Subject: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Tue, 31 Mar 2009 10:07:28 GMT
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I recently purchased a Garrard 440M record changer turntable. I want to play stacks of 33 1/3 and 45 rpm records. I have the long spindle and a 45 automatic adaptor, so I can stack either kind of record. Here's my problem. No matter which way I turn the adjustment screw at the base of the tone arm, I end up with either the needle falling too far in (missing the beginning of the first track) on the lp's or too far out (missing the outer edge) of the 45's. No happy medium. I owned a previous Garrard 440M and never had this problem. Is there a way to fix this? Any help would be gratefully appreciated. Thanks!

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 31 Mar 2009 17:33:36 GMT
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Talking about the screw at the base of the tone arm, are you sure that's not anti-skate? If it's an anti-skate adjustment, that's not what you want to change for needle auto setdown and/or pickup position.Tracking weight and anti-skate should be set as shown in the links below. Auto pickup and setdown is another adjustment, usually located inside the body somewhere.Turntable tone arm and cartridge setup

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Tue, 31 Mar 2009 18:11:47 GMT
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What do you think of this?natThe 45/33 switch should actuate a mechanism that selects the correct set down point for each type of record. Probably its stuck because of dried grease, and as you have already discovered, the set down adjustment screw only fine tunes the point. There may be a manual for your Garrard or a similar vintage one, and it could lead you to the actual part that needs loosening up. dac10012I suspected as much. And it takes a great deal of force to move the lever between 33 1/3 and 45. I don't have a manual, of course. I am handy though. Is this something that could be fixed with Wd-40 or do I need some sort of special grease? I haven't even looked at the underside to see if the parts are easily accessible or I may have to remove the whole mechanism from the base first? Thanks again.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Tue, 31 Mar 2009 20:31:27 GMT
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Makes sense to me. Clean and lubricate the mechanism, always a good idea.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Wed, 01 Apr 2009 02:40:11 GMT
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I ordered the turntable manual. While I'm waiting, does anyone know how to get the turntable off the base so I can get at the speed switching mechanism so I can lubricate it? Thanks.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 01 Apr 2009 04:36:19 GMT
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Here's an online manual that may help. It's not the same model, but it is a Garrard table so it may prove useful.Garrard 401 Manual

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Thu, 02 Apr 2009 05:53:18 GMT
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I got the turntable off the base by adjusting the clips that hold it in from horizontal to vertical, so they pass through the holes. Now I need to fix the problem with the tone arm dropping the needle at the beginning of both 33 1/3 and 45 records, which it doesn't now. Someone said:"The cuing problem does sound like wear on an end stop which stops the arm as it swings around and allows it to drop down on the record surface and is probablly adjustable from underneath the chassis."
My reply:"Your answer makes more sense to me than the other suggestions I have gotten regarding lubrication of the speed changing mechanism. Where do I find the end stop(s?) Are there different ones for each speed?"If you know the answer, I would appreciate it. Thanks again.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Thu, 02 Apr 2009 16:23:46 GMT
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I agree. Cleaning and lubricating the mechanism is always good, but the problem is probably that the stops have worn or moved.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Wed, 08 Apr 2009 04:17:11 GMT
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Hi Wayne. Well, I finally got the manual for my Garrard 440M but I don't see anything that would tell me where the stops are. I'm about ready to give up. Any help would be greatly appreciated. Thanks again.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 08 Apr 2009 17:27:56 GMT
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I'd look at the mechanism to identify the stops. There has to be something that senses the edges of the record, both inner and outer, a sensor or switch that contacts a cam or stop.You might be best off to contact Gararrd501.com and ask those folks. Please report back when you do, as we're all interested in the solution you eventually find.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Wed, 08 Apr 2009 17:58:43 GMT
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It's like you're speaking a foreign language. I don't know a stop from a cam or a sensor, and I don't see any mention of these things in the 440M manual. I will try Garrard501.com. Didn't know there was such a place. Thanks.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Sat, 09 May 2009 16:41:24 GMT
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The problem is finally solved. I sprayed some WD-40 and pushed and prodded some levers in the turntable support bracket assembly and pickup bracket assembly and after much fine adjustment of the pickup lowering adjustment screw, the tone arm finally falls where it's supposed to on both 33 1/3 and 45 rpm records. Thanks for all your help.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by david on Sat, 09 May 2009 16:49:00 GMT
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The problem is finally solved. I sprayed some WD-40 and pushed and prodded some levers in the turntable support bracket assembly and pickup bracket assembly and after much fine adjustment of the pickup lowering adjustment screw, the tone arm finally falls where it's supposed to on both 33 1/3 and 45 rpm records. Thanks for all your help.

Subject: Re: How can I adjust the tone arm so it does not miss the edge of the record?
Posted by Wayne Parham on Sat, 09 May 2009 17:24:48 GMT
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That's great news!How does it sound?