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Technics

Turntable System

SL-B3

Operating instructions



The model number of this product may be found on the back of the unit, and the serial number, on the bottom of the unit.

Please note the model and serial numbers of this unit in the space provided and retain this booklet as a permanent record of your purchase to aid identification in the event of theft.

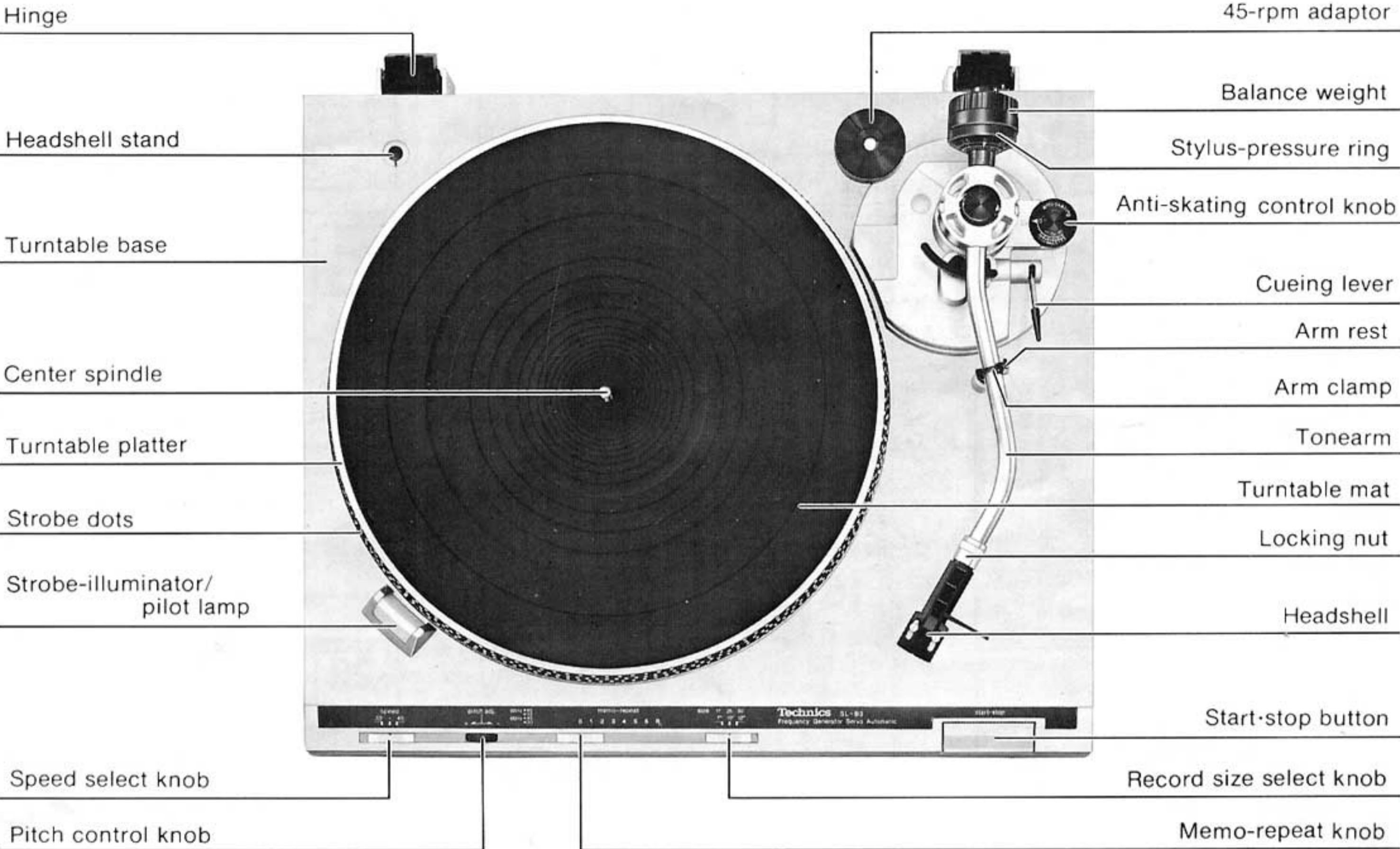
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SERIAL NUMBER

