



## Thanks for Buying The Wand Tonearm® Series B (Series Black)

The best tonearm in the world will sound like the worst if it is badly set up. These instructions will help you achieve great performance with your tonearm. Installation videos may be accessed via [www.thewandtonearm.com](http://www.thewandtonearm.com) or the QR code>



The Wand Tonearm has been meticulously designed using computer modeling and refined by listening. All attention has been focused on maximizing musicality, this you never grow tired of. US Audio reviewer Michael Fremer has described The Wand as a “game changer”. The Wand Tonearm, musical magic!



### Your Tonearm

Serial Number	Your arm was hand built for you by;	Date

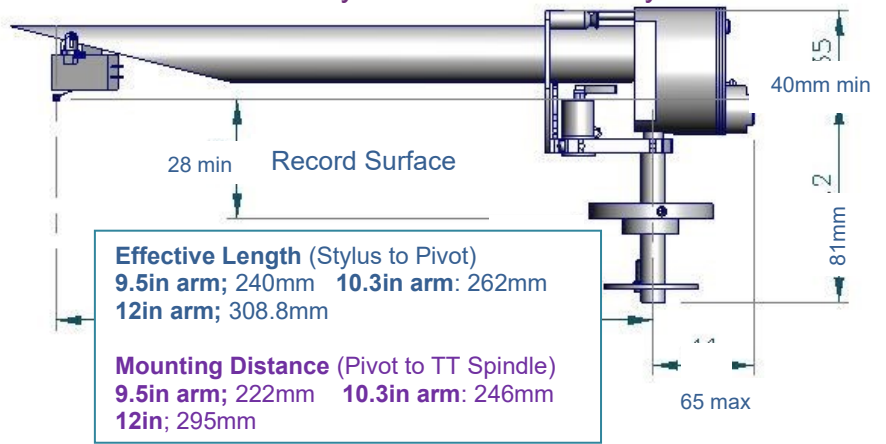
Designed and hand-made in Aotearoa / New Zealand by design **build listen Ltd.**  
 P.O.Box 32, Motueka 7143, New Zealand Ph; +64-21-502037 [www.thewandtonearm.com](http://www.thewandtonearm.com)

### Features of The Wand Plus Tonearm

- Big diameter (22mm) carbon-fibre tube is 4x stiffer than a normal diameter arm.
  - Ergonomic cueing via tip of arm or damped cueing mechanism.
  - Laser sintered titanium headshell and great termination of arm vibrations.
  - Les Davis Audio 3D<sup>2</sup> viscoelastic damping material.
  - Defined contact bearing. Low friction while maintaining energy transmission for great bass.
  - Medium effective mass suits most cartridges. (12.5g for 9in, 14g for 10.3in, 15g for 12in)
  - Ease of installation enabling 90% of the performance to be achieved quickly, first time.
  - Drop-in replacement for Rega geometry arms (~240mm). *SME, Technics, Linn & Lenco mount options.*
  - Thread / weight type antiskate.
  - Five star rating by HiFi World (UK), HiFi Choice(UK) and Witchdoctor (NZ).
  - Standard Baerwald alignment (*with consideration given to real world inner groove dimensions*).
- .....and it looks really cool!

**The Wand dimensions & data;** Check the arm will fit on your turntable before you start.

- Data;**
- Weight =0.65kg (0.75kg for 12in)
  - Effective mass of arm = 12.5g (14g for 10.3in, 15g for 12in)
  - Lead capacitance = 35pF
  - Warranty; 2 years *(Note; shipping cost to us is the responsibility of the sender.)*



**Check what we have sent you;**

Supplied	Picture	Sent	Check	Supplied	Picture	Sent	Check
Oil (In a tube)	Below	1		M3 screws (2 diff.)	C1	2	
Cartridge Screws	A2	2		Hex Screwdriver		1	
Cartridge Spacer	A4	2		Anti-skate weight	E3	1	
Plastic Protractor	B4	1		Arm Lift Assembly	D3	1	
Round Plates	A1	2					

**Check what tools you need;**

Tools may need (Not supplied)	Check
Drill; 6mm (or 1/4") if new mount hole	
Drill; 24-25mm (1")	
Small flat bladed screwdriver	
Long nose pliers or tweezers	
Cloth to sit arm wand on.	

