
Subject: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [smartt](#) on Tue, 31 Aug 2021 19:09:46 GMT

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They all matter. But pick one. Turntable, tonearm, cartridge, phono preamp.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Wed, 01 Sep 2021 02:46:53 GMT

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Hi I consider the turntable, arm and cartridge as a single component and thus not individual parts. You would not ask the same question of a car...engine, tires or steering would you? The three must work together. A premium turntable would not provide great sound with a \$10 cartridge. Neither would the reverse do justice to the LP.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 01 Sep 2021 13:12:43 GMT

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So true.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [Rusty](#) on Wed, 01 Sep 2021 14:32:07 GMT

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For me the turntable staying out of the music is my requirement. Accurate speed control and freedom from stylus drag affecting the music during solo piano or a complex passage. And feedback getting back into the turntable to the tonearm. A decent cartridge can suffice as can the preamp for me. But when you can hear some speed fluctuation and distortion from feedback. That ruins the musical integrity. It's all make believe, listening to recorded music. Having the playback equipment getting added to the music kills it.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [Kingfish](#) on Wed, 06 Oct 2021 02:47:19 GMT

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The record.

You can have the best of everything else, but they all come down to the record itself.

As far as the mechanics of it all, I would vote for the turntable.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [LCallan](#) on Fri, 15 Oct 2021 21:02:59 GMT

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I'm with Kingfish. It's all about the record. You can have a magnificent turntable with all the bells and whistles, but a scratched up record, or poorly created vinyl will still sound horrid. Throw a nice record on a cheapie and you're better off.

Subject: Re: What is the most important part of record playing?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 15 Oct 2021 21:32:16 GMT

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Yeah, I agree there too. Source material is at least as important as anything else.
