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› MAG Turntable Headshell with Cartridge and Stylus Instruction Manual for JVC L-A100, L-A120, L-A21, L-A31

## MAG Turntable Headshell with Cartridge and Stylus

# MAG Turntable Headshell with Cartridge and Stylus Instruction Manual

Model Compatibility: JVC L-A100, L-A120, L-A21, L-A31

## INTRODUCTION

This manual provides instructions for the installation and use of your MAG Turntable Headshell with pre-mounted Cartridge and Stylus. This unit is designed for specific JVC turntable models with straight tonearms. Please read these instructions carefully before installation to ensure proper setup and optimal audio performance.

### Included Components:

- 1 x Headshell (black, plug-in style)
- 1 x Moving Magnet (MM) Cartridge (pre-mounted)
- 1 x Diamond Stylus (pre-installed on cartridge)

**Important Note: This headshell is designed exclusively for straight tonearms and is not compatible with "S"-shaped tonearms. It secures via a top screw mechanism.**

## SAFETY INFORMATION

When handling turntable components, observe the following precautions:

- Always handle the stylus carefully to avoid damage. Avoid touching the stylus tip with your fingers.
- Ensure your turntable is powered off and unplugged before performing any installation or maintenance.
- Keep small components away from children.
- If you are unsure about any step, consult a qualified technician.

## SETUP AND INSTALLATION

Follow these steps to install the headshell, cartridge, and stylus onto your compatible JVC turntable.

1. **Prepare the Turntable:** Ensure your turntable is turned off and unplugged from the power outlet. Carefully remove any existing headshell or cartridge from the tonearm.

2. **Inspect the Headshell:** Examine the MAG Turntable headshell. The cartridge and stylus should be pre-assembled and wired correctly. The headshell features a plug-in style connector and a top screw for securing it to the tonearm.
3. **Attach to Tonearm:** Gently slide the headshell connector into the front end of your turntable's straight tonearm. Ensure the pins align correctly.
4. **Secure the Headshell:** Once fully inserted, tighten the top screw on the tonearm to secure the headshell firmly in place. Do not overtighten.
5. **Balance the Tonearm:** Refer to your turntable's original instruction manual for specific instructions on balancing the tonearm and setting the tracking force. The recommended tracking force for this cartridge is 3.0g (within a range of 2.5g to 3.5g).
6. **Set Anti-Skate:** Adjust the anti-skate setting on your turntable, typically matching the tracking force value (e.g., 3.0).

**Visual Aid:**



Image 1: Side view of the MAG Turntable headshell with pre-mounted cartridge and stylus. This image shows the black headshell body, the red stylus guard, and the general profile of the unit.

