

## Remote Shutter Release – D70 Modification

Many photographic applications just beg for a wired remote. Skydivers typically use a cabled 'bite' switch to control a camera on their helmet. Surgeons and other professionals often use foot switches to trigger a camera while their hands are busy. There are a surprising number of individuals and companies involved with aerial photography, using automated (time-lapse) cameras, or radio frequency remote controls... kites, blimps, airplanes and helicopters (real and models) are all used. Wildlife photography often require remote controls, from cameras mounted at backyard bird feeders to time-lapse systems monitoring puffins on isolated islands in Alaska. We have received numerous remote control requests for the Nikon D70, but it does not provide a wired control port.

Studio and technical photographers may be able to control their camera via a dedicated program running on a

computer, but the USB interface precludes the development of a low cost handheld controller.

An IR remote doesn't have much range, has a limited angle of use, and may reduce the flexibility of the shutter release.

Harbortronics has taken a bold step and decided to offer a camera modification service, adding a wired remote control port. The wired remote port uses a standard 2.5mm stereo jack, as used by all Canon EOS Rebel cameras. Several DigiSnap 2000 series controllers from Harbortronics are compatible with this interface, enabling time-lapse, motion control, and remote control applications.

We can provide the camera body modification very quickly, typically with a single day turn-around. The charge is US\$185 to modify your D70. Insured overnight shipping in the US is \$45.



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If you buy the Harbortronics VG-D70 grip (\$165) the charge for the modification is only \$135, and we include the \$25 jumper cable for free.



cameras can also be used with these modified cameras, such as the Canon RS60-E3 remote cable release. We generally stock this cable release for US\$25.



If you are interested in time-lapse photography with the D70, several DigiSnap 2000 models are compatible with this camera interface. For the DigiSnap 2100, the 2100-2.5mm cable is required (US\$70), likewise the DigiSnap 2500 and DigiSnap 2800 can be used with the 2500-2.5mm (US\$50) and 2800-2.5mm (US\$50) cables.

The modification does not affect any camera function, is performed with the lens cap in place, and completely avoids all optical paths. Nikon has not endorsed this modification, but we have found that they are not unreasonable. The modification can also be completely reversed if required.



Some people have asked for instructions to modify their cameras, but given the potential problems involved, we have decided not to encourage do-it-yourself modifications.

In addition to the camera body modification, Harbortronics can provide custom cables for remote control applications. For more information, contact Mark at 253-858-7769 or [Mark@Harbortronics.com](mailto:Mark@Harbortronics.com).

Note that remote control products designed for the Canon EOS Rebel