

GRADO

Hand-Crafted High End Phonograph Cartridges



“Truly the World’s Finest...”

GRADO

About Grado Labs...

Grado Labs was established by Joseph Grado (1924-2015) in 1953 in Brooklyn. Ever since, Grado has become famous for the remarkable quality and design of their phonograph cartridges. Joseph Grado has been responsible for more innovations in phono cartridge design than any other person in our lifetime. He has been the inventor of the stereo moving coil phono cartridge and holds more than 48 patents on his name.

Born in New York, Joseph Grado left vocational high school at the age of 16, where he had been studying watch-making and had been at the top of his class. He went to work for Tiffany & Company and also taught the craft of watch-making in the evenings. When he discovered hi-fi sound in the early fifties, he visited Saul Marantz to get help in improving the sound of his audio system. Impressed by Joseph's gifted ear, Marantz sent him over to Sherman Fairchild's floundering hi-fi division. With Saul Marantz making the introductions, Joseph promptly landed a top position in the company. As soon as he came up with a design for a viable product, he went out on his own. Scraping together \$2,000, Joseph began to produce phono cartridges. In 1953 he started production of his cartridges on the kitchen table, Grado Labs' first home. In 1955 Joseph opened a factory in Brooklyn on the site of his Sicilian born father's grocery business which, to this day, has been the home of Grado Laboratories.



Joseph Grado

In the early years Grado also produced speakers, turntables and the highly acclaimed wooden tone-arm, which came in several models. In 1963 all of Grado's resources were dedicated to creating the world's finest phono cartridges. In 1976 phono cartridge design was taken to the next level and the first true high-end cartridges were created under the tutelage of Joseph Grado Signature Products.

In 1990, John Grado, Joseph's nephew, became the President & C.E.O. of Grado Labs. He redesigned the entire Grado line of phono cartridges and introduced the wooden Grado housing. Grado's system of damping has virtually eliminated resonant distortions in the magnetic and electrical circuits in the cartridge, bringing analog to a new level of performance. The wooden Reference and Statement Series of phono cartridges have been honored with a Golden Note Award for analog design. Grado also revised the entry level cartridges with the Prestige Series which has been touted as the "Best Value" in phono cartridges in the world.

Family run since 1953 for three generations, Grado continues to produce the world's finest phono cartridges, all hand-crafted in Brooklyn, New York. Each individual cartridge manufactured by Grado is hand assembled and tested for frequency response, channel output, channel balance, phase linearity, inductance and resistance. This meticulous care in design and construction lavished on each Grado cartridge contributes to an unchallenged consistency of performance and guarantee of reliability.

For distribution in The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and Ireland, Grado cartridges are exclusively represented by Tonar International. Since 1954, Tonar has become the specialist for phonograph styli, cartridges and accessories for your turntable and vinyl collection.

tonar

www.tonar.eu



GRADO

Lineage Series

GRADO LINEAGE SERIES



In 1953, Joseph Grado and his family started building cartridges on their kitchen table. Every experience gained in the development of cartridges since the early days has led to the creation of the Lineage Series, consisting of the Epoch and Aeon cartridges. The Epoch and Aeon represent the craftsmanship and unwavering dedication to sound that has been Grado's main focus for over half a century.

The Grado Epoch, is the flagship cartridge of the Lineage Series. For the first time in the history of Grado, sapphire, gold, diamond, and cocobolo wood join forces to produce the finest hand-built cartridge ever.

The Epoch and Aeon are two cartridges that offer exceptional reproduction of vocals and instruments, with superlative tonal balance, dynamics, imaging, and realism. Grado's coil winding techniques, which have been honed throughout the decades, have let them achieve exact unison between the four coils in each phono cartridge. This allows for a precise balance between channels and accurate stereo imaging. Each Grado is wound with the finest properly sized and annealed 24-karat solid gold wire, which is the ultimate conductor for the transmission of the music from your record.

