

## MERCURY RB67 ADAPTER INSTRUCTIONS

### Assembling your Mercury adapter

1. Remove the six black screws from the top ring of the third-party adapter and lift away the ring.
2. Set your circular Mercury RB67 XL Adapter Plate next to the third-party adapter, in the same orientation (i.e., with the indented part facing the same area).



3. Carefully lift the third-party inner aluminum part and the steel ring with handle under it out of the third-party lensboard and place it, in the same orientation and position, into the Mercury adapter plate. Push the two parts firmly in place so they are seated in the proper grooves. (Note on alignment if you fail to transfer these parts perfectly: the handle of the steel part must be in the grooved area for it. The aluminum part has one flange with a full notch through the middle of it. That notch should be aligned with the rightmost screw on the Mercury adapter plate, when the plate is oriented as in the above photo).



4. Attach the entire RB67 XL Plate to the front of your XL Focus Unit if it isn't already attached. Use five of the short black screws that came with your XL Focus Unit.

5. Place the metal top ring that you removed in Step 1 over your new Mercury adapter assembly, lining up the grooved section (for handle movement) and the screw holes (but without the original black screws).



6. Screw in the six silver screws that came with your Mercury adapter kit. This will hold the top ring down and anchor the entire assembly.

7. Mount an RB67 lens on the adapter. (Note: the red alignment marks on the lens must line up with the notched flange on the plate. You can paint or mark it red if you want an easy reference for the future. Once aligned and set in place, you must turn the locking ring on the lens to lock it in place.)

Test to be sure that turning the handle on the adapter fully cocks the lens. If it does, you're done! If it doesn't, you will need to loosen the six silver screws and turn the inner aluminum part slightly to allow greater movement in the necessary direction. Then tighten the screws and test again.

## Swapping XL Adapter Plates

Unlike most Mercury XL plates, the RB67 Adapter does not provide immediate access to the black mounting screws. You must first remove the six silver screws and carefully lift away the black ring. For storage and transportation, it is recommended that you then replace the ring and secure it with at least one of the silver screws.

If you plan on swapping this plate with other XL plates often, it is recommended that you take your adapter to a local machine shop and have them cut holes into the metal ring at the five points where it covers the mounting holes below. We have oriented the components to make this possible. Alternately, you could purchase a second XL Focus unit so that one is simply dedicated to RB67 lenses.

## Using RB67 Lenses

Mount your completed RB67 Lens Adapter on the Mercury XL Focus Unit. You can choose any of the six possible orientations in which the holes line up, but it is recommended that you orient the adapter such that the shutter release socket on your RB67 lens is facing straight down. This is a good compromise position for reading the lens' scales and attaching a cable release.

If a focus scale exists for your particular lens, you can place that ring on the XL focus unit and have complete control of focus without needing to view your image. Otherwise, you will have to focus with ground glass, or make your own focus marks.

Rotate the large silver handle on the lens adapter to cock your lens. Then rotate it back to the null ("uncocked") position. Your lens is now ready to fire. Note that during this cocking process the shutter momentarily (until you return the handle to null) opens fully. You must have your darkslide in while cocking your shutter! Conversely, you can leave the lens in the cocked position if you want to view your image with a ground glass back.

To fire your lens you must have a shutter release cable attached to the lens' remote release port. Some lenses also require you to activate this port by turning a knob that is incorporated into it. Experiment or look up the instructions to your lens.

The cable release can be threaded through the handle in your Mercury to provide a convenient shutter button. Alternately, you can also purchase a “button release” that is essentially a tiny cable release with just a button on the end. This places the trigger right on the lens itself. The cable release attached to the camera is the recommended method.

### **Note on Spacing**

This config requires an FS20 spacer between the camera and the XL Focus Unit. If you wish to shoot with RS20 back adapters or backs, you can remove this front spacer. However, the XL focus unit won't mount to a standard Mercury Front Panel without this spacer. If you want to shoot with this setup at RS20 (on large format, for instance), you will need the Mercury XL Front Panel, which allows for this setup, extends your tripod mount foot lower to clear the XL focus unit and give you more working space, and extends the handle so you can get a better grip when using the XL Focus Unit. It is thus recommended for this setup, but not required when in the standard (FS0) config. The XL Front Panel is fully compatible with all other standard configs and parts as well; it is just a big bulkier.

In the unlikely event that you need to shoot with an RB67 lens at RS30 (for example, if you want to use it in conjunction with the Instax Wide Back for Graflok 23), you will need the special XL-S Front Panel, which integrates a Graflok 23 back with a standard front panel, but at RS10.