

# Understanding Skin: A User's Guide

**(Also, what is a Belly Dancer?)**

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### Why buy individual Skin components separately?

Advantages of Skin:

1. Skin components can be used separately or together.
2. Attached to a belt, such as the Think Tank Pro Speed Belt or the Skin Belt, individual pouches will rotate for easy access.
3. If using the Belly Dancer (above), individual pouches can be reconfigured, removed, and adjusted up or down on the waist.

Photojournalist Jim Domke pioneered the concept of unpadded pouches and cases that focused on accessing equipment with speed, accessibility, and a minimum amount of bulk.

In the tradition of Domke, **Think Tank Photo** introduces the **Skin collection**, a set of unpadded pouches with a key feature called the **Sound Silencer**.

In conjunction with the release of the Skin collection, Think Tank Photo also introduces the **Belly Dancer** harness system to which the Skin components can be attached.



The Belly Dancer harness is sold separately.



### **Skin components can be used separately on a belt.**

There are times when you only need one pouch. The Skin system lets you take just what you need when you are actively shooting, thus reducing bulk and unwanted gear.

The Skin pouches attach and detach using an extremely secure hook and loop system, and also include Think Tank Photo's Rotate or Lock mechanism.



### **They can be used with your regular belt, the Pro Speed Belt, or the new Skin Belt.**

The advantage of using a Think Tank belt is that the components slide on the belt, making access to your gear easier. It also lets you shift the weight throughout the day, making it more comfortable to carry your gear.

The Skin Belt features minimalist webbing for portability and less bulk.

## KEY FEATURE:

### The Sound Silencer

There are many situations where the sound of hook and loop is not appropriate, such as when shooting at a camera or when you're recording audio.

#### THIS FEATURE ALLOWS YOU TO DISABLE THE HOOK AND LOOP ATTACHMENT



In this configuration, the hook material is exposed so that when the flap is put over the front of the bag, it connects to the loop on the front.



If you release this tab, you can flip up a hinging loop flap that covers up the hook material.

This disables the hook and loop attachment.

## KEY FEATURE:

### Pop Down Mechanism



On the Skin 75 and the Skin Chimp, there is a zipper on the bottom of the bag. When unzipped, the length of the bag expands.

The Skin 75 (above) will hold a 70-200 with the hood reversed. When you pop down the bottom, it can now hold the same lens with the hood in position.

## KEY FEATURE:

### Seam-Sealed Rain Covers



All of the Skin pouches (and almost all Think Tank Photo products) come with a removable seam-sealed rain cover.

If there is no chance of rain or dust, the rain covers can be removed for less bulk. Some photographers prefer to wear a large rain jacket over the pouches instead.

## KEY FEATURE:

### Rotate or Lock Mechanism



The pouches attach to the belt with a flap that wraps around the side of the bag, connecting with hook and loop.

In general, we recommend that you allow the pouches to slide (rotate) on the belt.

If desired, the plastic tongue (shown above) can be used to lock a pouch in a single position.

## KEY FEATURE:

### Dividers Included



To make the pouches more versatile, very thin dividers can be used in each pouch to organize your gear, such as batteries, multiple strobes, pocket wizards, and other essentials.

If the divider is not being used, it can hinge against the back wall for a minimum of bulk and be available when needed.

**KEY FEATURE:**

**Pockets**



On the outer flap is a zippered pocket that can be used for small accessories.

Under the flap is another deep pocket that closes with hook and loop.

**KEY FEATURE:**

**Flipping the Flap (inside or around the back)**



If you feel the flap is in the way during active shooting, you can flip it all the way around the back or tuck it inside so that the top of the bag is completely exposed.



## The BELLY DANCER

The Belly Dancer harness system has two adjustment buckles in the front that allow for the entire assembly to be moved up or down.

When photographers are on the run, it may not be desirable to take off their set up. The Belly Dancer is designed so that they can continue various shooting or other activities without taking it off.

The ability to adjust the pouches up to your belly is essential for such activities as sitting in a chair or driving a car.

## SKIN SET



All five pouches are available in a boxed set at a discount.

## SKIN 50



Holds a wide angle lens with the hood, like the 16-35 2.8.

## SKIN STROBE



Holds one strobe or other smaller accessories, such as batteries.

## SKIN CHIMP



Holds a pro-size SLR, or other accessories. The "Pop Down" feature allows lenses like the 24-70 2.8 to be inserted with the hood in position.

## SKIN 75



Holds a 70-200 2.8 with hood reversed. When popped down, it holds the same lens with the hood in position.

## SKIN DOUBLE WIDE



Holds up to two 70-200 2.8 lenses side by side.

The Skin pouches work with the following belts and harness:

### SKIN BELT



This lightweight, unpadded belt allows for the ultimate compressibility and portability.

### PRO SPEED BELT



Our most popular and highly tested belt is extremely functional.

### STERIOD SPEED BELT



This extra heavy belt with two rails on either side provides extra support.



### BELLY DANCER

Belt and harness system combined.  
(Pouches sold separately)