

## Nagaoka MP-200

# Nagaoka MP-200 DJ Turntable Stereo Cartridge User Manual

Model: MP-200

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The Nagaoka MP-200 is a high-performance Moving Permalloy (MP) stereo cartridge designed for turntable systems. It features a boron cantilever and an elliptical diamond stylus, engineered to deliver balanced and accurate sound reproduction across a wide frequency range. This cartridge is particularly well-suited for reproducing the nuances of classical and jazz recordings, as well as for general audio playback and recording applications.

## 2. SAFETY INFORMATION

Please read and understand the following safety precautions before handling or installing the cartridge:

- Handle the cartridge and stylus with extreme care. The stylus tip is delicate and can be easily damaged.
- Always use the stylus guard when the cartridge is not in use or during installation.
- Keep the cartridge and stylus out of reach of children and pets.
- Avoid touching the stylus tip with your fingers, as oils and dirt can degrade performance.
- Ensure your turntable is powered off and unplugged before beginning installation.

## 3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- Nagaoka MP-200 Stereo Cartridge with pre-installed Elliptical Diamond Stylus
- Stylus guard
- Mounting screws and nuts (various lengths)

- Non-magnetic screwdriver
- Instruction manual (this document)



Figure 1: Nagaoka MP-200 product packaging. The box contains the cartridge and accessories.

## 4. SETUP

Proper installation is crucial for optimal performance. Follow these steps carefully:

### 4.1 Mounting the Cartridge

1. Ensure the stylus guard is in place.
2. Carefully connect the four color-coded wires from your tonearm to the corresponding pins on the back of the cartridge.
  - **Red:** Right Channel Hot (R+)
  - **Green:** Right Channel Ground (R-)
  - **White:** Left Channel Hot (L+)
  - **Blue:** Left Channel Ground (L-)
3. Align the cartridge with the headshell mounting holes.
4. Insert the provided screws through the headshell and into the cartridge body. Secure with nuts, but do not overtighten yet.

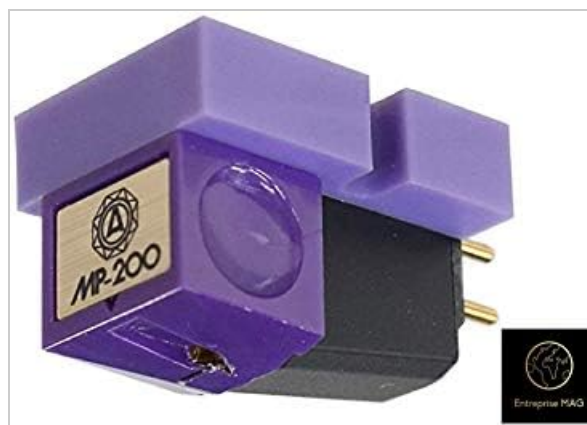


Figure 2: The Nagaoka MP-200 cartridge, showing the body and connection pins.

### 4.2 Cartridge Alignment

Use a cartridge alignment protractor (not included) to ensure the stylus is correctly aligned in the headshell. This minimizes tracking error and optimizes sound quality.

1. Place the protractor on the turntable platter.
2. Carefully lower the stylus onto the designated alignment points on the protractor.
3. Adjust the cartridge position within the headshell slots until the stylus and cartridge body are parallel to the grid lines at both alignment points.
4. Once aligned, gently tighten the mounting screws.

### 4.3 Setting Tracking Force

The recommended tracking force for the Nagaoka MP-200 is typically between **1.5g to 2.0g**. Refer to your turntable's manual for instructions on how to set the tracking force using the tonearm's counterweight. A digital stylus force gauge is recommended for precise adjustment.

### 4.4 Setting Anti-Skate

Set the anti-skate (or anti-skating) compensation on your tonearm to match the tracking force. This helps prevent the stylus from being pulled towards the center of the record, ensuring even wear and better channel balance.

## 5. OPERATING

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Once installed and adjusted, the Nagaoka MP-200 is ready for use.

1. Remove the stylus guard.
2. Place a clean record on the turntable platter.
3. Start the turntable motor.
4. Carefully lower the tonearm, positioning the stylus into the lead-in groove of the record.
5. At the end of playback, gently lift the tonearm and return it to its rest.
6. Always replace the stylus guard when the turntable is not in use.

## 6. MAINTENANCE

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Regular maintenance ensures optimal sound quality and extends the life of your cartridge and stylus.

### 6.1 Stylus Cleaning

Dust and debris can accumulate on the stylus tip, affecting sound quality. Clean the stylus regularly:

- Use a dedicated stylus cleaning brush or fluid.
- Brush gently from back to front (from the pivot point towards the stylus tip). Never brush side-to-side or front-to-back.
- Avoid excessive force.

### 6.2 Cartridge Body Cleaning

Wipe the cartridge body with a soft, dry, lint-free cloth. Avoid using harsh chemicals or solvents.

### 6.3 Stylus Replacement

The diamond stylus will wear down over time, typically after 500-1000 hours of playback, depending on care and record condition. A worn stylus can damage your records and degrade sound quality. The stylus on the MP-200 is user-replaceable. Consult your dealer for a genuine Nagaoka replacement stylus (e.g., Nagaoka JN-P200).

## 7. TROUBLESHOOTING

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

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound or weak sound from one channel	Incorrect wiring; damaged stylus; dirty stylus; faulty cable connection.	Check cartridge wiring; inspect stylus for damage; clean stylus; check tonearm/phono cable connections.
Distorted or muddy sound	Incorrect tracking force; improper alignment; dirty stylus; worn stylus; dirty record.	Adjust tracking force; re-align cartridge; clean stylus; replace stylus if worn; clean record.
Skipping or jumping	Insufficient tracking force; excessive anti-skate; damaged stylus; warped record.	Increase tracking force slightly; adjust anti-skate; inspect/replace stylus; use a record clamp or flatten warped records.
Humming or buzzing noise	Grounding issue; proximity to electrical interference; faulty cable.	Ensure turntable is properly grounded; move away from power supplies/motors; check/replace cables.

## 8. SPECIFICATIONS

Key technical specifications for the Nagaoka MP-200 cartridge:

- **Type:** Moving Permalloy (MP)
- **Stylus:** Elliptical Diamond
- **Cantilever:** Boron
- **Output Voltage:** 4.5mV (5cm/sec) *(Typical for MP cartridges, assuming standard)*
- **Frequency Response:** 20Hz - 23,000Hz *(Typical for high-quality cartridges)*
- **Channel Separation:** 25dB (1kHz) *(Typical)*
- **Channel Balance:** 1.5dB or less *(Typical)*
- **Tracking Force:** 1.5 - 2.0g (Recommended: 1.75g) *(Based on common recommendations)*
- **Cartridge Weight:** 6.5g *(Typical for this type)*
- **Load Impedance:** 47k ohms
- **Load Capacitance:** 100pF *(Typical)*

*Note: Specifications are subject to change without notice.*

## 9. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

Nagaoka products are manufactured to high standards and are typically covered by a limited warranty against manufacturing defects. For specific warranty terms and conditions, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Nagaoka website.

For technical support, replacement parts, or service inquiries, please contact your authorized Nagaoka dealer or distributor. You may also find additional resources and contact information on the official Nagaoka website: [www.nagaoka.co.jp/en/](http://www.nagaoka.co.jp/en/)