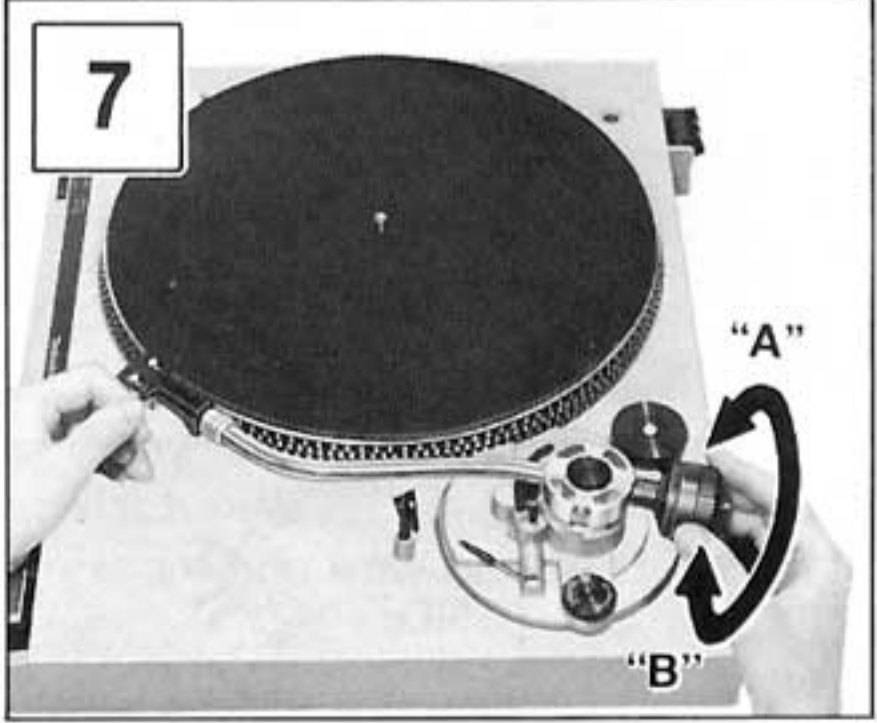
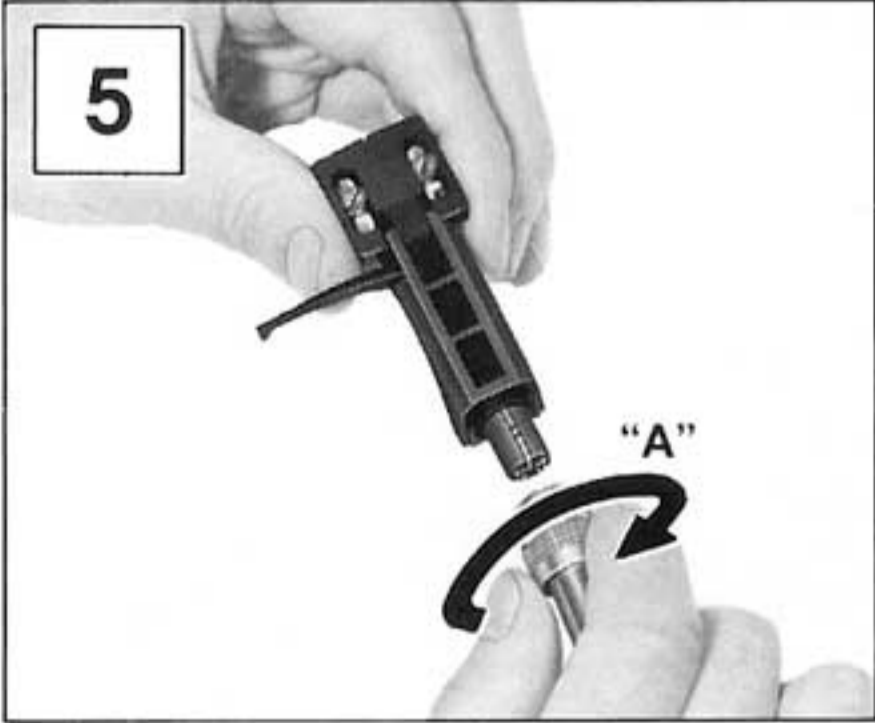
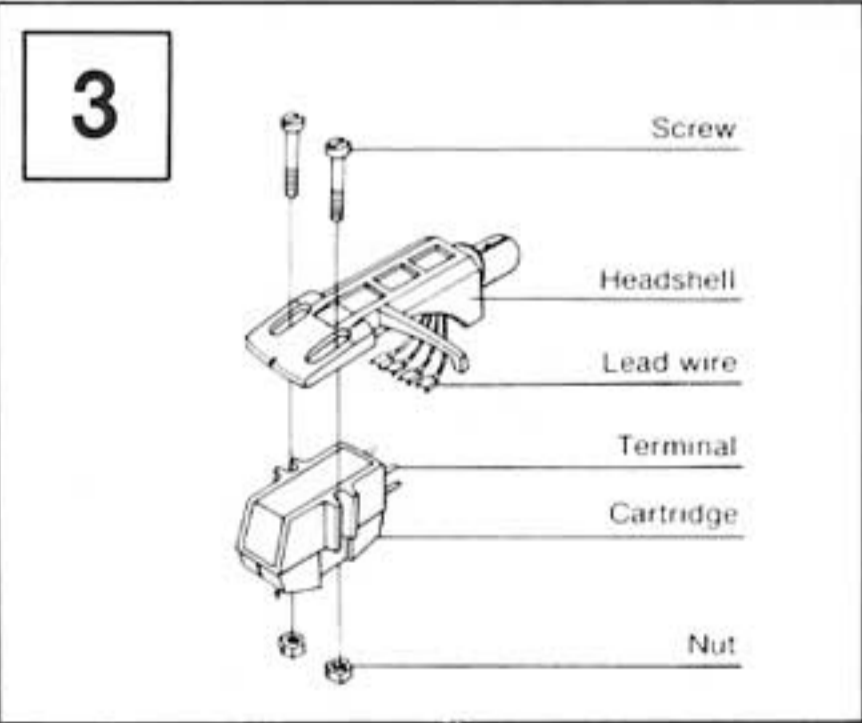
