
Subject: Old Zenith Turntable troubleshooting help
Posted by [wellwellwell](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2009 01:05:12 GMT
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I just got my hands on an old Zenith Allegro HR596W, I'm assuming from the 70's. Seems to be in good shape generally but the turntable doesn't run. I took it apart and I can see the motor spinning but it's not activating anything. How should go about troubleshooting this? Also, this is the first turntable I've come across that doesn't spin freely when you manually push the wheel. It feels loose enough if I keep my finger on it and turn it around, but if I give it a good whirl and let go, it goes around at best one full turn. I don't see anything obstructing it underneath and I've applied some oil to it but that didn't do much. Is this a clue to something or are some turntables just like that?

Subject: Re: Old Zenith Turntable troubleshooting help
Posted by [wellwellwell](#) on Fri, 10 Apr 2009 02:35:06 GMT
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By the way, it's direct drive.

Subject: Re: Old Zenith Turntable troubleshooting help
Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Sat, 11 Apr 2009 02:53:47 GMT
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If you can see a motor spinning when the platter is off, then it's probably driven by an idler wheel. Direct drive turntables use the platter as the armature, which is part of the motor. Without the platter installed, the motor is incomplete and there is nothing to see spinning. If direct drive, the platter should spin freely with no power applied. If driven by an idler wheel, it probably shouldn't unless the speed selector is positioned between 33 and 45, where the wheel is transitioning between drive surfaces.