

VPI Forever Model One Manual



Setup and Instruction Manual

VPI Industries, Inc., 77 Cliffwood Ave. #5D, Cliffwood, NJ 07721

<http://www.vpiindustries.com>

Model One Turntable Packing List

Serial #: _____

Model One Chassis	
Stainless Steel/Delrin Clamp	
Stylus Force Gauge / Azimuth Rod Kit	
Motor Assembly and Cover	
Finger Lift	
Threaded Counter Weight	
Flash Drive	
Drive Belt	
Power Cord (Market specific)	
Alignment Jig	
Platter	
S-Tonearm	
Isolation Feet	

Date: _____

Built by: _____

Packed by: _____

Dear VPI Customer,

Thank you for joining our VPI Family! For over **40 years, we have proudly crafted high-end turntables in America**. VPI was founded by my parents, Sheila and Harry Weisfeld, with the goal of bringing exceptional audio performance into homes worldwide.

This manual will guide you through everything you need to know about your Forever Series, Model One turntable. If you need additional assistance, we offer setup videos and online guides here:

 [VPI Setup Videos & Guides](#)

I also invite you to join our VPI fan group, "I Love My VPI Turntable," on Facebook, where enthusiasts share pictures, setups, and what they're listening to:

 [Join the Facebook Group](#)

For further questions or concerns, please reach out to your dealer or contact us directly at info@vpiindustries.com.

Welcome to the VPI Family—we're thrilled to have you with us!

Mat Weisfeld
President, VPI Industries

Important: Read Before Proceeding:

- Read and follow the
- Safety Instructions below.
- Save all packing materials. The Model One should only be moved or shipped in its original packaging to reduce the risk of damage in transit.
- The Model One must be placed on a flat, level surface. This will make setup easy, provide better sound quality, and put less strain on the main bearing.

Safety Instructions



Follow the instructions below to reduce risk of electrical hazard or injury.

- To avoid electrical shock, do not open the motor mounting plate, especially when the unit is powered on.
- If the power cord provided with the Model One does not reach an outlet, use a heavy-duty, grounded extension cord or other industry standard power cord.
- To avoid electrical shock, always plug the Model One into a grounded outlet.
- Do not expose the Model One to rain or excessive moisture.

Technical Specifications

- **Chassis Composition:** Wood Skirt with Machine Aluminum top plate
- **Platter Type & Size:** 12" Aluminum, 20lbs
- **Tonearm Included:** VPI S-Tonearm
- **Motor RPM:** 300 RPM
- **Motor Pulley Accuracy:** +/- .0005"
- **Wow and Flutter:** .05%
- **Speed Accuracy:** .05%
- **Rumble:** 80 db Down
- **Footprint:** 19 ½" x 13 ¾"
- **Overall Size:** 21 ¾" x 15 ¾"
- **Total Weight:** 40lbs

Anatomy of the Forever Series, Model One

Please refer to the following diagram throughout this manual to identify specific parts and items used during installation.

