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Motorcycling Guides

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number

A close-up photograph of a red motorcycle's front section. A GoPro camera is mounted on the handlebars, pointing forward. The motorcycle is parked on a gravel surface with green foliage in the background.

# MOUNTING A CAMERA TO YOUR MOTORCYCLE

**TOUR1**  
[www.tour1.co.uk](http://www.tour1.co.uk)

Over many years of making videos of my motorcycle rides, I have tried a number of different ways of mounting a video camera to my bike.

Most have been not very good, resulting in poor quality videos, but I did discover one method which is far better than most.

This guide explains what the mounting system is and where to buy it.

More of Gary's motorcycling guides can be found at [www.tour1.co.uk](http://www.tour1.co.uk)

The trouble with making videos of your rides is how to best mount the camera onto your motorcycle.

With modern small video cameras like the GoPro range, the normal mounts that come with the camera can normally be used to stick the camera to your helmet, or to fix it to the handlebars, but with little adjustment. While both produce semi-acceptable results, most people would do better by having a much more flexible system that they could mount in many different places on their bike, in order to get many different camera angles.

This flexibility means your videos will become more interesting.

After trying lots of options, the best mounting system I have found uses something called a Cardellini mini clamp.



This clamp, when combined with a Manfrotto Micro Ball head, give a considerable number of mounting options, and camera angles, on most motorcycles.

This video shows what can be done when the camera is moved to different locations on the bike. [www.vimeo.com/53508922](http://www.vimeo.com/53508922)

The various parts you need for this to work are shown in the photo below.



## WHAT YOU NEED TO BUY

### Cardellini clamp.

The clamp is extremely well made and the jaws will fit into many parts of your bike to give plenty of camera positions.

The clamp is called MINI CARDELLINI CLAMP



The jaws of the clamp are lined with neoprene, which protects whatever it is you are fixing the clamp to.

In the UK, you can get hold of one of these on the Panastore website and their web address is [www.panastoreonline.co.uk](http://www.panastoreonline.co.uk)

In the USA, they are more widely available, so just search for Cardellini Clamp. In the USA you will need a clamp with a 3/8 threaded stud on the end.

### Manfrotto 492 Micro Ball Head

What you will also need is a Manfrotto 492 Micro Ball Head (which replaced the 482 model shown in the picture on the left), which will then allow you to rotate and tilt camera once it is fixed to the end of the clamp arm.



available, so just search online. These have a 9.5mm (3/8 inch) female screw thread for attaching to the clamp.

### **Adaptor Spigot**

In the UK the clamp comes with a 1/4 inch female thread on the end, so you need a 3/8 to 1/4 spigot adapter to join the clamp to the Manfrotto Ball Head. You can also get this from the Panastore website - type spigot into the search facility on that site and the part you need is called "3/8 M TO 1/4 M LONG ADAPTOR013".

### **USE OF THE CLAMP**

The thread on the round plate on the ball head will fit all cameras, just like on a normal camera tripod. But if your camera sits in a waterproof case (like the GoPro does) you may need to buy a GoPro adapter part that allows the case to be joined to the normal tripod thread.

Then just go out and try it. I have found moving the camera to lots of different positions gives the best results.