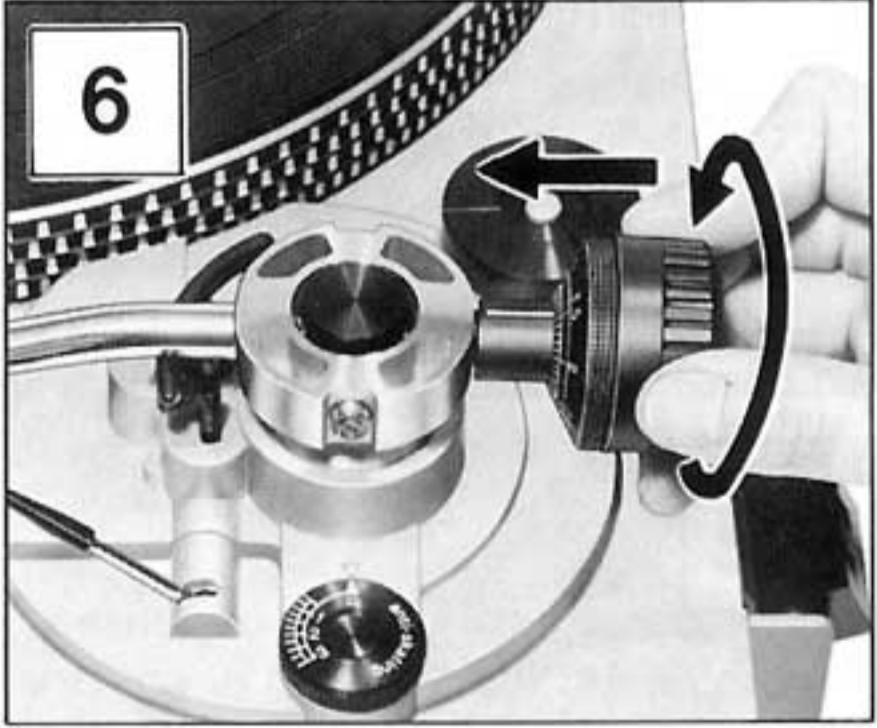
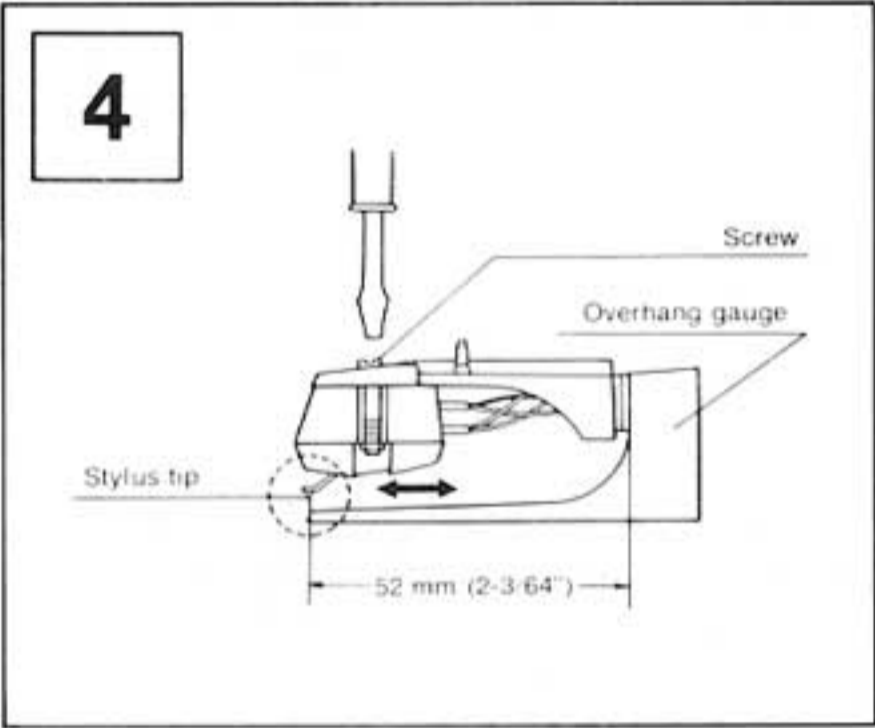
