

# SOPGRIP MK1

## User Guide



A Note From Will:

**Thank you** for your purchase of the SopGrip MK1! Designing a controller based on those used in such beautiful and historical aircraft as the Sopwith Pup, Camel, and Dolphin has been a real pleasure. I hope you enjoy flying with your new SopGrip as much as I enjoyed making it. Happy flying!

- William (vonrickenbecker) Becker

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# Warranty

Every controller I sell is hand-made with the greatest care, and engineered to give you many years of service. I fully stand behind the quality of this product, and offer a full warranty against all defects in materials or workmanship for a period of one year from purchase, beginning on the date the unit is shipped. This warranty does not cover damage to the unit caused by rough handling or application of excessive force beyond reasonable usage. Failures covered by this warranty will be fixed or replaced at no cost to you.

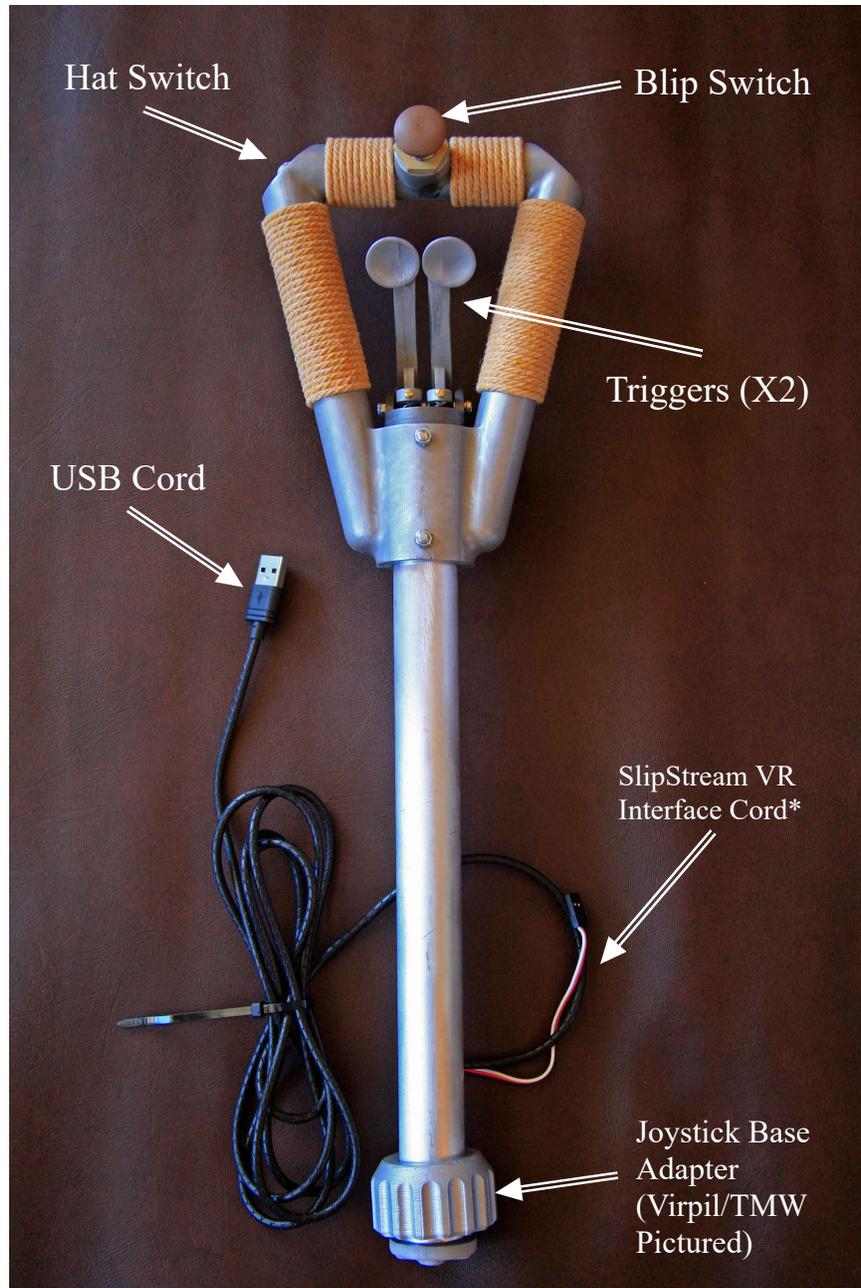
This warranty may only be used by the original purchaser, and is not transferable to other persons if the controller is sold.

In the event that you find yourself needing to submit a warranty claim, please email the details of your problem to [vrsimpits@gmail.com](mailto:vrsimpits@gmail.com), and I will strive to correct the problem to your full satisfaction. Including photos of the problem (if applicable) is very helpful.

# Product Support

Support is still available for your grip even after the warranty has expired, but may be subject to fees for replacement parts, labors costs, and shipping. For all support inquiries, please contact me at [vrsimpits@gmail.com](mailto:vrsimpits@gmail.com).