**Maintenance;** Re-grease the bearing tip occasionally with the oil supplied. (Use a toothpick to transfer a drop of oil as shown >)

**Problem Solving;** If the arm is not performing well;

- Check the stylus is clean.
- Check the cartridge tracking weight.
- Check the wires are not pushing the arm sideways.
- See the last page for more hints.

**Notes;** This arm is covered by a two-year Warranty

- Don't ship the turntable with the arm on the spindle.
- Black and silver metal parts may be lightly oiled to keep them looking good. (Do in humid climates)
- With our continuous improvement program the parts shown here may be slightly different from yours.

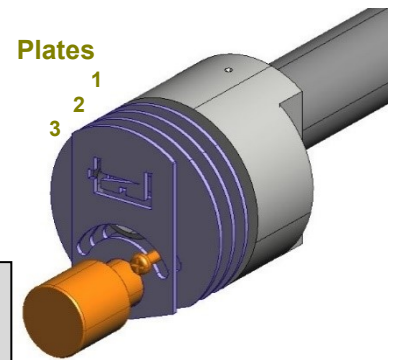


A

# Fitting & Balancing the Cartridge (Also video of this on our website)

## Step 1; Rough Balance

- One plate is fitted to the arm as shipped. This is fine for the majority of cartridges.
- But if your cartridge is light (<7g) use the smaller weight. (If this is too much, add the supplied weight to the headshell)
- If your cartridge is heavier (>11g) it is likely you will need more plates.
- Extra plates can be ordered for really heavy cartridges (>15g)



**Why The Plates?** One of the key design aspects of The Wand Tonearm is to minimize the effects of vibration by minimizing the size of the rear weight. The plates are rigidly attached and also provide azimuth adjustment.

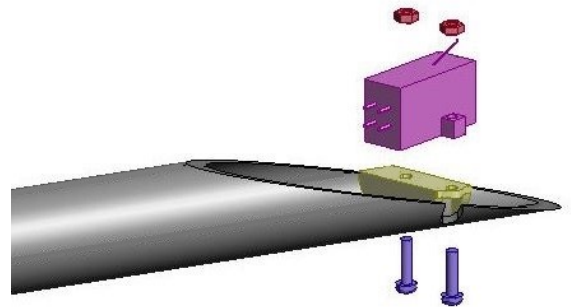
## Step 2; Attaching the cartridge

Where possible use the screws that come with your cartridge. But we have also provided some M2.5 screws and nuts. (They won't fit all cartridges)

- **Hint;** When attaching the cartridge, sit the heavy end of the arm on a cloth to stop it rolling around.
- **Long Female Nut** inserts are available if you need to attach the screws from the bottom. Just ask.

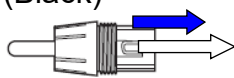
**WARNING;** Be careful, cartridges are easily damaged.

- Use your stylus guard.
- Screws should be done up firmly but not over-tightened.
- We cannot be liable for damage to the cartridge either in installation or use.

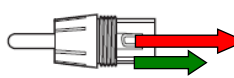
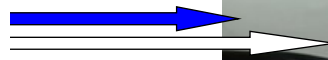


## Step 3; Attach the Leads to the cartridge

Left (Black)



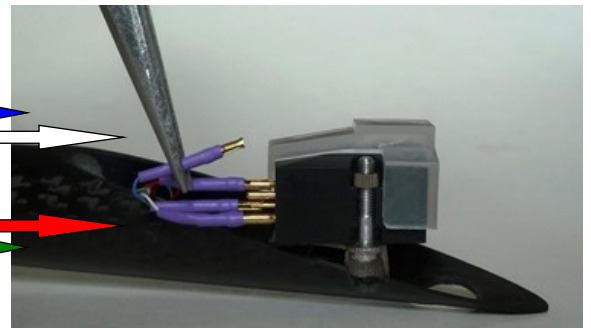
Blue=Left Ground  
White=Left + / Hot



Red=Right + / Hot  
Green=Right Ground



Right (Red)



## Cartridge Spacer / Headshell Weight Option;

You have been provided with a two small metal plate with two holes. These may be put between the cartridge and the arm in three circumstances:

- If the cartridge is too light to balance
- If the cartridge suits a heavier arm (These add 2g or 5g) eg; Denon DL103
- If the cartridge is short or touches the carbon fibre when installed.

