User Manual
Creative WebCam Pro

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Introduction
Introduction

Creative WebCam Pro is a 24-bit, 16.7-million-color digital video camera kit that gives you everything you need to capture still images and full-color video. Not only that, it also allows you to communicate face-to-face with others on the Internet! Creative WebCam Pro is designed to be used on your computer as well as your laptop!

Creative WebCam Pro is bundled with the following software:
• Creative PC-CAM Center
• Creative WebCam Monitor

For more information, see "Creative WebCam Pro Applications" on page 3-1.

Before You Begin

Package Contents
Your package includes the following items:
• Creative WebCam Pro
• Creative WebCam Pro installation CD

README file
The README file on the CD-ROM contains information not available at the time of printing. Read the file before you begin installing Creative WebCam Pro.
**System Requirements**

- Intel® Pentium® II 233 MHz or higher IBM® compatible PC
- 64 MB RAM on motherboard
- 100 MB free hard disk space (for installation of all software titles)
- Available USB port or self-powered USB hub
- Display adapter that supports 16-bit color at a resolution of 800 x 600 pixels
- CD-ROM drive installed
- Sound Blaster® or other Windows-compatible audio card and microphone (required for videoconferencing)
- Modem or LAN access to the Internet (required for videoconferencing)

**Document Conventions**

The following typographical conventions are used throughout this document:

- **Note.** This highlights additional or important information about a feature.

- **Caution!** This highlights proper usage of your product. Use this information to avoid risky situations.

- **Warning!** This warns you of possible hazards to yourself or your product, that may result in injury or damage.
1 Installing Creative WebCam Pro
Installing Creative WebCam Pro

This chapter tells you how to quickly install Creative WebCam Pro and the software that comes with it.

About Creative WebCam Pro

Figure 1-1 highlights the features of Creative WebCam Pro.

- **LED light**: This indicator lights up in green when Creative WebCam Pro is turned on.
- **Focus ring**: To adjust the view focus, point the lens toward your subject and then rotate this ring in a clockwise or counterclockwise motion until the image is in focus.
- **USB cable**: Use this to connect Creative WebCam Pro to your computer.
- **Snapshot button**: After you have started Creative PC-CAM Center, you can press this button to capture a still image.

Installing Creative WebCam Pro

Use the installation procedures for your operating system.

For users of Windows 98, Windows 98 SE and Windows Millenium, see “In Windows 98/98 SE/Me” in the section that follows.

For users of Windows 2000 and Windows XP, see “In Windows 2000” on page 1-4 and “In Windows XP” on page 1-5.
1. Do not connect Creative WebCam Pro to your computer before installing the drivers. If you accidentally begin installation with Creative WebCam Pro connected, the Add New Hardware Wizard dialog box appears. Click the Cancel button.

2. Insert the Creative WebCam Pro CD into your CD-ROM drive.

3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.

4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Select No until all the drivers and applications are installed.

5. Connect Creative WebCam Pro’s USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (Figure 1-2). Place Creative WebCam Pro on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface, or fix it to your laptop screen (Figure 1-3). Windows automatically detects the device.

- You can safely install the Creative WebCam Pro with your computer turned on.
- The USB port(s) on your computer may be found on the front panel instead of the back panel.
- You can daisy-chain the Creative WebCam Pro through another USB device or attach the Creative WebCam Pro to a self-powered USB hub.
- If you have a microphone, connect it to your audio card. Most audio cards have an external microphone connector. Read your audio card’s documentation for more information.

Figure 1-2: Connecting Creative WebCam Pro to your computer.
i. If you are prompted to insert the Windows 98/98 SE CD, replace the Creative WebCam Pro CD with the appropriate CD. **Note:** Windows 98 is available in various editions. Be sure to use the correct edition for your system.

ii. In the **Insert Disk** dialog box, click the **OK** button.

iii. Follow the instructions on the screen.

6. Check the image in the **Video preview** pane of the **Creative WebCam Pro Camera Configuration** dialog box. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.

7. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer if you are prompted to do so.
**In Windows 2000**

1. Do not connect Creative WebCam Pro to your computer before installing the drivers. If you accidentally begin installation with Creative WebCam Pro connected, the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears. Click the **Cancel** button.

