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## Fluance RT81T

# Fluance RT81 Turntable Instruction Manual

Model: RT81T

## INTRODUCTION

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The Fluance RT81 Turntable is designed to deliver a pure analog listening experience with premium components. This manual provides detailed instructions for setting up, operating, and maintaining your turntable to ensure optimal performance and longevity.

**Video Description:** An official product video showcasing the Fluance RT81 Turntable's features and design. This video provides a general overview of the turntable's aesthetics and key components.



**Image Description:** The Fluance RT81 Turntable in Piano Black, showcasing its sleek design and the platter with the tonearm in position. This image highlights the overall appearance of the product.

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

Please ensure all parts and accessories listed below are present in the packaging:

- RT81 Turntable Unit
- Dust Cover
- 45 Adapter
- Rubber Platter Mat
- 3ft RCA Cable with Ground Wire
- 100V - 240V (50/60Hz) AC Power Adapter
- Quick Start Guide
- Audio Technica AT95E Cartridge (pre-installed on headshell)
- Counterweight
- Rubber Belt
- Hinges (x2)

# What's Included



Plinth



Aluminum Platter



Platter Mat



Headshell &  
AT95E



Dust Cover



Hinges (x2)



3ft RCA Cable  
With Ground Wire



45 Adapter



Counterweight



5ft Power Adapter



Rubber Belt

**Image Description:** A visual diagram illustrating all components included with the Fluance RT81 Turntable, such as the plinth, aluminum platter, platter mat, headshell & AT95E cartridge, dust cover, hinges, RCA cable, 45 adapter, counterweight, power adapter, and rubber belt.

## SETUP

### 1. Platter and Belt Installation

1. Place the platter onto the spindle.
2. Align the red ribbon with the motor pulley.
3. Lift the ribbon and pull the rubber belt over the motor pulley.
4. Once the belt is wrapped around the pulley, remove the ribbon.
5. Rotate the platter to ensure the belt is not twisted.
6. Install the turntable mat by placing it over the spindle.

### 2. Tonearm Balancing and Tracking Force Adjustment

Proper tonearm balance ensures maximum sound clarity and minimizes wear to your records and stylus.

1. Install the counterweight onto the back of the tonearm with numbers facing forward until you hear a click.
2. Attach the headshell to the tonearm and turn the locking nut until it firmly sits in place.
3. Remove the stylus protector.

4. Unlock the tonearm using the tonearm lock.
5. Lift the cueing lever and position the tonearm over the platter.
6. While holding the headshell, lower the cueing lever without letting the needle touch the platter.
7. Turn the counterweight until the tonearm floats parallel to the mat. It should be as level as possible.
8. Return the tonearm to the tonearm rest and lock it in place.
9. Turn only the counterweight indicator ring to '0' on the center line. Do not turn the entire weight.
10. Turn the entire counterweight counter-clockwise until the number '2' is on the center line. This sets the tracking force to 2 grams, which is optimal for this turntable.
11. Locate the anti-skating dial next to the tonearm base and set it to '2'.

**Video Description:** This video provides a step-by-step guide on how to set up the tonearm for Fluance RT80 and RT81 turntables, including counterweight and anti-skating adjustments.



**Image Description:** A close-up view of the Audio Technica AT95E cartridge with its green stylus tracking a record groove, emphasizing its precision and clarity.

### 3. Connecting to an Amplifier or Receiver

The RT81 features a built-in pre-amplifier. Determine if your receiver has a dedicated phono input.

- **If your receiver has a phono input:** Connect the red and white RCA cables from the turntable's audio outputs to the corresponding left (white) and right (red) phono inputs on your receiver. Ensure the turntable's

PHONO/LINE switch is set to 'PHONO'. Connect the ground wire from the turntable to the grounding nut on your receiver.

- **If your receiver does NOT have a phono input:** Connect the red and white RCA cables from the turntable's audio outputs to any available line-level input (e.g., CD, AUX, Tuner) on your receiver. Ensure the turntable's PHONO/LINE switch is set to 'LINE'. The ground cable is not required when using the internal pre-amp.