**NOTE;** Vertical Tracking Angle may need to be higher than indicated in section B4

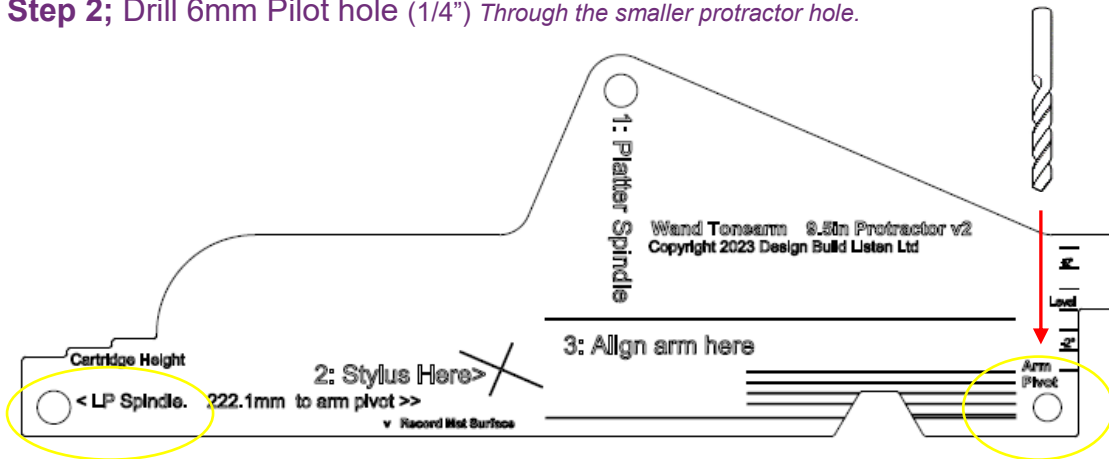


## B Drilling the Mounting Hole for The Wand Tonearm (if needed)

### Step 1; Check rear & side clearance to the turntable lid

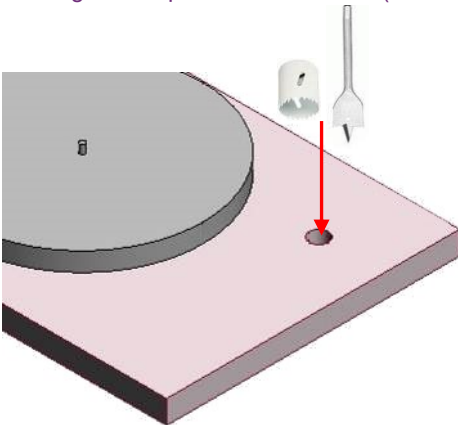
You need at least 50mm / 2" from the centre of the mounting hole to the side or 65mm to the back of the lid

### Step 2; Drill 6mm Pilot hole (1/4") Through the smaller protractor hole.



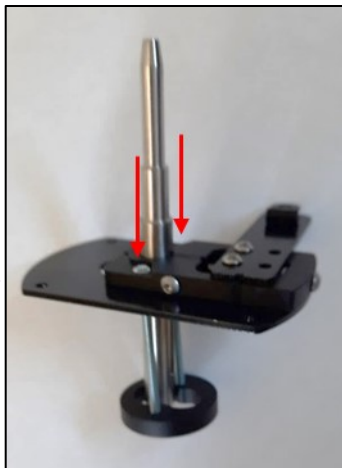
### Step 3; Drill 23- 25mm hole (1") Use 6mm hole as guide for drill (from Step 2 above)

Existing holes up to 28mm are fine. (Contact us about holes 28mm to 48mm which can be made to work)



