



SPIRAL GROOVE

SG2 Owners Manual



Thank you for purchasing the Spiral Groove SG2 turntable. The SG2 represents over 25 years of turntable design from Allen Perkins. Using his Balanced Force Design philosophy, Spiral Groove turntables utilize a decoupled mass concept for isolation from airborne and mechanical vibrations. The SG2 is very dense, weighing over 50 lbs. Please be careful when removing the table from the shipping carton by using proper lifting techniques.

Spiral Groove turntables are designed to require very little set up and having the table ready to accept a tonearm will only take a few minutes. Please read through the following guidelines before taking the table out of the shipping carton to make your initial installation of the turntable quick and easy (but not light!)

Accessory box parts list:

- Speed Controller Component
- AC Cable
- Multi-pin Speed Controller Cable
- Platter Belt
- Record Clamp
- Two Platter Spindle "O" Rings
- Aluminum Armboard Spacing Ring
- Six 4-40 x 5/8" Socket Head Cap Screws
- Turntable Manual
- Warranty Registration Card

Setting-Up the SG2

1. Remove the Accessory Box support foam to access the SG2.
2. To more easily grasp the SG2, handhold cut outs are provided in the support foam on each side of the turntable. Remembering that the SG2 weighs over 50 lbs., carefully lift the SG2 from the shipping carton and place it on a solid work surface. The feet are already installed. Remember, the weight of the SG2 on its pointed cone feet can easily damage a soft wood surface.
3. Remove the turntable from the plastic bag. Because of the weight of the SG2, this is best accomplished with two people; one to lift the table and one to remove the bag.
4. Move the SG2 to the place it will sit when in use. If that surface can be leveled, level it first.
5. The SG2 platter bearing contains a sapphire disc. To protect the sapphire during shipping, the platter is elevated using three cardboard strips, which will prevent any contact with the sapphire. To remove the strips, slightly lift the platter using the record clamp as a handle and remove the cardboard strips from under the drive ring. **Take care to slowly ease the platter back down onto the bearing.** Dropping the platter can damage the sapphire. The bearing is case-hardened steel so you will not damage the bearing by lifting or lowering the platter.

6. Install the belt onto the platter. Place the belt around the top of the drive ring. Loop the belt around the motor pulley and guide it around the drive ring so it is seated in the groove. The belt does not fit tightly when installed, so it may take a couple of tries.
7. If it is not already installed, place one of the included "O" rings over the platter spindle. This will help to increase the purchase of the record against the graphite platter surface when used with the record clamp.
8. Using a bubble level, level the turntable using its three threaded feet. Again, it is best to start with a level surface and then use the SG1.1 feet to achieve a level turntable. Because they contain a soft damping material, it is important that the gap between the upper knurled part of the foot and the lower cone part is even all the way around. Simply move the lower part of the foot to center it under the upper part. The feet do not lock in place.
9. Place the SG2 speed controller nearby and connect the control cable to it and the turntable body. Each end of the connector is unique and cannot be connected to either the turntable body or the speed controller incorrectly. Please gently tighten the two screws on the sides of the connector. Plug in the speed controller and turn it on with the rocker switch located near the AC socket on the back. The light on the speed controller and the two lights on the SG2 will light up.
10. The right button on the turntable is for On/Off and the left button is for speed change. The On/Off light changes from green to blue when On. The light above the speed button turns blue for 33 rpm and red for 45 rpm. When the turntable is turned on, the On/Off light flashes as the motor comes up to speed. The blue light on the speed controller stays blue whenever it has AC power.
11. Above each light is a small access hole. Fine speed adjustment can be done by turning a small pot on the circuit board inside the turntable body. The individual pots for 33 and 45 are labeled. Using a very small flat blade screwdriver, turn the pot clockwise to increase speed, and counter clockwise to decrease speed. For precise speed adjustment, we use multi-turn pots. Therefore, a full turn of the pot will result in only a minor change in speed. It is normal to turn the pot several times to achieve the proper speed.
12. Installing the SG2 arm board. The armboard is attached to the turntable body from underneath by the six 4-40 x 5/8" socket head cap screws. Using the supplied Allen wrench, push a socket head cap screw up through one of the six holes in the armboard cut out and place the aluminum spacing ring over the screw and rest it into place on the turntable. The orientation of the ring is larger diameter side down. Place the armboard onto the spacing ring and slowly rotate the armboard until you feel the screw hit one of the mounting holes in the armboard. The correct orientation of the armboard has the right side of the armboard slightly angled in from the right edge of the turntable body. Loosely install the first screw. Install the rest of the screws and then progressively tighten each screw, moving to the opposite side screw, one after the other. There is no need to over tighten the socket cap screws into the turntable body.
13. Break-in. As with all highly precise bearings, the platter bearing system will require a number of hours of run-in to achieve it's smoothest and most silent operation. It will be extremely quiet when new, but will become deadly silent over the coming months of play. Of course, the more records you enjoy every week, the more quickly the break-in will occur. Lucky you!