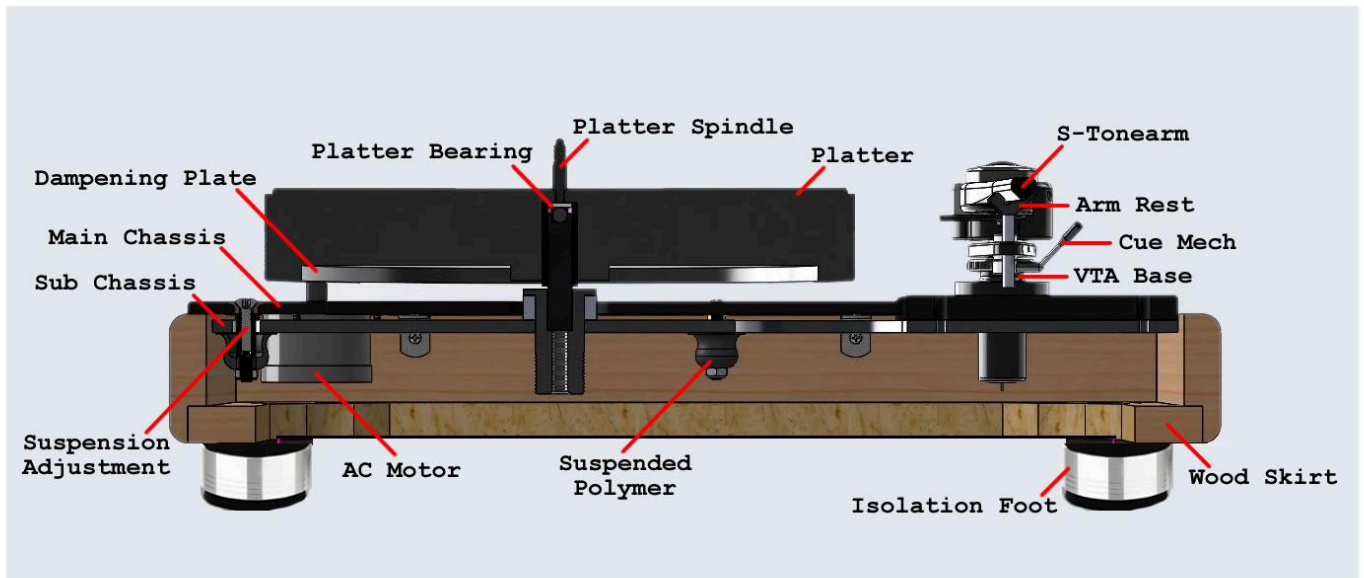


Figure 1 - Model One Anatomy

Unpacking the Box

The turntable and tonearm are packed very carefully to avoid damage during shipping. It is important that you save the packing materials and box to use for shipping or moving the table.

- Carefully remove the tonearm watching for the delicate wiring with Lemo connector
- Remove and set aside these items:
 - Alignment Jig.
 - Record weight.
 - Power cord.
 - Stylus force gauge
 - Tools
 - Model One isolation feet
- Make space for the Model One and remove the chassis from the box. Put the chassis down on a solid surface.



The warranty does not take effect until the warranty card is returned online as given at the end of the manual.

- Remove the turntable platter and peel the tape of the bearing hole. Carefully lower the platter on to the Model One spindle, (there is a black cap on the spindle – remove it). The platter is lubricated with PTFE grease and needs no maintenance for at least two years.

Assembling the Model One

The VPI Model One comes with the platter and motor module pre-installed on the sub-chassis. The following instructions apply if you are replacing your module or upgrading in the future. Video setup guides will be available on the VPI website.

1. Placing the Sub-Chassis in the Base

- Position the base so that, when facing it, the motor pulley is at the left rear.
- Carefully lower the sub-chassis into the base, ensuring the motor assembly fits through the designated hole. **Do not** allow the chassis to rest on top of the pulley or catch its edge, as this may damage the pulley and motor shaft.
- The sub-chassis is heavy, be careful when lowering it. Lower it straight down into the base with the V-shape portion of the sub chassis on the left side, and the armboard portion of the sub chassis on the right.



Figure 2 - Location of Sub Chassis

- Center the sub within the base, ensuring even clearance on all four sides. It does not need to be exact, but no part of the chassis should touch the base.

2. Removing the Motor Cover Plate

- Unscrew the three caps on top of the **Motor Cover Plate** to remove it.
- Beneath the plate, each support post has an **internal tooth lock washer**—be sure not to lose these caps or washers.

3. Preparing the Platter

- If you haven't already, remove the final corrugated sheet from the packaging and peel the tape of the bearing hole.
- Carefully take out the **Model One platter** and remove its plastic bag. Place the platter on a clean, flat surface.

4. Installing the Platter

- Holding the platter securely, lower it so that the spindle goes through the center hole. **Do not drop the platter onto the spindle.**
- Give the platter a firm spin by hand. It should rotate smoothly with minimal friction. Some resistance from the lubrication grease is normal. However, if the platter does not spin freely or you feel significant friction, contact your dealer or VPI for assistance. **Do not attempt to force or adjust the bearing yourself.**

5. Installing the Drive Belt

- Locate the **plastic envelope** containing the drive belt.
- Fit the belt around the **outer edge of the platter**. Then, stretch the portion of the belt near the motor pulley and loop it around the **top groove** (smaller diameter for 33 and larger for 45 RPM Speed) of the pulley.



