# SONY®

# Remote Commander

Operating Instructions

RM-30BP

# Table of Contents

# Preparations Before Use

This unit is a remote commander designed for use in image creation by a video engineer.
You can connect it to a video camera equipped with a REMOTE connector (Ø2.5 3-pole jack) using the connection cable (supplied).
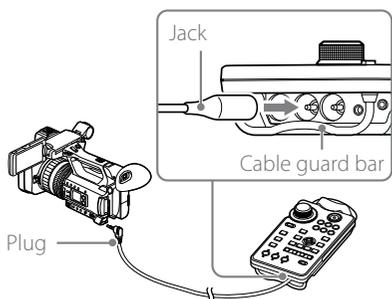
[Notes]
- Do not connect to any connectors other than those described above.
- The unit is not dustproof, splashproof, nor waterproof. Make sure that no water, liquid, or dust can enter the unit.

## Attaching to a Camcorder

Connect the unit to a camcorder using the connection cable (supplied).

1 Place the unit in a safe location, and check that the camcorder is turned off.

2 Connect the jack of the connection cable (supplied) to one of the camera connectors (CAMERA1 to CAMERA3) on the top of the unit.

3 Connect the plug of the connection cable (supplied) to the camcorder.



Jack

Cable guard bar

Plug

[Notes]
- Pass the jack of the connection cable (supplied) through the cable guard bar when connecting it.
- Insert the jack of the connection cable (supplied) in all the way.
- Use the 10 m (33 ft) connection cable (supplied) if the distance to the video camera may change.

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- Do not connect a cable other than the connection cable (supplied). Do not connect the 1 m (3 ft) and 10 m (33 ft) connections cables (supplied) together.
- When the connection cable (supplied) is connected, power may be supplied instantly, depending on the camcorder.
- Fix and group the cable with the remote commander by using the supplied cable clamp or the like, if necessary.

**Example**



Cable clamp

Connection cable
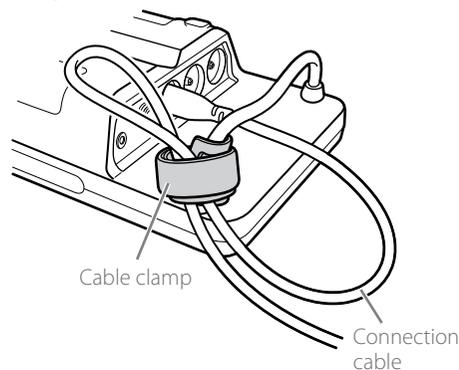
## Setting the Shooting State of the Camcorder

For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.

**Canceling automatic adjustment of the shooting state***

Turn on the camcorder. The STATUS LED and REC LED corresponding to the connector number for each camcorder light up red, and then the STATUS LED lights up green.

* The switches used to turn on/off automatic adjustment of the shooting state on the camcorder varies depending on the camcorder (for example, FULL AUTO switch, AUTO/MANUAL switch).
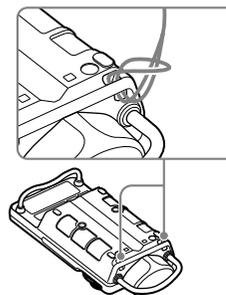
- Turn off automatic adjustment of the shooting state on the camcorder, and check that each function is now in manual adjustment mode. When the camcorder is in automatic adjustment mode, the STATUS LED flashes green slowly.

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## Attaching Accessories

### Attaching a strap

There are two holes for attaching a strap on the rear of the unit.
Attach the strap as required.



### Attaching to a pan rod

You can attach the unit to the pan rod of a tripod, or similar object, using the supplied attachment plate.
When attaching the unit to a pan rod, place a non-stepped portion of the pan rod against the back of the unit.



Keep pan rod clear of the cable guard bar

Non-stepped portion of pan rod against back of unit
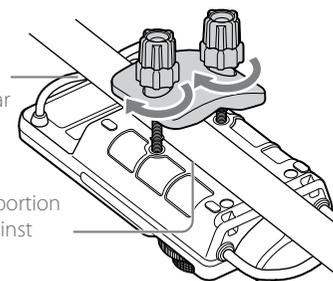
[Notes]
- If using commercially available screws in the screw holes on the back of the unit, use M5 screws of length 8 mm or shorter.
- Do not tighten the attachment plate screws more than required. Doing so may cause damage.

