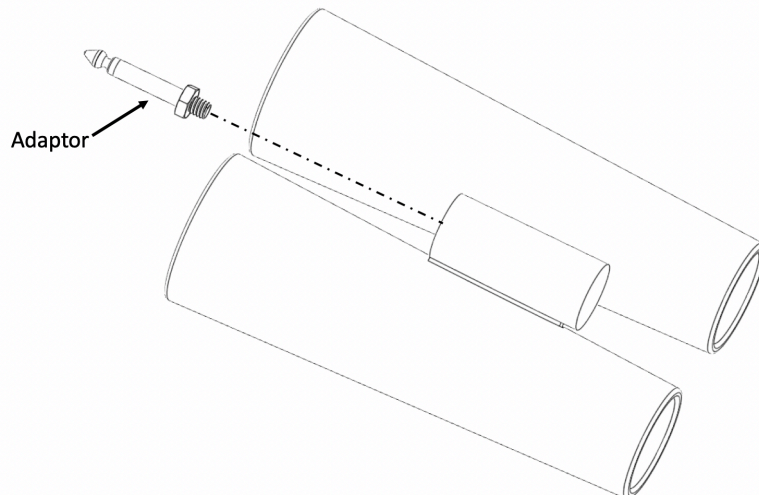
Parts:



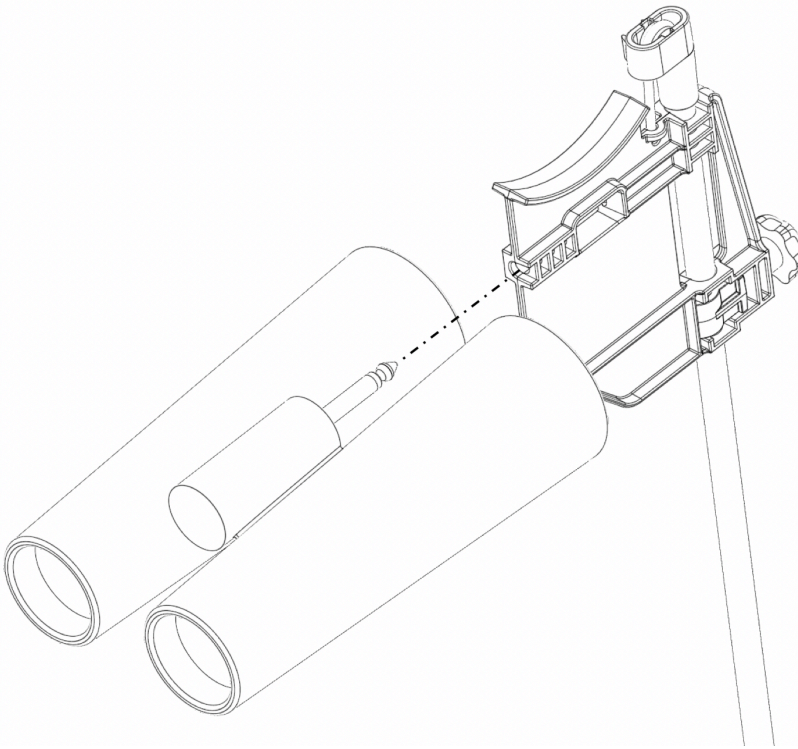
Installation of Adaptor Pin:

The long frame Kestrel uses a custom quick attach adaptor to mount the binocular to the Sled during use. This adaptor mounts to the standard ¼-20 threaded hole that is included on the objective side of the hinge of most binoculars.

Do not overtighten adaptor. Since materials vary by make and model, speak with the manufacturer of your binocular for specific torque restrictions.



Use and Deployment:



To use your long frame Kestrel system, always start by configuring the assembly for use by coupling the lower and upper legs together.

To mount your binocular to the Kestrel system Simply insert the adaptor pin into the latch on the sled. Be sure insert it until it firmly latches. Your Kestrel is now ready to use.

To remove your binoculars, simply pull your binoculars straight out with one hand while pulling on the opposite side of the sled with the other hand.

