

INSTRUCTIONS: REAR SPACER (RS-20, RS-30)

INTRODUCTION

The Rear Spacer is designed to be attached semi-permanently to a Graflok 23 film back, modifying its film plane to sit farther from the lens. This is useful when interchanging a standard film plane back with one that sits farther back by design (for example, the Mercury Instax Mini and Mercury Instax Wide for 23 backs). Interchanging these backs would otherwise require the removal or addition of a Front Spacer, which is slow and places unnecessary wear on the Mercury Front Panel, and is thus impractical in the field.

For example, assume that you are utilizing a lens that requires, in its ordinary 23 configuration, 40mm of Front Spacers. If shooting with only a standard film back, a stack of two FS-20s would give you proper infinity focus. Now, assume that you wish to shoot with the Instax Wide for 23 back, which has 30mm of rear spacing built in. You will need to replace your two FS-20s with a single FS-10 to achieve proper infinity focus. Now, if you wish to be able to quickly interchange a standard film back with your Instax Wide back, you'll need to add a RS-30 to your standard film back. Now you can leave your camera always configured with FS-10; both of your backs will make up the extra 30mm at the rear.

INSTALLATION

To mount a Rear Spacer on a film back, just slightly loosen the four outer black screws, slide the two sliding blades away from the center of the spacer to make room for the film back, and firmly seat the film back on the spacer. If mounting a roll film back, you should remove its shell from its mounting plate and only mount the plate to the Rear Spacer.

Once the back (or back's mounting plate) is firmly seated in the Rear Spacer, slide the plastic blades closed over the edges of the mounting plate. Tighten the four black screws firmly but not too tight, or they will strip out.

Special note for Graflex 120 backs: For these backs, you must not close the blades all the way, or the back's shell will not properly seat afterward. Experiment with the shell until you find that you haven't obstructed it.

Replace the back's shell and confirm that it works properly. Your back has now been extended!

SIDE SHOE

The RS-30 comes with a mounted side shoe so that any accessory you ordinarily mount on the side of your camera (typically a rangefinder) can be optionally mounted farther back, closer to your eye (though you can leave the accessory mounted on the camera itself if you wish). The RS-20 comes with an optional, unmounted side shoe. You can mount it using the included screws if you wish. Note, however, that it will obstruct certain backs from seating properly. This is a known incompatibility with Graflex 120 backs and Mamiya 70mm backs.

TOP AND BOTTOM HOLES

You will notice small holes in the top and bottom of the Rear Spacer. These are designed for an alternative blade locking system that screws in from the top and bottom instead of the back. If you are interested in utilizing this system, contact Mercury Works.