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› Sumiko RS78 78rpm Replacement Stylus User Manual

Sumiko RS78

Sumiko RS78 78rpm Replacement Stylus User Manual

Model: RS78

INTRODUCTION

This manual provides essential information for the proper installation, operation, and maintenance of your Sumiko RS78 78rpm Replacement Stylus. The RS78 stylus is specifically designed for playing 78rpm shellac records and is compatible with Sumiko's Next-Gen Oyster Series Moving Magnet (MM) cartridges, including Rainier, Olympia, and Moonstone models.

For optimal performance and longevity of your stylus and records, please read these instructions carefully before use.

SETUP AND INSTALLATION

The Sumiko RS78 stylus is designed for easy replacement on compatible Sumiko Oyster Series cartridges. Ensure your turntable is powered off and the tonearm is secured before proceeding.

Stylus Replacement

1. **Preparation:** Gently lower the tonearm onto its rest and secure it. If replacing an existing stylus, carefully grasp the old stylus assembly and pull it gently forward and down to remove it from the cartridge body.
2. **Installation:** Hold the new RS78 stylus assembly by its plastic housing. Align the stylus with the front of the cartridge body. Gently push the stylus assembly upwards and backwards until it clicks securely into place. Do not force it.
3. **Visual Check:** Verify that the stylus is seated flush with the cartridge body and appears straight.



Image: The Sumiko RS78 stylus (yellow) securely attached to a black Sumiko cartridge body, ready for installation on a tonearm.

Tracking Force Adjustment

After installing the stylus, it is crucial to set the correct tracking force for optimal performance and to prevent damage to your records and stylus. The recommended Vertical Tracking Force (VTF) for the Sumiko RS78 is **5.0 grams**, with an acceptable range of 4.0 – 5.5 grams.

1. **Balance Tonearm:** Follow your turntable's instructions to balance the tonearm to a neutral, floating position.
2. **Set Tracking Force:** Adjust your tonearm's counterweight or tracking force dial to the recommended 5.0 grams. If your turntable does not have a precise tracking force scale, use a digital tracking force gauge for accuracy.
3. **Anti-Skate:** Set your turntable's anti-skate mechanism according to your turntable manual, typically matching the tracking force setting.

OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The Sumiko RS78 stylus is specifically engineered for playing 78rpm shellac records. Using it with standard 33 1/3 or 45rpm vinyl records is not recommended as it can cause damage to both the stylus and the records.

Playing 78rpm Records

1. **Record Preparation:** Ensure your 78rpm record is clean and free of dust or debris.
2. **Turntable Speed:** Set your turntable to the 78rpm speed setting.
3. **Cueing:** Carefully lift the tonearm using the cueing lever. Position the stylus over the lead-in groove of the record.
4. **Lowering:** Gently lower the tonearm using the cueing lever. The stylus will descend onto the record and begin playing.
5. **End of Play:** At the end of the record, use the cueing lever to lift the tonearm and return it to its rest.