2. Insert the Creative WebCam Pro CD into your CD-ROM drive.

3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.

4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Do not restart your computer until all the drivers and applications are installed.

5. Connect Creative WebCam Pro’s USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (Figure 1-2). Place Creative WebCam Pro on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface, or fix it to your laptop screen (Figure 1-3). Windows automatically detects the device.

6. When a **Digital Signature Not Found** dialog box appears, telling you that **Creative WebCam Pro** (Figure 1-4) has been detected, ignore the message and click the **Yes** button. Installation will be complete in a while.

7. Check the image in the **Video preview** pane of the **Creative WebCam Pro Camera Configuration** dialog box. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.

---

*Figure 1-4: Digital Signature Not Found dialog box.*
8. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer if you are prompted to do so.

1. Do not connect Creative WebCam Pro to your computer before installing the drivers. If you accidentally begin installation with Creative WebCam Pro connected, the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears. Click the **Cancel** button.

2. Insert the Creative WebCam Pro CD into your CD-ROM drive.

3. Click the names of the drivers and applications you want to install on your computer.

4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation. You may be asked, after an application is installed, if you want to restart your computer. Do not restart your computer until all the drivers and applications are installed.

5. Connect Creative WebCam Pro’s USB cable to an available USB port on your computer (Figure 1-2). Place Creative WebCam Pro on top of your computer monitor or another flat surface. Windows automatically detects the device. Installation will be complete in a while.

6. If the **Found New Hardware Wizard** dialog box appears, select **Install the software automatically (Recommended)**, and then click the **Next** button.

7. If a Microsoft warning dialog box appears, ignore the message and click the **Continue Anyway** button.

8. Check the image in the **Video preview** pane of the **Creative WebCam Pro Camera Configuration** dialog box. If it flickers or displays a series of dark bands, click the **Cancel Flicker** button.

9. Click the **Finish** button, and then restart your computer if you are prompted to do so.

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**In Windows XP**

At the time of this product’s release, Microsoft strongly encouraged companies to submit their hardware solutions for certification. If a hardware device driver is not submitted, or does not qualify, for Microsoft certification, a warning message appears. You may see this message when installing this driver. If you do, you may choose to click the **Continue Anyway** button. Creative has tested this driver on Windows XP, and it does not impair or destabilize your computer.

If you need more XP-related information, go to the product web site’s Help or speak with Creative Technical Support staff.

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*Installing Creative WebCam Pro* 1-5
Verifying the installation

In Windows 98/98 SE/Me/2000/XP

1. Click **Start** -> **Settings** -> **Control Panel**.
   In Windows XP, click **Start** -> **Control Panel**.
2. Double-click the **System** icon.
3. In the **System Properties** dialog box, click the **Device Manager** tab.
   In Windows 2000/XP, click the **Hardware** tab, and then click the **Device Manager** button.
4. Click the plus (+) sign next to the **Imaging Device** icon.
   The entry “**Creative WebCam Pro**” should appear. If it does not, repeat the steps for the correct operating system: "In Windows 98/98 SE/Me" on page 1-2, "In Windows 2000" on page 1-4 or "In Windows XP" on page 1-5.
Using Creative WebCam Pro as a Web Camera
PC-CAM Center is an easy-to-use application that enables you to take pictures and record short videos with the Creative WebCam Pro. You can also view pictures and videos, and create and manage albums.

To start PC-CAM Center, do one of the following:

- Click **Start -> Programs -> Creative -> Creative WebCam -> PC-CAM Center**.
- Press the **Snapshot** button on the camera.
- If, during installation, you clicked the option for PC-CAM Center to launch automatically at Windows startup, you will have an icon on your taskbar. Click this icon.
- You can start PC-CAM Center in **Live Video** mode from the menu that appears when your WebCam Pro is auto detected.

If PC-CAM Center does not recognize the camera correctly, see Appendix A, "Troubleshooting".
After PC-CAM Center is started, the PC-CAM Center screen similar to Figure 2-1 appears. The following sections describe the more commonly used operations. For more details on how to use PC-CAM Center, see the section “Starting PC-CAM Center Help” on page 2-4.

