Atomos Ninja Blade Quick Use Guide

Contents
- Ninja Blade Monitor/Recorder
- 2x 250 GB External HDs in Drive Caddies
- 1 USB Master Caddy Docking Station (for off loading media)
- AC adaptor
- Charger and AC Adaptor
- Car Charger
- 2x Batteries
- Headphone Cable Y Splitter

Extra Accessories Not Included in Ninja Blade Case
- 3’ HDMI Cable
- Articulating Arm w/ Shoe Mount

Basic Setup
- If using the monitor as a recorder then carefully insert the external HD into the monitor until it clicks. Make sure there is no resistance - the drive only goes in one way. Do not force it. (Note: the drive does fit snugly into the monitor so make sure you take it out carefully using both hands.
- Mount both batteries on the back of the monitor.
- Carefully secure the Ninja Blade to your camera using an articulating arm or a shoe mount. It can be mounted from the top or bottom of the monitor.
- Connect the monitor to the camera using the HDMI cable.
- If necessary, connect headphones to the Headphone Output
- Turn the monitor on by holding the button on the right of the Ninja Blade. After the Ninja Blade is on pushing the power button will Lock the screen.
  - The Power can be turned off by pushing the “Menu” button and then selecting “Power Off” or by holding the Power button.
**Display & Work Flow**

- Adjust your frame rate in the top left. You can choose **1080p23.98, 1080p29.97, or 1080i59.94** for frame rate.
  - Make sure that your camera setting matches the monitor setting for best results. If the two don’t match you may have issues seeing or recording the signal from the camera.
- If you are recording for the first time with this drive make sure to **Format** it by tapping the blue arrow next to the drive icon in the top right of the home screen. This will erase the drive and prepare it to record new files.
- Use the scopes and other monitor tools to aid you as you get your shot.
- Record your files and check them afterwards.
- Before you turn in the Atomos Ninja Blade make sure you use the USB Drive Caddy Docking Station to **transfer your files from the Caddy Hard Drive to your own Hard Drive**. When you connect the Caddy Hard Drive to a computer it will mount as an External Drive and you can copy your video files to your own drive for editing. Make sure to keep them organized by project and date.

**Menus**

- After the basic setup of the monitor make sure you are seeing an image from the camera.
  - The Ninja Blade will record whatever it sees from your camera so make sure that you have a clean image. You may have to push the Display button on the camera or turn off the HD Display option in the camera menu.
- All of the functionality of the Ninja Blade can be accessed via the touch screen.
- You can touch in in the center of the screen to clear the display. None of the Atomos Menu Displays will ever be recorded, but you may want to clear them to see your image fully.
- On the bottom of the screen you will see the Record button, a Play (file review button), and a Menu button.
- The Menu will allow you to Power Off the Ninja Blade and to adjust some Display Options.

**Scopes & Tools**

- Waveform Monitoring - Allows you to access the following tools. In this mode you can also adjust the settings of each tool by click on the gear on the right hand side.
  - **Luma Overlay** - A classic Waveform measuring the brightness of your image. Can be viewed as full screen, ¼ Screen, or Lower Third. Simply tap in the lower right to toggle through the displays.
  - **RGB Parade** - The same as the Waveform except it separates the red, green, and blue signals to measure their luminance level separately
  - **Vectorscope** - Shows the color balance and saturation of your image.
  - **Vectorscope Zoom** - A closer up Vectorscope highlighting the center of the scope.
● Monitor Assist - Allows you to access the following monitor tools.
  ○ Focus Assist - The parts of the image that are in focus will be highlighted in the selected color. The default is red, but this can be changed to many other colors.
  ○ False Color - This grades the exposure values of the image using color. Typically overexposed parts of the image will be in red while under exposed will be in blue.
  ○ Zebra Pattern - This highlights only the parts of the image that are at a certain exposure setting. Can be set to 75% for faces or 95% or 100% to look for parts that might be overexposed.
  ○ Blue Only Exposure - Displays a black and white image using only the blue channel from the input signal. Can be used to observe grain, or other exposure or image quality variables.
  ○ Smart Areas/Grids - On the right side of the screen below the Settings button you can also turn on the Grid Overlay.
  ○ Smart Log - Allows you to mark clips or parts of clips as Favorites or as Rejected.

Audio
  ● From the home page you can adjust the headphone volume.
  ● By tapping on the Audio Monitor section you will see a larger version of it to help monitor the levels.
    ○ **Important**: You cannot adjust the Audio Level while recording through HDMI. Audio Levels must be adjusted on the camera. The Ninja Blade can only monitor the levels. Make sure the Red "R" is selected under under your active audio channels. This means those channels are ready to be recorded.