**C Fitting The Wand Tonearm Mount & Initial VTA**  
 Shown here without lifter for clarity.

- Step 1:** Undo the long screws (see right) to release the bottom clamp.
- Step 2:** Feed the spindle and long screws through the mounting hole.
- Step 3:** Reattach the clamp from below on the screws and do up loosely on your mounting board (Two lengths of screws are provided)
- Step 4:** Orient the mounting plate flats towards the middle of the platter

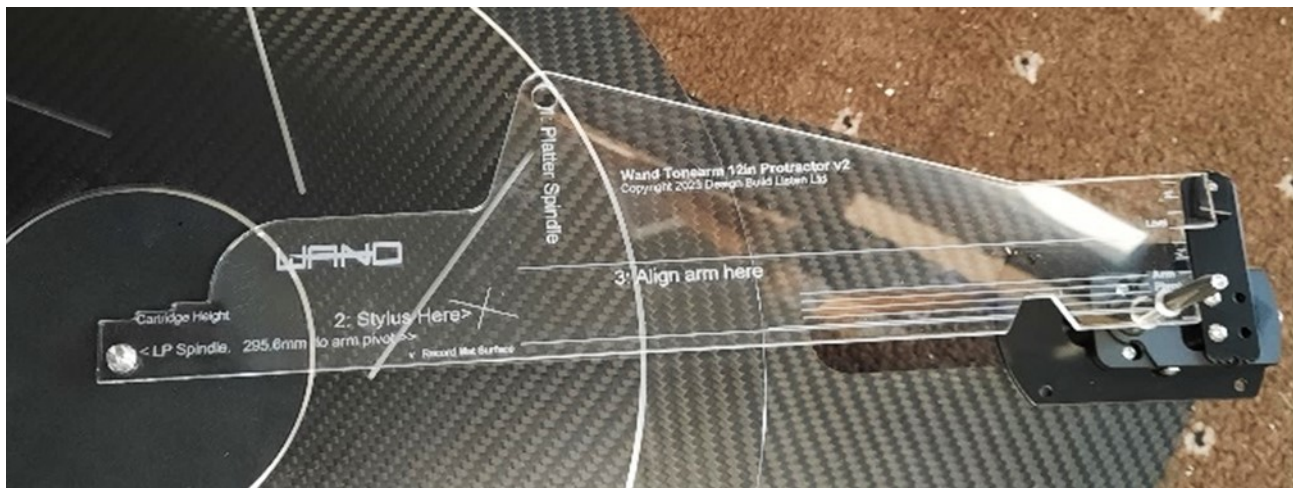


**Note;** If you wish to pass the RCA / Phono plugs through the plinth you will need to feed them through the slot at this stage. See below  
 But we don't recommend doing this on initial installation as it is easier to lift the arm off for adjustment. Get it running first.

**Step 5;** Remove rubber transit cap.

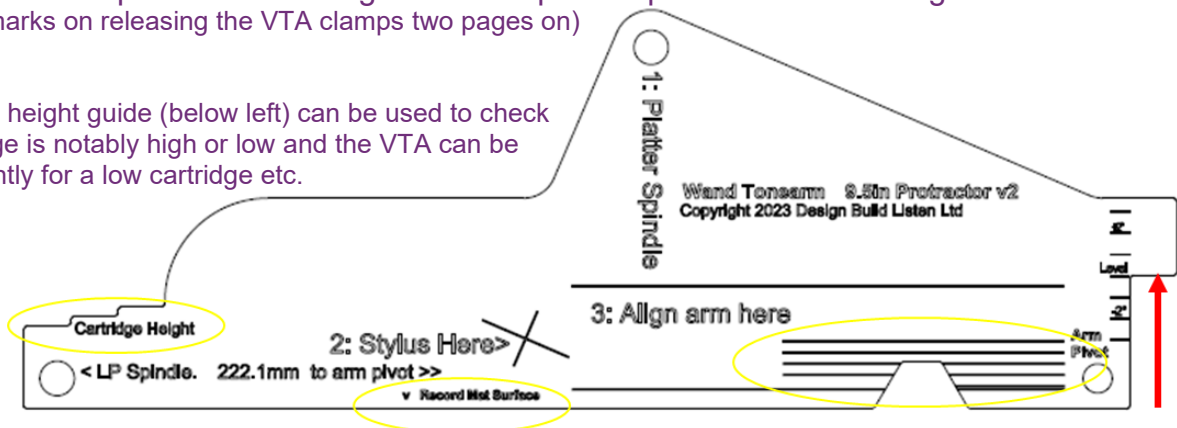


**Step 6;** Position mount using plastic Wand protractor as shown below. Then tighten the screws.



**Step 7;** Initial Vertical Tracking Angle VTA: This can be set before placing the arm wand using the supplied Wand protractor. To align the arm spindle tip as shown below right. (Note the remarks on releasing the VTA clamps two pages on)

