

# SOL

#### UNIPIVOT TURNTABLE

IN NORSE MYTHOLOGY, SOL WAS THE SUN. LIKE MANI WAS THE MOON. BOTH ARE ROUND, SO WE CHOSE THOSE NAMES FOR THE TURNTABLE AND PHONO PREAMP.. YEAH. WE'RE NOT REAL COMPLEX SOMETIMES. IN ANY CASE, WE HOPE YOU ENJOY OUR CAST-ALUMINUM, UNCONSTRAINED UNIPIVOT, ADJUSTABLE-ON-THE-FLY VTA TURNTABLE, EVEN IF YOU THINK THE NAME IS KINDA SILLY.

### **OWNER'S MANUAL**

### INTRODUCTION

Sol is our way of taking affordable turntables to a higher level, which is why it looks, well...a bit weirder than anything else out there. That's why we decided to go with cast aluminum, rather than wood and acrylic, and we also decided to give you a real, honest, unconstrained unipivot arm that's wayyyyy longer than most turntable arms, and we also decided to give you on-the-fly VTA adjustment, along with lots and lots of other adjustments. Now, you're just a few steps away from great vinyl sound!

#### IN THE BOX

- (1) Sol Aluminum Plinth (black finish)
- (1) Sol Aluminum Platter (natural finish)
- (1) Sol Turntable Mat
- (1) Sol Carbon Fiber Tone Arm
- (1) Sol Motor and Pulley Assembly
- (1) Sol Motor Power Cable, 12"
- (1) 16VAC Wall Wart (er, "audiophile power supply")
- (1) Hardware Kit, which includes
  - (1) Bag of Headshell Screws (various lengths)
  - (1) Set of 3 Anti-Skate Weights, pre-tied
  - (1) 1/4" Diameter Carbon Steel Ball Bearing
  - (2) Sol Drive Belts
  - (1) Allen Wrench Set (1/8", 3/16", 5/64", 0.05")

The following is required by the roughly 9,542 government agencies and regulations we have to comply with. If you have some common sense, they should seem pretty straightforward. In any case, read these instructions before proceeding farther, follow all instructions, and heed all warnings. Or else!

1. If you don't know how to install audio devices, get a qualified professional to help.

2. Never use this device near water, and clean only with a dry cloth.

3. Assure adequate ventilation, do not block any ventilation openings, or place near heat sources.

4. Use only the supplied power cord or suitable replacement. Route cords away from traffic areas and protect them from being pinched. Unplug the cord from the outlet if the apparatus is unused for a long period of time.

5. To prevent electric shock, do not use the plug with an extension cord, receptacle, or outlet unless blades can be fully inserted.

6. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel. Service is required when the device has been damaged, including cord or plug damage, liquid has been spilled or objects have fallen into the device, the device has been exposed to rain or moisture, does not operate normally, or has been dropped.



WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS DEVICE TO RAIN OR MOISTURE.

### **GETTING STARTED**

#### **BEFORE YOU BEGIN**

Take a deep breath. Make a cup of tea. Don't be in a hurry. Turntables aren't plug-and-play. To get the most out of Sol, you're going to need to do a bit of assembly.

Ready? Cool. Let's get started.

### THE EASI(EST) WAY

Go to schiit.com/sol-setup and watch the video.

#### PLINTH AND PLATTER ASSEMBLY

Careful! The Sol Plinth (the Y-shaped part) is partially assembled for shipping. Don't flip it over, or you may have to re-assemble it. (And don't panic if something falls off, just replace it and move on.)

**1 Place the Sol Plinth on a level, stable surface near your audio equipment.** On top of a heavy equipment rack is ideal, since you'll be able to get to all of the Sol's adjustments. We recommend aligning the plinth so that the first short leg points straight ahead, as shown in Figure A.



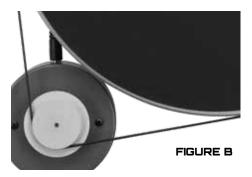
#### 2 Slide the Sol Platter onto the bearing housing until it bottoms

**out.** You may need to loosen the bearing cap screws using the 5/64" allen key to get it to slide on and then tighten them up when the platter is fully seated onto the plinth.

**3 Place the Sol Turntable Mat on top of the platter.** This is important to decouple your records from the aluminum platter.

### **GETTING STARTED**

#### MOTOR, PULLEY, AND BELT SETUP





**1 Place the Sol Motor and Pulley Assembly near the platter.** The edge of the larger pulley should end up about 1" away from the edge of the platter, as shown in Figure B.

#### 2 Connect the Sol Motor and Pulley

**assembly.** Use the Sol Motor Power Cable to connect the barrel jack on the Motor and Pulley assembly to the OUT jack on the rear output pod of the Sol Plinth. See Figure C for details.

**3 Connect the 16VAC Wall Wart** to the IN jack of the rear output pod of the Sol Plinth, also as shown in Figure C.



**4 Install the drive belt.** The best way to do this is by holding it at the motor pulley and looping it around the Sol Platter, as shown in Figure D. Use the small pulley for 33 RPM records, and the larger pulley for 45 RPM records.