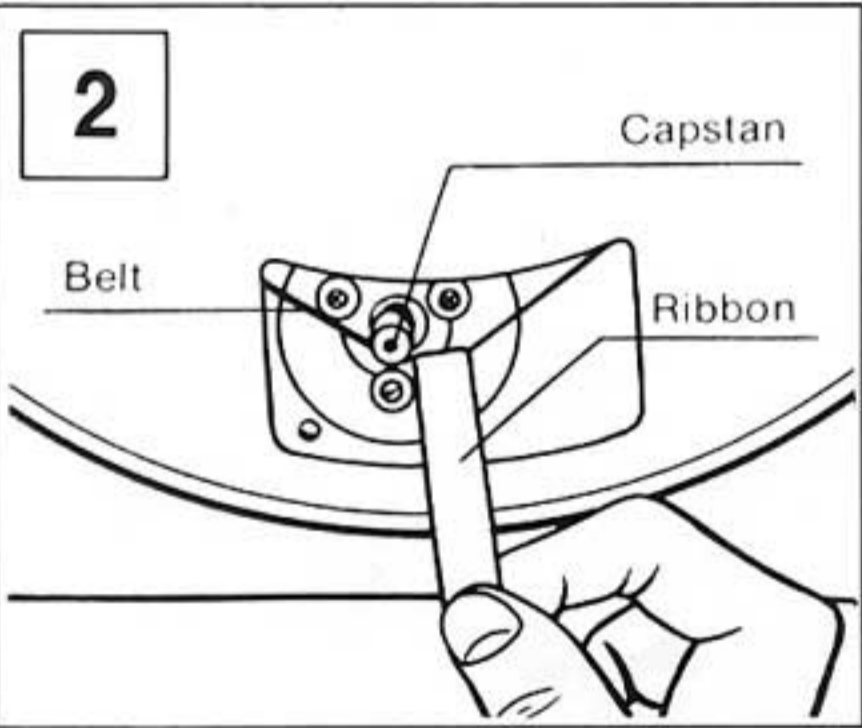
Before operating this set, please read these instructions completely.