The cartridge height guide (below left) can be used to check if your cartridge is notably high or low and the VTA can be lowered slightly for a low cartridge etc.

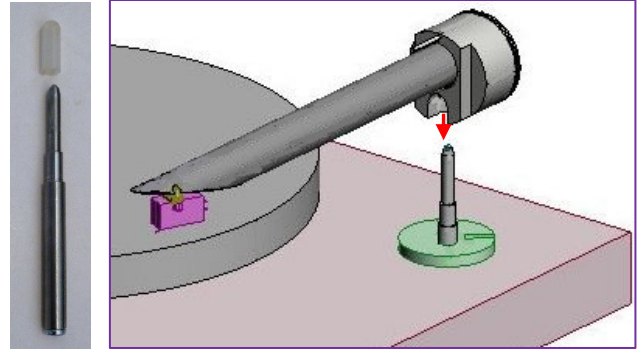




## D Fitting the Arm Wand & Setting Overhang

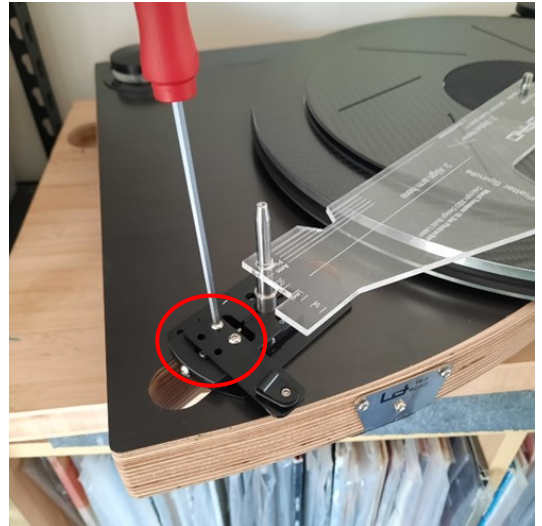
### Step 1; Sit arm wand on spindle

Feed the arm wand down over the spindle as shown at right (simplified drawing for clarity)

