



USB Shutter Control Adapter User Manual Model DSUSB-IR1

Revision 1.0
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Introduction

The Shoestring Astronomy USB Shutter Control Adapter is designed allow personal computers to control the shutter of various Nikon cameras that use infrared (IR) wireless remote controls. Because it is a USB device, it is very convenient to install, is compatible with many operating systems, and requires no additional power source. However, you will need more than this device alone, you will also need third-party software that supports this product. Consult the Shoestring Astronomy website for a current list of software vendors.

Features

- Plugs directly into your computer's USB port.
- Receives it power from your computer via the USB port, so no external power source or battery is necessary.
- Uses the USB HID (Human Interface Device) class driver, which is included with most operating system such as Windows 98 Second Edition, Windows 2000, and Windows XP. There is no need for a proprietary driver.
- Compatible with any Nikon camera compatible with the Nikon ML-L3 remote control.
- Red-green LED for software-dependent status indication.

Device Installation

The first time you plug the DSUSB-IR1 into a computer, it will automatically be identified as a new device. See the section below that applies to your operating system. Operating systems prior to Windows 98 Second Edition do not support USB and the HID class of devices.

After the first installation is complete, the next time you plug the DSUSB-IR1 into your computer, it will remember that this device has already been installed once and will automatically recognize it.

To remove the DSUSB-IR1 from your computer, simply unplug it from the USB port.

Installation under Windows XP or Windows 2000

Plug the device into a USB port. The red LED on the DSUSB-IR1 should light immediately. A “Found New Hardware” balloon will pop up on your monitor. Wait a few moments and the text in the balloon should change to say “Your new hardware is installed and ready to use”. It really is that simple!

Installation under Windows 98 Second Edition

Win98SE installation is a little more work, but still pretty simple. Plug the device into a USB port. The red LED on the DSUSB-IR1 should light immediately.

- 1) The “Add New Hardware Wizard” should open up. Click the “Next” button.
- 2) The wizard will then say “What do you want Windows to do?” Select “Search for the best driver...”, then click the “Next” button.
- 3) The wizard then says “Windows will search for new drivers...”. Uncheck all the boxes and click “Next”.
- 4) Next the wizard says “Windows driver file search for the device:”, and should show the location as C:\WINDOWS\INF\HIDDEV.INF. Just click the “Next” button.
- 5) At this point, you will probably be asked to insert the Windows 98 Second Edition CD-ROM. Do this, then click “OK”, then click “OK” again.
- 6) Finally, click “Finish” and you should be done!

Device Operation Verification

Once you have completed the initial installation, you may want to verify that the DSUSB-IR1 is working properly before you begin to use it with your camera control software. To do this, you can download and install DSUSBCheck from the Shoestring Astronomy website. This is simple software that allows you to turn the LED on and off, change the color of the LED from red to green, and to open and close the shutter of your camera. It is intended to allow you to verify that everything is working properly. Should you have trouble getting your third-party camera control software to work, using DSUSBCheck will also allow you to troubleshoot your setup. In other words, if everything works with DSUSBCheck, then your problem most likely is with your third-party software.

Connecting to Your Camera

The DSUSB-IR1 comes with an IR transmitter head and a six-foot extension cable. Plug the IR transmitter head into the extension cable, and plug the other end of the cable into the DSUSB-IR1. Mount the IR transmitter where the camera's IR receiver input can "see" it. Note: The IR beam coming out of the IR transmitter head is fairly narrow, just 20 degrees, so the IR transmitter head must be mounted so it is pointing directly at the camera's IR receiver input.

Operating the DSUSB-IR1

Operating the DSUSB-IR1 is quite simple. Plug the DSUSB-IR1 into a USB port on your computer or a USB hub. Set up the cable and IR transmitter head as discussed above. Start your camera control software, and you are ready to take photographs!!

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