



Loving music

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PRESS RELEASE

for immediate attention

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The Clearaudio Universal tonearm: a new improved design plus a 12-inch version

German high-end analogue experts Clearaudio Electronic GmbH are delighted to announce the release of the new Universal tonearm.

The new Universal tonearm:

- Is now available in a longer 12-inch version as well as a 9-inch version.
- Features a new lightweight design with a one-piece headshell.
- Further elevates this already innovative product to deliver ever greater sound quality and musicality.
- Is hand-assembled by Clearaudio in Germany using Clearaudio's own precision-machined parts, designed to ensure the highest possible accuracy.

Key features and benefits

The new 12-inch version of the Universal tonearm, now available alongside the improved 9-inch version, reduces tracking error to provide a more accurate quality of sound.

While a longer tonearm typically implies an increase in mass and can potentially suffer from reduced rigidity, the new Universal tonearm avoids these pitfalls by virtue of key design features. First, the mass is kept low by way of a new lightweight design featuring a one-piece headshell. Second, the three-piece arm tube is made from ultra-rigid yet light carbon fibre.

The new improved design continues to offer all of the features and benefits that made the original Universal tonearm perform so well in measurements and listening tests:

- A three-piece carbon fibre arm tube minimises arm tube resonance and combines high rigidity with low effective mass, giving excellent performance with a wide range of cartridges.

- High precision ball-race bearings in both horizontal and vertical planes provide low friction and minimise bearing noise, contributing to excellent cartridge tracking.
- The azimuth is adjustable, ensuring a more accurate vertical orientation of the stylus in the record groove.
- The fine-pitched screw adjustment of the interchangeable counterweights allows the tracking force to be set quickly and accurately for almost any cartridge on the market.
- Clearaudio's optional VTA-lifter allows for fine-tuning of the VTA (vertical tracking angle), even during playback.
- Anti-skating (bias) is applied magnetically rather than by way of weighting or springs, thus further minimising friction and allowing unfettered performance.
- The new tonearm is again hand-assembled by Clearaudio in Germany using Clearaudio's own precision-machined parts, designed to ensure the highest possible accuracy and extract the best performance from any phono cartridge.

The new Clearaudio Universal tonearm:
Longer length, lighter weight, ever better performance.

Technical specifications

Model	Universal 9"	Universal 12"
Effective length	239.3mm	308mm
Overhang	17.3mm	13.0mm
Offset angle	23.0°	17.7°
Null points	66.04mm & 120.9mm	
Distance from turntable pivot to tonearm pivot	222mm	295mm
Usable cartridge weight (at tracking force of 2.8g)	2.9 < 24.8g	2.9 < 21g
Audio lead	1.2m Clearaudio Superwire or RCA junction box	
Mounting style	Clearaudio / Linn	
Manufacturer's guarantee	5 years*	

* Provided completed warranty card is returned to Clearaudio within 2 weeks of purchase.

UK selling price (inc. VAT @ 20%)

Clearaudio Universal 9"	£3,380	With VTA-lifter £3,600
Clearaudio Universal 12"	£3,600	£3,940

Page | 3

AVAILABLE NOW

Key

- Anti-skating** Also known as bias. The horizontal force applied to the arm to counteract the force naturally generated by playing a record with a radial tonearm.
- Azimuth** The angle of the stylus in the groove viewed from the front. The stylus should be vertical for correct reproduction.
- VTA** Vertical Tracking Angle. The angle, viewed from the side at which the stylus axis differs from vertical. This should match the cutting angle on the record cutting lathe for accurate reproduction

Consumer contact (updated 2013 for web archive to show current distributor)

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Press contact

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