Parts identification

1



Assembly and set-up



“Warning: To prevent fire or shock hazard, do not expose this appliance to rain or moisture.”

Assembly and set-up

How to operate

Notes and maintenance

8

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8-2

8-3

9

Balance weight

Center line

Stylus-pressure ring "0"

Anti-skating control/knob "0"

Arm clamp

10

11

12

13

Ground wire (GND)

Phono terminals

14

speed

33 45

15

16

17

size

17 25 30

7" 10" 12"

18

start-stop

19

memo-repeat

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 R

20

21

Capstan

Belt

22

5 — 10 mm (3/16-25/64")

23

Arm-lift adjustment screw

Arm-lift bar

24

Tonearm-start adjustment screw

Tonearm-return adjustment screw

25

45 rpm

33-1/3 rpm

45 rpm

33-1/3 rpm

50 Hz

60 Hz

Strobe-illuminator/pilot lamp

Strobe dots

The strobe dots for 60 Hz, 33-1/3 rpm seem to be stationary.

We want to thank you for selecting the SL-B3.

For optimum performance, we recommend that you read these instructions carefully.

Before use

Caution:

Never connect the AC power plug before assembly has been completed.

Attach the dust cover last, so that assembly and adjustments can be made most conveniently.

■ Checklist of parts

Turntable unit	1
Turntable platter	1
Turntable mat	1
Dust cover	1
45-rpm adaptor	1
Balance weight	1
Headshell	1
Overhang gauge	1

Assembly and set-up

■ Installation of turntable platter (See Fig. 2.)

1. Place the turntable platter on the center spindle.
2. Attach the belt to the capstan using the ribbon as shown in the picture. Then, remove the ribbon.
3. Place the turntable mat on the platter.

Note:

After having placed the turntable mat on the turntable platter, manually rotate the turntable platter clockwise about 10 times.

This will disengage the automatic mechanism from the tonearm gear, which, in rare cases, may have moved out of its normal position during transportation.

■ Installation of cartridge (See Fig. 3.)

When you install a cartridge, refer to the operation instructions of that cartridge.

During installation, attach the stylus protector to guard the stylus tip from damage.

1. Connect the lead wires to the cartridge terminals.
The terminals of most cartridges are color coded. Connect each lead wire to the terminal of the same color.
White (L+) Left channel+
Blue (L-) Left channel-
Red (R+) Right channel+
Green (R-) Right channel-
2. Install a cartridge to the headshell, and tighten it with screws provided with the cartridge.

■ Adjustment of overhang (See Fig. 4.)

1. Insert the headshell into the gauge.
2. Loosen the mounting screws and move the cartridge forward or backward until the stylus tip lines up with the edge of the gauge.
3. Tighten the mounting screws without moving the cartridge.

Note:

Your cartridge is now adjusted for lowest tracking error and minimum distortion.

This gauge is exclusively designed for this tonearm.

■ Installation of headshell (See Fig. 5.)

Insert the headshell into the front end of the tubular arm, and turn the locking nut clockwise (in the direction shown by the arrow "A"), with the headshell firmly held horizontally.

■ Installation of balance weight (See Fig. 6.)

Place the balance weight on the rear shaft of the tonearm.

■ Adjustments of horizontal zero (0) balance and stylus pressure (See Figs. 7 and 8.)

1. Remove the stylus protector, if your cartridge has a detachable one. Be careful not to touch your fingers to the stylus tip.
2. Release the arm clamp and lift the tonearm from the arm rest to free it.
3. Turn the entire balance weight clockwise (indicated by the arrow "A") or counterclockwise (indicated by the arrow "B") until the tonearm is approximately balanced horizontally (floats freely). (See Fig. 8-3.)

Note:

Fig. 8-1

Excessive forward advancement of the balance weight causes the cartridge side to be lowered.

Fig. 8-2

Excessive backward retreatment of the balance weight causes the cartridge side to be raised.

Fig. 8-3

Upon balancing between the balance weight and cartridge, the tonearm is held horizontal.

During the adjustment of the horizontal zero (0) balance, be careful that the stylus tip of the cartridge does not contact the turntable mat or turntable base.

4. After the tonearm is horizontally zero (0) balanced, temporarily refasten the tonearm with the arm clamp.
5. Hold the balance weight stationary with one hand as shown in the picture, and rotate only the stylus-pressure ring to bring the numeral "0" of the ring into alignment with the center line on the tonearm rear shaft. (See Fig. 9.) The adjustment of the horizontal zero (0) balance is now completed.
6. After adjusting the horizontal zero (0) balance, turn the balance weight clockwise in the direction of the arrow and align to the correct stylus pressure. (See Fig. 10.) (Follow the cartridge manufacturer's recommendation.) As the stylus-pressure ring moves in step with the balance weight, proper stylus pressure can be selected by directly reading the graduated ring.

Note:

Set the stylus pressure to the maximum recommended value for your cartridge in cases where the record has an extremely high recording level, or where the unit is operated in a room at low temperature, or in places in which the unit is subjected to vibrations.

■ Adjustment of anti-skating control (See Fig. 11.)

