

Recommendations for Ortofon RS and AS tonearms

The AS-212S, AS-309S, RS-212D and RS-309D tonearms have “Japanese”-geometry, which will not directly fit the normal Baerwald alignment. Baerwald alignment have zero tracking angle error at 66mm and 120,9mm (below I use 121mm) distance from the center of the platter.

In the following I will use:

L as the effective length, i.e. distance stylus to tonearm pivot

D as the mounting distance, i.e. distance between tonearm pivot and platter center

Overhang will be the difference between L and D

Offset angle is the angle between the cartridge (in fact cantilever!) and the line from tonearm pivot to stylus.

The mentioned arms will often be used with SPU’s in G-housing but of course also with cartridge on headshell (HS). The big differences between the two cases are that for the SPU the effective length L and the offset angle are fixed, whereas for the cartridge in headshell both L and the offset angle can be adjusted by moving and twisting the cartridge in the headshell.

The recommendations below are made with one mounting distance that will fit both cases just mentioned. Please note that the headshell values will give you the Baerwald alignment. Also please note that the values for the SPU in the table are very close or equal to the values in the datasheet for the tonearms.

	RS/AS-212		RS/AS-309	
	SPU	HS	SPU	HS
L [mm]	231	234,7	329	326,5
D[mm]	217	217	314	314
Offset angle [deg]	22	23,5	19	16,65
Overhang [mm]	14	17,7	15	12,5
Zero radii [mm]	121,5	66 and 121	64,5	66 and 121

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