Kodak Cartridge Opener

How it works

Kodak designed this cartridge opener for small scale laboratories to speed up the unloading process. It works really well and I would suggest that if you're serious about processing film at home then it's probably worth investing £100 to £150 or so in having a metal worker build one for you. A workshop with proper machining and drilling tools should have no problem if they follow the diagrams on pages 84 to 86.

1. Mount the parts on the edge of a sturdy board or table, as shown.

2. Open the two flanged corners of the cartridge opposite the film window.

3. Insert the edge between the two opened corners of the cartridge into the wider slot of the opener. Holding the end of the cartridge firmly in place, press the cartridge downwards until the cover is opened to a 90 degree angle.

4. Place the cartridge in the holder.

5. Locate the film end and pull it out, winding it carefully onto the tank spool, using your finger to guide it.
Opening Jig

Material: Stainless Steel

Original drawings courtesy of Kodak Professional Motion Imaging
Re-mastered by Tony Musitano @ Musitano Design Associates
Breaker Plate

NOTE: Two-piece construction. This assembly must be mounted under the Opening Jig (see page 85) to provide a bending edge in front of the holding recess. The three screws are used to fasten the Opening Jig and the Breaker Plate.

Material: Stainless Steel

Original drawings courtesy of Kodak Professional Motion Imaging
Re-mastered by Tony Musitano @ Musitano Design Associates
Cartridge Holder

NOTE: Mount the holder to a board or table. Centre a roundhead screw beneath the back edge of the holder, then insert it into the board or table so that the cartridge core, when installed, will be directly beneath the felt pad.

Material: 18 Gauge Stainless Steel

Original drawings courtesy of Kodak Professional Motion Imaging.
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