

Scotty's Maxi Mount



- Solid as a rock
- All sky accessible
- Air portable @ < 12 lbs.
- (<20 including scope)
- 2 axis slow motion control
- Stealthy black for multi-station deployment
- Stands only 24" tall
- Costs ~\$100
- Mag limit with PC164EX-2 = **12.5**

Parts list

✓ **Orion Min-EQ Tabletop Equatorial Telescope Mount**

✓ http://www.telescope.com/catalog/search.cmd?form_state=searchForm&keyword=09055

✓ **Craftsman Telescoping Tripod Impact Sprinkler**

✓ <http://www.sears.com/craftsman-telescoping-tripod-impact-sprinkler/p-07140129000P?prdNo=1>

✓ **Craftsman Tripod to Orion MiniEQ adaptor consists of:**

- 1 each – ½" x ¼" hex plumbing bushing
- 1 each – 10mm-1.50 x 50mm hex bolt
- Glue bolt inside bushing using JB Weld

✓ **ST120 miniEQ mounting adapter consists of:**

- 1 each plate = 4" ABS black plastic pipe cut in quarters x 5" long
- 4 each nylon bumper pads between plate and ST120 tube
- 2 each 5" hose clamps (Home Depot 3" - 5" clamps)
- 2 each 12" lengths of either 3/8" or ½" heat shrink (use over hose clamps, prevents scratching tube)
- 2 each – ¼"-20 x 1.5" flat head machine screw with tapered head
- 2 each ¼"-20 nuts
- 2 each ¼"-20 wing nuts



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Sears Item# 07140129000 | Model# 27462

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Images



Orion Min-EQ Tabletop Equatorial Telescope Mount

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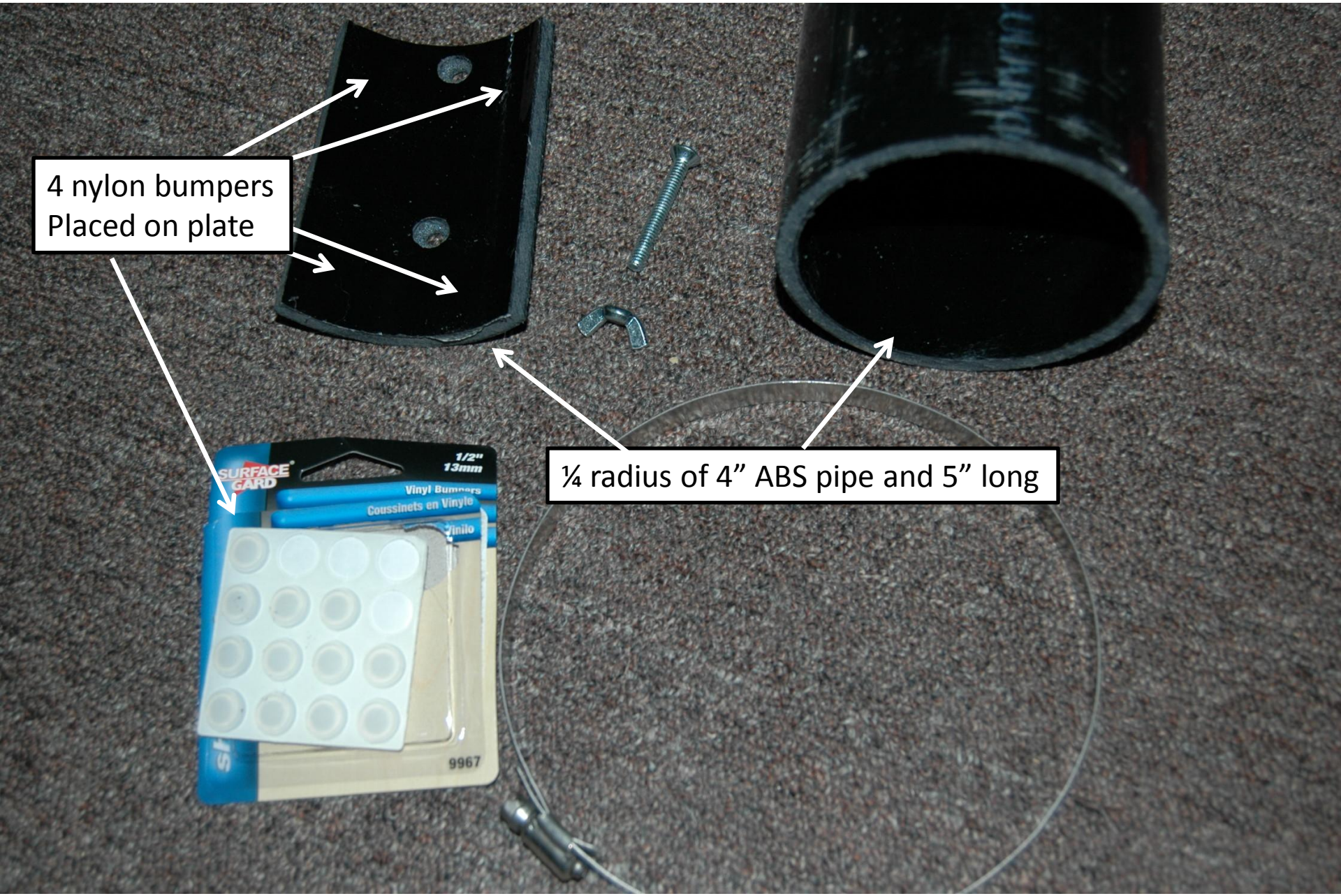


