

Summary of Induro Test Reports

Independent Testing Lab compares Induro tripods to Major competitors

TeraTest Labs in Germany, an independent testing facility, was given three tripods manufactured by Induro, to be analyzed in their test laboratory and classified in relation to competing products from Gitzo and Manfrotto.

The following comparisons were made:

Induro A 213 vs. Gitzo GT 2330

Induro A 213 vs. Manfrotto 3021 BN

Induro C 214 vs. Gitzo GT 2540

Induro C 214 vs. Manfrotto 055 MF 4

Induro CX 213 vs. Gitzo GT 2530 EX

Induro CX 213 vs. Manfrotto 190 XPROB

Test Parameters:

The test covered the quality of the equipment and its functionality. All relevant equipment features were entered onto a list and analyzed by means of a common screening method.

The testing was done by an experienced photographic technician and the performance was critically analyzed. The tripods were also examined in the TeraTest Measuring Laboratory, where the structural strength, rigidity and vibration behavior values were obtained.

The test compares real world factors such as the ability of the rubber feet to work on slippery surfaces, the ability to work with the leg locks in cold weather, the structural rigidity, ability to reduce vibrations created by the camera system and the added value of the tool kit, metal spikes, bubble level and compass.

To see the full report and testing procedure, you can download the Teratest Report at <http://www.indurogear.com/Induro-Tripod-Test-Reviews/>

Induro A213 vs. Gitzo GT 2330

Induro A213 Advantages

- The Induro A213 has rubber casings on the leg twist clamps that are even easy to grip with cold and damp hands.

- Spikes are included in Induro's toolkit case.
- The bubble level embedded in the hinges facilitates the horizontal alignment of the tripod.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod.
- The accessories are ample compared to those of the competition.
- The vibration damping is equal to the more expensive Gitzo.

Gitzo deficiencies

- The twist grips for locking the extensions are relatively similar to those of the Induro. However, the grips are more difficult to operate at least for those with larger hands.
- Spikes are not included with the Gitzo, they are only available as an option.
- Does not include a bubble level or compass.
- The Gitzo is 13cm (5.1 inches) smaller than the Induro A213.

Conclusion: A clear plus for the Induro is the performance, major price advantage, all included extras such as the compass, bubble level, bag and carrying strap.

Induro A213 vs. Manfrotto 3021BN

Induro A 213 Advantages

- Induro's rubber feet have a better grip on smooth surfaces.
- Induro's insulated handle is also easier to grip for numb fingers, because the rubber consistency is not as hard as on the Manfrotto.
- The bubble level embedded in the hinges for horizontal alignment of the tripod. A small compass is also embedded at the same location.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod.
- Scores more highly due to its ample special accessories such as the tripod bag and carrying strap.
- The vibration behavior is very good.

Manfrotto 3021BN deficiencies

- When the user releases all the clips for both extensions, they slide out on their own thereby facilitating tripod assembly considerably. The problem is that this is not quite risk-free, for example, when the photographer wants to adjust torque.

- A harder foam is used on the legs, that is, for numb fingers, more slippery than the foam used by Induro.
- The rubber feet are slippery. The feet only offer limited hold on smooth surfaces when supporting a load.
- The tripod plate only has a permanently installed 3/8" thread.
- Does not include spikes, a bubble level nor a compass
- Only comes with a carrying strap.

Conclusion: The Induro wins thanks to its good features.
Induro C214 vs. Gitzo GT 2540

Induro C214 Advantages

- The rubber, comfortably large twist clamps are even easy to operate with numb fingers.
- The rubber consistency of the Induro's feet hold well on a slippery surface. • For unlimited outdoor use, the photographer can find spikes in the toolkit.
- The foam coating on the leg serves as an insulated handle, which makes the tripod easier to operate during cold weather.
- The bubble level embedded in the hinges for horizontal alignment of the tripod. A small compass is also embedded at the same location.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod.
- The Induro C 214 tripod gets a big plus for its extensive special features such as a carrying strap, bag, spikes and toolkit.

Gitzo GT 2540 Deficiencies

- The Gitzo GT 2540 does not have an insulated handle on the legs.
- The necessary spikes for outdoor use are only available as an option.
- Neither a bubble level nor a compass are integrated into the tripod.
- The leg-splay release mechanism is difficult to operate due to its very small size.