Set the anti-skating control knob to the same value as the stylus pressure.

Note:

When a cartridge with integral dust brush is used, follow the cartridge manufacturer's recommendation for adjusting both stylus pressure and anti-skating force.

■ Installation of dust cover (See Fig. 12.)

Place the dust cover into position from directly above, holding it at both sides. For detaching the dust cover, be certain first to raise it as illustrated before removal.

Note:

Opening or closing of the dust cover during play should be avoided. This may not only cause undesired vibrations, but also result in skipping of the stylus.

If you must open the dust cover during play, do so as gently as possible.

Placement

- Place the unit in a stable and horizontal position, where there is little or no vibration.

- Locate the unit as far away from the speakers as possible and isolate the unit from sound radiation from them.

- Do not place the unit where it is exposed to direct sun, dust, moisture or heat.

- Keep it in a well ventilated place.

Connections

■ Connect the AC power plug

Connect the AC power plug to an AC wall socket.

■ Connect the output terminals (See Fig. 13.)



Note:

Be sure to connect the ground terminal firmly to the amplifier or receiver. If this connection is not made or is loose, a power source "HUM" will result.

How to operate

■ Manual play

1. Place a record on the turntable mat.
2. Set the speed select knob to the desired record speed. (See Fig. 14.)
3. Remove the stylus protector, if your cartridge has a detachable one.
4. Release the arm clamp.
5. Set the cueing lever to the up position. (See Fig. 15.)
6. Move the tonearm over the desired groove.
The strobe-illuminator/pilot lamp will light up and the turntable platter will start to rotate.
7. Set the cueing lever to the down position. (See Fig. 16.)
The tonearm will descend slowly onto the record and play will begin.
8. When play is finished, the tonearm will automatically return to the arm rest (auto-return), and the turntable platter will stop rotation.
If the unit is not to be used for some time, set the speed select knob to the neutral "•" position.
Attach the stylus protector, if you have one, to guard the stylus tip from damage.

■ Automatic play

1. Set the speed select knob in the same manner as in manual play and release the arm clamp.
2. Set the record size select knob to the diameter of the record (7" [17 cm], 10" [25 cm], or 12" [30 cm]) you wish to play. (See Fig. 17.)
3. Push the start-stop button. (See Fig. 18.)
The tonearm will move automatically over the lead-in groove and descend slowly onto the record (auto-start). Play will begin.
4. When play has finished, the tonearm will automatically return to the arm rest (auto-return).

■ Repeat play

1. Set the "memo-repeat" knob to the desired number of times you wish to play. (See Fig. 19.)
"R" position enables you to repeat play continuously.

Note:

The "memo-repeat" knob may be set to a desired number, except during automatic start or automatic return cycle. If you start play manually while the "memo-repeat" knob is set to a number, there will be an additional repeat play.

2. Start play in the same way as for automatic play.

■ How to stop play

Push the start-stop button. (Refer to Fig. 18.)

The tonearm automatically returns to the arm rest, and the turntable stops rotating.

Note:

Before you operate the start-stop button, make sure that the "memo-repeat" knob is set at the "0" position.

If this knob is set at any position other than "0", the repeat play is continued by the number of times indicated, even if you push the start-stop button.

■ How to suspend play

Set the cueing lever to the up position.

The stylus tip of the cartridge will be lifted from the record.

■ When you play a 45-rpm record with a large center hole

Place the 45-rpm adaptor on the center spindle. Set the speed select knob to the "45" position.

Notes and maintenance

- Do not grasp or hold the tonearm during operation of the automatic mechanism.

- Records having sizes other than 17 cm, 25 cm and 30 cm (7", 10" and 12") should be played manually.

Your turntable is designed for automatic handling of records that adhere to accepted industry dimensions. Therefore, use the unit manually for records other than standard sizes.

- When using other headshells, make sure that the headshell configuration is compatible. (See Fig. 20.)

When other types of headshells are employed, the handle portion of the headshell may strike against the inner upper surface of the dust cover during automatic motion of the tonearm. In such a case, we recommend that the dust cover be left open during play.

- Before detaching or attaching the headshell, be sure to turn the power of the amplifier or receiver off.

Detaching or attaching of the headshell with the volume control turned up may cause damage to the speakers.