Figure 3 - Pulley Speed

- Reattach the **Motor Cover Plate**, ensuring each post has a lock washer in place. Secure the caps **finger-tight**—no excessive tightening is necessary.

6. Adjusting and Leveling your Sub Chassis and Turntable

The Model One introduces a new 3-Point Floating Suspension system designed for superior isolation from external vibrations. This advanced 3D isolation system stabilizes the turntable, minimizes motor noise, and reduces both external and internal vibrations. Key highlights include:

- Isolated suspension using high-tech polymer, fully adjustable for leveling.
- Enhances sound quality by maintaining stability and isolating the platter and tonearm from any motor noise interference.
- Easy to replace both Motor and Platter Module and Tonearm Module.
- With the Model One assembled, you can adjust and level your turntable by modifying the suspension mounting screws. This adjustment is labeled as “Suspension Adjustment” in Figure 1 at the beginning of this manual and in Figure 4 and 5 below.

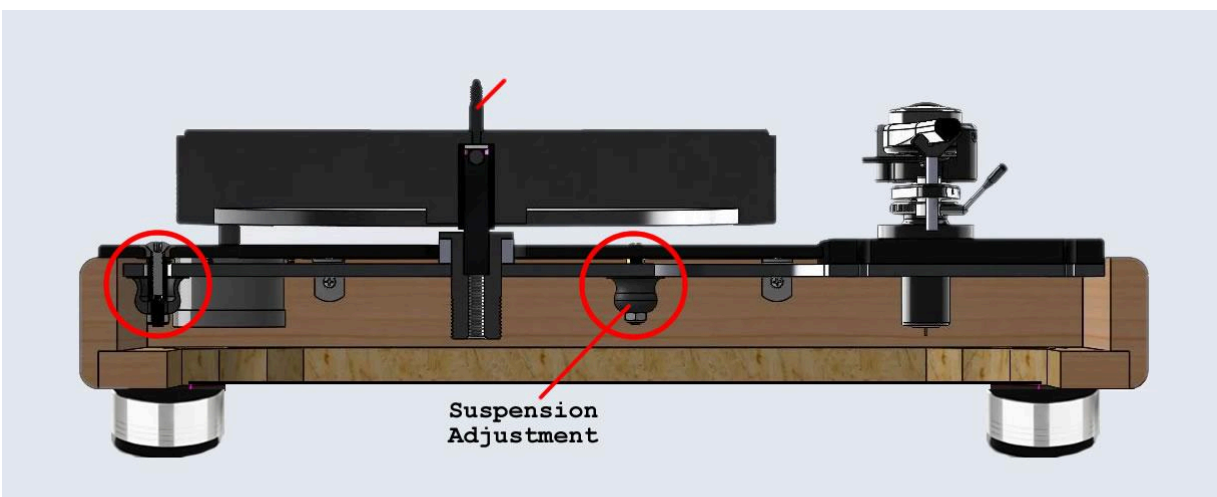


Figure 4 - Suspension Adjustment Side View

- It is important to adjust the subchassis until the platter is level. This can be accomplished with a cross level adjustment.



Figure 5 - Suspension Adjustment Top View

Installing your VPI Armboard

Your VPI Model One comes with the armboard installed and the tonearm ready for mounting. The following instructions are for changing or replacing your tonearm and/or armboard. More detailed videos will be available on our website.

6 - Armboard Mounting Screws



Figure 6 - Armboard Mounting Screws

If your tonearm is not connected and is a VPI branded arm the Lemo connection will be attached to the back portion of your Wood Skirt Module.

Line up the red dot on the Lemo connector with the red dot on the receptacle on the junction box. The Lemo connector can plug in only one way and should not be forced.

