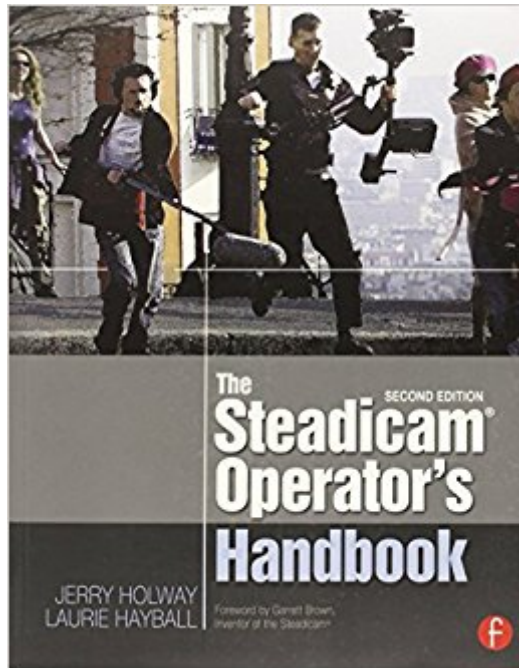




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# The Steadicam<sup>®</sup> Operator's Handbook



## Synopsis

Both informational and inspirational, THE STEADICAM<sup>®</sup> OPERATOR'S HANDBOOK is the number one comprehensive guide to becoming a successful owner and operator of the Steadicam. Packed with interviews and instruction by the world's premier Steadicam professionals, this book will get you up and running with your rig in no time. You will learn a wide range of practices for the Steadicam, including the physics and balancing through a series of step-by-step line dances and practice shots, to the most personal aspects of filmmaking and how individual operators make creative and practical decisions using this unique camera support system. You will also learn the business side of a Steadicam career, from buying your best rig to negotiating deals with producers and unit production managers. Also included are observations and anecdotes that are inspirational, funny, instructive, and cautionary and written by a number of other experienced Steadicam operators around the world, including the legendary inventor of the Steadicam himself, Garrett Brown. THE STEADICAM<sup>®</sup> OPERATOR'S HANDBOOK is both a master class and a master reference for all camera operators and directors who want to move the camera well. Updated movie examples and ample coverage of new technologies and accessories, including Garrett Brown's new invention, The Tango<sup>®</sup> and using a Steadicam for filming 3D. Offers a complete course in itself: whether you are a novice or experienced Steadicam operator, you can use this book to build your skill set and move forward in your career. Companion website (available here at [www.steadicamoperatorhandbook.com](http://www.steadicamoperatorhandbook.com)) provides exclusive video instruction and interviews from Steadicam pros.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"The Steadicam<sup>®</sup> Operator's Handbook is the most comprehensive and complete text available on Steadicam equipment and operation. It is essential reading for beginners and experienced operators alike." -Dan Kneece, President of the Society of Steadicam Operators

"Precision is key when it comes to pulling off a successful Steadicam shot, and it is also the best word to describe what makes The Steadicam Operator's Handbook essential reading. Written by veteran operators Jerry Holway and Laurie Hayball, it is a treasure trove of specific, detailed information regarding the theory and practice of Steadicam operation. Intelligent but not dryly academic, and complete but never overwhelming, The Steadicam Operator's Handbook is a must." - Jim Hemphill, American Cinematographer

Foreword by Garrett Brown!