# Location and Function of Parts

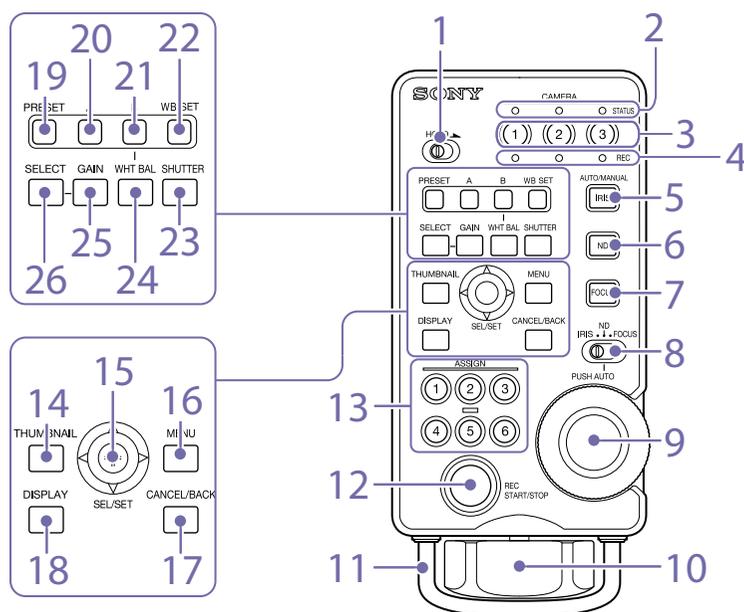[Note]
This unit cannot perform two or more remote control actions simultaneously. Always perform one action at a time.

## Control Panel



**1. HOLD switch**
Slide the switch to set/release HOLD state.
ON (right): HOLD state. In this position, the camcorder is no longer controlled by the unit.
OFF (left): HOLD state is released.
You can set keys that can be used in HOLD state is ON. For details, see "Configuring HOLD Settings" (page 10).

**2. STATUS LEDs**
Displays the status of the unit.

| Display | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Lit green | Connected to a camcorder, which is selected as a target for remote control. |
| Flashing green slowly | Camcorder is in automatic adjustment mode. |
| Flashing green rapidly | Pressed key is in HOLD state. |
| Off | Video camera is turned off or disconnected, or cannot be selected. |

**3. Camera selector keys**
Press to select the camcorders connected to the CAMERA1 to CAMERA3 connectors as the targets for remote control. You can select more than one camcorder.

[Note]
When the unit is connected to an MCX-500 Multi Camera Live Producer for remote control of camcorders from the MCX-500, camcorders that are not selected as the remote control target (corresponding STATUS LED is not lit) are also remote controlled.

**4. REC LEDs**
Displays the recording status of the camcorder.

| Display | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Lit red | Camcorder is recording. |
| Flashing red | The remaining battery capacity or remaining recording time of the camcorder is getting low. |
| Flashing green | Transition state between pressing the REC START/STOP key and the start of recording. |

| Display | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Off | Recording is stopped. |

[Note]
The LEDs may not flash red or green, depending on the camcorder being used.

**5. IRIS key**
Press to toggle auto iris adjustment on/off.

**6. ND key**
If the connected camcorder has an electronically switchable ND filter auto adjustment function, press this key to toggle auto adjustment on/off.

**7. FOCUS key**
Press to toggle auto focus adjustment on/off.

**8. 3-position slide switch**
Slide the switch to set the adjustment knob function to IRIS, FOCUS, or ND (or, alternatively, assignable dial).

**9. Adjustment knob**
Adjusts the iris, focus, or ND filter, according to the setting of the 3-position slide switch.
When DIP switch (page 5) No. 7 is set to the ON position and the 3-position slide switch is set to the ND position, you can adjust the function assigned to the assignable dial of the video camera, instead of the ND filter.

[Note]
Camcorders that do not have an assignable dial or electronically switchable ND filter function cannot be controlled using this function.

**10. ZOOM lever**
Turn left/right to adjust the zoom.

**11. Zoom lever guard bar**
Protects the zoom lever. You can use the guard bar as a guide when operating the zoom lever.

**12. REC START/STOP key**
Press to start recording.
To stop recording, press the REC START STOP key again.

**13. ASSIGN key**

Press to recall the function assigned to the ASSIGN button of the camcorder.

*For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.*

**14. THUMBNAIL key**

Press to display the thumbnail screen.
Press again to dismiss the thumbnail screen.

**15. SEL/SET lever**

Move up/down/left/right to move the cursor on the menu screen or to change a value on an edit setting screen.
Press the center of the lever to apply the selected item or to execute a function.