All of the internal magnetic circuit parts are Swiss screw machined or molded metal, which have tolerances on the order of the best Swiss-made watches. The specially designed diamond stylus, for the first time in a Grado, is mounted on a sapphire cantilever that connects to the stylus generating system. The Epoch and Aeon feature a unique system that has the lowest effective moving mass of any cartridge, while Grado's patented Flux-Bridger generator design creates a superior balance throughout the full frequency spectrum with superb resolution and clarity, which produces an overall truer picture of the music. This is all nestled inside a cocobolo wooden housing.

GRADO EPOCH

Output = 1mV @ 5 CMV

Controlled frequency response = 6 Hz - 72,000 Hz

Channel separation: avg. 47dB - 6 Hz - 72,000 Hz

Loading: 47,000 Ω

Inductance: 30 mH

Resistance: 91 Ω

Non-sensitive to capacitive load

Chassis mass: 12 grams

Tracking force: 1.5 - 1.9 grams

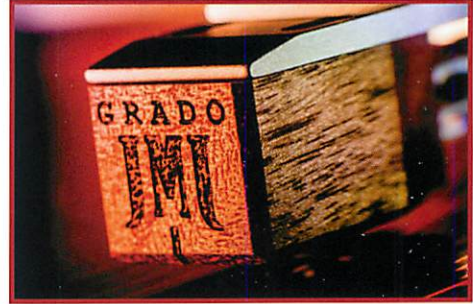


GRADO

Statement Series

GRADO STATEMENT SERIES

The Statement Series of wooden cartridges are a fixed coil design, hand-crafted at Grado Labs in Brooklyn. An intricate procedure of curing is done between production steps to achieve optimal sonic quality. This series generator/stylus module is not replaceable* allowing a one-piece magnetic circuit and a reduction of chassis resonances. The Statement Series utilizes manufacturing and assembly techniques of fantastic accuracy and precision, and the result is virtual perfection. Should be used only with the finest equipment. Recommended tracking force 3/4 to 2 grams.



The Grado Statement2 utilizes four reconfigured coils, a precision machined ultra-low mass generating system (lower than any moving coil cartridge), a boron cantilever and a diamond cut to Grado's strict specifications. All this is hand assembled and housed in an Australian Jarrah wood enclosure that's designed to optimize the mass distribution creating one of the world's most stable tracking phono cartridges. The output of the new Statement2 measures at 1.0 mV. This optimized output results in maximum dynamics with today's ultra-low noise phono stages. The top-end seems to extend forever with remarkable delicacy and speed, while the mid-range is rich and complex. The Statement's portrayal of low frequency information and bass dynamics are solid, authoritative and powerful. Imaging is detailed and precise with a sound stage that wraps its arms around you and draws you into the music.

GRADO STATEMENT2

OUTPUT: 1mV @ 5 CMV
CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 8-70,000 Hz
CHANNEL SEPARATION: AVERAGE 45 dB - 10-30,000 Hz
LOAD: 47,000 Ω
INDUCTANCE: 30 mh
RESISTANCE: 72 Ω
NON SENSITIVE TO CAPACITIVE LOAD
CHASSIS MASS: 10 GRAMS
TRACKING FORCE: 1.5 - 1.9 GRAMS

GRADO REFERENCE2 & MASTER2:

OUTPUT: 1mV @ 5 CMV
CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 10-60,000 Hz
CHANNEL SEPARATION: AVERAGE 40 dB - 10-30,000 Hz
LOAD: 47,000 Ω
INDUCTANCE: 30 mh
RESISTANCE: 72 Ω
NON SENSITIVE TO CAPACITIVE LOAD
CHASSIS MASS: 10 GRAMS
TRACKING FORCE: 1.5 - 1.9 GRAMS

GRADO SONATA2 & PLATINUM2

OUTPUT: 1mV @ 5 CMV
CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 15-55,000 Hz
CHANNEL SEPARATION: AVERAGE 30 dB - 10-30,000 Hz
LOAD: 47,000 Ω
INDUCTANCE: 30 mh
RESISTANCE: 72 Ω
NON SENSITIVE TO CAPACITIVE LOAD
CHASSIS MASS: 10 GRAMS
TRACKING FORCE: 1.5 - 1.9 GRAMS



GRADO

Reference Series

GRADO REFERENCE SERIES

The Reference Series2 of wooden cartridges are hand-crafted at Grado Labs from Australian Jarrah wood. An intricate procedure of curing is done between production steps to achieve optimal sonic quality. This series generator/stylus module is not replaceable allowing a redesigned one-piece magnetic circuit and a reduction of chassis resonances. The Reference Series2 utilizes manufacturing and assembly techniques that result in musical perfection. The Reference Series2 should be used with only the finest equipment. Recommended tracking force 1.5 to 1.9 grams.