**Video Description:** This video demonstrates how to connect a Fluance Turntable to a stereo amplifier, covering both phono and line-level input connections.



**Image Description:** The rear panel of the Fluance RT81 Turntable, displaying the RCA audio outputs, ground terminal, PHONO/LINE switch, AUTO STOP switch, and DC power input.

# Fluance HiFi Turntable Line

	RT80	RT81	RT82	RT83	RT84	RT85
Finish 						
Cartridge 	 ATN91	 ATN95E	 OM10	 2MRD	 2MBLUE	 2MBLUE
Platter Type 	 Aluminum Felt Mat	 Aluminum Rubber Mat	 Aluminum Rubber Mat	 Aluminum Rubber Mat	 Aluminum Rubber Mat	 Acrylic
Built-In Preamp 	YES	YES	NO	NO	NO	NO

**Image Description:** A close-up of the PHONO/LINE switch on the Fluance RT81 Turntable's rear panel, indicating the built-in Texas Instruments Preamp functionality.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place a record on the platter.
2. Select the appropriate speed (33 or 45 RPM) using the speed selector knob.
3. Unlock the tonearm from its rest.
4. Lift the cueing lever to raise the tonearm.
5. Carefully position the tonearm over the desired starting groove of the record.
6. Lower the cueing lever to gently drop the stylus onto the record.
7. At the end of the record, the auto-stop feature will halt the platter rotation if enabled. Manually lift the tonearm and return it to its rest.
8. Lock the tonearm in place when not in use.

## MAINTENANCE

### Cleaning the Turntable

- Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the turntable plinth and dust cover. Avoid abrasive cleaners.
- For the stylus, use a soft brush designed for stylus cleaning, brushing gently from back to front.
- Keep records clean using an anti-static brush before each play to prevent dust buildup.

### Stylus Replacement

The stylus should be replaced after approximately 300-500 hours of playback to maintain sound quality and prevent record damage. Refer to the Audio Technica AT95E documentation for specific replacement instructions.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

