

## Instructions for PLM™ Speedring Mount and 7mm Umbrella Shaft Models

**Note:** These instructions are **only for PLM™ models with the speedring and 7mm umbrella shaft** – Buff speedring models (PLM51U-S, PLM64U-S, PLM86U-S, PLM51U-W, PLM64U-W, PLM86U-W, PLM51U-SS, PLM64U-SS, and PLM86U-SS) and Elinchrom speedring models (E-PLM51U-S, E-PLM64U-S, E-PLM86U-S, E-PLM51U-W, E-PLM64U-W, E-PLM86U-W, E-PLM51U-SS, E-PLM64U-SS, and E-PLM86U-SS). These instructions are **NOT** intended for the PLM™ models with 8mm shafts that only have the umbrella-style mounting option.

**Your PLM™ Arrives With:** (see first photo at left)

- A. the assembled PLM™ umbrella
- B. the speedring / cage assembly for on-axis faceplate mounting
- C. the 7mm umbrella shaft pole extension for umbrella-style mounting
- D. the 10mm positioning shaft (for use with both mounting options)
- E. a black nylon umbrella sleeve

### Opening Your PLM™

1. Open your PLM™ umbrella and locate the **center ring of the umbrella ribs**. Line up this center ring with the fixed metal shaft attached inside the center top of the umbrella.
2. Hold the center ring in one hand, holding the side opposite of the thumb screw. Slide your other hand through the ribs to catch and hold the **fixed metal shaft**. Direct the center ring until it is positioned over the metal shaft and push down. Slide the center ring over the shaft (opening the umbrella) until it catches with the internal roll pin and you feel a stop.

**Note:** Ensure that the umbrella knob is unscrewed, leaving the chamber inside the center ring clear to fit over the metal shaft. If it is difficult to open the umbrella because of tight fitting fabric, the easy solution is to press the point of the PLM™ against a wall or tree, etc. so that you don't have to depend on holding the fixed umbrella tube.

3. Tighten the **umbrella knob thumb screw** by twisting clockwise to secure the open position. It is not necessary to tighten this screw all the way as you will be inserting the positioning shaft inside the chamber; simply twist the screw until it catches and holds the fixed metal shaft.

**Note:** Ensure that the thumb screw is holding the fixed metal shaft before you let go of the pieces. If the screw has not caught the shaft, the umbrella can pop back closed.

4. With your umbrella open, you can now choose to attach either the umbrella rod or speedring cage assembly to mount the umbrella on your flash unit.

- **To use the PLM™ umbrella on your Paul C. Buff™ flash unit**, you can use either the umbrella mount or speedring mount. The speedring mount (recommended) allows direct, on-axis mounting for accurate aiming and optimal light quality.

- **To use the PLM™ umbrella on your Elinchrom flash unit**, you can use either the 7mm off-center umbrella mount or speedring mount. The speedring mount allows direct, on-axis mounting for accurate aiming and optimal light quality.

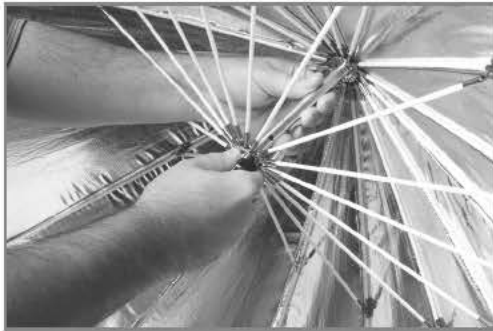
- **To use the PLM™ umbrella on a flash unit made by another manufacturer**, you can use the umbrella mount.

### Attaching the Umbrella Rod for Traditional Umbrella-Style Mounting

1. Your PLM™ umbrella ships with an **umbrella rod** fitted inside a **positioning shaft**. Pull the positioning shaft off of the umbrella rod and line it up with the fixed metal shaft attached to your open umbrella. Note the rounded shape and single flat edge of the positioning shaft as you line it up to be inserted in the umbrella's fixed metal shaft.

2. One end of the positioning shaft has a drilled hole (one of two drilled holes) near its end. This end is inserted inside the umbrella's fixed metal shaft. (The other end has internal threading – this end is not inserted.) The **umbrella knob thumb screw** that is holding the fixed metal shaft in place will also be used to hold the positioning shaft in place, fitting inside the second drilled hole on the shaft.

