60D/70D set up with Tilta follow focus

1. Remove QR plate from tripod and affix to bottom of FF rod assembly in the center thread of the cheeseplate. Make sure that the side of the rods w/ the beveled edges are facing the front of the lens (look under QR plate and there a lens forward arrow). Tighten firmly using a flathead screwdriver, key, or coin.

2. Set up tripod and balance fluid head using level. Make sure that pan/tilt is locked down and affix rod assembly to tripod (you don’t want the head moving during assembly). Make sure to lock down the quick release plate affixed to bottom of rod assembly once it’s on there.

3. Put battery and SD card into camera.
4. Thread the FF baseplate into the bottom of the camera using the black lock wheel. Loosen the silver locknut on FF baseplate and then slide/place it onto the back half of the FF rod assembly close to the fluid head. Then tighten the silver locknut. You want the camera to be on the center top of fluid head.

5. Remove back lens cap and camera lens cap and affix lens to camera. The lens will either have a red circle lens index or a white square lens index; match with the appropriate symbol on the camera’s lens index and affix it. Keep the front lens cap on until assembly is complete. Make sure the camera is straight. If not, loosen black lockwheel on the FF baseplate and straighten camera.
6. Take the lens and turn the focus ring so that it’s set to infinity (∞). Loosen the geared FF lens ring and slide onto the lens and over the focus ring (this is the ring closest to the camera body). From the back of the camera, you want the extra geared ring rubber on the right side of the lens. Pull it tight (but not too tight) and tighten the knob. You don’t want the knob or extra ring to interfere with your focus pulling. Make sure the lens is set to MF (manual focus).

7. Loosen silver locknut and lock wheel on the follow focus. Slide or push the FF onto the rods, and, with the FF slid far away from the lens, slide the FF back so that the gears on the lens match with the FF gear. Then tighten the silver rail locknut and slide the FF into the lens so that gears interconnect. Then tighten the silver lock wheel on the FF directly under the lens. (You don’t want the gears to be mashed in too tight; simply slide in until the gears interlock and give the focus wheel a little bit of a back and forth turn to get them to lock in and then tighten the bottom silver lock wheel). You’re ready to go.
8. To break down the set up, simply reverse these instructions.

***Make sure that you ONLY use dry erase markers on the white focus ring.

***This is a SUGGESTED setup procedure. Your instructor may ask you to, for instance, set up the whole rig and then put on the tripod. Confirm with faculty.

***Pro tip. When pulling focus from behind or to the side of the camera, pushing the FF wheel forward or towards the front of the lens will pull subjects/objects closer to the camera into focus, while pulling the wheel towards the back of the camera will pull subjects/objects further from the camera into focus.

***You will only use the crank if you have to make a really long pull; however, the focus ring on these lenses only turns a couple inches and you won’t need the crank. Use the whips if you have someone pulling focus for you or if you need to pull focus and execute a camera move like a pan. Simply slide the square male end of the whip into the female square on the FF wheel.