

JMW-9 MEMORIAL TONEARM



Setup and Instruction Manual

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Installing and Aligning the Cartridge

- Remove the protective cover from the male pivot point on the arm base assembly.



To avoid injury, do not touch the male pivot point. It is extremely sharp. In addition, skin oils can blemish and cause corrosion to the assembly.

- Place the JMW Memorial Tonearm on its side on a foam pad.
- For cartridges with threaded mounting holes, use the screws supplied by the cartridge manufacturer. Other screws may not fit properly and may cause damage to the threads and cartridge.

To avoid damage to the tonearm, use one of the washers supplied by VPI under the screw heads.

- For cartridges with pass-through mounting holes, use the hardware supplied with the tonearm. Be sure to use washers under the screw heads.
- The tonearm wires are color-coded as follows:

Red — right hot.

Green — right ground.

White — left hot.

Blue — left ground.

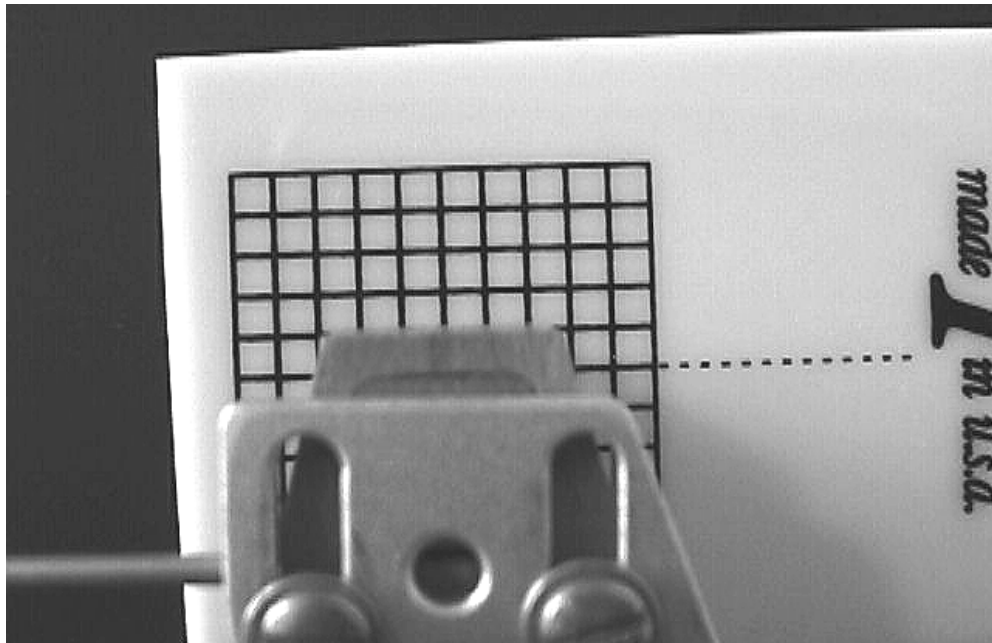
If your phono section inverts phase, the hot color becomes the ground color.

- Using tweezers or fine-tipped pliers, grip the center of the red wire's connector — not the wire itself — and push it onto the cartridge's right hot terminal pin. Connect the remaining connectors in the same way.

To avoid damage to the cartridge, do not push the connectors all the way on.

- Adjust the tonearm counterweight halfway back on its mounting to reduce the amount of down force on the cartridge.
- Place the JMW Memorial Tonearm Alignment Jig on the spindle with the narrow end next to the pivot point. Tighten the screws of the jig so it fits snugly against the male bearing shaft

- Place the arm tube assembly on the lower pivot point, using caution with the 4-color wire and Lemo connector. Set the arm in its rest and lock it.
- If the cartridge has a guard, remove it.
- Line up the red dot on the Lemo connector with the red dot on the receptacle on the junction box. The Lemo connector can plug in only one way and should not be forced.
- Swing the tonearm over the jig so the stylus is as close as possible to the dot in the center of the grid. Set the counterweight for enough downward force to keep the stylus from moving when resting on the jig.
- Look down at the cartridge and align it between the lines of the grid. Be careful to align the cartridge and not the tonearm headshell.
- Adjust the cartridge mounting screws as needed until the cartridge is centered between the grid lines and the stylus is resting on the dot of the grid. The picture below shows the setup, the jig is in white for clarity, yours is black.
- When the cartridge is properly positioned, tighten the cartridge mounting screws and remove the alignment jig. Do not go crazy over this adjustment it is only mildly critical.



Setting the Anti-Skating – Two Solutions

Anti skating is one of the least understood forces acting on a tonearm. Skating force is created by friction between the stylus and the record, causing a force vector in a direction towards the center of the record when the headshell of the tonearm has an offset angle. Putting a stylus down on a flat, groove less record will cause the arm to move toward the center of the record. Arm manufacturers have tried to compensate for this force, but that is impossible because the force is constantly changing as the music and velocity change. VPI has conducted careful listening tests and determined that every tonearm we tried sounded better with its mechanical anti-skating disabled and the tracking force very slightly increased.. VPI has a unique solution to anti-skating: the coiled wire of the JMW Memorial Tonearm acts as a spring and pushes the arm back without affecting the sound quality. You now have the option of installing a mechanical anti-skate for those that want it.

- Adjust the counterweight so there is no down force on the cartridge.
- Swing the tonearm toward the spindle and release it. The arm should swing out toward the outer edge of the turntable.



If you try adjusting the anti-skate with a groove less record, you will ruin the twist in the tonearm wire and void your warranty. Do this with the mechanical anti-skate if you want that much anti-skate.