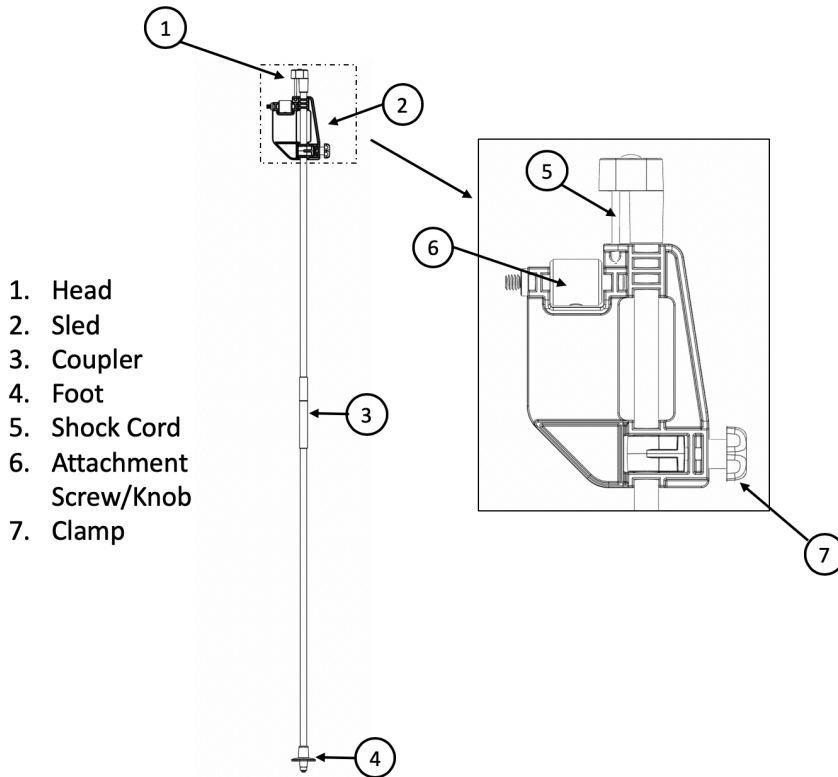
Note: make sure that either the sled is all the way at the top or that the clamp is tight during this operation, or there is a risk that the sled will spring up and crash into the top of the assembly.

Auxiliary Cradle:

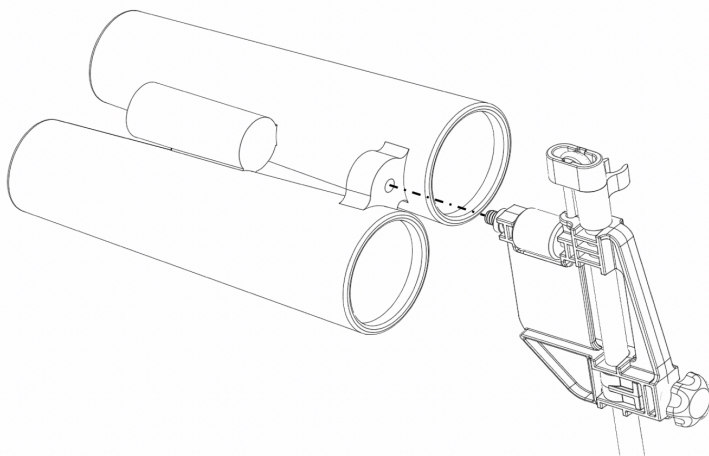
The long frame Kestrel® is equipped with an Auxiliary Cradle that can be used to support a camera lens, rifle, spotting scope, etc. If using to support a firearm, please follow safe practices at all times.

Short Frame Kestrel®

Parts:



Use and Deployment:



To use your short frame Kestrel system, always start by configuring the assembly for use by coupling the lower and upper legs together.

To mount your binocular to the Kestrel system, thread the mounting screw on the sled into the ¼-20 threaded hole on the hinge, closest to the objective side of the binocular. Do not overtighten. Your Kestrel is now ready to use.

To remove your binoculars, simply reverse the installation. **Note: make sure that either the sled is all the way at the top or that the clamp is tight during this operation, or there is a risk that the sled will spring up and crash into the top of the assembly.**

Use Modes:

Both models of Kestrel® can be used in unlocked or locked conditions

Unlocked (Float Mode):

“Float” (vertical slide is not locked): This is the hardest to explain to someone who hasn’t used it. It is a favorite mode to for scanning lots of terrain where fatigue would be an issue free handing. For example, imagine scanning a ridge or a finger where you want your focus to move in the vertical and horizontal direction at once:

1. You are holding the binoculars in two hands as you would if you are free handing.
2. Your body motion is almost identical to what it would be if you are free handing, your binoculars rotate around you. (in contrast to a tripod mounted rig, where the binocular rotates around the center of rotation for the tripod head. You have to move your body to stay behind the eye cups.)
3. You can translate vertically while you pan to side to side and tilt around.
4. You can look more up or down by moving the foot the Kestrel® further or closer to you.
5. While this is going on:
 1. The weight of the binocular is always supported by the cable system.
 2. The mechanism can “lock” the binocular in any vertical location. This is a soft lock created by the manipulation of friction between the sled and the carbon tube. To initiate a “soft lock” all you have to do is stop moving the system in either direction (up or down) and the system will relax and the binocular will stay in that location. You can easily reposition by either lifting straight up (to move up) or by gently pulling down to overcome the friction. This operation is performed without taking your hands off the binoculars.