Conclusion: The clear winner in the features category is the Induro C 214

Induro C214 vs. Manfrotto 055 MF 4

Induro C214 Advantages:

- The Induro C214 is compact and very light thanks to its carbon legs.
- Weighs only 1.6 kg. (3.5 lbs.) – 14 ounces lighter than Manfrotto.
- The rubber, comfortably large twist clamps are easy to operate with numb fingers.

- The rubber consistency of the Induro's feet hold well on a slippery surface.
- For unlimited outdoor use, the photographer can find spikes in the toolkit.
- The foam coating around one leg serves as an insulated handle, which makes the tripod more pleasant to work with during cold weather.
- The bubble level embedded in the hinges for horizontal alignment of the tripod. A small compass is also embedded at the same location.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod.
- The Induro C 214 tripod gets a big plus for its extensive features such as a carrying strap, bag, spikes and a toolkit.

Manfrotto 055 MF 4 deficiencies:

- The fast clips used for releasing the legs are made of metal which could damage the tube's sensitive carbon surface.
- Does not include spikes, not even as an option. The rubber feet are permanent and cannot be unscrewed.
- The legs do not have an insulating handle
- Only has a permanently installed 3/8" thread which for some amateurs is impossible to use.

Conclusion: In the features category, the Induro C 214 is clearly better. Although the Manfrotto is fitted with a bubble level and a strap, it has neither spikes nor a useful insulated handle.

Induro CX213 vs. Gitzo GT 2530 EX

Induro CX213 Advantages:

- Has two comfortably large rubber-coated twist clamps to release the two extensions on the legs.
- Has a good grip on uneven surfaces during outdoor use thanks to the spikes which are included.
- The tripod is still comfortable to handle and easy to grip during cold weather due to the insulated handle on one of the tripod legs. Gitzo does not have any insulated handles at all on its GT 2530 EX.
- The bubble level embedded in the hinges for horizontal alignment of the tripod. A small compass is also embedded at the same location.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod. As with all other Induro tripods being tested, the Induro CX 213 is also provided with ample extras. The Induro CX 213 masters the vibration test

Gitzo GT 2530 EX deficiencies:

Gitzo does not deliver any spikes with its GT 2530 EX, although the photographer can acquire these as an optional extra.

- Does not include an insulated handle with this tripod.
- Large clamp levers release the legs and lock the leg-splay into place. Although they are well-designed and are fitted close to the leg, they are not easy to handle. A lot of force is needed to open the levers.
- The clamp on the center column has a small mechanical fault: When the clamp is shut, the pressure in the carbon center column increases so fast that small cracks may appear in some places. The stable structure is therefore destroyed.
- In the vibration test, the Gitzo GT 2530 EX doesn't perform well.

Conclusion: Induro is the test winner against the Gitzo GT 2530 EX.

Induro CX 213 vs. Manfrotto 190 XPROB

Induro CX 213 Advantages:

- Both carbon tripods have a multi-angle column. On the Induro, it can be set at different angles, but the Manfrotto 190 XPRO B can only be tipped into the horizontal position.
- The comfortably large, rubber-coated twist clamps on the Induro CX 213 are used to release the two leg extensions.
- The Induro tripod also has a good grip on even surfaces in outdoor use thanks to the spikes which are included.
- The tripod is still comfortable to handle and easy to grip during cold weather due to the insulated handle on one of the tripod legs.
- The center column is slightly cushioned by a small rubber ring beneath the tripod plate to offset any possible effects of careless operation when the camera is being affixed to the tripod.
- The Induro CX 213 masters the vibration test
- Ranks ahead of its opponent in the load tolerance test

Manfrotto 190 XPROB deficiencies:

- Rubber feet cannot be replaced by spikes.
- The rubber feet even slip on smooth surfaces and only offer limited hold on smooth surfaces when supporting a load.
- The insulated handles are slippery in cold weather because a harder foam is used.
- The center column of the Manfrotto is only extendable in two positions, making it not quite as flexible as the Induro CX 213.
- Has a permanently installed 3/8" thread.

Conclusion: The clear winner is the Induro CX 213.