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THE VINYL ENGINE®

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Overall Comparison Chart

	Type	Drive System	Wow & Flutter (measured & audible)	Rumble	App. Arm Eff. Mass	Arm Damping	Arm Resonances	Friction & Bias Acc.	General alignment (downforce, geometry)	Engineering Qual.	Shock/Vibration Susceptibility	Overall Sound Quality (including feedback)	Ease of use	Ease of set up	Price (typical inc.) £
Acoustic Research AR77XB	manual	belt	good	v. good	8	none	ave	fair	good	fair	v. good	ave+	poor	fair	80*
ADC LMF1+					4	none	good	good	good	v. good		v. good	v. good	v. good	65*
Aiwa 2200	auto stop	direct	ave-	v. good	15	none	ave	good	good	good	good	ave	v. good	good	115
Aiwa 2500	auto stop	direct	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave	excell	v. good	v. good	fair	ave	v. good	good	170
Akai AP100	auto return	belt	good	fair	15	none	ave	fair	good	good	poor	fair	good	f. good	70
Audio Technica AT 1010					15	negligible	ave+	f. good	v. good	v. good		ave+	v. good	good	100*
Audiotronic AT 100M+	manual	belt	good	fair	14	none	fair	good	good	f. good	poor	poor	good	good	50
B & O 220G	auto	belt	excell	v. good	4*	none	f. good	f. good	v. good	good	excell	good	excell	excell	160
B & O 1902y+	auto	belt	excell	excell	4*	none	f. good	good	v. good	v. good	excell	good	excell	excell	120
B & O 4002/4y+	auto	belt	excell	excell	3*	none		excell	excell	excell	excell	good	excell	excell	330
Connoisseur BD2A'	auto stop	belt	good	good	8	none	ave	f. good	v. good	good	excell	fair	good	good	55
Connoisseur BD101+	manual	belt	good	good	9	moderate	ave	v. good	v. good	fair	excell	ave	f. good	f. good	73
Connoisseur BD103+	auto stop	belt	v. good	ave	9	moderate	v. good	v. good	fair	excell	ave+	fair	f. good	f. good	92
Decca London International					12	moderate	ave	f. good	v. good	f. good		good	fair	f. good	73
Denon DP2500+	manual	quartz dd	excell	excell	9.5	none	ave	v. good	v. good	excell	fair	ave	good	v. good	320
Denon 307					10	none	ave	good	good	v. good		ave+	v. good	v. good	140
Denon 309					13	none	ave	excell	good	v. good		ave	v. good	v. good	120
Dual 504+	auto stop	belt	v. good	good	10	negligible	ave	v. good	good	good	good	ave+	good	good	105
Dual 621+	automatic	direct	excell	v. good	12	negligible	ave	v. good	good	v. good	v. good	ave	v. good	v. good	171
Dual 721	automatic	direct	good	good	15	negligible	ave	v. good	good	v. good	excell	ave+	v. good	v. good	250
Dynavector					*	moderate	ave	fair	v. good	v. good		ave	good	good	250
Eagle 7500	auto return	belt	ave-	poor	14	none	fair	fair	good	f. good	poor	poor	v. good	good	75
Elac PC831	auto changer	belt/pulley	ave-	fair	10	none	ave-	f. good	fair	f. good	good	fair	good	good	72
Fidelity Research FR54					16	none	ave	f. good	v. good	v. good		ave+	v. good	v. good	90
Garrard GT25P+	auto return	belt	good	good	11	none	ave-	good	f. good	fair	poor	ave-	f. good	v. good	70
Garrard GT35P	auto return	belt	ave-	good	11	none	ave	good	f. good	fair	fair	ave	f. good	good	80
Garrard DD130	manual	direct	v. good	good	12	none	ave	good	fair	fair	fair	fair	good	fair	90
Grace G707					6	none	ave+	good	excell	v. good		v. good	v. good	v. good	125*
Hadcock GH228					6	little	good	good	v. good	f. good		good	fair	poor	60
Hitachi 550	auto return	quartz dd	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave	good	v. good	v. good	fair	ave	v. good	v. good	160