- **Dust and dirt should be carefully removed from stylus tip or records.**

Dust and dirt on the stylus tip or record may not only result in deterioration of tone quality, but also cause undue wear of the record and the stylus tip itself.

Special stylus tip brushes and record cleaners can be purchased in most electronic supply houses.

- **Wipe the headshell terminals from time to time.**

Dust and dirt at the headshell terminals may result in increased "HUM" noise or intermittent sound. Use soft dry cloth to clean the headshell terminals.

- **Wipe the dust cover and turntable base with a soft, dry cloth.**

Never use any cleaners containing alcohol, benzine or thinner. Use of a chemical dust cloth should also be avoided. Be sure that the dust cover is not exposed to insecticide spray.

To remove stubborn finger prints or grease spots, detach the dust cover and disconnect the AC power plug.

Use a soft cloth slightly moistened with a mild soap and water solution.

Do not wipe the dust cover during play, or the tonearm may be attracted toward the dust cover due to the generation of static electricity.

- **How to remove and install the turntable platter (See Fig. 21.)**

The belt is connected to the capstan and the inner drive rim of the turntable platter.

Before removing the turntable platter, release the belt from the capstan.

When reinstalling the turntable platter, lower it over the turntable shaft and then put the belt onto the capstan.

Note:

Be careful not to let oil or grease contact the belt.

If grease inadvertently contacts the belt, disconnect the AC power cord first and wipe the belt clean with alcohol.

Adjustments

- **Adjustment of arm-lift height (See Figs. 22 and 23.)**

The arm-lift height (distance between the stylus tip and record surface when cueing lever is raised) has been adjusted at the factory before shipping to approximately 5 to 10 mm.

If the clearance becomes too narrow or too wide, turn the adjustment screw clockwise or counterclockwise, while pushing the arm lift down.

Clockwise rotation

—distance between the record and stylus tip is decreased.

Counterclockwise rotation

—distance between the record and stylus tip is increased.

Note:

As the adjusting screw has a hexagonal head, be sure to make the adjustment while depressing the arm lift, or the screw will not move freely.

Also be sure that the hexagonal head retracts correctly into the arm lift when the latter is released.

- **Adjustment for automatic start position (See Fig. 24.)** (Remove the rubber cap.)

In cases where the stylus tip sets down outside of the record —rotate clockwise.

In cases where the stylus tip sets down too far in the recorded groove —rotate counterclockwise.

- **Adjustment for automatic return position (See Fig. 24.)**

(Remove the turntable mat.)

In cases where the tonearm tends to return before the playing has finished —rotate clockwise.

In cases where the tonearm fails to return after the last groove

of the record has been played

—rotate counterclockwise.

- **Speed adjustment (with pitch-control knob) (See Fig. 25.)**

Strobe dots are set on the rim of the turntable platter according to the power-line frequency and the speed of the records. Make adjustment, referring to the strobe-dot indication.

1. Set the speed select knob to the speed to be adjusted.
2. Release the arm clamp and move the tonearm toward the record.

The strobe-illuminator/pilot lamp will light up and the turntable platter will rotate.

3. While turning the pitch-control knob either to the "+" side or "-" side, adjust so that the strobe dots of the turntable platter look as if they were stationary. This represents the correct speed.

"+" direction

The speed of the turntable platter will increase. Turn the knob in this direction if the strobe dots seem to be "falling back", i.e. seem to be moving counterclockwise. When the dots appear to be stationary, turntable speed is accurate.

"-" direction

The speed of the turntable platter will decrease. Turn the knob in this direction if the dots seem to be "running ahead", i.e. seem to be moving clockwise, until they appear stationary.

Moreover, the pitch control knob can be used for both 33-1/3 rpm and 45 rpm.

Adjustment is to be made according to the selected speed (33-1/3 rpm or 45 rpm).

Note:

Strobe dot pattern

The strobe-illuminator/pilot lamp of this unit employs the standard commercial power source. The frequency of such power source, when actually measured, has a fluctuation of about 0.2%.

As such a fluctuation of the power source affects the strobe illuminator, the strobe dot pattern also seems to fluctuate to a certain extent. But the unit is not affected by these fluctuations of the power source, since a DC motor is employed.

In other words, rotation of the platter will be constant, and slight shifts in the movement of the dots simply reflect normal drift in the power-source frequency.