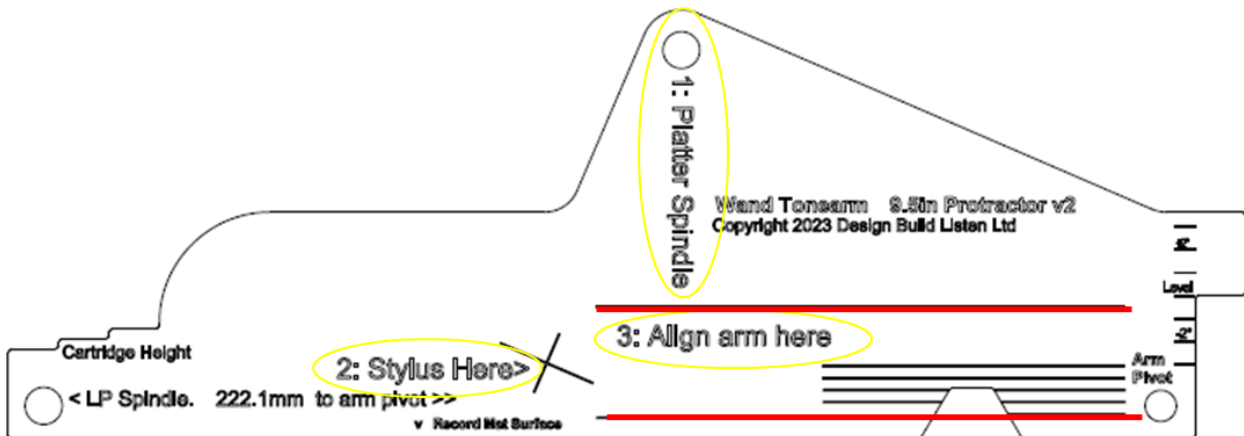


**Step 2;** Ensure the two clamping screws are loosened slightly (1/4 turn anticlockwise)

**IMPORTANT!** Make sure the turntable plinth is level at this point (after adding the arm wand)

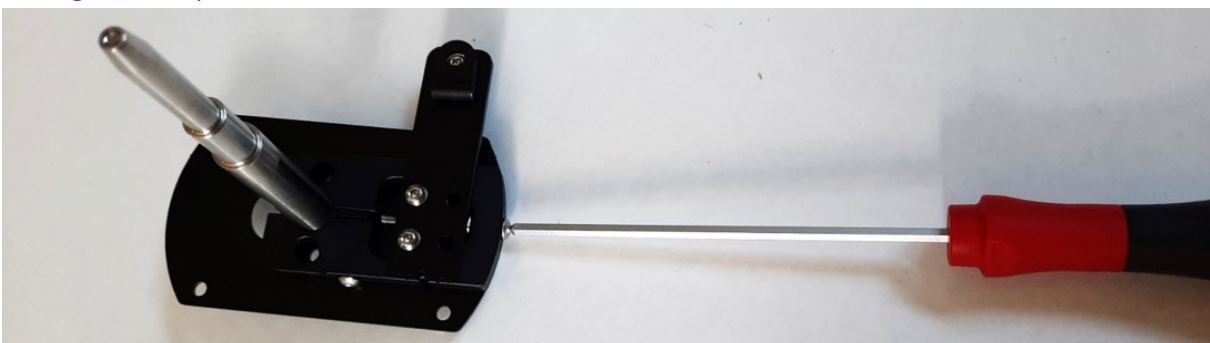


**Step 3;** Use the 1-2-3 instructions on the protractor; see below



**Step 4;** Then look down from above at the sides of the tonearm and note how they align with the red lines above.

If they are Clockwise of the arm, turn the screw (below) Anticlockwise. Keeping the tip on the crosshairs. (**Obvious note**, don't have your naked stylus on the plastic. But works quite well with guard on)

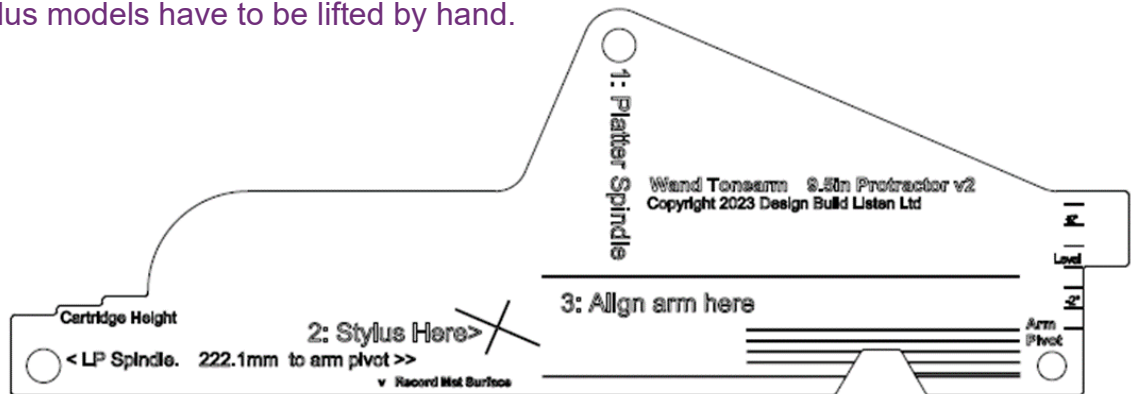


## E Vertical Tracking Angle Refinement (Optional)

**Step 1:** Ensure VTA Clamp is loosened. The clamp screw for VTA is here>  
But will normally be not so visible, as below (Master)



**Step 2:** Use the parallel lines on the protractor to give the alignment you prefer. This will depend both how the stylus is fitted to the cantilever but ultimately relies on personal preference from listening. The Wand Master tonearm can be adjusted in height using the dial on top of the VTA tower. Plus models have to be lifted by hand.