Hitachi P548	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	17	none	ave	f. good	good	f. good	fair	ave	v. good	good	120
Hitachi 350	auto return	direct	ave-	v. good	15	none	ave	good	good	v. good	fair	fair	good	v. good	100
ITT 8011	auto return	direct	ave-	v. good	16	none	ave-	f. good	fair	fair	good	ave-	good	good	96
ITT 8012	automatic	direct	v. good	v. good	17	none	ave	f. good	fair	f. good	fair	ave-	v. good	good	110
Janorhurst JBE Series III+	manual	direct	ave-	v. good						v. good	good	good*	good		200
Jelco DSC					14	none	ave-	f. good	f. good	f. good		ave	good	good	30
JVC QLA7+	auto stop	quartz dd	v. good	v. good	14	moderate	ave	v. good	v. good	v. good	fair	ave+	good	f. good	270
JVC QLF4	automatic	quartz dd	good	v. good	14	moderate	ave	v. good	v. good	good	poor	ave	v. good	f. good	210
JVC QLA2	auto return	quartz dd	excell	v. good	14	moderate	ave	v. good	v. good	good	poor	fair	v. good	f. good	110
Linn Sondek LP12	manual	belt	v. good	v. good						excell	good	v. good	v. good	good	250
Mayware Formula 4 III					5	moderate	ave	good	v. good	v. good		good	good	good	70
Marantz 6170	auto stop	direct	v. good	good	14	none	ave	good	good	good	poor	ave	v. good	good	100
Michell Electronic	manual	belt	good	v. good						good	fair	ave+	good	good	180
Michell Focus					5	moderate	ave	*	v. good	v. good		ave+	good	f. good	60
Michell Focus	manual	belt	v. good	good						good	ave-	ave+	good	good	100
Micro-Seiki DDX 1000	manual	direct	excell	excell						excell	fair	good	good	v. good	350
Micro-Seiki MA505					14.5	none	ave	v. good	excell	excell		good	v. good	v. good	105
Mission 774					5	variable	v. good	v. good	excell	excell		excell*	v. good	good	12.7
Monitor Audio ET500	auto lift	direct	fair*	v. good						good	f. good	good*	good	good	150
Philips AF677	auto return	belt	v. good	good	9	none	ave	fair	f. good	good	good	ave-	v. good	v. good	70
Philips AF777	auto return	belt	good	v. good	9	none	ave	good	good	good	good	ave	v. good	v. good	90
Philips AF877	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	9	none	ave	good	good	good	v. good	ave-	v. good	v. good	130
Pioneer PL514+	auto return	belt	v. good	fair	15	none	ave	ave	good	f. good	poor	ave	v. good	good	65
Pioneer PL516	auto return	belt	v. good	good	14	none	ave	good	fair	fair	good	ave	v. good	f. good	85
Pioneer PL518+	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave	good	good	good	good	ave+	v. good	good	120
Realistic (Tandy) Lab250	auto return	belt	ave-	good	15	none	fair	good	fair	f. good	good	ave	good	good	80
Realistic (Tandy) Lab500	automatic	quartz dd	v. good	v. good	15*	none	ave	v. good	f. good	f. good	fair	ave	v. good	v. good	170
Rega Lustre					16	none	ave	v. good	good	v. good		good*	v. good	v. good	35
Revox B790	auto stop	quartz dd	excell	excell	3*	none	ave+	excell	excell	v. good	excell	good	v. good	excell	388
Rotel RP3300y	manual	belt	good	ave-	12	none	fair	good	v. good	v. good	poor	fair	good	v. good	70
Rotel RP5300y	manual	direct	fair*	good	12	none	fair	good	v. good	v. good	fair	fair	good	v. good	90
Sansui SR222 II	manual	belt	v. good	v. good	11	none	ave	good	v. good	good	fair	ave+	good	good	60
Sansui SR636	manual	direct	excell	v. good	17	none	ave	excell	v. good	v. good	poor	ave+	good	good	220
Sansui SR838	manual	quartz dd	excell	v. good	16	none	ave	good	v. good	v. good	poor	ave+	good	good	260
Sanyo TP727	auto stop	belt	v. good	v. good	15	none	ave	fair	good	f. good	good	ave	v. good	good	75
Sanyo TP1020 II	auto return	direct	good	excell	18	none	ave	good	good	f. good	good	ave-	v. good	f. good	90