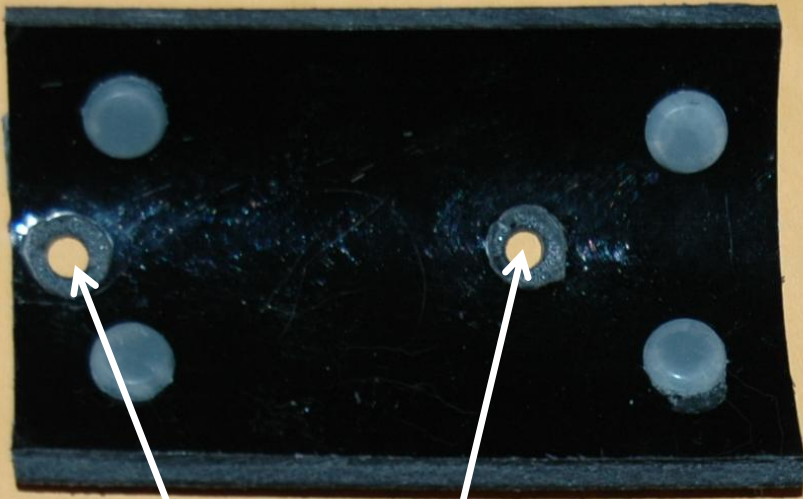
Weld the 10mm bolt inside the hex busing with JB Weld