**F Guiding the wires;** This is important as they can push the arm around.

**Step 1:** Feed the wire as shown to where the end of the black braid stops at the hook



**Step 2:** Slot into upright guide



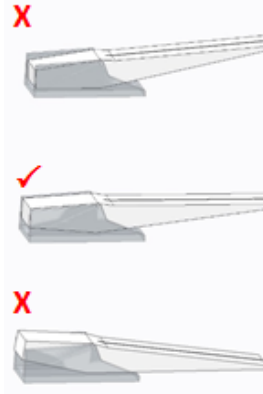
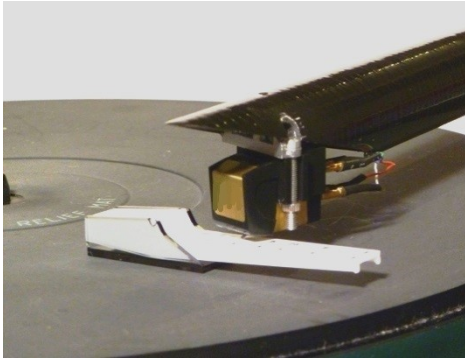
**Step 3:** Slip the braid into the rear clip (or clamp)



# G Vertical Balance & Sideways Balance (VTF & Azimuth)

## Step 1; Vertical Balance (Tracking weight, as recommended by your cartridge maker.)

Use a balance scale (15mN = 1.5g etc)..... and rotate the rear bolt to set fine balance.



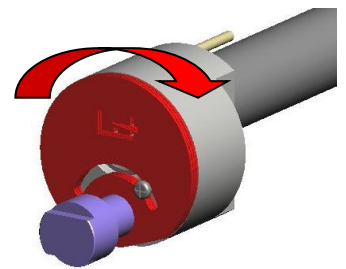
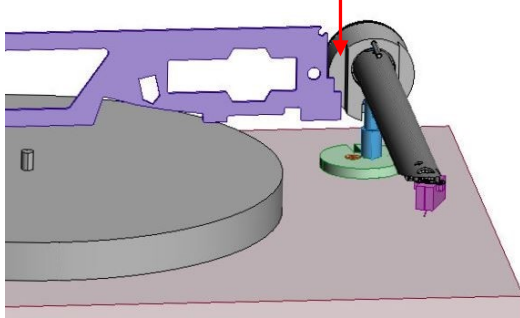
**Too light;** Wind bolt in or take off a plate if the bolt is right in (see section A1). Lift the arm off the scale when doing this.

**Correct;** Back part is level

**Too heavy;** Wind bolt out or put on a plate if the bolt is right out (see section A1). Lift the arm off the scale when doing this.

## Step 3; Side Balance (Azimuth); Aim; To have the stylus standing vertical in the groove (Viewed from the front). Visually use the protractor as shown below.

Adjust side balance by moving the rear balance plate as below (Shown as red)

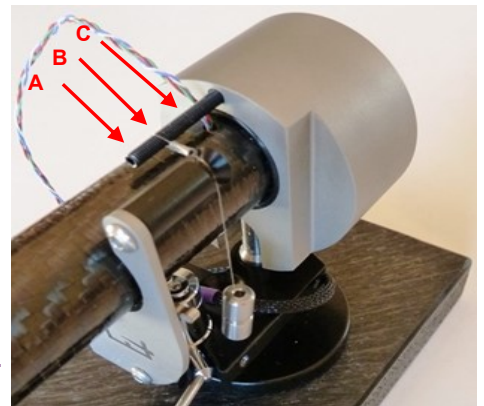


**We also recommend:** 'Fozgometer' or 'Wally Tools'

## Add antiskate force; (Approximate only, refine by ear or test record as desired. Many users favour none)

**Hint;** To stop the loop slipping towards the body you can slide the rubber plug along the rod.

Tracking Weight / g	Position A-C (below)
< 1.0g	No Weight
1.0-1.6	C
1.6-2.2g	B
>2.2 g	A



## Step 4; Plug into amplifier.

Red into Right, Black to Left & green wire to green earth post (If no earth post, try attaching to amplifier chassis)

Our wiring is low capacitance so some cartridges maybe better with more.