All Reference Series2 cartridges offer a low mass generating system and a diamond cut specially for Grado. In addition the Reference2 and Master2 are installed with a boron cantilever. The output for the Reference Series2 measures at 5 mV. The frequency information and its portrayal of bass dynamics are solid, powerful and authoritative. The midrange is rich, complex and highly believable. Its top-end seems to extend forever with speed and remarkable delicacy. Imaging is detailed and precise with a sound stage that wraps its arms around you and draws you into the music.

The Master2 and Reference2 models use a five piece OTL cantilever technology achieving an additional 5% tip mass reduction over the Platinum2 and Sonata2 models. The coils are wound with ultra-high purity long crystal (UHPLC) oxygen free copper wire. The Master2 model is mounted with Grado's specially designed nude elliptical diamond, and the Reference1 model uses Grado's true ellipsoid design diamond. These cartridges are individually calibrated.

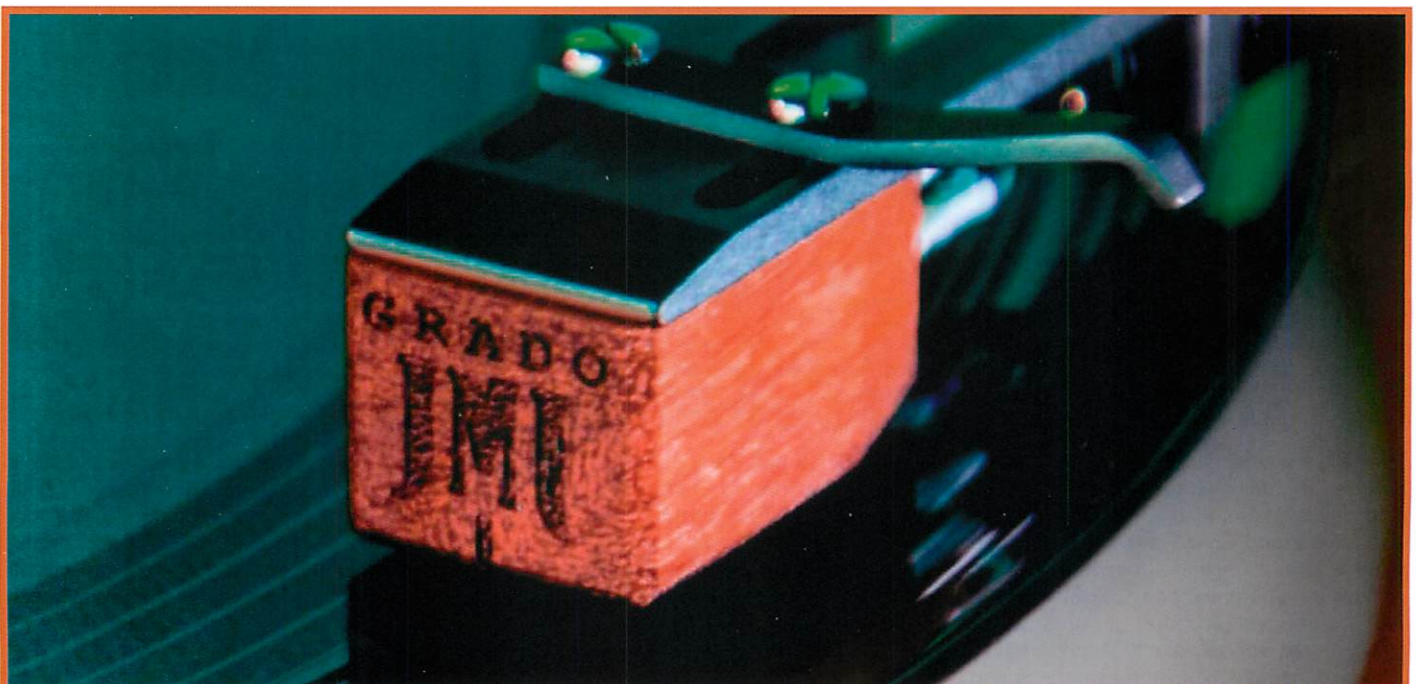
The Platinum2 and Sonata2 models use a modified four piece OTL cantilever technology achieving a 10% tip mass reduction over the Prestige series and ultra-high purity long crystal (UHPLC) oxygen free copper wire in the coils. The Platinum2 model uses Grado's specially designed elliptical diamond mounted on a brass bushing, and the Sonata2 model uses Grado's specially designed nude elliptical diamond.