**Note:** You may need to adjust the actual distance and tension for best results when you start playing records. You've hit the sweet spot when the belt doesn't "walk" up and down on the platter.

#### **TONEARM SETUP**



1 With the stylus guard in place on the cartridge, gently place the tonearm on the pivot pin, as shown in Figure E. Make sure it doesn't overbalance and fall off; make sure it is resting on the cueing shelf. If it is not, loosen the counterweight and slide it in towards the pivot until it is.

2 Plug the tonearm wire into the header on the rear output pod of the plinth. Match the white dot on the pod and the white dot on the side of the tonearm wire connector. At resting position the cueing lever should be in the up position, as shown in Figure F.

### CONNECTIONS

Okay, are you ready to be done? I bet you are! Well, you're very close. And if you're unsure of anything, just go back and review the videos at schiit.com/sol-videos

Just a couple more things to connect!

**1 RCA Outputs.** This is where the sound comes out. Connect to your phono preamp with short, well-shielded RCA cables.

**2 Ground.** Connect this to your phono preamp with a short, thick ground wire.

That's it! You're done.



### PLAYING A RECORD



Okay, so are you ready to hear something? Good. It's easy from here on out!

1 Place your record on to the platter.

**2** Turn on the motor, using the switch. You may need to give the platter a little nudge in the clockwise direction, this is totally normal.

**3** Move the tonearm to the desired track on the record.Or you can start at the beginning, if you are a completist.

**4** Using the cueing lever, slowly lower the arm onto the record. We recommend you hold the cueing lever until the needle has touched the record and you hear music.

You can also adjust VTA on the fly to fine tune the sound, if you'd like. This is covered in the Adjustments section.

Enjoy!

### ADJUSTMENTS

#### **CARTRIDGE INSTALLATION**



Note: this is only if you want to use a cartridge different than the standard one.

1 Attach the cartridge to the tonearm. Use the nonmagnetic screws provided. Screws should be snug but not tight, so you can align the cartridge later.

2 Attach the tonearm wires. Be carefulthese wires are fragile! Sol uses the standard wiring convention:

Red = Right Signal, Green = Right Ground White = Left Signal, Blue = Left Ground

FIGURE H

**TONEARM HEIGHT** 

To adjust the tonearm pivot cup height, loosen the set screw on the side of the tonearm ring, and carefully slide it up or down until your cartridge is level. If your cartridge is already level, you don't need to make this adjustment. If you can't get your cartridge level, you may need to adjust platter and motor pulley height. See Figure H.



To adjust the stylus force, you will need some type of gram scale. Different cartridges have different recommended stylus forces, but it is typically around 1.75 grams. Using the 5/64" allen key, loosen the set screw on the top of the tonearm counterweight and move the counterweight forwards or backwards as needed to achieve the desired cartridge weight. See Figure I.

#### VTA



**To adjust the VTA**, loosen the 1/16" set screw on the side of long arm of the plinth. Use the small knob to adjust the height of the pivot pin as needed. Then tighten the set screw to lock it in place. This adjustment can be done when the record is playing. See Figure J. **CARTRIDGE ANGLE** 



To adjust cartridge angle, turn the lateral counterweight clockwise or counter-clockwise as necessary. The goal is to keep the tonearm as straight up and down as possible when playing a record. See Figure K. **ANTI-SKATE** 



To adjust the anti-skate weight, you will need a grooveless record. Select the anti-skate weight that keeps the stylus steady on the grooveless record. See Figure L.

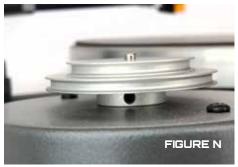
### ADJUSTMENTS

#### **PLATTER HEIGHT**



**To adjust platter height,** loosen the set screw on the bottom of the plinth using the 3/8" allen key. Raise and lower the bearing shaft as needed, then tighten the set screw. See Figure M.

MOTOR PULLEY HEIGHT



To adjust the motor pulley height, (so the belt doesn't walk itself off of the edge of the platter), loosen the set screw at the bottom of the pulley wheel using the 0.05" allen key and push the pulley up or down. See Figure N.

#### **CUEING HEIGHT**



**To adjust the cueing height,** loosen the set screw on the back of the cuing disc using the 5/64" allen key. You can raise and lower the cuing disc on the cuing plunger as needed. Tighten the set screw when finished. See Figure 0.

#### I hear hum. What do I do?

Depends on the hum. Some hum (and hiss) are typical of turntables. Welcome to the wonderful world of analog reproduction!

#### No I mean LOUD hum.

Aha. In that case, try the following:

1. Make sure the turntable ground is securely connected to your phono preamp by a short, thick ground cable. Also make sure the cable isn't tangled in power cords. Yes, this matters.

2. If you already have the turntable ground connected, try disconnecting it. Seriously. Some components do better without a ground strap from the turntable.