**Enjoy!**

## Notes;

### Other Protractor systems;

If using another brand of protractor that requires to be aligned off the arm pivot point. There is a dot at this point on the main body.

### Hint; Cueing with The Wand Tonearm

We suggest using the side of your finger. Rather than trying to grip the tip.



THE **WAND**®  
UNIPIVOT TONEARM

www.thewandtonearm.com

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## Cartridges & The Wand Tonearm;

The Wand Tonearm lets cartridges express themselves for what they are (but not neutral in the 'cold and analytical' sense). So cartridge recommendation comes down to the particular flavour you like.

The Wand is "Medium Mass" at 12.5 to 15g effective mass, so will work with most cartridges. Arm/Cartridge compliance matching is frequently over-stated, as on-line calculators ignore the effects of cartridge suspension damping. Unless you have massive bandwidth system or insist on playing really badly warped records, it shouldn't be an issue.

**The Wand Tonearm has been used with some of the world's best cartridges.** A number of my distributors pair The Wand with Lyra cartridges. Another matches The Wand with the Fuuga cartridge. Transfiguration cartridges, have been a favorite match too but are no longer available new. Dynavector cartridges work well particularly for those that who want something at the analytical / quick end of the spectrum. Miyajima are musical cartridges and work well with The Wand. Those that like dynamic /punchy cartridges, might consider Soundsmith, Nagaoka and Decca London.

**Popular Cartridges;** Denon 103 and related cartridges are the most popular to use with The Wand, (they have a grand sweeping sound). Ortofon 2M Blacks are popular but may hum in some systems. Hana have a wonderful balance of virtues. Dynavector DV10x and 20 are also popular and seem to work well. In terms of high output cartridges; Sumiko Blue Point are good options. Nagaoka cartridges are wonderfully dynamic and punchy without being edgy. All the Hana cartridges work really well on The Wand (I supply an extra weight for the headshell for the E and S series). But the ML is a really exceptionally good combination with The Wand. (I must make it clear that I am NZ Distributor for Hana so I am biased but third-party reviews of these prove these are very good)

**Budget Cartridges;** A good budget cartridge can sound wonderful with a great arm like The Wand but an exotic cartridge in an indifferent arm will sound indifferent. Ortofon 2M range have remarkable detail while cheap Sumiko & Grado cartridges seem more oriented to musicality. Nagaoka have great punch!

## Problem Solving;

### Mounting the arm;

**-The existing Mounting hole is too big;**

-For holes 28-48mm we can provide an alternative clamping plate, contact us.

-For holes above 48mm, you can use out 'SME style' mounting plate. Contact us.

**-There is not enough space beside the mounting plate;** We can provide a smaller diameter mount.

**-The platter is too low or high;** if the platter is too low (<23mm from the arm mounting surface to the top of the platter), you may have to use a thicker mat. If the platter is thick, a thicker mounting boss is available. (the black mounting part can be turned over too). Contact us.

**-The plinth is too thick / thin;** For thicker plinths, longer bolts or 'top mounting' may be substituted

**-The mounting hole is in the wrong place;** Generally you will have to drill a new hole but there is a kit that gives an offset hole. Designed originally for Lencos, this may work in other contexts, just ask.

**Noise problems;** Always tricky as you can have too many earthing points as well as to few. A great resource is Jim Hagerman's website; <http://www.hagtech.com/pdf/eliminatingnoise.pdf> Be aware that that Carbon fibre has less electromagnetic shielding than metal so may be more prone to hum pickup with MM cartridges. But this is very system dependent. We offer a 'short leads' option that may help.

### Setting up the cartridge:

**-Tracking weight is too low;** If the bolt can't wind in far enough, remove a plate (or two)

**-Tracking weight is too high;** If the bolt can't wind out far enough, add a plate (or two)

If neither of these work, talk to us!

**-If you can't get the azimuth right;** talk to us.

**-If you can't get the antiskate right;** talk to us.