Installing and Aligning the Cartridge

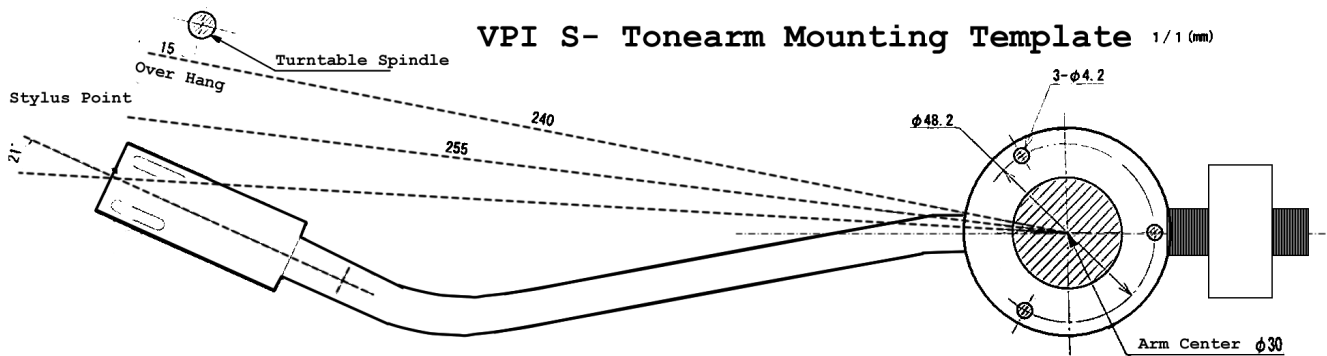


Figure 7 - VPI S-Tonearm Mounting Template

- Type: 10-inch, S-shaped, statically balanced tonearm
- Effective length: 255 mm
- Mounting distance: 240 mm
- Effective mass: 10.4 g
- Overhang: 15 mm
- Pickup weight: 5–15 g
- Height adjustment: 40–65 mm
- Anti-skating: Yes
- Headshell: Solid aluminum
- Offset angle: 21 degrees

Note: Various alignment tools and jigs are available, and VPI supports all types as long as they achieve proper alignment without damaging your cartridge or tonearm. Referencing the diagram in Figure 7 along with the technical details should provide sufficient information to use any available arm alignment gauge for this tonearm length.

- For cartridges with threaded mounting holes, use the screws supplied by the cartridge manufacturer. Other screws may not fit properly and may cause damage to the threads and cartridge.
- To avoid damage to the S-Tonearm, use the provided finger lift which also serves as a washer supplied by VPI under the screw heads and do not tighten the screws too tight.
- For cartridges with pass-through mounting holes, use the hardware supplied with the tonearm. Be sure to use washers under the screw heads.
- The tonearm wires are colour-coded as follows:

Red tag right hot/+
Green tag right ground/-
White or Black tag left hot/+
Blue tag left ground/-

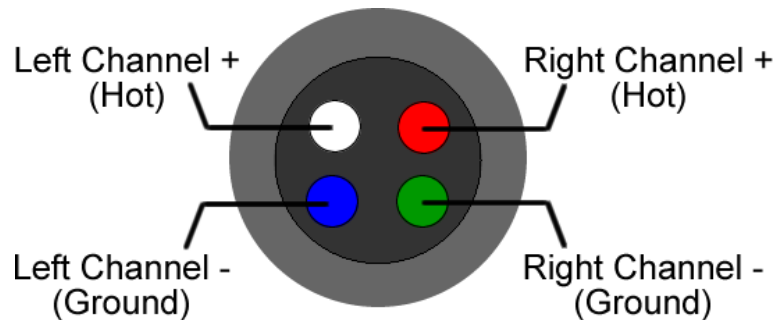


Figure 8 - Cartridge Wire Leads

- Using tweezers or fine-tipped pliers, grip the centre of the red wire's connector tag **not** the wire itself and push it onto the cartridge's right hot/+ terminal pin. Connect the remaining connectors in the same way. To avoid damage to the cartridge, do not push the connectors all the way on.
- Place the Alignment Jig on the spindle with the V-groove against the base of the arm bearing shaft. Tighten the screws of the jig so it fits snugly against the bearing shaft and over the record spindle.

The arm should be placed in the arm rest when you are not playing a record!

