



PHONOPHILE STATIC DRAINING RECORD BRUSH OWNER'S MANUAL

INTRODUCTION AND DESIGN CONCEPT

Thorough static neutralization of records and cartridges is essential for two reasons:

1. To keep records from attracting airborne dust and grit; and
2. To improve sound because electrostatic fields on the LP, on the stylus itself, and on the cartridge body (if plastic or synthetic-finished), audibly degrade the sound of the cartridge.

Standard record brushes, even ones labeled “anti-static”, almost certainly *add* static every time they are used to dust an LP. If it's an ordinary brush, the fibers rubbing on the vinyl create static. If it's “anti-static” (i.e. slightly conductive), it neatly conducts the static charge of the user's body onto the record. Either way, the extra static attracts dust and, worse, degrades sound.

The most thorough way to neutralize static is to zap it with an active ion generator like the Mapleshade Ionoclast. Between Ionoclast zappings, the only way to eliminate the static that inevitably builds up is to use a brush that's highly *conductive and grounded*. The Phonophile Record Brush is the only such record brush currently available. At the same time, it is the gentlest, least-likely-to-scratch brush, too. Underlying this is unusual and rare technology: highly conductive stainless steel fibers only 1/6 the diameter of a human hair and therefore ultrasoft. The handle is grounded with an 8' lightweight ground that plugs into the ground hole of any handy three-prong AC socket.

USING THE BRUSH

1. Handle the brush fibers gently; they are unlikely to break but—being 1/6 the diameter of a hair, they are easily bent out of shape.
2. Plug the banana plug end of your Phonophile Brush wire into the ground receptacle (the round hole) of your nearest AC wall socket. Without this, you will not drain static from your records. The connection to the ground is 100% safe because the wall ground

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is connected only to earth—therefore, there can be no voltage on the ground.

3. Put the record on the turntable platter and brush the LP as you would with any other brush. Then brush the stylus and cartridge body—from rear to front, of course. Because static anywhere near the cartridge hurts sound we also recommend that, before mounting the record, you a) brush the platter mat or, in the absence of a mat, brush the platter itself; and b) brush the underside of the record. This is for two reasons:

A) To keep the record's underside from picking up dust from the platter; and
B) To improve sound further because static on the platter and on the record underside are close enough to degrade the sound of the cartridge (the vinyl does not shield the cartridge from the static fields on the underside).

4. Our banana plug tube normally makes light rather than tight contact with the ground socket. This is perfectly adequate for the ultra-high voltages of static electricity. If you think the plug has loosened too much over time, squeeze the round tube into a slight oval by applying GENTLE pressure with pliers.

5. To clean the brush if it accumulates dust and lint, use a soft fingernail brush or a soft, clean paintbrush. Lay the static draining brush down on a hard surface. Brush the stainless steel fibers using only strokes directed *away* from the wooden handle. Turn the static draining brush over and repeat.

6. **FREE TIP:** For perfect static neutralization we recommend an Ionoclast zapping of the record and jacket every 5 or 10 plays.