3. Position the **thumb screw** so that only a small portion of it protrudes into the empty chamber inside the fixed metal shaft. If it is screwed inside the chamber too far, the positioning shaft





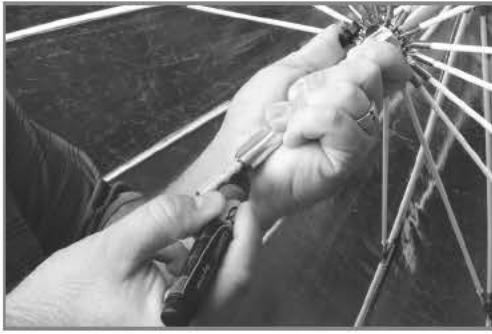
flush on  
the back  
side



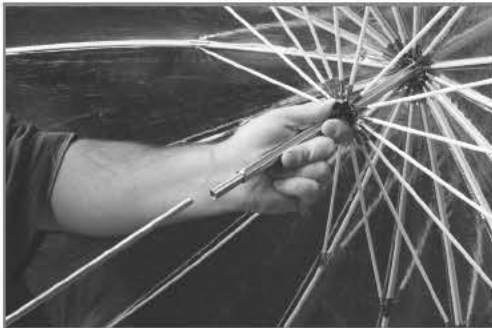
extra length  
protruding  
(1.25" to 2")

### Attaching the Umbrella Rod for Traditional Umbrella-Style Mounting *continued*

cannot be inserted. With just the tip of the thumb screw inside the chamber, you will be able to feel for the position of the drilled hole on the positioning shaft.



4. Slide the **positioning shaft** inside the chamber (drilled hole end first) until you feel the thumb screw catch slightly and have landed with the drilled hole underneath it. Tighten the umbrella knob thumb screw by turning clockwise to catch inside the drilled hole and hold the positioning shaft in place. When the positioning shaft is in the correct position with the drilled hole lined up underneath the thumb screw, the shaft will be flush with the umbrella's fixed metal shaft on the back side of the umbrella. There will be a short length of the positioning shaft protruding from the umbrella's fixed metal shaft (approximately 2 inches on the 51-inch PLM™ umbrellas and approximately 1.25 inches on the 64-inch and 86-inch models). Once you have the positioning shaft set, it may be helpful for future assembly to make a small mark on the shaft with a marker or electrical tape. You may need to slide the positioning shaft in and out to feel for the position of the drilled hole. The thumb screw will not be able to turn clockwise and twist down unless it is positioned directly over the drilled hole.



**Note:** *Once you have the positioning shaft in place, you can set the position using the allen screw (already in place inside the fixed umbrella pole) on the top outside of the umbrella. Using the provided allen wrench, turn the allen screw slowly until it catches the positioning shaft. This is only necessary if you wish to keep the shaft in place inside the umbrella between uses.*

5. Locate the 7mm solid round **umbrella rod**. This rod slides inside the positioning shaft that is attached to your PLM™ umbrella and is held in place by the umbrella knob thumb screw. Position the umbrella knob thumb screw so that only a small portion of it protrudes into the empty chamber inside the positioning shaft. If it is screwed inside the chamber too far, the umbrella rod cannot be inserted.



6. Insert the **umbrella rod** inside the positioning shaft (either end may be inserted as they are the same). Push the rod in far enough for it to be caught by the thumb screw, leaving enough length sticking out for you to mount the rod on your flash unit - this amount will vary based on the design of the flash and position of the umbrella mounting shaft. Twist the thumb screw clockwise to catch the rod and hold it tightly inside the positioning shaft.

7. Once your umbrella rod is secure, you are ready to attach the umbrella to your flash unit. Focusing can be adjusted by sliding the umbrella rod in and out of your umbrella shaft.

**Note:** *Always ensure that a flash unit is powered OFF before removing or attaching the PLM™ umbrella or any other accessories.*

### Attaching the Speedring Cage Assembly for Faceplate Mounting



1. The **speedring cage assembly** ships in a separate box from your PLM™ umbrella. The speedring has a large end that attaches to the faceplate of your flash unit and a smaller end that attaches to the PLM™ positioning shaft. Locate the center hole in the smaller end of the speedring where you will attach the piece to the **positioning shaft**.