- Swing the tonearm over the jig so the stylus is as close as possible to the dot in the centre of the grid. Set the counterweight for enough downward force to keep the stylus from moving when resting on the jig.
- Look down at the cartridge and align it between the lines of the grid. You should have the diamond stylus on the white dot and the cantilever lined up with the lines on the grid. Use a flashlight (torch) to look from the front and line up the cantilever with the grid lines. That is the only alignment that matters, the cantilever lined up with the white lines and the diamond on the white dot. The angle of the cartridge is irrelevant.
- Adjust the cartridge mounting screws and the counterweight as needed until the cartridge is centred between the grid lines and the stylus is resting on the dot of the grid. The picture below shows the setup, the jig is in white for clarity, yours is black.

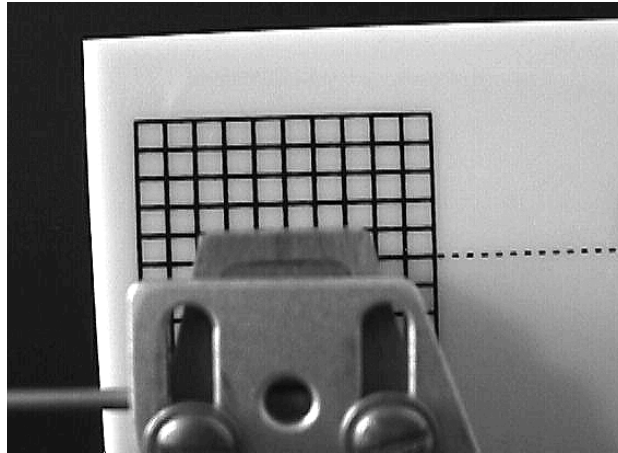


Figure 9 - Grid Lines

- When the cartridge is properly positioned, tighten the cartridge mounting screws and remove the alignment jig. Do not make them overly tight.

Setting the Tracking Force and Tonearm Height

Tracking force is adjusted by turning the adjustment knob left or right to move the counter weight. If your cartridge is overly heavy and the counterweight is all the way back, you can order a heavier weight from your dealer. Half way back is fine as is the middle third of the stub.

The Gimbal Tonearm does not have a built-in tracking force gauge but we have supplied you with a quality digital tracking force gauge if we did not mount a cartridge for you.

- Place the gauge on the platter (no record).
- Loosen the two black thumb screws in the base of the tonearm and raise the arm so it looks parallel to the platter when it is on the stylus force gauge. When the arm is at the desired height, lightly tighten the thumbscrews.
- **If you do not make the arm parallel when doing this, you will be between .2 to .4 grams light or heavy when you are on the record.**
- Set the tracking force according to the cartridge manufacturer's recommendation. We recommend always going to the high side of tracking force. High frequency vibrations on a light-tracking cartridge can cause more damage to the grooves of a record than running a cartridge at a heavy setting. We usually recommend .1 gram higher than the max tracking force if you are not using anti-skate (recommended way of setting). This does not apply to Lyra cartridges that sound best at 1.73 to 1.76 grams tracking force with or without anti-skate.
- Put a record on the platter and using the VTA tower lower the arm so it is parallel to the record. Now you will be tracking at the force you set and not a lighter force.
- Internal wiring: 69 VPI Copper wire

Setting the Azimuth

- Using the supplied aluminium rod placed into the groove behind the mounting screws on the tonearm headshell you can use it as an aid to see if your tonearm headshell is level.
- It can be adjusted by loosening the setscrew where the headshell meets the armtube.



Azimuth Adjustment

Figure 10 - Azimuth Adjustment

- Azimuth is factory set to be level but you can adjust the arm wand by loosening the Azimuth Set Screws on the side of the arm and slightly turn the headshell.