4 nylon bumpers
Placed on plate



$\frac{1}{4}$ radius of 4" ABS pipe and 5" long





1/4-20 bolts and nuts for ABS pipe adapter

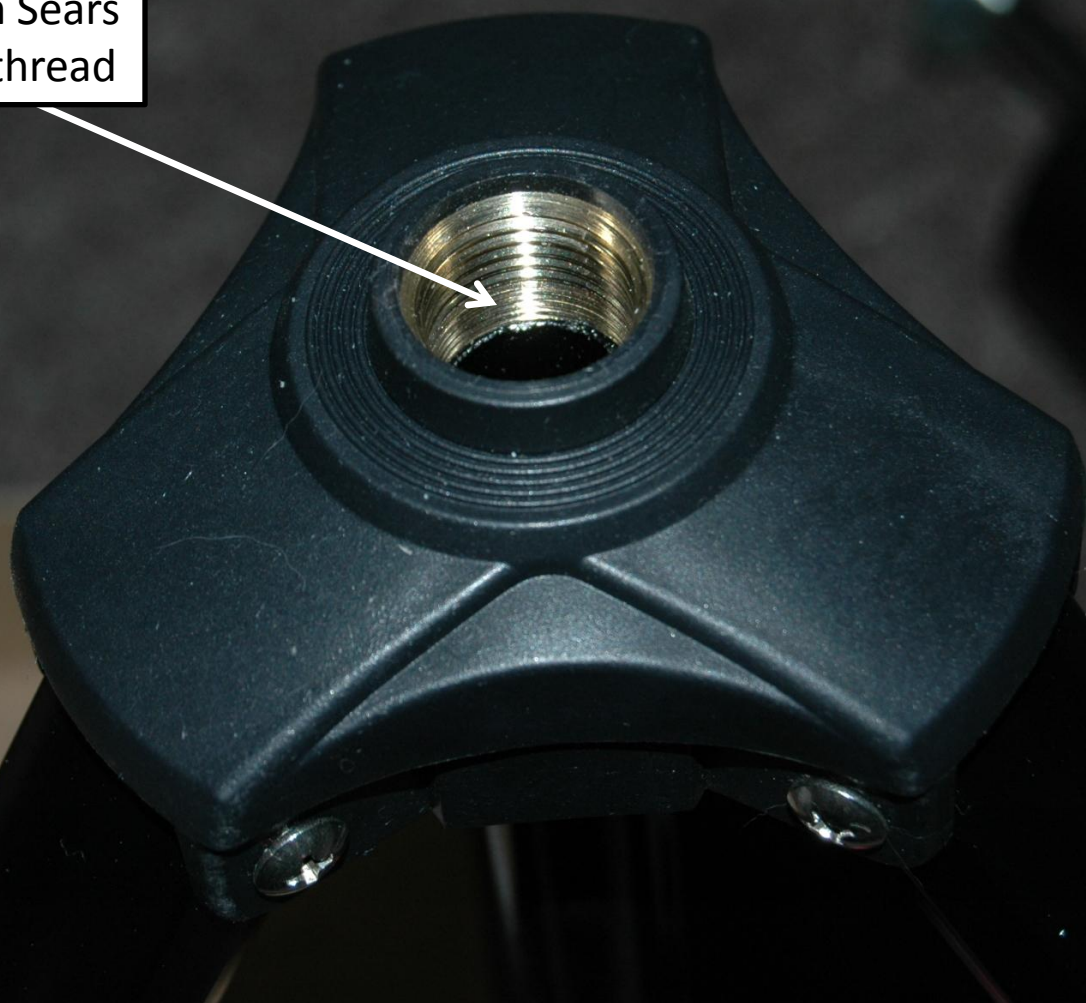


wing nuts for attaching scope to miniEQ

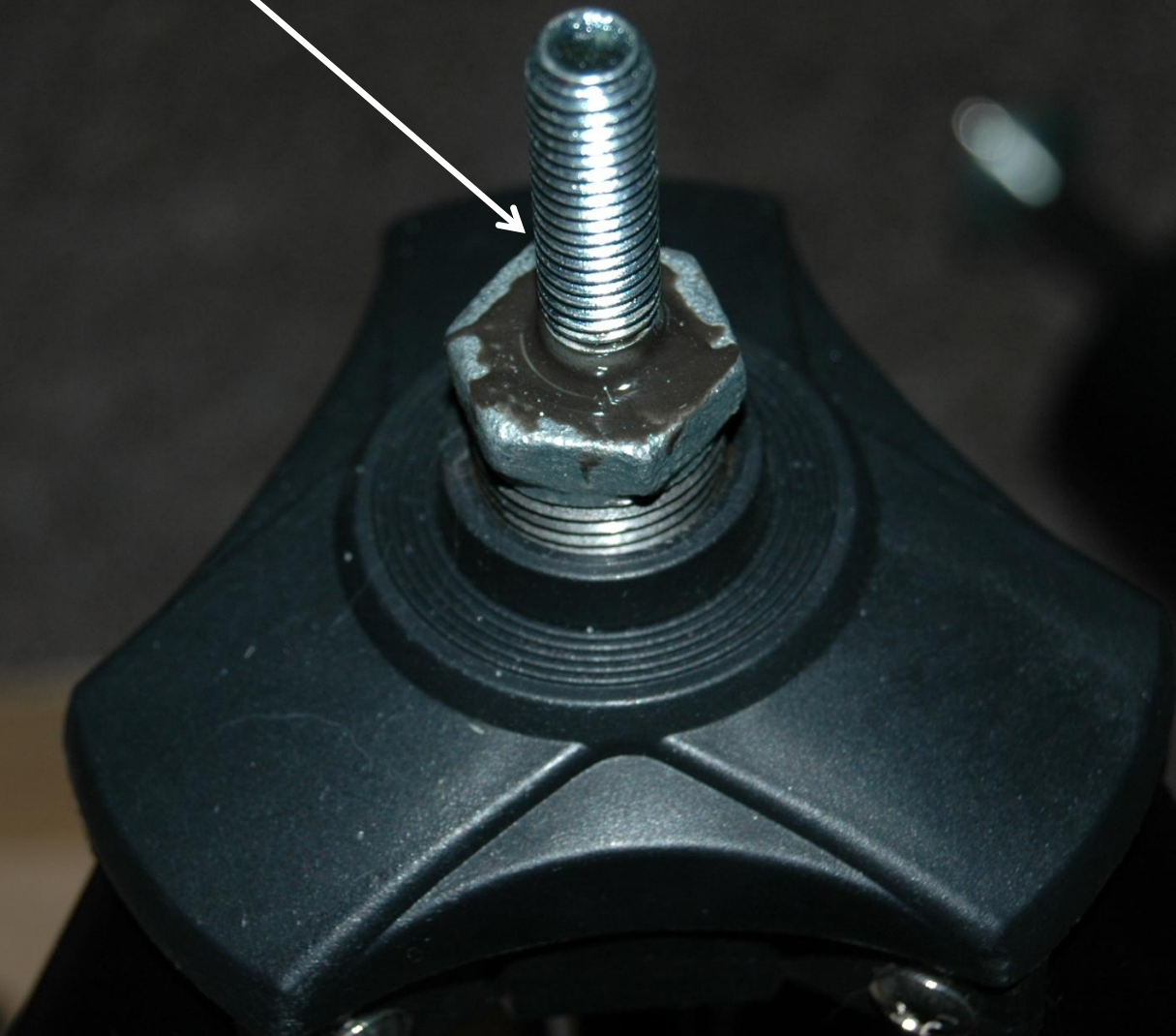


3/8" or 1/2" heat shrink
around
3" - 5" adjustable hose clamps

Tripod as is from Sears
1/2" female pipe thread

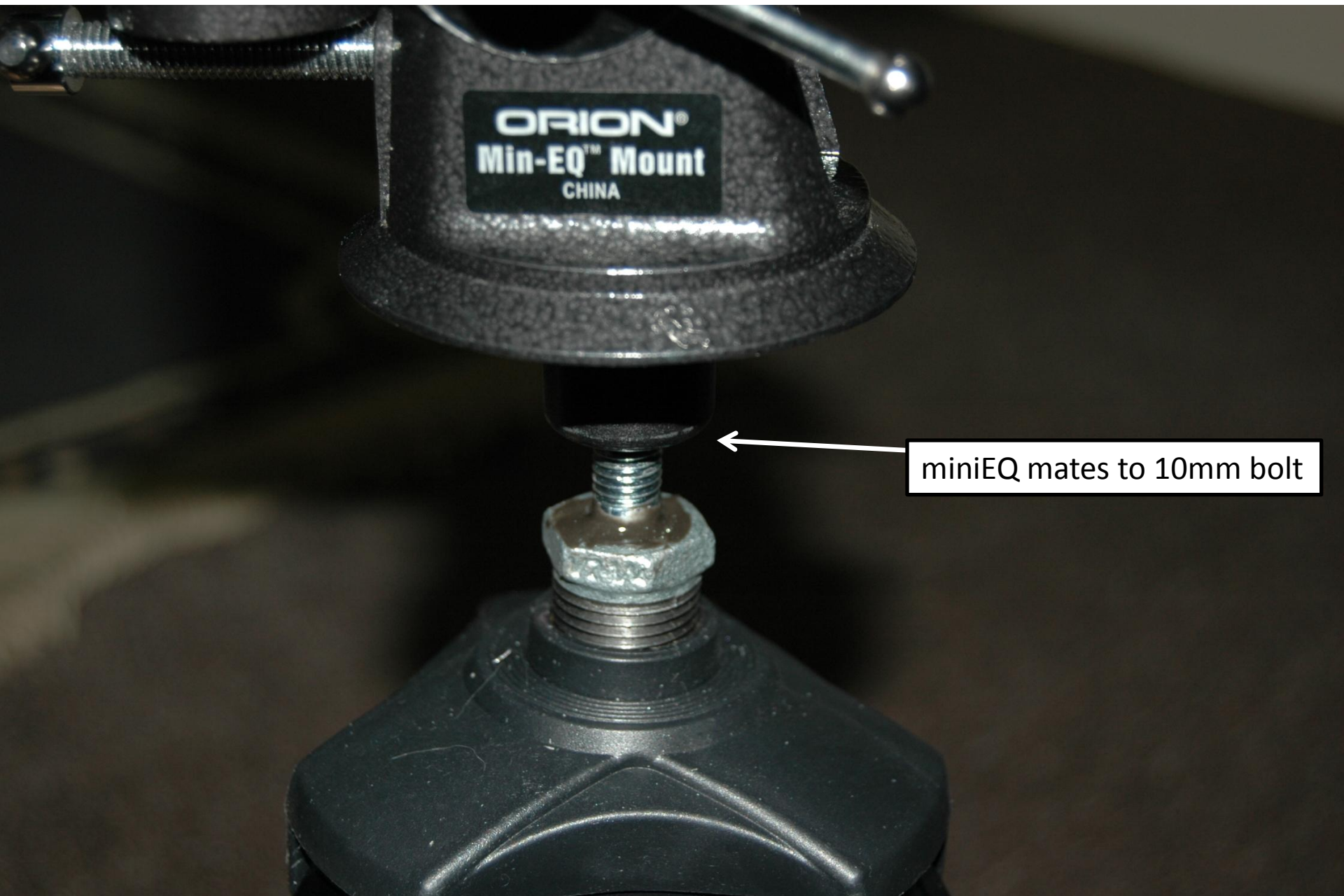


Welded 10mm bolt inside 1/2" male bushing





Orion miniEQ with its tripod base removed