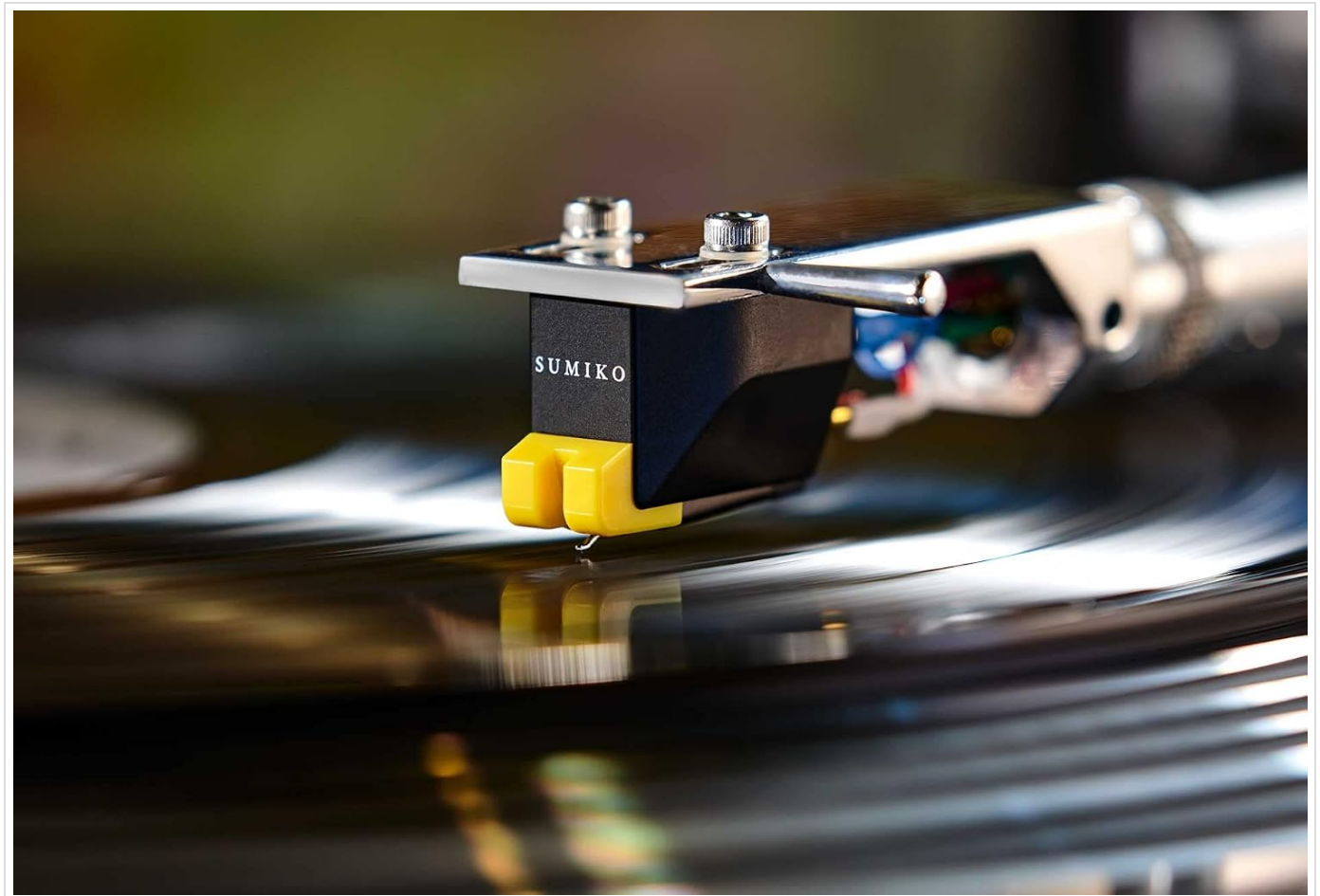


Image: A Sumiko cartridge, fitted with the RS78 stylus, tracking the grooves of a spinning 78rpm record on a turntable.

MAINTENANCE AND CARE

Proper maintenance will extend the life of your Sumiko RS78 stylus and ensure consistent sound quality.

Stylus Cleaning

- **Regular Brushing:** Before or after each play, gently brush the stylus tip from back to front using a dedicated stylus brush. Always brush in the direction the record spins, never side-to-side or front-to-back.
- **Stylus Cleaner:** For more stubborn dirt, use a small drop of a reputable stylus cleaning fluid on your stylus brush, then gently brush the stylus as described above. Avoid applying fluid directly to the stylus or cantilever.

General Care

- **Dust Protection:** Always use your turntable's dust cover when not in use to protect the stylus and record from dust accumulation.
- **Handling:** Avoid touching the stylus tip with your fingers, as oils and dirt can easily transfer and degrade performance.
- **Storage:** If removing the stylus for extended storage, keep it in its original protective packaging.

TROUBLESHOOTING

If you experience issues with your Sumiko RS78 stylus, consult the following common problems and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Distorted or Muffled Sound	Dirty stylus, incorrect tracking force, worn stylus, damaged record.	Clean stylus. Verify tracking force (5.0g). Inspect stylus for wear. Ensure record is clean and undamaged.
Skipping or Jumping	Incorrect tracking force, anti-skate setting, dirty stylus, damaged record, turntable not level.	Check and adjust tracking force and anti-skate. Clean stylus. Inspect record. Ensure turntable is on a level surface.
No Sound or Low Volume	Loose connections, incorrect input selection on amplifier, damaged stylus/cartridge.	Check all cable connections from turntable to amplifier. Confirm amplifier input is set to "Phono". Inspect stylus for damage.
Humming or Buzzing Noise	Grounding issue, proximity to electronics, faulty cables.	Ensure turntable is properly grounded to amplifier. Move turntable away from other electronic devices. Check and replace cables if necessary.

If problems persist after attempting these solutions, please contact Sumiko customer support or your authorized dealer for further assistance.

SPECIFICATIONS

The following are the technical specifications for the Sumiko RS78 78rpm Replacement Stylus:

- **Stylus Type:** Bonded 3mil Spherical Diamond
- **Cantilever:** Aluminum
- **Recommended Tracking Force (VTF):** 5.0 grams (Range: 4.0 – 5.5 grams)
- **Compatibility:** Sumiko Next-Gen Oyster Series MM Cartridges (Rainier, Olympia, Moonstone)
- **Intended Use:** 78rpm Shellac Records Only
- **Item Weight:** 1.6 ounces
- **Package Dimensions:** 2 x 2 x 1 inches
- **ASIN:** B0BHTNQRTT
- **Date First Available:** December 15, 2022

WARRANTY INFORMATION

Sumiko products are manufactured to high standards and are backed by a limited warranty. Specific warranty terms and conditions may vary by region and retailer. Please retain your proof of purchase.

For detailed warranty information, please refer to the documentation included with your original Sumiko cartridge or visit the official Sumiko website. Warranty claims are typically handled through the authorized dealer where the product was purchased.

CUSTOMER SUPPORT

Should you require further assistance or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact Sumiko customer support or your authorized Sumiko dealer.

- **Sumiko Official Website:** sumikophono.com (for product information and support contacts)
- **Authorized Dealer:** Contact the retailer from whom you purchased the stylus for local support.