- Left/right operation may not be applicable, depending on the camcorder being used.

*For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.*

**16. MENU key**

Press to display the menu screen.
Press again to dismiss the menu screen.

**17. CANCEL/BACK key**

Cancels a setting before it is applied, or moves one level up in the menu hierarchy.

**18. DISPLAY key**

Press to toggle between the on-screen display (OSD) screens.

**19. PRESET key**

Press to recall PRESET.

*For details about changing/switching settings, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.*

**20. A key**

Press to recall the setting stored in WB SET A (memory A).

**21. B key**

Press to recall the setting stored in WB SET B (memory B).

**22. WB SET key**

When a white balance setting is being configured for WB SET A or WB SET B, press the WB SET key to store the WB SET A or WB SET B setting, whichever is selected.

*For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.*

[Note]
On camcorders with a PRESET/A/B lever switch, or similar switch, that has a switch position indicator, the setting will change to the switch position setting of the camcorder if the connection cable is disconnected and reconnected or the video camera is turned off and on again.

**23. SHUTTER key**

Press to turn off auto adjustment, and recall the shutter or shutter speed settings.
You can change the shutter mode by moving the SEL/SET lever up/down.

- Depending on the camcorder, the shutter change mode is recalled.

**24. WHT BAL key**

Press to set manual white balance adjustment and recall the setting on the camcorder.
Press again to return to auto adjustment.

*For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.*

**25. GAIN key**

Press to recall the gain setting configured on the camcorder.

**26. SELECT key**

You can change the mode of the gain recalled using the GAIN key.

- Depending on the camcorder, you can change the gain by moving the SEL/SET lever up/down.

[Note]
On camcorders with a GAIN lever switch, or similar switch, that has a switch position indicator, the setting will change to the switch position setting of the camcorder if the connection cable is disconnected and reconnected or the video camera is turned off and on again.

## Connector Panel
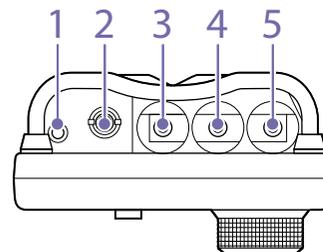


**1. REMOTE connector (Ø2.5 stereo mini jack)**
This connector is used for daisy chain connections.
Connect to another remote commander to control the camcorder connected to CAMERA1 using two remote commanders.

**2. OPTION connector (Ø3.5 stereo mini jack)**
Used to connect the unit with an MCX-500.
The connection cable is supplied with the MCX-500.

**3. CAMERA1 connector (Ø2.5 stereo mini jack)**

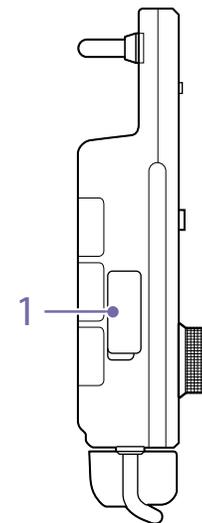**4. CAMERA2 connector (Ø2.5 stereo mini jack)**

**5. CAMERA3 connector (Ø2.5 stereo mini jack)**
Connect to a camcorder.

[CAUTION]
When you connect the connection cable of the unit to peripheral device, use the supplied cable to prevent malfunction due to radiation noise.
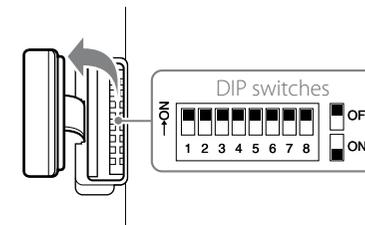
## Left Side



**1. DIP switches**
Switch to set the operation of the ZOOM lever and adjustment knob.
Flip open the cover on the left side of the unit to access the DIP switches.



| No | Function | OFF | ON |
|----|----------|-----|-----|
| 1 | Zoom speed | FAST (1: OFF, 2: OFF) | |
| 2 | | MID (1: ON, 2: OFF) | |
| | | MID (1: OFF, 2: ON) | |
| | | SLOW (1: ON, 2: ON) | |

| No | Function | OFF | ON |
|----|----------|-----|-----|
| 3 | Zoom rotation direction | Normal | Reverse |
| 4 | IRIS rotation direction | Normal | Reverse |
| 5 | Focus rotation direction | Normal | Reverse |
| 6 | ND rotation direction | Normal | Reverse |
| 7 | ND/ Assignable dial | ND | Assignable dial |
| 8 | Not used | — | — |

# Adjusting a Camcorder

## Adjusting the Focus

Press the FOCUS key (page 4) toggle auto focus adjustment on/off.

