Subject: Should I get an Audio-Technics AT-PL120?
Posted by Mark J. on Tue, 04 Dec 2007 19:34:29 GMT
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Hi,all. I hope someone can help me decide if this is the right turntable for me. I am asking for a turntable for Christmas, and I'm having a tough time figuring out which one. All manual is fine, but I require a cue lever, and I like being able to adjust the counterweight, anti-skating,etc. so many don't have a cue lever. I'll be connecting directly to my computer to convert to wav files, but I don't like the cheap USB turntables I've seen everywhere. My budget is around $200-$250 (I know, it's not much for a turntable), and I've got my eye on the Audio-Technica AT-PL120. I read good things about it, but I'm afraid of ground loop hum, as some people seem to have this problem with that model, and others do not. Anybody have any advice? If I had to pick up a cheap pre-amp in order to filter out the hum, I would, even though it has one built in, but what scares me is that the AT-PL120 has no ground wire. Should I be concerned? Other than that, I like everything else about it (except the hard-wired cables). Are there other models I should consider with similar features, or is this the best value ($170 at Amazon)?

Subject: Re: Should I get an Audio-Technics AT-PL120?
Posted by real_one on Wed, 05 Dec 2007 15:38:21 GMT
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A friend of mine bought one of those a couple months back. When he told me about it, I first thought it was one of those cheapo tables (it is actually) but it turns out to be pretty good. Now don't take that to mean I think it compares with a Teres table but it is in the same league as the lower priced Technics tables. I'd give it a thumbs up, probably best thing new in the < $250 range. There's no ground wire because it has a built-in phono stage so it isn't needed. The shielding on the interconnects is all that's needed. I don't know that you even have access to the cartridge level signals.

Subject: Re: Should I get an Audio-Technics AT-PL120?
Posted by netaces2k on Fri, 08 Feb 2008 11:26:55 GMT
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My dad has one of those, a silver AT-PL120. That table is very nice in my opinion. He had a Realistic LAB-500 some years back, which for it's day was a real nice turntable. I got to use that and liked it a whole lot. The PL120 is a very feature rich table. I somewhat resent, the other poster telling everyone, that a AT is a 'cheapo'. I wonder what they would about that. But, having heard the PL120 and seen it in action. i'm impressed. The idea of a $1,000.00 turntable, is utter crap. There is no justification for wasting that much money.