"The Steadicam Operator's Handbook is the most comprehensive and complete text available on Steadicam equipment and operation. It is essential reading for beginners and experienced operators alike." - Dan Kneece, SOC President

"This is the first book to demystify the operation of the Steadicam." Paul Taylor, Steadicam owner, operator, and instructor

Camera operators and video enthusiasts around the globe are seeking the training and information they need to successfully use the Steadicam<sup>®</sup>, the most versatile and exciting tool for moving a motion picture or a video camera. For the first time available outside of workshops, The Steadicam<sup>®</sup> Operator's Handbook illuminates all aspects of Steadicam operating in one comprehensive package. With over 1300 full-color photos, it's the granddaddy how-to and why-to book for the amateur, semi-pro, and professional. Written by the premier Steadicam<sup>®</sup> operators in the world, this book covers everything a camera operator needs to get started using a Steadicam<sup>®</sup> rig and to master this art form. Both informational and inspirational, The Steadicam<sup>®</sup> Operator's Handbook moves from the physics and balancing of a Steadicam, through a series of step-by-step line dances and practice shots, to the most personal aspects of filmmaking how individual operators make creative and practical decisions using this unique camera setup. The book discusses the wide array of equipment and accessories currently available, and it also illustrates the latest operating techniques and tricks, a variety of strategies for working with others, and the business side of a Steadicam career. Also included are observations and anecdotes inspirational, funny, instructive, and cautionary written by a global cast of other experienced Steadicam operators, including the legendary inventor of the Steadicam<sup>®</sup> himself, Garrett

Brown. The Steadicam Operator's Handbook is both a master class and a master reference for all camera operators and directors who want to move the camera well. About the Authors Jerry Holway has been a Steadicam operator for 25 years, with many feature film credits including Donnie Brasco, As Good as it Gets, Rounders, The Apostle, All the Pretty Horses, and Reign Over Me. Over the past 18 years, Jerry has been the head instructor at more than 60 week-long Steadicam workshop worldwide. He is generally regarded along with Garret Brown, inventor of the Steadicam as one of the premier Steadicam workshop instructor in the world. Laurie Hayball has been a Steadicam operator and workshop instructor for 10 years. She earned a degree in Motion Picture and Television from UCLA's School of Fine Arts. Her training as a cinematographer brings a comprehensive understanding of all aspects of media production, especially as it pertains to visual storytelling. Laurie is the author of The Infrared Photography Handbook, The Advanced Infrared Photography Handbook, and How to Photograph Your Baby's First Year, all published by Amherst Media.

The 2nd version of the steadicam operator's handbook contains a lot of what was already in the first edition with a few added stories, some more in depth explanations, but more importantly a whole section on working with 3D rigs. This is a must for any wannabe steadicam op, I already own the first edition and there are no major differences between the two, 90% of the content is the same but it's still a great purchase. You've got some of the best operators in the world sharing their life experiences in that book, and each and everyone of these stories is fascinating. Nobody can regret owning this book, it's the logical first step before taking a workshop.

Although this isn't really a 'textbook,' this was the assigned reading for a Steadicam class I took. Unlike most required books for classes, it was a very interesting read, and provided useful guidance for techniques as well as interesting anecdotes from actual Steadicam operators. Usually I end up selling books required for classes once the class is over, but this is one case where I did not, because I find it to be too valuable to let go of! I think this is a great book for every Steadicam Op to have in their collection, and maybe even people who are just interested in filmmaking and would like to know more about one of the popular tools used for smooth camera movement in both big and small budget films.

Good overall review. But like most things, the \*only\* way to get competent with a Steadicam is to practice!

I am no real Steadicam operator shooting feature films, just using my Pilot for my indie documentaries, but even for my level I consider this book as A MUST! If you are more serious regarding Steadicam than me, it is even more important! Love the book, it was put together exceptionally well!

Fantastic, goes through absolutely everything about learning how to properly operate a steadicam. The teachings and habits learnt have been tremendous in my development as a steadicam operator. Would highly recommend for sure.

Real cool, I am very green with "Steadycam" and reading through it had convinced me to give it a try out buying my own rig. It's a book for personal library for ever and all other edition following. I made the right choice to start with this book...

A superbly concise and yet thorough examination of all the various facets necessary to become a successful Steadicam operator. Of all the countless sources with which I have become acquainted, this is by far the very best and second to none.

You will learn something from this book whether your a new operator or an old pro. It can't replace the knowledge you'll gain from a workshop but every steadicam operator should own this book.

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