### Adjusting the focus using the adjustment knob

Set the 3-position slide switch (page 4) to the FOCUS position, and turn the adjustment knob (page 4) to adjust the focus.
Pressing the center of the adjustment knob temporarily activates auto focus adjustment (PUSH AUTO FOCUS). Auto focus adjustment stops when you remove your finger from the adjustment knob during PUSH AUTO FOCUS.

[Note]
The focus adjustment level obtained by the rotation and speed of the adjustment knob will vary depending on the camcorder being used.

### To change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (FOCUS)

You can change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (FOCUS) using DIP switch No. 5 (page 5).
ON (Reverse): Turn clockwise to focus on distant subjects, and counterclockwise to focus on near subjects.
OFF (Normal): Turn clockwise to focus on near subjects, and counterclockwise to focus on distant subjects.

[Note]
If using an interchangeable lens type camcorder with the supplied lens, set the focus ring to electronic control. If using a lens other than the supplied lens, focusing may not be supported from this unit.

## Adjusting an Electronically Switchable ND Filter

If the connected camcorder has an electronically switchable ND filter auto adjustment function, press the ND key (page 4) to toggle auto adjustment on/off.
You can adjust the density of the ND filter using the adjustment knob (page 4).

### Adjusting an electronically switchable ND filter using the adjustment knob

Set the 3-position slide switch (page 4) to the ND position and turn the adjustment knob (page 4) to adjust the ND filter density.

[Note]
The ND filter of the camcorder must be set to an adjustable state (set to a position other than CLEAR or set to VARIABLE mode). For details, refer to the operating instructions for the camcorder.

### To change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (ND)

You can change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (ND) using DIP switch No. 6 (page 5).
ON (Reverse): Turn clockwise to increase the ND filter density, and counterclockwise to decrease the ND filter density.
OFF (Normal): Turn clockwise to decrease the ND filter density, and counterclockwise to increase the ND filter density.

## Adjusting the Iris

Press the IRIS key (page 4) to toggle auto iris adjustment on/off.

### Adjusting the iris using the adjustment knob

Set the 3-position slide switch (page 4) to the IRIS position, and turn the adjustment knob (page 4) to adjust the iris.
Pressing the center of the adjustment knob temporarily activates auto iris adjustment (PUSH AUTO IRIS). Auto iris adjustment stops when you remove your finger from the adjustment knob during PUSH AUTO IRIS.

[Note]
The iris adjustment level obtained by the rotation and speed of the adjustment knob will vary depending on the camcorder being used.

### To change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (IRIS)

You can change the rotation direction of the adjustment knob (IRIS) using DIP switch No. 4 (page 5).
ON (Reverse): Turn clockwise to close the iris, and counterclockwise to open the iris.
OFF (Normal): Turn clockwise to open the iris, and counterclockwise to close the iris.

[Note]
If the camcorder is an interchangeable lens type, set the IRIS switch on the lens to auto adjustment (AUTO).

## Adjusting the Zoom

Turn the ZOOM lever (page 4) left/right to adjust the zoom.
If the camcorder has a ZOOM switch, set it to SERVO or REMOTE mode.

### To change the rotation direction of the ZOOM lever

You can change the rotation direction of the ZOOM lever using DIP switch No. 3 (page 5).
ON (Reverse): Turn the ZOOM lever to the right to zoom out (wide angle), and to the left to zoom in (telephoto).
OFF (Normal): Turn the ZOOM lever to the right to zoom in (telephoto), and to the left to zoom out (wide angle).

### To change the zoom speed

You can change the speed of change when turning the ZOOM lever using DIP switches No. 1 and No. 2 (page 5).

| No. 1 | No. 2 | Zoom speed | Description |
|-------|-------|------------|-------------|
| OFF | OFF | FAST | Zooms at highest speed in response to the ZOOM lever (8 levels) |
| ON | OFF | MID | Zooms at high speed in response to the ZOOM lever (4 levels) |
| OFF | ON | MID | |
| ON | ON | SLOW | Zooms at slow constant speed in response to the ZOOM lever. |

# Connecting to Multiple Camcorders

Up to three camcorders can be connected to the unit simultaneously.

