

Operating Instructions

#882 Standard Field Tripod

For use with Meade ETX-60AT and ETX-70AT Astro Telescopes

Parts Listing

When opening the packing box for the first time, note carefully the following parts included with the full-length #882 Deluxe Field Tripod:

- Tripod
- 2 Attachment Knobs (with 1/4-20 threads)
- Accessory Tray
- Soft Carrying Case

Assembly

1. Extend the Tripod

Remove the tripod from the packing box and stand it upright. Grasp two of the tripod legs, leaving the full weight of the tripod on the third leg. Gently pull the legs apart to a fully open position.

2. Attach the Accessory Tray

Remove the round accessory tray (4, Fig. 1) from the packing box. Attach the tray to the tripod by placing one side of the tray's attachment clip around a leg and then carefully pushing the other side of the clip about the leg so that the clip snaps in place.

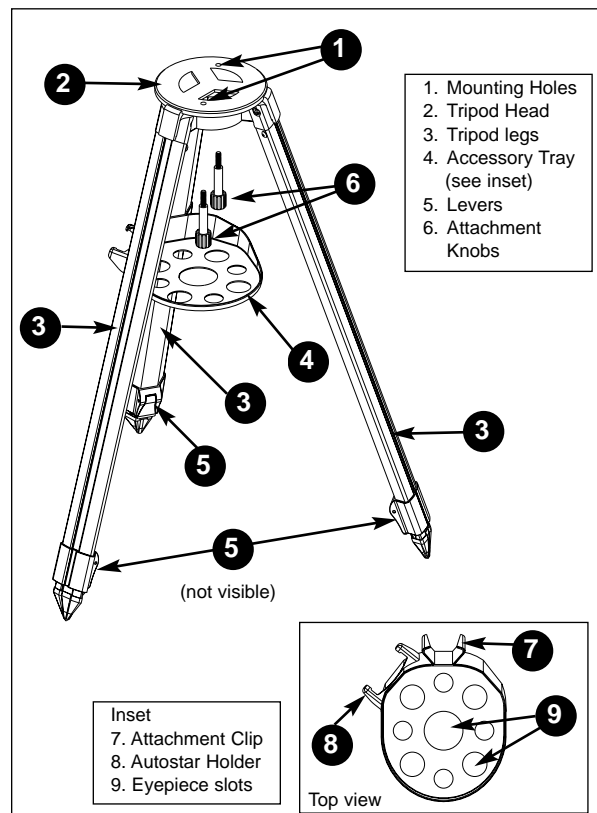


Fig. 1: #882 Deluxe Field Tripod and Tray (Inset).

3. Vary the Tripod Height

Lift the black plastic lever (5, Fig. 1) at the base of each tripod leg. Slide each of the three inner tripod leg sections to the desired height. Press each lever back against the legs to tighten.

NOTE: The tripod legs do not all have to be extended to exactly the same length. Vary the height of one or more tripod legs, as required, to achieve an approximately level mounting for the telescope.

Attaching the ETX-60AT or ETX-70AT to the Tripod

1. On the bottom of the telescope drive base, locate the two tripod attachment holes (1, Fig. 2).

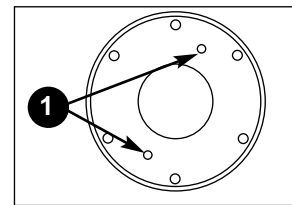


Fig. 2: Drive Base of an ETX telescope showing tripod attachment holes.

2. Place the telescope drive base on the tripod head (2, Fig. 1), aligning the tripod attachment holes with the mounting holes (1, Fig. 1). Thread one of the 1/4-20 attachment knobs through a hole in the tripod head and into a hole in the telescope drive base.
3. Thread the second 1/4-20 knob through the other hole in the mounting plate and into the hole in the telescope drive base. Tighten both knobs to a firm feel only to secure the telescope to the tripod. **Do not overtighten or damage to the threads may occur.**

Using the #882 Standard Field Tripod

The #882 Standard Field Tripod provides for an Altazimuth alignment (Altitude/Azimuth, or vertical-horizontal with Autostar) configuration for the ETX-60AT or ETX-70AT Astro Telescope models.



Fig. 3: ETX-60AT Telescope in Altazimuth configuration.

Altazimuth alignment (**Fig. 3**) is ideal for terrestrial (land) viewing and for celestial observations with Autostar. The telescope automatically tracks celestial objects to keep them within the field of view when used with an Autostar handbox. See the appropriate section of your telescope's Instruction Manual for information on how to setup your telescope in an Altazimuth alignment

IMPORTANT NOTE: *After the telescope is aligned, do not move the tripod when centering an object in the telescope's eyepiece or viewfinder as this ruins the alignment.*

At the end of an observing session, remember to turn off the motor drive.

Remove the accessory tray (**7, Fig. 1**) from the tripod. Lift the plastic black lever to retract the tripod legs. Press each lever back against the legs to tighten the legs in place once they are retracted.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *If the tripod does not extend or collapse easily, do not force the tripod legs in or out. By following the above instructions, the tripod will function properly. Forcing the tripod into an incorrect position may damage the tripod.*

If you have a question concerning use of the #882 Standard Field Tripod, call the Meade Instruments Customer Service Department at (949) 451-1450, or fax at (949) 451-1460. Customer Service hours are 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM, Pacific Time, Monday through Friday.



ADVANCED PRODUCTS DIVISION

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