

VariZoom VZ-ROCK (v2016) Operating Manual

Your VZ-ROCK controller is equipped with the following features: **pressure-sensitive variable speed zoom control; manual focus control; record start/stop; LED indicator; manual iris control***, **power ON/OFF***; **data on/off***; **autofocus on/off*** - ***with certain camera models**

1. Plug the controller into the “remote” jack on your Sony, Canon, JVC, Black Magic or compatible Panasonic camcorder. If you are not sure about the location of the remote jack, consult the camcorder owner’s manual.
2. You can attach the controller to your tripod handle, monopod, shoulder support, or stabilizer with the adjustable clamp (do not overtighten). The controller doesn’t require any external power or setup. Once connected, the VZ-ROCK is ready to perform.
3. The rocker switch at the bottom is for **zooming**. Since it is a variable rocker, the farther you press it right the faster it will zoom in (telephoto), and the farther you press it left the faster it will zoom out (wide). You should practice a bit before shooting so that you acquire a good sense of the rocker response with your camera. Each camera model responds a little differently based on its zoom servo design.
4. The small button marked with a red “**R**” is the **record start/stop** button. The button marked ***ON** will toggle the camera between standby and full power modes. Hold the button in for 2 seconds and release to put the camera into standby mode. To power the camera up from standby mode, simply press the ON button.
5. You can also control the **focus** of your lens manually using the VZ-ROCK. With some camcorders, you can toggle between Auto and Manual modes using the * “**A**” button. If the “**A**” button doesn’t work, switch the camera itself to manual focus mode, then you can use the “**FOCUS**” buttons to precisely adjust focus. Pressing the down arrow will bring the focal plane closer while pressing the up arrow will move the focal plane farther away.
6. *Depending on your camera, you may also have access to iris control with the “**F+**” and “**F-**” buttons. Not all cameras support this feature, but to test it you must put your camera in manual iris mode.
7. Finally, the **LED indicator light** will turn red (or blink) to indicate a variety of camcorder functions such as record status, low battery, etc. (the pattern will vary slightly between different camcorders, but will remain consistent when used with the same camcorder). You are ready to begin using the VZ-ROCK. Enjoy! (*When not in use, disconnect the ROCK and handle the connector carefully.*)

Troubleshooting: **1)** Zoom Creeping (unwanted zooming): Recalibrating the zoom center is easy. With the controller connected to your camera, loosen the brass set screw on the underside of the rocker with a 5/64” hex key (alan wrench), holding the rocker firmly in place. On the backside of the rocker is a hole with a slotted shaft, and this is where you adjust the zoom center with a flat screwdriver. Turn it slightly left and right and you’ll see the camera zoom in and out – find the centermost point between the zoom in/out start positions, then tighten the brass set screw (don’t overcrank it). Watch the video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2ntdG3cu5Lg> **2)** Controller not responding: Unplug the unit and plug it back in after a few seconds. ***NOTE: Certain features may be unsupported by your camera.**