Camera 1                 Camera 2                 Camera 3

1          2          3
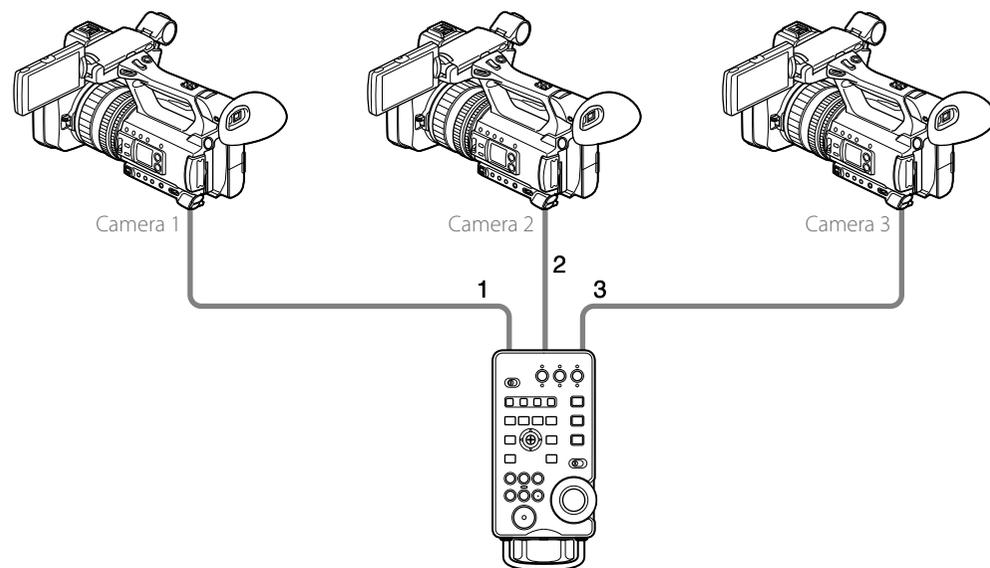
Connect the camcorder to the CAMERA 1 to CAMERA3 connectors (page 5), and then select the camcorders to control using the camera selector keys (page 4). You can select and control multiple camcorders simultaneously.

[Notes]
- Turn off each camcorder before connecting and disconnecting the camcorder.
- When controlling multiple camcorders simultaneously, the time taken for the camcorders to respond may not be the same. For example, when the REC START/STOP key is pressed to start recording simultaneously, the actual recording start timing may differ by several frames.
- For details about purchasing connection cables, contact your Sony representative. Connection cable (10 m): 1-849-815-1x (sold separately)

# Connecting in Daisy Chain

You can control a camcorder using two remote commanders by connecting another remote commander to the REMOTE connector (page 5) of the unit connected to the camcorder.



Remote commander 2          Remote commander 1
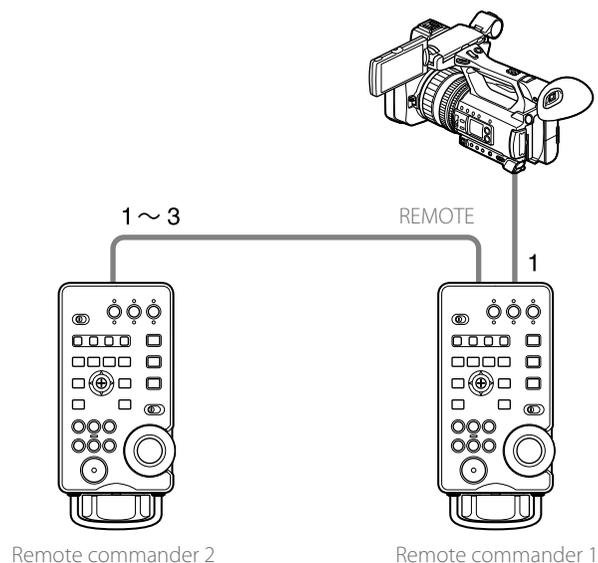
- Connect the CAMERA1 connector (page 5) on remote commander 1 to the camcorder.
- Connect one of the CAMERA1 to CAMERA3 connectors on remote commander 2 to the REMOTE connector on remote commander 1.

