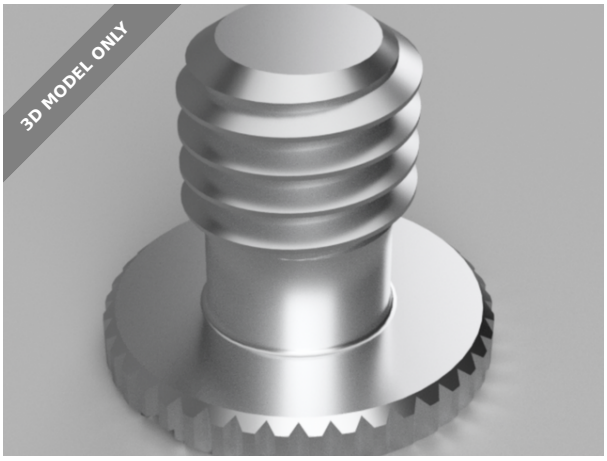

Camera (tripod) screw 3/8"-16 UNC

sbuerger

VIEW IN BROWSER

updated 1. 11. 2023 | published 1. 11. 2023

Summary

Classic style tripod screw, STL and STEP

Gadgets > Photo & Video

Tags: bolt thread fieldcamera

This is the 3/8" version of my 1⁄4" camera/tripod screw. It has just the same outer dimensions (length, headplate) but, obviously, a different thread (and, according to that, a thicker shaft that adds some stability).

The 3/8" UNC thread has become quite uncommon for camera fixtures but is still the most common thread for tripod gear. If you have the choice, I recommend using the 3/8" version rather than the 1⁄4" version since it is much sturdier.

Due to the (still) tiny dimensions, I recommend printing it using the highest resolution/lowest layer height your printer is capable of. The part in the photo was printed at 0.05 mm using a 0.4 mm nozzle. And **no,** you **don't** need any support to print this.
And, by the way: **No,** when it comes to printing screw threads, a **finer nozzle** is **not beneficial at all** - the best layer adhesion in this case is achieved with a 0.6 mm nozzle while a 0.4 mm nozzle provides the best compromise of thread quality and knurling detail. Using a 0.3 mm or finer nozzle produces a weaker thread and should be avoided.

Warning: A plastic screw can not replace a metal screw, not even a s an emergency substitute. Use this part only
a) for testing purposes (e.g. if you ordered a metal screw but yet don't have it at hand)
b) for applications in which the screw is the predetermined breaking point or
c) for applications in which the setup is not moved anymore after mounting (like a webcam or printer cam).

If you want to use the screw for your own CAD construction work, use one of the STEP files added. Just like with the 1⁄4" version, I added two different files: “Camera screw 3_8 original UNC” features the original thread dimensions as defined for UNC 1⁄4-20 while “Camera screw 3_8 3D printing” has a slight thread surface offset to compensate 3D printing effects (just like the STL).

This remix is based on

Camera (tripod) screw 1/4"-20 UNC
by sbuerger

Model files

camera-screw-3_8.stl

stativschraube-3_8-3d-printing.step

stativschraube-3_8-original-unc.step

License

This work is licensed under a
Creative Commons (4.0 International License)

Attribution—Noncommercial—Share Alike

✖ | Sharing without ATTRIBUTION
✔ | Remix Culture allowed
✖ | Commercial Use
✖ | Free Cultural Works
✖ | Meets Open Definition