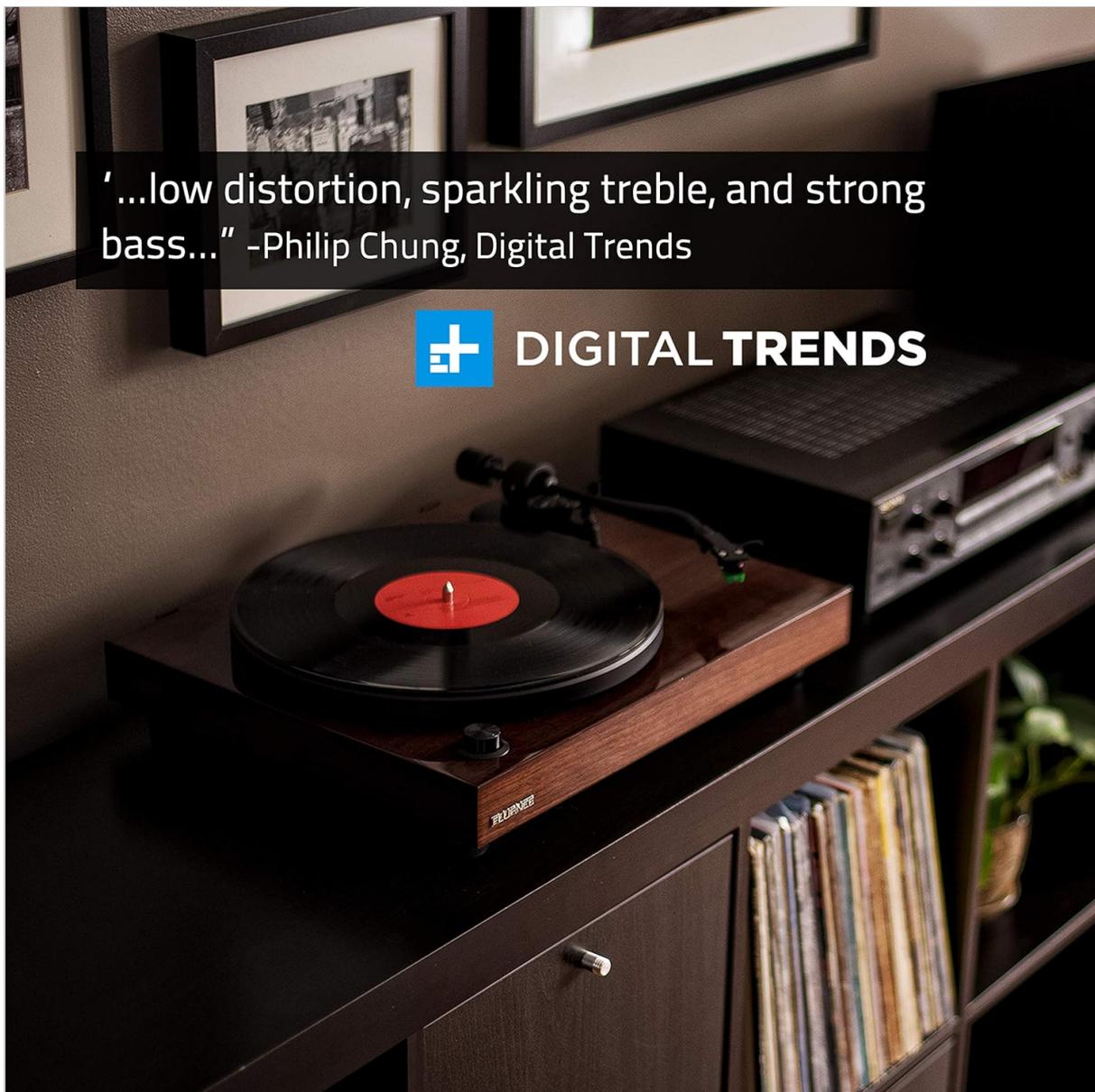
Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound or low volume	Incorrect PHONO/LINE switch setting; loose RCA connections; amplifier input not selected.	Ensure PHONO/LINE switch is correct for your setup. Check all RCA connections. Select the correct input on your amplifier/receiver.
Skipping or distorted sound	Incorrect tracking force; dirty stylus; damaged record; turntable not level.	Re-balance tonearm and adjust tracking force. Clean stylus. Inspect record for damage. Ensure turntable is on a stable, level surface.
Platter not spinning	Power not connected; belt dislodged or broken.	Check power adapter connection. Inspect and re-seat or replace the drive belt.
Humming noise	Ground wire not connected (if using phono input); interference.	Connect the ground wire between turntable and receiver. Move turntable away from other electronic devices.

## SPECIFICATIONS

- **Product Dimensions:** 13.75 x 16.5 x 5.5 inches
- **Item Weight:** 14.1 pounds
- **Model Number:** RT81T
- **Brand:** Fluance
- **Maximum Rotational Speed:** 45 RPM (supports 33 1/3 and 45 RPM)
- **Material:** Engineered Wood
- **Color:** Piano Black
- **Cartridge:** Audio Technica AT95E
- **Preamp:** Built-in Texas Instruments Preamp
- **Tonearm:** Balanced Aluminum S-Type

'...low distortion, sparkling treble, and strong bass...' -Philip Chung, Digital Trends

 **DIGITAL TRENDS**



**Image Description:** A close-up view of the Fluance RT81 Turntable's solid engineered wood plinth in a walnut finish, highlighting the sound isolation feet for superior vibration control.

# Plug and play with the Built-in Texas Instruments Preamp



**Image Description:** A comparison chart detailing various models in the Fluance HiFi Turntable Line, including the RT81, showing differences in finish, cartridge, platter type, and built-in preamp features.

## WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

The Fluance RT81 Turntable comes with a **2-Year Manufacturer's Warranty**. Fluance also offers **Lifetime Customer Support** for all its products.

For further assistance, troubleshooting, or warranty claims, please visit the official Fluance website or contact their customer support team.

You can also find more information and related products at the [Fluance Store on Amazon](#).