# SopGrip Features



# Features

## Construction

The SopGrip is made from a variety of durable materials. The grip is cast from a durable polyurethane resin using a process called cold-casting, which leaves a thin layer of real metal (aluminum) on the surface of the part, providing an extremely realistic and durable finish. No paint involved here! The finish of the SopGrip looks like metal because it IS metal! Like the grip itself, the trigger paddles and mount are made from the same cold-cast resin with a real metal finish. The Blip switch and some other small components are 3D printed from plastics carefully selected for their excellent finish and realistic appearance. The column is made from sturdy 6061 or 6063 aluminum tubing, while the joystick base adapter is made from a sturdy 3D printed plastic, strength-tested for maximum durability!

## Controls

The SopGrip features the following controls for use in-game:

- Blip Switch: Momentary push-button with longer travel and a very “mechanical” feel, as the original would have had. In the real aircraft, this switch is used to momentarily cut ignition as a crude speed control with rotary engines.
- Trigger Paddles: The two trigger paddles are conveniently positioned under the thumb for quick and easy shots. Triggers may be fired independently or both together.
- 4-Way Hat Switch: The hat-switch is the only non-historical control on the SopGrip. It has been added in an effort to provide more buttons for sim pilots (especially those using VR) without compromising the historical aesthetics of the SopGrip. It features 4 directions plus a center-push function, adding a total of five extra commands for virtual pilots.

## Slipstream VR Interface

Slipstream VR is a future product offering that is currently under development. The Slipstream device will simulate the effects of wind (from propeller and air movement) in the pilot’s face using a powerful variable-speed fan linked to your simulator controls. This interface cable located at the base of your SopGrip will, if desired, trigger the unit to simulate the momentary loss of propeller thrust created when the rotary engine is “blipped” using the blip switch.

## Installation of the SopGrip MK1 (Thrustmaster Warthog and Virpil Controls Bases)

Installation of the SopGrip is straightforward and quick to perform. To begin, remove your existing grip\*. Next, center the alignment cross on the SopGrip with the recess in your joystick base, as shown below:



\*Note: Some bases, including the Thrustmaster Warthog, will not be properly recognized by Windows if the original manufacturer's grip is not installed on the base the first time it is plugged into your PC. Once you have connected the base (with original grip) into your PC and installed all necessary drivers, you may remove the OEM grip and install the SopGrip without issue.

Next, tighten the locking collar-nut until snug (do not over-tighten):

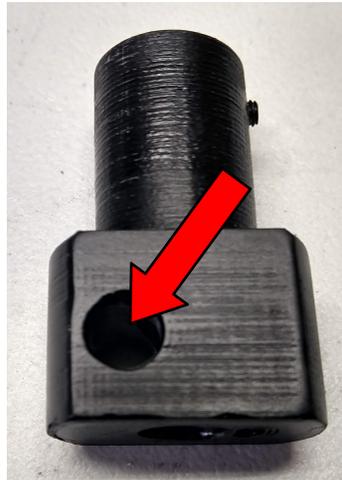


Finally, plug the SopGrip's USB cable into an empty slot on your PC, map any commands you wish, and enjoy an incredibly immersive flight experience!

# Installation of the SopGrip MK1

(VKB Gunfighter Bases)

Begin by removing your existing grip\*. Next, center the SopGrip on the mounting shaft of the base and insert into the recess in the adapter (yellow arrow). The indexing tab will allow the grip to be rotated if desired for ergonomics (we recommend mounting the grip centered, but it may be canted at an angle if desired). Finally, insert the two halves of the locking pin into the thru-hole (red arrow) and tighten to secure grip.



\*Note: Some bases, including the Thrustmaster Warthog, will not be properly recognized by Windows if the original manufacturer's grip is not installed on the base the first time it is plugged into your PC. Once you have connected the base (with original grip) into your PC and installed all necessary drivers, you may remove the OEM grip and install the SopGrip without issue.

Finally, plug the SopGrip's USB cable into an empty slot on your PC, map any commands you wish, and enjoy an incredibly immersive flight experience!

## Replacement of Adapter/Locking Nut (TM Warthog, Virpil, and VKB Bases)

Note: For users with VKB bases, the procedure for replacing your adapter is identical to the below process, just without the step of removing and reinstalling the broken nut.

The SopGrip MK1 has been designed and manufactured to give you reliable, trouble-free operation for many years to come, and the locking nut has been engineered to withstand significant forces without breakage. However, in the unlikely event this component fails, a spare has been included with your purchase.

Replacement of the locking nut is very easy. To begin, remove the SopGrip and any portions of the broken nut from your joystick base. Next, Use a 2mm Allen wrench (also known as a hex key) to screw the M4 set-screw all the way IN (turn screw clockwise), disengaging the screw from the control column tube.



Once the screw is disengaged, slide the mounting adapter out of the control column, and remove the old locking nut. Re-assembly is the reverse of removal.

