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Nagaoka MP200

NAGAOKA MP-200 Record Cartridge Instruction Manual

Model: MP-200 | Brand: Nagaoka

1. INTRODUCTION

Thank you for choosing the NAGAOKA MP-200 Record Cartridge. This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your new cartridge. Please read it thoroughly before use to ensure optimal performance and longevity of the product.



Image: Nagaoka company logo, a stylized 'A' inside a circle, with 'NAGAOKA' text.

Nagaoka has a rich history in manufacturing precision audio components. Our commitment to quality and innovation ensures that each product delivers an exceptional listening experience.



Image: Exterior view of the Nagaoka factory building, covered in snow, with the Nagaoka logo visible.



Image: Several factory workers in blue uniforms and face masks meticulously assembling small components under microscopes, highlighting precision manufacturing.

2. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The NAGAOKA MP-200 is a high-performance moving magnet (MM) phono cartridge designed to deliver exceptional sound quality for vinyl enthusiasts. It features a super-fine polished elliptical diamond stylus and a powerful samarium cobalt magnet, ensuring accurate tracking and detailed audio reproduction.



Image: The Nagaoka MP-200 record cartridge, featuring a purple body and gold-colored branding, shown from a slight angle.

Key Features:

- **Super-fine polished elliptical diamond stylus:** For precise tracking and detailed sound.
- **Powerful samarium cobalt magnet:** Ensures high output and dynamic range.
- **Lightweight aluminum alloy cantilever:** Provides excellent transient response.
- **Anti-ferromagnetic permalloy shield casing:** Reduces interference for cleaner sound.

MP Series Comparison:

The MP-200 is part of Nagaoka's renowned MP series, offering a balance of clarity, warmth, and detail. Below is a visual representation of the MP series cartridges.



MP-100



MP-110



MP-150



MP-200



MP-300



MP-500

3. SPECIFICATIONS

Refer to the table below for detailed technical specifications of the NAGAOKA MP-200 cartridge.

外觀寸法図 / Dimensions

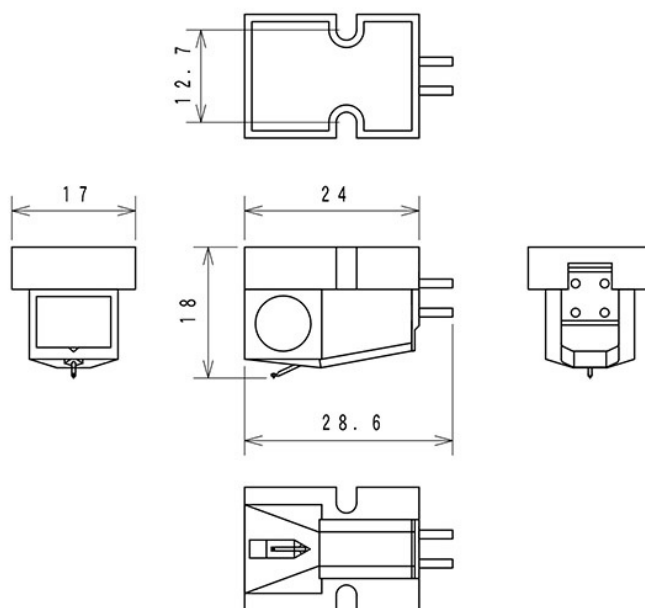


Image: Technical diagram showing the dimensions of the Nagaoka MP-200 cartridge in millimeters.

Feature	Specification
Stylus Type	Elliptical Diamond
Cantilever	Aluminum Alloy
Magnet Type	Samarium Cobalt
Frequency Response	20 Hz - 23,000 Hz
Output Voltage	4.0 mV (5cm/sec)
Channel Separation	25 dB (1 kHz)
Channel Balance	1.5 dB or less
Tracking Force	1.5 - 2.0 g (1.8 g recommended)
Cartridge Weight	6.5 g
Load Impedance	47 kΩ

4. INSTALLATION

Proper installation is crucial for optimal sound quality and to prevent damage to your records or stylus. Follow these steps carefully:

- Preparation:** Ensure your turntable is powered off and unplugged. Remove any existing cartridge from the tonearm.
- Mounting:** Carefully attach the MP-200 cartridge to your headshell using the provided screws and nuts. Ensure the cartridge is securely fastened but do not overtighten.
- Wiring:** Connect the tonearm wires to the corresponding pins on the cartridge. The standard color

coding is:

- Red (R): Right channel hot
- Green (RG): Right channel ground
- White (L): Left channel hot
- Blue (LG): Left channel ground

4. **Alignment:** Use a cartridge alignment protractor (not included) to precisely align the cartridge in the headshell. Correct alignment minimizes tracking error and distortion.
5. **Tracking Force:** Set the tracking force on your tonearm to the recommended 1.8 grams. Refer to your turntable's manual for instructions on adjusting tracking force.
6. **Anti-Skate:** Adjust the anti-skate setting on your tonearm according to the recommended tracking force. This helps keep the stylus centered in the record groove.

5. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

Once installed, operating your NAGAOKA MP-200 cartridge is straightforward. Always handle your records and stylus with care.

1. **Placing a Record:** Place your vinyl record on the turntable platter. Ensure the record is clean and free of dust.
2. **Starting Playback:** Gently lower the tonearm onto the lead-in groove of the record using the tonearm lift mechanism. Avoid dropping the tonearm directly onto the record.
3. **Ending Playback:** At the end of the record, or when you wish to stop playback, use the tonearm lift to raise the tonearm and return it to its rest.

6. MAINTENANCE

Regular maintenance will preserve the life of your stylus and ensure consistent sound quality.

- **Stylus Cleaning:** Gently clean the stylus tip before each play using a soft stylus brush, brushing from back to front. Do not use excessive force or solvents.
- **Record Cleaning:** Keep your records clean to prevent dust and debris from accumulating on the stylus. Use a carbon fiber brush or a record cleaning machine.
- **Stylus Replacement:** The stylus will wear down over time. Replace the stylus when you notice a degradation in sound quality or after approximately 200-300 hours of playback. Replacement styli are available from authorized Nagaoka dealers.

7. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter any issues, refer to the following common problems and solutions:

- **No Sound or Weak Sound:**
 - Check all wiring connections between the cartridge, tonearm, and phono preamplifier.
 - Ensure the phono input on your amplifier is selected.
 - Verify the tracking force is set correctly.
- **Distorted Sound:**
 - Clean the stylus tip.

- Check cartridge alignment.
- Verify tracking force and anti-skate settings.
- Inspect the stylus for damage or wear.
- **Skipping:**
 - Ensure the record is clean and free of scratches.
 - Check tracking force and anti-skate settings.
 - Verify the turntable is level.

If problems persist, consult your dealer or Nagaoka customer support.

8. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

For a deeper understanding of analog audio and record player technology, consider the following educational videos:

Analog Record Lecture by Japanese Sound Engineer

Video: A Japanese sound engineer explains the intricacies of analog record production and playback. This video provides valuable insights into the technical aspects of vinyl.

Nagaoka: The Documentary

Video: A documentary showcasing the history, manufacturing process, and philosophy behind Nagaoka's record player needles. It highlights the dedication to craftsmanship and quality.

9. WARRANTY & SUPPORT

For warranty information and customer support, please refer to the official Nagaoka website or contact your authorized dealer. Keep your proof of purchase for any warranty claims.