2. The speedring arrives with a small plastic bag containing a wing bolt and two washers. Open the bag and locate the **wing bolt and two washers**. Place one washer over the wing bolt, then slide the wing bolt and washer through the hole in the smaller end of the speedring. Slide the wing bolt through the hole with head facing the inside of the speedring cage assembly and the threaded end sticking out. Place the second washer over the wing bolt so that washers hug both sides of the center hole in the speedring.

3. Slide the threaded end of the wing bolt inside the **internally threaded end of the positioning shaft**. Attach the speedring to the positioning shaft by tightening this wing bolt, screwing clockwise to tighten.



4. Line up the positioning shaft (with the attached speedring) and the fixed metal shaft that is attached to the umbrella. Note the rounded shape and single flat edge of the positioning shaft as you line it up to be inserted in the umbrella's fixed metal shaft. The **umbrella knob thumb screw** that is holding the fixed metal shaft in place will also be used to hold the positioning shaft in place, fitting inside the drilled hole.



### Attaching the Speedring Cage Assembly for Faceplate Mounting *continued*

5. The **umbrella knob thumb screw** that is holding the fixed metal shaft in place will also be used to hold the positioning shaft, fitting inside the drilled hole. Position the thumb screw so that only a small portion of it protrudes into the empty chamber inside the fixed metal shaft. If it is screwed inside the chamber too far, the shaft cannot be inserted. With just the tip inside the chamber, you will be able to feel for the position of the drilled hole.

6. Slide the **positioning shaft** inside the chamber until you feel the thumb screw catch slightly and have landed with the drilled hole underneath it. Tighten the thumb screw by turning clockwise to catch inside the drilled hole and hold the positioning shaft in place.

**Note:** *You may need to slide the shaft in and out to feel for the position of the drilled hole. The screw will not be able to twist down unless it is positioned directly over the hole.*

7. Once your speedring is attached to the open umbrella, you are ready to attach it to the **faceplate** of your flash unit in place of its standard reflector. On Paul C. Buff™ flash units, ensure that all four fingers are inside the speedring, holding it securely on the faceplate.

**Note:** *Always ensure that a flash unit is powered OFF before removing or attaching the PLM™ umbrella or any other accessories.*



**\*\* Please note that the speedring mount and 7mm umbrella shaft models of the PLM™ are more complicated to put together than your average umbrella, but the benefits outweigh the difficulty! \*\***

If you have any trouble or simply have questions, please call us or send us an e-mail! **Toll Free 1-800-443-5542 • [info@paulcubuff.com](mailto:info@paulcubuff.com)**

### Attaching the White Front Diffusion Fabric or Black Front Spill Kill Fabric

The white front diffusion fabric and black front spill kill fabric (each sold separately from PLM™ umbrellas, available in 51-inch, 64-inch and 86-inch sizes) are attached to our open and assembled PLM™ umbrella, with either the speedring or umbrella rod in place. The white diffusion fabric may be used with either the Extreme Silver PLM™, Soft Silver PLM™ or White PLM™ models; the black spill kill fabric is designed only for use with the white models.

1. Locate the small center hole in the fabric (edged by drawstring) and slide the speedring or umbrella rod through this center hole. Wrap the large open edges of the fabric over the outside of the open umbrella, fitting each umbrella spoke edge into the fabric.

2. With the fabric covering the open umbrella, use the drawstring to tighten the fit and hold the fabric securely over the umbrella. Adjust the drawstring so that the fit is good but not too tight. Ensure that it is not over-tightened and causing the rods to bend inward, thus changing the shape of the open umbrella. This is particularly crucial when using the white front diffusion fabric on the silver umbrella as it will change the focusing.

3. The back drawstring around the small hole is used to tightening the fabric around the faceplate of your flash unit to eliminate light spill.



### Attaching the Black Outer Cover Fabric

The black outer cover fabric (sold separately from PLM™ umbrellas, available in 51-inch, 64-inch and 86-inch sizes) is attached to our open and assembled White PLM™ umbrella, with either the speedring or umbrella rod in place. To attach the cover, slip the fabric over the open outside face of the umbrella (black side out). The caps on the outside edge of the fabric correspond with the umbrella rod tips. Fit each cap over a rod tip, working in a circle around the open umbrella until all of the caps are in place and the cover is fitted over the outside of the umbrella.