

FURUTECH

The Absolute Sound
DeMag Product Introduction

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9 "Must-Have" Analog Accessories

DON'T SPIN VINYL WITHOUT THEM!

Chris Martens, Neil Gader, Wayne Garcia, Jonathan Valin



Furutech deMag

Furutech deMag Price: \$1800

Given its cost, Furutech's limited edition deMag is not for casual LP-spinners. That said, this large, overbuilt, flying saucer-like accessory really works. What's that you say, demagnetize vinyl—a plastic? Yes, it seems that the pigment added to the plastic contains small amounts of ferrous material that magnetizes vinyl LPs. A quick 20-second zap to each side of an LP results in audible improvements to noise floor, dynamic range, and perceived resolution. The same goes for optical media, including DVDs, and evidently cables and power cords, too. I tested a pair of Tara Labs Zero interconnects with good results, but couldn't quite convince a pair of Tara's Omega speaker cables to sit still on top of the deMag's platter-sized surface. **Wayne Garcia**

Audioquest Anti-Static Record Brush Price: \$20

What's the best way to keep records clean without attracting dust particles? One of our favorite methods is to use Audioquest's anti-static record brush, whose bristles comprise "over a million polished carbon fibers." A swing-down brush guard doubles as a bristle cleaner to prevent dirt build-up. **Chris Martens**

Shure SFG-2 Stylus Force Gauge Price: \$24.95

Many tonearms lack calibrated mechanisms for applying stylus force, meaning a stylus-force gauge is a must. Shure's SFG-2 is a sensitive balance-beam-type scale with simple but effective stainless steel bearings. Accurate to within 0.1 grams, the SFG-2 is arguably the least expensive high-quality gauge money can buy. **CM**

Lyra SPT Stylus Cleaner Price: \$44.99

Stylus cleaners tend to be sloppy affairs. Usually the mysterious substance is in a makeshift nail-polish vial, with an oversized brush designed for a manicure and not for the delicate job of removing stylus buildup. Lyra, known for its superior line of moving-coil cartridges, has decided to fine-tune this bit of maintenance hardware by designing SPT (Stylus Performance Treatment). A tiny drop from the eye-dropper-style dispenser to the tip of the short-bristle brush is all that's needed. The brush can be washed with a little soap and since it's stored outside the bottle it won't contaminate the fluid between applications. An essential accessory for promoting stylus health. **Neil Gader**