Locked Mode

Locked Mode is used when you want to focus on a single region or during periods when your not doing a ton of scanning up and down. In this mode you use the clamp to lock the slide in a vertical location. Use when:

1. You really want to lean in for maximum stabilization.
2. You want to overcome fatigue.
3. You want to use the auxiliary cradle (long frame model only)

Storage:

It is recommended to snug up the clamp knob during storage or transport. This will keep the Kestrel® more quiet during hunting and will avoid the risk of the knob falling out.

Warnings

Not a walking stick!

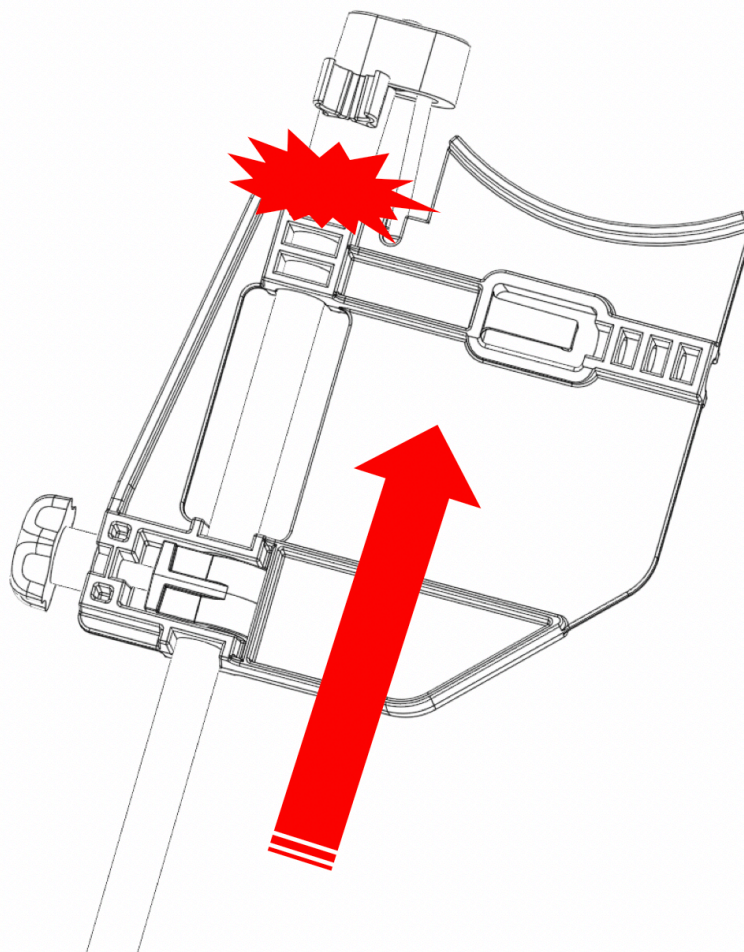
The Kestrel® glassing system is not a walking stick. Excessive use in this way may cause injury to persons or harm to the unit.

Do not attempt to use your Kestrel® when folded:

Using the Kestrel® when the upper and lower rods are not fully coupled will reduce the efficacy of the support system and may damage the coupler and internal shock cord.

Don't "dry fire" your Kestrel®:

The Binocular sled is spring loaded. Do not release the sled to slam against the top of the Kestrel® system. This may cause damage to the unit that will not be covered under warranty.



Specifications:

Weight: 6oz

Length Packed: 23.75"

Length Deployed: 44.25"

Approximate height range for center of optics: 28"-42"

Warranty

Kestrel Monopod Full Lifetime Warranty

JDL Innovations Inc. warrants the Kestrel glassing system to be free from defects in materials and/or workmanship for the life of the product, with the exceptions stated below. A defective product meeting the warranty conditions set forth herein will be replaced or repaired at no charge.

Shock Cord Limited One-Year Warranty

Shock cords included in the Kestrel glassing system are warrantied against defects in materials and/or workmanship for one year from the date of original purchase. A defective shock cord meeting the warranty conditions set forth herein will be replaced or repaired at no charge during the one-year warranty period. Proof of purchase may be required.

Warranty Exclusions

These warranties do not apply if any component of the Kestrel glassing system has been modified, including cosmetic modification; misused; damaged deliberately or by accident, abuse or misapplication; or when repairs have been made or attempted by anyone other than the manufacturer. To ensure this doesn't happen to you, please review the User Guide in its entirety before use.

If you have questions or require warranty assistance, please send an email to service@kestrelglassingsystems.com.