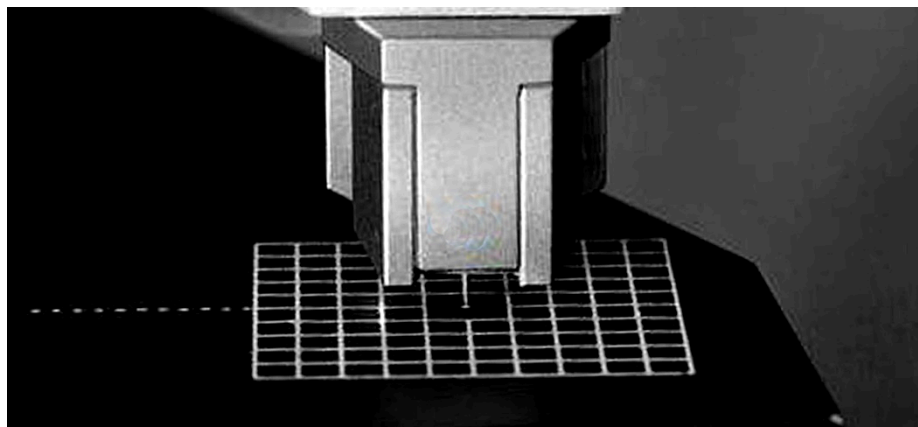


Figure 11 - Checking Azimuth

Setting the Anti-Skating – Two Solutions

- VPI does not support the need to have anti-skate but does respect the customer's interest in having it enabled. Therefore, we provide a mechanism for anti-skate and the option of engaging it.
- For normal music listening all the anti-skate you need will be supplied by the lead out wire of the tonearm to junction box unless you are using test records and measuring sine waves. For music listening the push back of the wire is ideal for anti-skate.
- We supply mechanical anti-skate for those who require it.



If you try adjusting the anti-skate with a groove-less record, you will ruin the twist in the tonearm wire and void your warranty. Do this with the mechanical anti-skate if you want that much anti-skate.

Playing Records

- Before playing a record, make sure that both of the tonearm VTA thumbscrews are slightly tight.
- Place the black washer on the platter, then the record, then the record clamp. Always turn off the turntable before installing the record clamp.
- Press the power button on the motor. Sit down and enjoy listening to your records!

General Use

- Allow at least 20 hours of break-in time.
- The motor will make some low-level noise. This will not get into the system. The motor and bearings will become quieter as you use your Model One. Place the motor on a mouse pad for better isolation if this bothers you.
- If you notice hum in the system, remove the turntable to phono section interconnects and replace them with very cheap, standard interconnects. These are well shielded and should eliminate the hum. If the hum goes away, get quality, well shielded interconnects.
- After at least one year of use the platter bearing should be re-lubed with PTFE super grease. The motor will need to be lubricated with 1 drop of 40-weight motor oil below the black drive pulley and right on the brass piece.
- You can experiment with mats but you need to adjust the VTA setting when doing this.

Additional Items Available from Your Dealer

- VPI Weis Line by Nordost
- Shyla MC Cartridge
- VPI Analog Drive System
- Periphery Ring

VPI Industries, Inc. Limited Warranty (United States Only)

For all other countries, please consult your retailer or local distributor for warranty terms and conditions.

VPI Industries, Inc. (VPI) warrants this unit against defects in materials and workmanship for **ten (10) years** from the date of purchase by the original retail purchaser. VPI's sole obligation under this warranty is limited to repairing or replacing, at its discretion, any part(s) found to be defective. The purchaser's sole and exclusive remedy under this warranty is the repair or replacement of defective parts. **VPI shall not be liable for any direct or indirect injury, property damage, or other incidental or consequential damages arising from the use of the product, a defect, or product failure.**

This warranty does not apply to any unit with a defaced or altered serial number. Additionally, it does not cover:

- Defects or malfunctions caused by incorrect installation, modifications, misuse, or unauthorized servicing.
- Repairs performed by technicians not authorized by VPI.
- Cosmetic imperfections or minor defects that do not affect the product's functionality.

VPI reserves the right to make changes to its products without any obligation to apply those changes to previously manufactured units. This warranty replaces all other express or implied warranties, including those of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. **No warranties extend beyond the terms described herein.**

Note: Some states do not allow the exclusion of implied warranties or the limitation of incidental or consequential damages. As a result, certain exclusions or limitations may not apply to you. This warranty grants you specific legal rights, and you may have additional rights depending on your state of residence.

Register Your Product Online

To ensure your warranty coverage, please register your product at:
<http://vpiindustries.com/warranty/>