Playing records

The record clamp is designed to thread onto the platter spindle. The platter spindle "O" Ring helps to increase the pressure exerted on the record by the record clamp as well as to flatten slightly warped records. Do not over-tighten the record clamp as you could damage a record by over stressing the area around the "O" Ring. Additionally, over-tightening the clamp could result in the record bowing up and away from the platter. Reducing the clamp pressure will bring the record back down and restore full contact with the platter surface. In cases where the record is very thick, such as many 180 gram records, the "O" Ring may prevent the clamp from engaging the threads on the platter spindle. In these cases, temporarily remove the "O" Ring and proceed clamping the record as usual. Occasionally, the "O" Ring may stick to the record and come off the record spindle when changing sides or records, especially when it is new. If you find the "O" Ring missing, check to see if it is stuck to the last record you played. If you feel the platter spindle move up and down when the "O" Ring is removed, do not be concerned. The platter spindle is "floating" and unlike most all other turntables, it is not a part of the platter bearing system. In either 33 or 45-RPM speeds, it is always a good idea to manually give the platter a gentle spin just before touching the On button. The speed controller is designed to bring the platter up to either speed in 19 seconds. You will hear a very light squeak from the belt on the pulley when starting up, and this is normal behavior. There is no need to first press the OFF button when changing from 33 to 45, or back again. Additionally, you need not turn the SG2 off when changing records. However, during the record changing process, were you to stop the platter from spinning while the motor was running, the motor would lose the timing lock with the speed controller and you would need to start the motor over again.

Care and Maintenance

Clean the SG2 with a slightly damp soft cloth. Do not use solvents or abrasive cleaners on any part of the composite platter! It has a clear protective coating that can be damaged by solvents or abrasives. Stubborn stains or residue can be removed from the aluminum top surface by gently using a well-dampened Magic Eraser. Remember to turn off the power to the controller and avoid getting any moisture into the selection switches.

Maintenance of your SG2 is limited to simple tasks. It is a good idea to periodically clean the groove where the belt runs on the drive ring and the motor pulley with a 90% Isopropyl alcohol. Take care to not apply excess pressure to the pulley to avoid motor damage. Simply holding a moistened Q Tip against the groove and lightly spinning the pulley will suffice. We recommend replacing the belt every 2 years and replacements may be obtained through your Spiral Groove dealer. Regular platter bearing maintenance is not necessary but a check by your dealer every 5 years will help retain its original performance.

Warranty and Service

Spiral Groove Turntables and Tonearms are warranted for a period of 20 Years from date of purchase to be free from of manufacturing defects. Damage because of misuse, mishandling, or improper maintenance will not be covered by this warranty. All warranty repairs will be at the discretion of, and determined by, Spiral Groove. Transportation charges of the product to Spiral Groove will be the responsibility of the owner. Warranty repairs will be returned to the Spiral Groove authorized dealer or distributor at the expense of Spiral Groove. Return transportation charges for all non- warranty service work will be the responsibility of the owner. For all Spiral Groove products purchased outside the United States, this warranty card must be returned to Spiral Groove within 60 days from date of purchase for this warranty to be in effect.

Should your SG1.1 ever need service, many items can be serviced in your home or studio, and a trip back to the factory may not be required. Every attempt has been made to allow for easy disassembly and precise re-assembly in the field. Please contact your dealer or Spiral Groove directly if your SG1.1 is not performing like new.



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