AIR LINE damping kit

General: Suitable for Air line tone arms only.

The damping kit provides control of tone arm & cartridge resonance. A paddle in the silicone oil filled trough, damps tone arm resonance in both directions. This effect is increased when the paddle is inserted deeper into the silicone oil.

The damping kit consists of a trough, bottle of silicone oil and paddle carrier.

INSTALLATION:

1. Mounting of the paddle carrier: remove counterweight from the tone arm. Be careful if you still have a cartridge in the headshell.



Damping kit: rear view

Move the paddle carrier along towards the bearing carrier and fix it with allen key 1.5 mm in an upright position. Return the counterweight. Due to the extra weight the tracking force should be adjusted accordingly!

2. Mounting of the trough: remove washer and screw. Insert the thinner part of the trough from the inside of the blocking plate, in the gap near to the cueing device, along cueing device rod. Position the back washer and the screw. Using allen key 2mm, gently fix it. Move the trough as close as possible towards cueing device, away from the bearing shaft and tighten the screw.



Damping kit: trough mount

Inserting silicone oil: cut off the tip of the nozzle from PVC bottle. Squeeze silicone oil into the trough- it will go slowly before it spreads evenly. Fill it up to the line or about half way up.

Damping change:

Release black plastic nut by hand and rotate the paddle-screw into the trough with allen key 1.5 mm. Bend signal wires away to make space for doing this. To secure paddle at desired height, fix it with rotating CCW plastic nut, while preventing screw- paddle rotation with inserted allen key.

Optimisation:

The only way to reach optimum damping is by experimentation. Start with the height of paddle when the needle is in the groove so, that the tip of the paddle is just touching the surface of the silicone oil. Listen to the sound and increase the depth. Also observe what happened when the needle touches the grooves, how the whole assembly moves in a horizontal level a few times, before stabilising in the groove. If you have a test record observe how the damping decreases movement of the assembly when resonance occurs.

For a lot of cartridge combinations the best sound will be without the use of damping. But cartridges with higher compliance might benefit.

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