12” Sliding Bar for Losmandy D-Series

Dovetail Saddle Plates (SBD12)

Instructions for using this plate to mount a variety of telescopes and accessories.

Hole Legend

A - 1/4-20 tapped holes - For Safety Stop - Use one 3/8” Socket Head Cap Screw on Objective end of plate
B & C - 1/4” counter-bored holes - 3.5" spacing - for Losmandy A-P Blocks or non-Astro-Physics rings with 1/4-20 tapped holes spaced at 3.5” - MUST use Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws.
D - 1/4” counter-bored holes for rings with center hole attachment
E - 1/4” counter-sunk holes for rings with 60 mm (2.362”) spacing - i.e. any rings with current Astro-Physics hole pattern
F - 1/4” through holes for SB0550 spacer with Stowaway - also to attach SB0800 or SB1000 for TeleVue or Takahashi in sliding bar’s blind holes
G - 1/4” counter-bored holes for rings with 37 mm (1.453”) spacing - Parallax and other small rings
H - M8 tapped holes for Takahashi Clamshell attachment (user provided screws)

Specific Instructions and Applications

Mounting Rings with Current Astro-Physics Hole Pattern - Attach with four (2 per ring) 1/4-20x1 1/4” Flat Head Socket Cap Screws at location “E.” Please note: Very old Astro-Physics rings may not have the two 60 mm (2.362”) spaced holes. These rings will only have three holes on the bottom instead of the current five. Attach a DOVE08 to the top holes on the rings to attach accessories or mount another SBD12 as described below to use as an accessory plate.

To attach 90 mm f/5 Stowaway - Use your SB0550 as spacer so that the focuser knobs clear the plate - Use two 1/4-20x7/8” Socket Head Cap Screws through holes at locations F1 and F4. Pass through the SB0550’s two end thru-holes; and finally thread the screws into the Stowaway’s mounting rings. There are no plates that can be attached to the top of these rings at this time.

For Traveler or other instrument whose rings have 1/4-20 tapped center mounting hole and 6.3” ring spacing - Use an SB0800 or SB1000 as a spacer so that the focuser knobs clear the plate. Use two 1/4-20x1” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws through the holes at locations D; then pass the screws through the end thru-holes of the SB0800 (one end and the thru-hole 6.3” in on the SB1000); and finally thread them into the Traveler’ or other instrument’s rings. The Traveler can also be mounted without the spacer using the two 1/4-20x1/2” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws, but it restricts finger room on the Traveler’s focuser knobs. The Traveler Accessory (ACPLTR) plate can be used atop the Traveler’s rounded rings. For other setups where the rings have the Astro-Physics hole pattern, the DOVE08 can be mounted for accessory use.

For TeleVue, Takahashi or other instrument that can attach to SB0800 or SB1000 - Use the SB0800 or SB1000 as a spacer/adapter - Attach the instrument to the SB0800 or SB1000 as usual, and then use two 1/4-20x3/8” Socket Head Cap Screws in either the holes at locations F1 and F3, or at locations F2 and F4 and thread them into the two outside blind tapped holes in the bottom of the SB0800 or SB1000.

Using Losmandy blocks for Astro-Physics rings (LMAPBLOCKS) as spacers to lift your instrument further above the plate - Attach the blocks to the bottom of the rings first using four 1/4-20x1/2” or 3/4” Socket Head Cap Screws (supplied with rings and / or LMAPBLOCKS - two per ring / block assembly). Then attach to SBD12 using the holes at location C for 6.3” ring spacing with four 1/4-20x1” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws, or at location B with four 1/4-20x1/2” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws for 10” ring spacing (again, two screws per ring / block assembly). For proper ring spacing, the ring offset on the blocks must be in the same direction for both ring / block assemblies. The SBD12 has been designed to accommodate this offset. A second SBD12 can be attached on the top of the rings as an accessory plate in conjunction with the LMAPBLOCKS as described below.

As Accessory Plate on top of rings - Attach the LMAPBLOCKS to the top of the rings with the 10-32 SHCS’s that are supplied with the blocks. Then attach SBD12 at location C for 6.3” ring spacing using four 1/4-20x1” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws, or at location B for 10” spacing using four 1/4-20x1/2” Low Profile Socket Head Cap Screws. As above, the ring offset must be in the same direction. One or two Losmandy Dovetail Adapters (LMDA) can then be attached to the top-mounted SBD12 to accomodate accessories.

Note: The SBD12 can be attached to the top of the newest 47RING (130 EDF-GT) using the central hole position only (no riser blocks needed).