With PC-CAM Center, you can take photos and record videos in two modes — with and without a preview. The preview mode is active by default. For instructions on how to take a photo or record a video without a preview, refer to the PC-CAM Center Help file. To launch PC-CAM Center Help, see “Starting PC-CAM Center Help” on page 2-4.

**Taking a Photo in Preview Mode**

1. In the PC-CAM Center window, click the Live Video button. The current camera view is displayed in the Viewing window.
2. In the Save Photo in box, select the destination album for your photo.
3. If the Save automatically check box is selected, click to clear it.

Figure 2-1: PC-CAM Center screen.
4. To capture the image in the viewing window, click the Snap Photo button at the bottom of the window. The image is captured but not saved. A preview of the photo is shown at the bottom-left corner of the Live Video window.

5. Click the Save button. The photo is added to the destination album.

**Recording a Video in Preview Mode**

To record a video in the default preview mode:

1. In the PC-CAM Center window, click the Live Video button. The current camera view is displayed in the Viewing window.
2. In the Video Size box, select a suitable resolution.
3. In the Save Video in box, select the destination album for your photo.
4. If the Save automatically check box is selected, click to clear it.
5. To start recording a video, click the Capture video button. The button starts blinking to indicate that recording is now in progress.
6. To stop the recording, click the button again. The button stops blinking. The video is captured as an AVI file but is not saved.
7. To preview the video, click the Play button on the bottom-left corner of the Live Video window. After you have previewed the video, and have decided that you want to save the video, click the Save button. The video capture is added to the destination album.

**Viewing a Photo**

To view a photo you have taken:

1. Click the My Album button. PC-CAM Center is now in My Album mode.
2. In the My Album box, click the My Photo folder and then click the album that contains the photos that you want to view. The album’s thumbnails are displayed in the Thumbnails window.
3. Double-click the thumbnail of the image that is displayed in the Thumbnails window.
The image, in its actual size, is displayed in the PC-CAM Center Viewing window.
If you are not satisfied with the result, you can select a higher resolution, and then capture the image again.

To view a video you have taken:
1. Click the My Album button. PC-CAM Center is now in My Album mode.
2. In the My Album box, click the My Video folder and then click the album that contains the video that you want to view.
The album’s thumbnails are displayed in the Thumbnails window.
3. Double-click the thumbnail of the video you want to view.
The video will play in the Viewing window.
If you are not satisfied with the result, you can select a higher resolution, and then capture the video again.

If your computer goes into standby mode, your camera will go into suspend mode.
You can reactivate the camera and computer using the following methods:
❑ Move the mouse or press any key on the keyboard.
❑ Press the camera’s Snapshot button.

This Help file contains instructions on how to use PC-CAM Center to take pictures and record short videos. It also teaches you how to change settings so as to achieve optimum quality for your pictures and videos.

To start the Help file:
1. Click the Creative logo at the top left corner of PC-CAM Center’s main window.
2. On the PC-CAM Center menu, click Help.
Creative WebCam Pro Applications

The Creative WebCam Pro application CD includes the following:

- Creative PC-CAM Center
- Creative WebCam Monitor

**Creative PC-CAM Center**

This powerful application lets you take pictures or record videos and store them in albums. You can also export pictures or videos to other programs, or send them as attachments in your e-mail message. There are various settings for you to adjust, allowing you to optimize the quality of your pictures and videos.

**Creative WebCam Monitor**

If you are thinking of going “live” on the Internet, Creative WebCam Monitor is the application to look at. Just point your camera at your subject and pick a time interval. Creative WebCam Monitor does the rest, including uploading the snapshots to the Internet. Creative WebCam Monitor also acts as a motion-detecting security system which automatically e-mails you when somebody comes near your computer while you are not present.
## Technical Specifications