Sanyo TP1100 II	auto return	direct	excell	excell	18	none	ave	v. good	f. good	good	good	ave	v. good	good	115
SME 3009 II ND/FD200+					6*	variable	ave	good	excell	excell		good*	v. good	good	70
SME 3009 III					4.5	variable	good	good	v. good	v. good		v. good	v. good	good	100
Sony PST1+	auto return	direct	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave	fair	good	good	fair	fair	v. good	v. good	80
Sony PSX4+	auto return	quartz dd	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave+	f. good	good	v. good	v. good	ave+	v. good	v. good	120
Sony PSX7	automatic	quartz dd	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave+	good	good	v. good	v. good	good	v. good	v. good	170
Stax UA7 CF+					16	none	ave	v. good	v. good	excell		good	ave+	f. good	160
STD 305D	manual	belt	ave-	good						good	v. good	good*	good	f. good	250
Strathearn SM2000	auto stop	direct	v. good	v. good	5	none	fair	good	good	good	v. good	ave	good	good	150
Strathearn ST400	manual	direct	poor	ave-	5.5	none	fair	fair	f. good	f. good	fair	poor	good	good	50
Technics SL1000 II+	manual	quartz dd	excell	excell	16	variable	ave+	v. good	good	v. good	good	good	good	good	1000
Technics SL1700+	auto return	direct	excell	v. good	16	none	ave	v. good	v. good	v. good	v. good	ave	v. good	v. good	155
Technics SL1400 II+	auto return	quartz dd	excell	excell	16	none	ave+	good	f. good	v. good	ave-	ave	v. good	good	240
Technics SL220	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	15	none	ave	excell	good	good	v. good	ave	v. good	good	80
Technics SL3200+	auto return	direct	good	good	17	none	ave	good	good	v. good	fair	fair	v. good	v. good	110
Thorens TD115+	auto stop	belt	good	excell	7	none	ave	excell	fair	good	v. good	ave	v. good	fair	135
Thorens TD160BC	manual	belt	v. good	v. good						v. good	v. good	good	v. good	v. good	90
Thorens TD126 III+	auto stop	belt	v. good	excell	8	none	ave	v. good	v. good	v. good	excell	good	v. good	fair	260
Toshiba SRF325	automatic	belt	good	good	14	none	ave	fair	fair	f. good	fair	ave	v. good	v. good	100
Toshiba SRF225	automatic	belt	ave-	ave-	14	none	ave	fair	good	fair	fair	ave-	good	v. good	90
Toshiba SRF 530	automatic	direct	v. good	v. good	14	none	ave	good	good	good	good	ave+	v. good	v. good	120
Trio KD750	manual	quartz dd	excell	excell	15	none	ave	good	good	v. good	good	ave+	good	good	500
Trio KD2055y	auto return	belt	v. good	v. good	9	little	ave	good	good	good	good	ave+	v. good	good	100
Trio KD1033B	manual	belt	fair	ave-	15	none	ave-	fair	good	f. good	fair	fair	good	f. good	55
Visonik VT5300	auto return	belt	good	good	7	none	ave-	good	good	good	fair	ave	good	good	105
Visonik VT3300	auto return	belt	ave-	ave-	7	none	ave-	good	good	good	poor	ave-	good	good	80
Yamaha YP511y	manual	direct	ave-	v. good	17	none	ave	v. good	v. good	v. good	fair	ave	good	good	110

* See Text † For separate model and option/variant characteristics. see main review ‡ adapted from previous issue; not strictly comparable.

NOTE: Tonearms and motor units when assessed for sound quality are performed used with the best available ancillaries, and may not achieve this potential under less optimum conditions.

The following 'value judgement' characterisations have been used, in descending order of 'goodness' with text equivalents mentioned: excellent; v. good; good; f. good; above average = ave+; average; below average = ave- = satisfactory; fair = adequate; poor.