3. Try different short, well-shielded RCA cables to your phono preamp. Long RCAs can pick up all sorts of noise. You want the cables as short as possible from the turntable to the phono preamp.

4. Turn down the gain on your phono preamp (if it has this adjustment).

5. Relocate the turntable and phono preamp. Both may pick up hum and noise from other components with strong magnetic fields, like power amplifiers.

#### Hey, I don't have any volume, and there's no bass!

Do you have a phono preamp, or a preamp or integrated amp with a phono preamp built in? If not, you'll need one. Records need a specific equalization curve (the RIAA curve) and a lot of gain in order to sound right.

## What if I want to use multiple cartridges? Do I have to do the set-up every time for every one of them?

If you want them to sound right, yes. However, you could also buy and set up additional Sol Tonearms, which will allow you to swap an entire pre-set arm in seconds. It just sits on the pivot pin and plugs in with a pin connector.

#### It doesn't turn on, what do I do?

Plug it in to a different AC socket. Ensure you are not currently in a blackout. Then email us if it still doesn't turn on.

### REFERENCE



**1 Plinth.** Yes, this entire Y-shaped piece is the plinth. It ties everything together. Except the motor pod, of course.

2 Platter. This is where the record sits.

**3 Platter Mat.** This decouples the record from the platter.

**4 Motor Pod.** This spins the platter with a rubber belt (5).

**5 Belt.** Use this to spin the platter. Replace when it breaks.

**6 Headshell.** This is where you install your cartridge. Although this photo shows a cartridge, Sol is not supplied with one.

**7 Tonearm.** This entire assembly (carbon fiber, aluminum, and brass) lifts off of the pivot pin for easy swapping.

8 Cueing Lever. Up lifts the needle off the record, down drops the needle on the record. Be gentle when using the cueing lever, drop it down slowly so the needle makes soft contact with the record.

**9 Cueing Bar.** This supports the tonearm when the cueing lever is up.

**1 Tonearm Counterweight.** Sets the tracking force for your cartridge. Adjust by loosening the setscrew and sliding the brass weight. Use a gram scale (not provided) for maximum accuracy.

**2 Tonearm Pivot Cup**. Place this gently on the pivot pin (pointy bit sticking out of the

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plinth). Adjust height if necessary by loosening the setscrew and sliding up or down.

3 Lateral Counterweight. Adjust this in or out so the cartridge tracks level when playing a record.

4 Anti-Skate Weight.

Select the weight that results in no skating when the stylus is placed on a grooveless record (not included). **5 VTA Adjust.** Loosen and adjust to set vertical tracking angle. You can do this while the record is playing.

**6 RCA Output.** Connect to your phono preamp with short, well-shielded RCA cables.

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**7 Ground.** Connect to your phono preamp with a short, thick ground wire.

**8 Bearing Shaft Setscrew.** Loosen to adjust the platter height if necessary.

**9 33/45 Pulley.** Use the smaller pulley for 33 RPM records, and the larger one for 45s.

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### WARRANTY

Schiit Audio warrants to the original purchaser that the product shall be free from defects in material and workmanship for five (5) years from the date of purchase. Exceptions: Tubes, belts, and remote controls. Tubes and belts are covered by a 90-day limited warranty with the same terms, remotes are covered by a 1-year limited warranty with the same terms. If a defect covered by this warranty occurs during this warranty period, Schiit Audio will repair the defective product, free of charge. Date of purchase will be based on customer-submitted receipts, otherwise date of manufacturing will be used to determine warranty period.

#### **OBTAINING WARRANTY SERVICE**

If you believe you need warranty service, contact us first. There may be a simple solution to your problem. Schiit Audio products sent back to us without a Return Authorization (RA) will be returned to the sender without repair. To contact us and obtain an RA, email info@schiit.com. We will respond quickly to email inquiries.

#### WARRANTY LIMITATIONS

THIS WARRANTY SHALL NOT APPLY IF THIS PRODUCT: (a) IS MODIFIED OR TAMPERED WITH; (b) IS DAMAGED BY NEGLIGENCE, ACCIDENT, UNREASONABLE USE, COFFEE, OR BY OTHER CAUSES UNRELATED TO DEFECTIVE MATERIALS OR WORKMANSHIP; OR (c) HAS HAD THE SERIAL NUMBER ALTERED, DEFACED OR REMOVED.

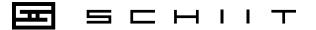
ANY APPLICABLE IMPLIED WARRANTIES, INCLUDING WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, ARE HEREBY LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE WARRANTY PERIOD (5 YEARS). IN NO EVENT SHALL SCHIIT AUDIO BE LIABLE FOR CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES RESULTING FROM THE BREACH OF ANY IMPLIED OR EXPRESS WARRANTIES. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS OR EXCLUSION OF CONSEQUENTIAL OR INCIDENTAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATIONS MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights. You may also have other rights which vary from state to state or province to province.

• Application for Council Directives 72/23/EEC, 89/336 EEC Conformity declared for EN60065, EN55022 Class B, EN50082-1



This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to part 15 of the FCC Rules.



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