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Construction</strong></th>
<th>Remote camera head with a USB cable</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Camera housing</strong></td>
<td>Base and flip-top lens housing with manual vertical tilt of 60 degrees and a horizontal tilt of 360 degrees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Power</strong></td>
<td>From a USB port or self-powered USB hub (powered by an external power source)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sensor</strong></td>
<td>CMOS image sensor</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| **Resolution**         | ❑ 1024 x 768 MB (interpolated)  
                        | ❑ 800 x 600 (interpolated)       
                        | ❑ 640 x 480                   
                        | ❑ 352 x 288                   
                        | ❑ 320 x 240                   
                        | ❑ 176 x 144                   
                        | ❑ 160 x 120                   |
| **Sensitivity**        | 6 lux |
| **Video formats**      | ❑ 24-bit RGB  
                        | ❑ 16-bit RGB                  
<pre><code>                    | ❑ I420                        |
</code></pre>
<p>| <strong>Exposure control</strong>   | Automatic (optional manual control with software) |
| <strong>Color balance</strong>      | Automatic (optional manual control with software) |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Color matrix</strong></th>
<th>Preset and integral to camera</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Port compatibility</strong></td>
<td>Universal Serial Bus port version 1.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Software compatibility</strong></td>
<td>TWAIN, Video for Windows, DirectShow, and Still Image driver that run in Windows 98, Windows 98 SE, Windows Me, Windows 2000 and Windows XP.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Troubleshooting

**Problem Installing Software**

The setup program for Creative WebCam Pro does not run automatically after you insert the installation CD into the drive.

The AutoPlay feature in your Windows system may not be enabled.

*To install the software from the CD:*

1. Insert the installation CD in the CD-ROM drive.
2. Click **Start** -> **Run**.
3. In the **Run** dialog box, click `D:\CTR\RUN\SETUP.EXE` (where D: is your CD-ROM drive)
4. Follow the instructions on the screen to complete the installation.

**Problems Using Creative WebCam Pro**

**There is no USB port available to connect the USB cable.**

*Do one of the following:*

- Unplug the device currently connected.
- Add a self-powered USB hub.
- Add a PCI USB card.

**The image is too bright.**

The amount of light entering the camera has exceeded the exposure control limit. There may be a very bright object in the camera’s view.

Avoid pointing the camera at very bright objects (for example, sunlight, lights, or highly reflective surfaces).
An application reports that the video driver is already in use, or that the camera cannot be found.

Do one of the following:

- Ensure that the Creative WebCam Pro’s USB connector is properly inserted, and that the USB connector is enabled in the BIOS. Refer to your computer’s documentation for information on the BIOS.
- Reinstall the video capture drivers and restart your computer.

Insufficient system resources reserved for the USB port, causing the system to be unable to function.

There are too many devices in the system, causing IRQ problems with the system’s USB controller.

Do the following:

1. Remove some devices from the system.
2. Restart the system.
   The system will automatically rearrange the resources.
A Hardware Installation error message appears on a Windows XP operating system when applications are being installed.

At the time of this product’s release, Microsoft strongly encouraged companies to submit their hardware solutions for certification. If a hardware device driver is not submitted, or does not qualify, for Microsoft certification, a warning message similar to the one below appears.

You may see this message when installing a Creative driver. If you do, you may choose to click the Continue Anyway button. Creative has tested the driver on Windows XP, and it does not impair or destabilize your computer.

If you need more XP-related information, go to the product web site’s Help or speak with Creative Technical Support staff.
Note on USB Compatibility
Note on USB Compatibility

While testing Creative WebCam Pro on PC motherboards with integrated Universal Serial Bus (USB) ports, we encountered a small number of motherboards that do not meet the USB specification exactly. These and other non-USB-compliant motherboards may not operate correctly with Creative WebCam Pro. Fortunately, the manufacturers of some of these motherboards have released new versions of motherboards or BIOS to address the problem.

If the setup program warns you that your motherboard’s USB port is incompatible with Creative WebCam Pro, or if the camera does not work on your system and you suspect that the problem may be related to your PC’s USB port, the following is a list of available options:

1. Contact your PC vendor.
   Your PC vendor may be able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS to a newer version that addresses USB incompatibilities.

2. Use a PCI host adapter that provides USB connectors.
   If you are not able to upgrade your motherboard or its BIOS, we recommend this approach.

3. Attach Creative WebCam Pro to a powered USB hub.
   Some USB devices (such as monitors) also operate as powered USB hubs; you can also buy dedicated powered USB hubs which are to be attached to your PC’s USB port. However, in some cases, attaching a powered USB hub to a non-USB-compliant USB motherboard connector will not solve the problem.

To look for a USB compatible product, you can visit the product search page at the official USB Web site: http://www.usb.org/app/search/products.