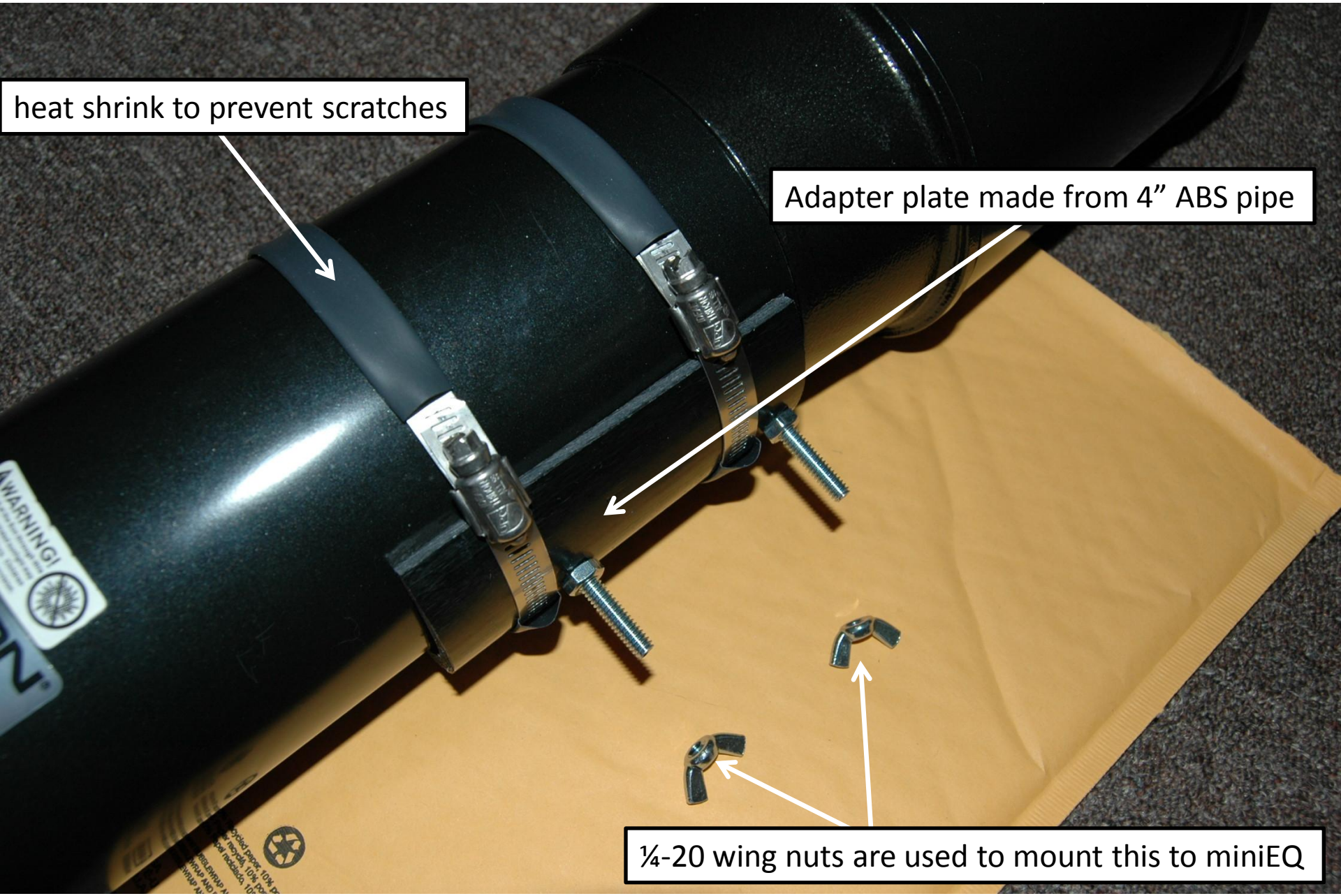
ORION®
Min-EQ™ Mount
CHINA

miniEQ mates to 10mm bolt

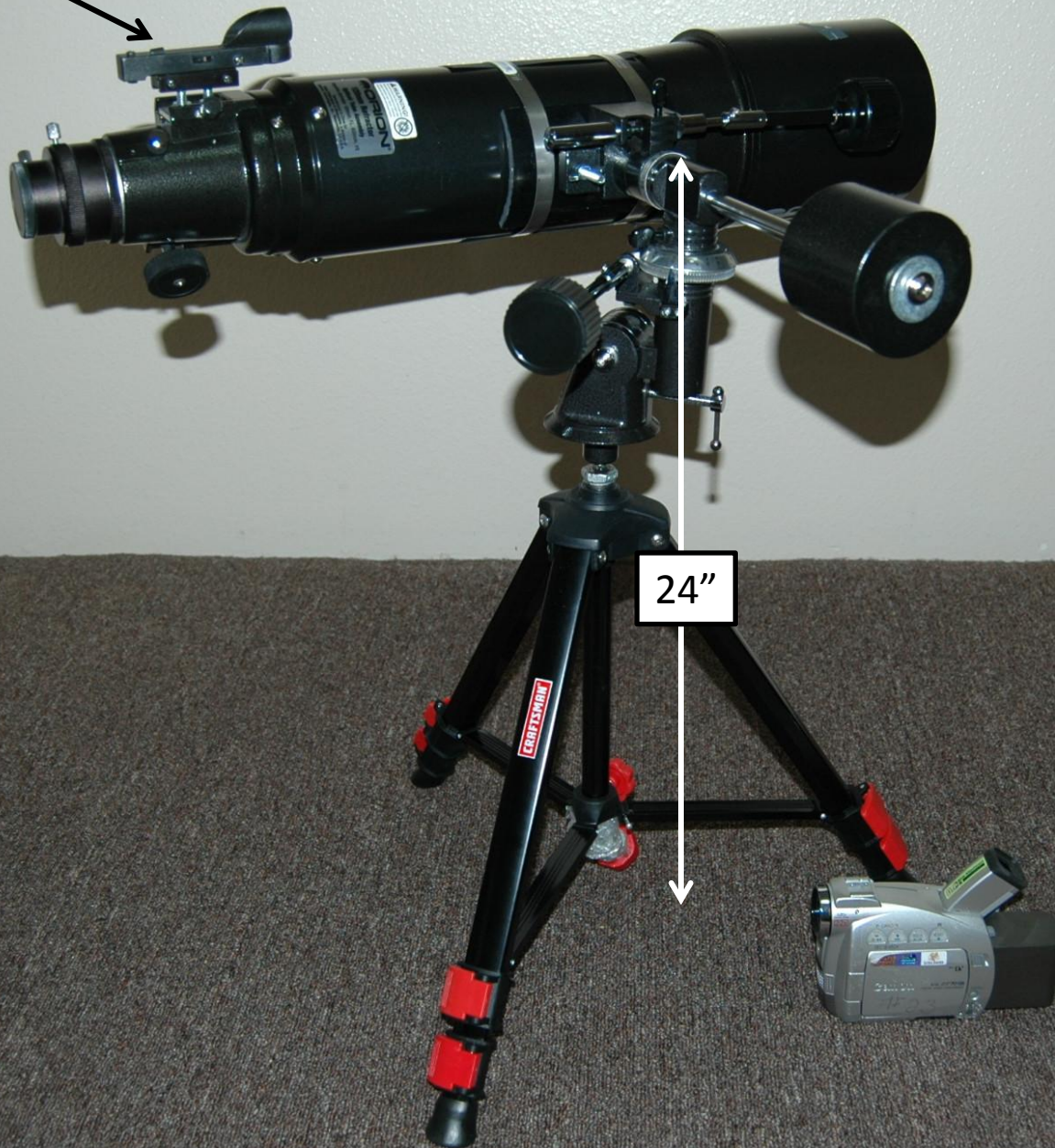
heat shrink to prevent scratches

Adapter plate made from 4" ABS pipe

1/4-20 wing nuts are used to mount this to miniEQ



Shown with homemade red dot finder (\$10 at Walmart)



2 axis slow motion control



Some assembly tips

When gluing the 10mm bolt to ½” bushing:

- When using JB Weld on 10mm bolt make sure to not let any stray glue get on any of the threads (or you will be using a file the next day to make the threads work again!).