[Notes]
- This type of connection cannot be used if the camcorder used does not support the daisy chain function.  For details about remote control functions supported by each camcorder, contact your Sony dealer.
- The CAMERA2 and CAMERA3 connectors cannot be connected in daisy chain.
- Only two remote commanders can be daisy-chained. Do not connect anything to the REMOTE connector on remote commander 2.
- Turn off each camcorder before connecting and disconnecting the camcorder.
- Do not connect any device other than the unit or RM-1BP to the REMOTE connector.
- If remote commanders 1 and 2 are operated simultaneously, the operation on one of them will be ignored.
- Remote control from remote commander 2 is supported even when the camcorder is not selected for control on remote commander 1 (when the CAMERA1 STATUS LED is off).

# Configuring HOLD Settings

You can set the keys that are locked (HOLD mode) and keys that can be operated when the HOLD switch is set to ON.
All operations are locked (HOLD mode) by factory default.

## Enabling Individual HOLD Settings

1 Set the HOLD switch (page 4) to the ON position.
 The unit is set to HOLD mode.

2 Press and hold the DISPLAY key (page 5), and move the SEL/SET lever (page 5) to the top-left for two seconds or longer.
 The unit is set to HOLD key edit mode.
 You can select from the following three modes, according to the position of the 3-position slide switch (page 4).

| 3-position slide switch | Mode | Function | Mode indicator |
|---|---|---|---|
| | HOLD key select mode | In this mode, pressing a key toggles between enabling/disabling operation of the key in HOLD mode. | CAMERA1 STATUS LED lit red |
| | HOLD key check/register mode | In this mode, pressing a key displays the enabled/disabled state of the key in HOLD mode using the REC LED. Pressing the SEL/SET lever for two seconds or longer registers the HOLD key select mode setting. | CAMERA2 STATUS LED lit red |
| | HOLD key reset mode | In this mode, pressing the SEL/SET lever for two seconds or longer resets the HOLD key settings to the default settings. | CAMERA3 STATUS LED lit red |

## Setting Keys Locked in HOLD Mode

1 Set the 3-position slide switch (page 4) to the IRIS position to select HOLD key select mode.

2 Operate a key you want to set to enable/disable operation of that key in HOLD mode.
 The set state of the key is indicated by the CAMERA1 REC LED while the key is operated.
 Lit red: Disabled in HOLD mode
 Lit green: Enabled in HOLD mode

3 When finished setting the individual key settings, set the 3-position slide switch to the ND position to enter HOLD key check/register mode.

4 Press each key and check the set state of each key.
 The set state of the key is indicated by the CAMERA2 REC LED while the key is operated.
 Lit red: Disabled in HOLD mode
 Lit green: Enabled in HOLD mode

5 Press the SEL/SET lever (page 5) for two seconds or longer to register the HOLD key select mode setting.
 The settings are applied to the unit, the CAMERA2 REC LED turns orange, and the unit returns to normal HOLD state.

 [Notes]
 - The unit returns to normal HOLD state if no key is pressed after 15 seconds.
 - The individual settings are not applied until they are registered. If the unit returns to HOLD state while setting the keys, all settings are ignored.

## Resetting HOLD Mode Key Settings

1 Set the 3-position slide switch (page 4) to the FOCUS position to select HOLD key reset mode.

2 Press the SEL/SET lever (page 5) for two seconds or longer.
 The CAMERA3 REC LED turns orange, and the HOLD key settings are reset to the default state.

# Specifications

| Item | Description |
| --- | --- |
| Dimensions | 82.5 × 34 × 174.5 mm (3 1/4 × 1 3/8 × 6 7/8 in.) (width / height / depth)<br>* Excluding protrusions (buttons, knobs, dials, feet) |
| Mass | 290 g (10.2 oz.) (body only) |
| Usage environment | Temperature: 0 ℃ to 40 ℃ (32 ℉ to 104 ℉)<br>Humidity: 80% or lower |
| Storage temperature | −20 ℃ to +60 ℃ (−4 ℉ to +140 ℉) |
| Supplied parts | Remote Commander (1)<br>Connection cable (1 m) (1)<br>Connection cable (10 m) (1)<br>Attachment plate (1)<br>CD-ROM (Operating Instructions)<br>Printed documentation (1 set) |

Design and specifications are subject to change without notice.

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**Notes**

- Always verify that the unit is operating properly before use. SONY WILL NOT BE LIABLE FOR DAMAGES OF ANY KIND INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, COMPENSATION OR REIMBURSEMENT ON ACCOUNT OF THE LOSS OF PRESENT OR PROSPECTIVE PROFITS DUE TO FAILURE OF THIS UNIT, EITHER DURING THE WARRANTY PERIOD OR AFTER EXPIRATION OF THE WARRANTY, OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON WHATSOEVER.
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