Features

- **Front panel controls provide exceptional convenience**
- **"TNRC"* base material provides an acoustic shield**
***"TNRC"** **T**echnics **N**on-**R**esonance **C**ompound
- **Electronic speed switching**
- **Pitch control with illuminated stroboscope**
- **Viscous-damped cueing**
- **Anti-skating control**
- **Hinged, detachable dust cover**
- **Auto-start, auto-stop, auto-return and programmable repeat play make the SL-B3 a pleasure to use.**

Since everything is automatic, you don't need to touch the tonearm unless you want to move to a particular cut on the record. The "memo-repeat" feature allows you to repeat a record up to six times, or indefinitely if you prefer.

Specifications

■ General

Power supply:	120 V, AC, 50 or 60 Hz
Power consumption:	3 W
Dimensions: (W×H×D)	43.0 × 12.6 × 37.5 cm (16-59/64" × 4-31/32" × 14-49/64")
Weight:	4.6kg (10.1 lb)

■ Turntable section

Type:	Belt drive fully-automatic turntable (Auto start Auto return Auto stop Repeat play)
Drive method:	Belt drive
Motor:	Frequency generator servo DC motor
Turntable platter:	Aluminum diecast Diameter 30.4 cm (12 inches)
Turntable speeds:	33-1/3 rpm and 45 rpm
Pitch control:	6 % adjustment range
Wow and flutter:	0.045% WRMS (JIS C5521) ±0.06 % peak (IEC 98A Weighted)
Rumble:	-70 dB (IEC 98A Weighted)

■ Tonearm section

Type:	Universal tonearm
Effective length:	230 mm (9-1/16")
Overhang	15 mm (19/32")
Effective mass:	12 g (without cartridge)
Tracking error angle:	Within 2°32' at the outer groove of 30 cm (12") record Within 0°32' at the inner groove of 30 cm (12") record
Offset angle:	22°
Stylus pressure adjustment range:	0—2.5 g
Applicable cartridge weight range:	6—9.5 g 14—17.5 g (including headshell)
Headshell weight:	8 g

Specifications subject to change without notice.
Weight and dimensions shown are approximate.

■ Transportation of the unit to distant places

Pack up the unit in the reverse order to that for unpacking, using the packing materials furnished when the unit was purchased. Should there be no such packing materials, be sure to take the following steps.

- Remove the turntable platter together with the turntable mat, and wrap it up to prevent any damages.
- Return the tonearm to the arm rest, and affix it with tape.
- Remove the balance weight and the headshell/cartridge from the tonearm to place them in a container, and then wrap it up to avoid any damage.
- Wrap up the turntable base with a blanket or soft paper, also for the prevention of any possible damage.

For longer and safer use of this unit

In order to receive the best service from this unit, and for the safest operation, carefully read the following information.

■ Power source

It is very dangerous to use this unit at a voltage which is different from the rated voltage.

There is danger of combustion if the unit is connected to a power source which is different from the rated voltage.

Be very careful concerning this point.

Direct current cannot be used.

There are some places, such as ships, where direct current is used as the power source. Before connecting the unit, confirm the power source.

■ Connection of power cord

Be sure to never touch the power cord with wet hands because there is danger of electric shock. This is true, of course, of all electric equipment.

Do not pull the power cord.

Never pull the power cord to disconnect it. Always pull the plug only.

■ Location of unit

Choose a place which is not in direct sunlight.

Select a place which will assure good ventilation.

■ Never place heating equipment nearby.

Be sure to keep stoves and other sources of heat away from this unit, because heat radiated by such equipment may cause deformation of plastic parts or damage the cabinet, or, at worst, cause a fire.

■ Especially for families with children

Take care that no small items, such as metal objects, are put inside this unit.

In addition, children should be especially warned not to put anything into the ventilation holes, such as toys or a screwdriver, because these things may cause an electric shock or result in a malfunction of the unit.

■ If water spills on the unit

If water should happen to spill on the unit, from an overturned vase for example, there is danger of fire or electric shock. Disconnect the power plug from the electric outlet immediately, and contact the store from which the unit was purchased.

■ Reconstruction can cause accidents

Absolutely never try to remodel, reconstruct or repair this unit yourself. Do not attempt to touch any internal parts because to do so may result in an electric shock or other accident.

■ Be sure the power is off.

After you have finished using this unit, check once more to be sure that the power is off. If the unit is left with the power on for a long period of time, it may not only be damaged, thus shortening its useful life, but may also lead to a dangerous accident.

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