- Make sure to wipe excess glue off of the head of the bolt. Otherwise it might not fit inside the female ½” pipe thread of the Craftsman tripod.
- All 10mm bolts may not be created equal. I have learned that some bolt heads are larger than the female ½” pipe thread of the Craftsman tripod. This will require you to use a file or grinder to trim down the corners of the bolt head.
- **Be careful** to not cross thread the bushing the first time you attach it to tripod.

When tightening the ¼-20 bolts:

- Since the ABS plate adapter is just plastic don't over tighten the ¼-20 nuts to the 1 ½” ¼-20 bolt. Snug is likely good enough.
- Same thing when attaching the scope to the tripod, I would not wrench down the ¼-20 wing nuts overly tight, just past snug seems good.
- When tightening the ¼-20 wing nuts you may need to alternate tightening a little at a time to each bolt to get an even seating on the miniEQ.

Protect the threads:

- If you are planning a lot of travel with the system you may consider buying some plastic or rubber bolt caps to fit on the end of the bolts to protect the threads. Or you could wrap them with tape for protection when unit is apart.

Leading the way to the next revolution in asteroidal occultation multi-station deployment...

An array of Orion ST120mm stations, the Mighty Maxi!!!

Limiting magnitude with the PC164EX-2 = **12.5**

Limiting magnitude with the PC165DNR = ?

(likely > **14th**)

More details and testing to follow...

<http://scottysmightymini.com/>

December 22, 2012