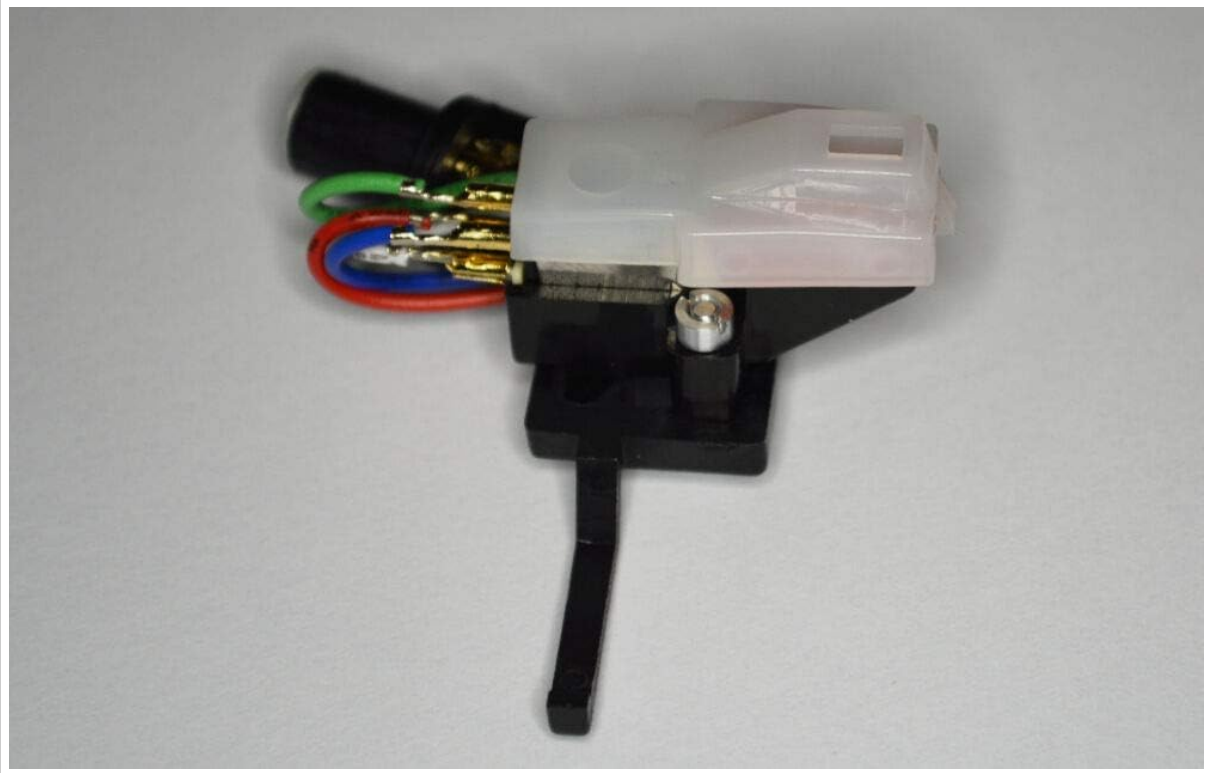


Image 2: Rear view of the MAG Turntable headshell, illustrating the plug-in connector and the color-coded wiring connecting the cartridge to the headshell pins.

## OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

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Once installed and properly adjusted, your MAG Turntable headshell and cartridge are ready for use.

- **Playback:** Carefully place your record on the platter. Use the tonearm lift mechanism to lower the stylus gently onto the record's lead-in groove.
- **Handling:** Always use the tonearm lift to raise and lower the tonearm. Avoid manually dropping the stylus onto the record, as this can damage both the stylus and the record.
- **Stylus Guard:** When not in use, or when moving the turntable, always engage the stylus guard (if present) to protect the stylus tip.

## MAINTENANCE

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Proper maintenance ensures the longevity of your cartridge and stylus and preserves sound quality.

- **Stylus Cleaning:** Periodically clean the stylus tip using a soft stylus brush, brushing gently from back to front. Do not brush side-to-side. Specialized stylus cleaning fluids can also be used sparingly.
- **Cartridge Body Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry, lint-free cloth to wipe the cartridge body. Avoid using harsh chemicals.
- **Stylus Replacement:** The diamond stylus tip will wear over time. Replace the stylus after approximately 500-1000 hours of playback, or sooner if you notice a degradation in sound quality or increased record wear.

## TROUBLESHOOTING

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

- **No Sound or Weak Sound:**
  - Check all connections from the turntable to your amplifier/receiver.

- Ensure the headshell is securely seated in the tonearm and the top screw is tightened.
- Verify that the amplifier input is set to "Phono" and that your amplifier has a built-in phono preamplifier, or that an external phono preamplifier is in use.
- **Distorted Sound or Skipping:**
  - Re-check the tonearm balance and tracking force settings. Ensure they are within the recommended range (3.0g).
  - Clean the stylus tip. Dust and debris can cause distortion.
  - Inspect the stylus for damage. A bent or broken stylus requires replacement.
  - Ensure the record is clean and free of dust.
- **Humming Noise:**
  - Ensure the turntable's ground wire (if applicable) is properly connected to your amplifier's ground terminal.
  - Check for proper shielding of audio cables.
  - Ensure the headshell is fully inserted and secured.

## SPECIFICATIONS

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Technical details for the MAG Turntable Moving Magnet Cartridge:

**Cartridge Type:** Moving Magnet (MM)

**Stylus Tip:** Stereo Spherical Diamond

**Output Voltage:** 5.5 mV  $\pm$  3dB (at 1kHz, 5 cm/sec)

**Channel Balance:** Below 1 dB (at 1kHz)

**Channel Separation:** More than 15 dB (at 1kHz)

**Frequency Response:** 20 Hz ~ 20 kHz

**Tracking Force:** 3.0g (recommended range: 2.5g ~ 3.5g)

**Compatible Devices:** JVC L-A100, L-A120, L-A21, L-A31 (with straight tonearms)