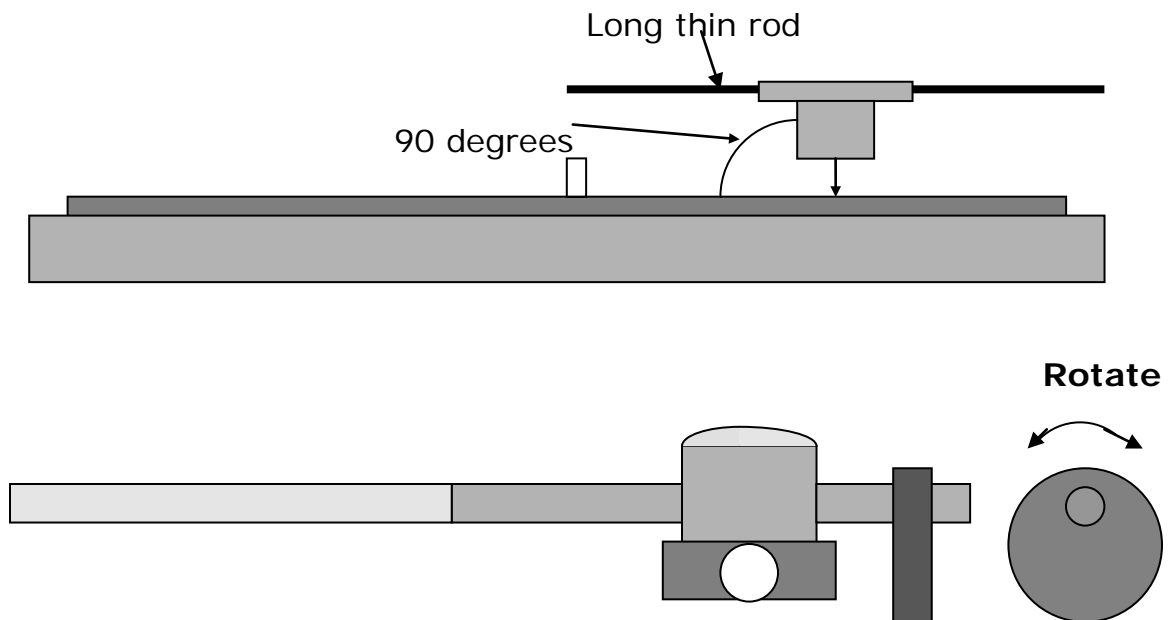
- If additional anti-skate is needed you can go to the mechanical anti-skate available from your dealer.

Setting the Tracking Force and Tonearm Height

- Tracking force is adjusted by moving the tonearm counterweight forward and back on its shaft. If your cartridge is heavy and the counterweight is all the way back, you can order a heavier weight from your dealer.
- The JMW Signature Tonearm does not have a built-in tracking force gauge. We recommend that you use Shure Stylus Force Gauge or good digital gauge. Place the gauge on the platter and raise or lower the arm so it is parallel to the platter when sitting on the record. Only when the arm is parallel to the platter will you get an accurate VTF reading.
- Follow the gauge instructions and set the tracking force according to the cartridge manufacturer's recommendation. We recommend always going to the high side of tracking force. High frequency vibrations on a light-tracking cartridge can cause more damage to the grooves of a record than running a cartridge at a heavy setting. Always go 1/10th gram higher than the maximum recommendation.
- To adjust the arm height, loosen the setscrews on the base of the arm assembly and turn the adjustment wheel above the base. When the arm is at the desired height, tighten the screws.
- NOTE: If you put a 5" X 7" lined index card next to the arm with the lines parallel to the arm tube when it is on the record, you can set the height very accurately parallel to the record. That should be your zero starting point for tuning VTA.

Setting the Azimuth

- Set a drinking straw into the groove behind the mounting screws on the tonearm headshell.
- If it is not parallel to the record surface, use the supplied Allen wrench to loosen the setscrew on the counterweight and rotate the counterweight as needed to bring the arm into correct lateral balance to set azimuth. When the azimuth has been set, you can lightly tighten the setscrew located on the top of the counterweight. To make this task easier make sure the arm tube is parallel to the record surface.



Playing Records

- **Before playing a record, make sure that all of the tonearm screws are tight.**

General Use

- **Allow at least 20 hours of break-in time.**
- **If you notice hum in the system, remove your interconnects and replace them with very cheap, standard VCR interconnects. These are well shielded and should eliminate the hum. If the hum goes away, get quality, well shielded interconnects.**

VPI Industries, Inc. Limited Warranty

VPI Industries, Inc. (VPI) warrants this unit against defects in materials and/or workmanship for five (5) years from the date of purchase by the original retail purchaser. VPI's sole obligation under this warranty is limited to the repair or replacement, at VPI's option, of any part(s) found to be defective. VPI's obligation to repair or replace defective parts is the purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy, and VPI shall not be liable for any direct or indirect injury and/or property damage arising out of the use of the product or defect in or failure of the product.

This warranty does not extend to any unit whose serial number has been defaced or altered. Any product that VPI determines causes a defect or malfunction due to incorrect installation, modification, misuse, or servicing by the purchaser, or service technician not authorized by VPI to perform such service will not be warranted. This warranty does not cover trivial or cosmetic defects that do not impair the unit's normal function.

VPI reserves the right to make changes in this product without assuming any obligation to install such change in any product previously manufactured. This warranty to repair or replace defective parts is in lieu of all other express or implied warranties of merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose. There are not warranties that extend beyond the description herein.

Some states do not allow exclusion of implied warranties or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the above exclusion or limitations may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights that vary from state to state.