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› MAG M27BS Cartridge and Diamond Stylus Instruction Manual for Technics Turntables

MAG M27BS

MAG M27BS Moving Magnet Cartridge and Diamond Stylus Instruction Manual

For Technics SL-Q Series Turntables: SL-Q202, SL-Q2K, SL-Q3, SL-Q303, SL-Q33, SL-20

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides comprehensive instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your MAG M27BS Moving Magnet Cartridge with Diamond Stylus. Designed for optimal performance with various Technics SL-Q series turntables, this cartridge delivers excellent sound quality and strong tracking ability. Please read this manual carefully before installation and use to ensure proper setup and longevity of your product.

1. INSTALLATION GUIDE

Proper installation is crucial for achieving the best sound performance and preventing damage to your records and stylus. Handle the cartridge and stylus with care.

1.1 Unpacking and Inspection

Carefully remove the cartridge and stylus from its packaging. Inspect for any visible damage. Ensure all included accessories, such as mounting screws, are present.

1.2 Mounting the Cartridge

Most turntables use a standard headshell. Follow these steps to mount the cartridge:

- 1. Prepare the Headshell:** If replacing an old cartridge, carefully remove it from the headshell. Disconnect the four color-coded wires.
- 2. Connect Wires:** Connect the four color-coded wires from the tonearm to the corresponding pins on the back of the MAG M27BS cartridge. The standard color code is:
 - Red (R+): Right channel, hot
 - Green (R-): Right channel, ground
 - White (L+): Left channel, hot
 - Blue (L-): Left channel, ground
- 3. Secure the Cartridge:** Align the cartridge with the headshell and secure it using the provided screws. Do not overtighten. Ensure the cartridge is parallel to the headshell.



Image: Rear view of the MAG M27BS cartridge, illustrating the four color-coded pin connections for proper wiring to the tonearm.

1.3 Balancing and Tracking Force Adjustment

After mounting, the tonearm must be balanced and the tracking force set correctly.

1. **Balance the Tonearm:** With the anti-skate set to zero, carefully unclip the tonearm and adjust the counterweight until the tonearm floats freely and level.
2. **Set Tracking Force:** Once balanced, return the tonearm to its rest. Rotate the tracking force dial (usually on the counterweight or a separate ring) to the recommended tracking force. For the MAG M27BS, the recommended tracking force is **3.0 grams** (range: 2.5g to 3.5g).



Image: Front view of the MAG M27BS cartridge, shown with its mounting screws, indicating readiness for installation onto a headshell.

1.4 Anti-Skate Adjustment

Set the anti-skate control on your turntable to match the tracking force (e.g., if tracking force is 3.0g, set anti-skate to 3). This helps prevent the stylus from being pulled towards the center of the record.

2. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Playing a Record

1. Place a clean record on the turntable platter.
2. Ensure the turntable is set to the correct speed (33 1/3 or 45 RPM).
3. Gently lift the tonearm using the cueing lever.
4. Position the stylus over the lead-in groove of the record.
5. Slowly lower the cueing lever to allow the stylus to descend onto the record. Avoid dropping the tonearm manually.

2.2 Proper Handling

- Always use the tonearm lift/cueing lever to raise and lower the tonearm.
- Avoid touching the stylus tip with your fingers or any hard objects.
- When not in use, ensure the tonearm is secured in its rest and the stylus guard (if available) is in place.

3. MAINTENANCE AND CARE

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

3.1 Stylus Cleaning

- Clean the stylus regularly, ideally before each listening session.
- Use a dedicated stylus cleaning brush, brushing gently from back to front (never side-to-side or front-to-back).
- For stubborn dirt, a small amount of stylus cleaning fluid can be used with the brush, following the fluid manufacturer's instructions.

3.2 Cartridge Body Cleaning

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

3.3 Stylus Replacement

A diamond stylus has a finite lifespan, typically 500-1000 hours of play, depending on care and record condition. A worn stylus can damage records and degrade sound quality. Consult a professional or refer to MAG's official resources for replacement stylus options.

4. TROUBLESHOOTING COMMON ISSUES

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

- **No Sound or Weak Sound:**
 - Check all cable connections from the turntable to the amplifier/receiver.
 - Ensure the amplifier is set to the correct input (Phono).
 - Verify the cartridge wires are correctly connected to the headshell pins.
- **Distorted Sound:**
 - Clean the stylus.
 - Check tracking force; it might be too high or too low.
 - Ensure the record is clean and free of dust.
 - Verify the cartridge is properly aligned in the headshell.
- **Skipping:**
 - Check tracking force; it might be too low.
 - Ensure the turntable is level.
 - Clean the record and stylus.
 - Adjust anti-skate setting.
- **Humming Noise:**
 - Ensure the turntable's ground wire is properly connected to your amplifier/receiver.
 - Check for interference from other electronic devices.
 - Verify cartridge wiring connections are secure.

5. PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

Type	Moving magnetic cartridge with diamond stylus needle
Model	M27BS
Output Voltage (at 1kHz, 5 cm/sec)	5.5 mV ± 3dB
Channel Balance (at 1kHz)	Below 1 dB
Channel Separation (at 1kHz)	More than 15 dB
Frequency Response	20 ~ 20k Hz
Tracking Force	3.0g (range: 2.5 ~ 3.5g)
Stylus Tip	Stereo spherical diamond tip

Manufacturer	MAG
ASIN	B088BH12V8
Date First Available	May 8, 2020

6. WARRANTY AND CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Your MAG M27BS cartridge comes with a **14-day 'any reason' return policy** from the date of purchase, allowing you to return the product if you are not completely satisfied. Additionally, a **6-month warranty** covers manufacturing defects and ensures the quality of your product.

For fitting advice, technical assistance, or warranty claims, please contact your retailer or the manufacturer directly. Provide your product model (M27BS) and purchase details for efficient support.

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