GRADO REFERENCE2 & MASTER2

OUTPUT: 4.8mV @ 5 CMV (45)
CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 10-60,000 Hz
CHANNEL SEPARATION: AVERAGE 40 dB - 10-30,000 Hz
LOAD: 47,000 Ω
INDUCTANCE: 40 mh
RESISTANCE: 600 Ω
NON SENSITIVE TO CAPACITIVE LOAD
CHASSIS MASS: 10 GRAMS
TRACKING FORCE: 1.5 - 1.9 GRAMS

GRADO SONATA2 & PLATINUM2

OUTPUT: 4.8mV @ 5 CMV (45)
CONTROLLED FREQUENCY RESPONSE: 15-55,000 Hz
CHANNEL SEPARATION: AVERAGE 30 dB - 10-30,000 Hz
LOAD: 47,000 Ω
INDUCTANCE: 30 mh
RESISTANCE: 600 Ω
NON SENSITIVE TO CAPACITIVE LOAD
CHASSIS MASS: 10 GRAMS
TRACKING FORCE: 1.5 - 1.9 GRAMS



GRADO

Prestige Series

GRADO PRESTIGE SERIES

The Prestige 2 Series is Grado's updated entry level line of cartridges, offering high performance phono cartridges at affordable prices. The cartridges make use of Grado's optimized transmission line (OTL) technology. OTL provides an ideal transfer of signal from the surface of the LP to the generator of the system. This technology rejects unwanted resonances and lowers distortion preserving the fundamental and harmonic frequencies of the music. This also helps keep noise generated by the motor system in the cartridge to a minimum. Grado's OTL stylus/cantilever design makes records sound quieter, improves the height, width, and depth of the soundstage, and present more detail than previously obtainable. All Prestige models available in both ½ inch mount and T4P-mount. All styli in the Prestige series are user replaceable.

The Prestige cartridges are hand assembled by the Grado team in Brooklyn, with some builders having over 25 years of experience. With the recent development of the highly received Lineage Series of cartridges, new technologies have been applied to the Prestige line as well. This updated series of cartridges offers excellent tonal balance, dynamics, and realism, for a most rewarding reproduction of vocals and instruments. The unique coil winding techniques, using ultra high purity copper wire which were honed during the development of the Lineage Series, have let the electrical circuits achieve unison between the four coils in each phono cartridge. This allows for a precise balance between channels and accurate stereo imaging.

The Prestige cartridges are powered by a twin magnet system that optimizes the balance between stereo channels. All internal magnetic circuit parts are held to extremely high tolerances creating the desired stereo imaging. Grado's patented Flux-Bridger design allows the Prestige cartridges to have one of the lowest effective moving mass generating systems while creating an excellent balance throughout the full frequency range.

The development of the Epoch in the Lineage Series brought an in-depth experience with using an outer housing as a damping device. This led to the creation of a process which de-stresses the chassis and dissipates unwanted energy & resonant frequencies, allowing the desired signal to travel freely.

GOLD2



RED2



GREEN2



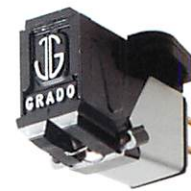
SILVER2



BLUE2



BLACK2



Frequency Response: 10 - 60.000 Hz
Principal: MI
Channel Separation: 35 (at 1 KHz)
Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 1.5 gram
Stylus Type: Elliptical
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475
Compliance CUs: 20 mm/N
Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: ½ inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Frequency Response: 10 - 55.000 Hz
Principal: MI
Channel Separation: 30 (at 1 KHz)
Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 1.5 gram
Stylus Type: Elliptical
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475
Compliance CUs: 20 mm/N
Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: ½ inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Frequency Response: 10 - 50.000 Hz
Principal: MI
Channel Separation: 30 (at 1 KHz)
Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 1.5 gram
Stylus Type: Elliptical
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475
Compliance CUs: 20 mm/N
Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: ½ inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Both the Silver2 and Gold2 use a four piece OTL cantilever with a Grado specific elliptical diamond stylus mounted on a brass bushing. With the Silver2 and Gold2, a machined turned generator is used to achieve a lower distortion and greater transparency. The Gold2 are hand selected from Silver2 production runs which meet higher test specifications. Approximately 5% of the run usually exhibits these specs and become a Gold2.

Both the Blue2 and Red2 use a four piece OTL cantilever that has a Grado specific diamond mounted on a brass bushing. The Red2 are hand selected from Blue2 production runs which meet higher test specifications. Approximately 10% of the run usually exhibits these specs and become a Red2.

Both the Black2 and Green2 use a three piece OTL cantilever that has a Grado specific diamond mounted on a brass bushing. The Green2 are hand selected from Black2 production runs which meet higher test specifications. Approximately 15% of the run usually exhibits these specs and become a Green2.

GRADO

Prestige Specialty Series

GRADO PRESTIGE SPECIALTY SERIES



SPECIALITY: 78 RPM



The Prestige Specialty Series of 78-RPM cartridges are designed for high output and excellent stability under even severe use. The experts acclaim these cartridges as virtually the finest 78-rpm cartridges in the world. There are two versions available: the Grado 78C and the Grado 78E.

SPECIALITY: MONO PHONO



There are many analog lovers with record collections that include mono albums. Grado strives to have products that will fit all the needs of the analog enthusiast. There are two versions available: the MC+ and the ME+.

SPECIALITY: DJ



Grado's DJ cartridges are the most advanced phono pickups ever offered to the professional DJ market. Built and designed for the demanding needs of the professional DJ musician, Grado cartridges deliver musical performance never known before in the pro DJ market. There are two versions available: the DJ100 and the DJ200.

Frequency Response: 10 - 50,000 Hz
Principal: MI

Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 2.5 gram
Stylus Type: Conical
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475

Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: 1/2 inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Frequency Response: 10 - 50,000 Hz
Principal: MI

Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 1.5 gram
Stylus Type: Elliptical
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475

Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: 1/2 inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Frequency Response: 10 - 50,000 Hz
Principal: MI

Channel Separation: 30 (at 1 KHz)
Input Load: 47K
Output: 5mV (5 cm/sec)
Tracking Force: 2.5 gram
Stylus Type: Diamond
Inductance: 45mH
Resistance: 475
Compliance CUs: 30
Stylus Replacement: User replaceable
Mounting: 1/2 inch/T4P
Weight: 5.5 gram

Each cartridge can be used for either archival or casual play without concern for undue wear on the record. All Grado 78 cartridges have a considerable reduction in tip mass resulting in extended frequency response while tracking forces can range from 2-5 grams. The 78C cartridge uses a three-piece OTL cantilever technology. The 78E cartridge uses a modified four-piece OTL cantilever technology.

The MC+ and the ME+ are mounted with an elliptical diamond. The MC+ uses a three-piece OTL cantilever technology. The ME+ uses a modified four-piece OTL cantilever technology. The ME+ uses one of Grado's upgraded generating systems. All wooden body cartridges are available in mono version. This will make your records quieter and enhance the musical pleasure of these recordings.

The Prestige model DJ100 uses a three-piece OTL cantilever technology. The Prestige model DJ200 uses a modified four piece OTL cantilever technology. Both cartridges use oxygen free wire in the coils and a specially designed, high polished, diamond mounted in a brass bushing. The Grado specially engineered transmission line cantilever allows for the ideal transfer of music signal and for safe and effective stylus back-cueing.

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Your Grado dealer:

Grado cartridges are exclusively represented in the The Netherlands, Belgium, Luxembourg, the United Kingdom and Ireland by:

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