

clearaudio



concept mc
concept mc Signature

Loving music

User manual
Bedienungsanleitung



Pic. similar /
Abb. ähnlich

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Dear **Clearaudio** customer,

Thank you for choosing a high quality audio product from **Clearaudio electronic GmbH**.

Clearaudio's MC cartridges are designed and meticulously handcrafted in Germany to deliver excellence in sound. We have been at the forefront of research into moving coil technology since 1978, and our ongoing research and development ensures that all of our cartridges remain at the leading edge of analogue engineering.

The *concept mc* and *essence mc* combine timeless design with the latest moving coil innovations.

Please note:

This user manual gives you valuable information for the correct installation of your cartridge. For fine adjustment, however, we can only provide general guidelines, since optimal adjustment will depend on your specific tonearm and turntable.

We wish you much musical enjoyment with your new MC cartridge.
Clearaudio electronic GmbH



Safety instructions

1. General information

Inspect the cartridge for existing damage (bent stylus, damaged contacts) before putting it into operation. If the cartridge is damaged, refrain from using it!

Contact your dealer to have the cartridge inspected.

Never expose the cartridge to rain or moisture.

The interior of the cartridge is maintenance-free; never open the casing or attempt to remove the stylus yourself. Such actions could also lead to the loss of warranty.

Avoid storing the cartridge in proximity to devices with electrical transformers and motors that generate magnetic fields. Any demagnetization could result in output voltage failure, leading to distortion or degradation in sound quality.

Please note: Never disconnect the tonearm cable from the amplifier while your device is still powered on. Turn off the preamplifier before disconnecting the tonearm cable from the phono inputs of the preamplifier.

Any damages arising from not adhering to the operating manual will void the warranty. We assume no liability for consequential damages resulting from this.

Not suitable for children! Package contents may include small parts that can be swallowed.

2. Intended Use

Cartridges are intended solely for mounting on tonearms and must not be used for purposes other than this.

NOT SUITABLE FOR SHELLAC RECORDS (78rpm).

The intended use of the cartridge involves using it in accordance with the information provided in the user manual.

3. Placement

Avoid locations with direct sunlight, temperature fluctuations, and high humidity. Similarly, do not place electronic devices near heaters, heat lamps, or other devices that emit heat. The cartridge is designed for operation in heated rooms.

4. Overloading

The product is engineered to comply with all necessary safety regulations. However, do not leave the device unattended under extreme stress.

5. Maintenance

Please clean each record with a record cleaning machine before the initial playback. This will result in significantly quieter music reproduction (approximately 10dB improved signal-to-noise ratio!).

Regularly clean the stylus with a soft brush or a cleaning fluid available from specialty retailers (**Clearaudio** Elixir of Sound, Part No. AC003). Ensure that no fluid comes into contact with the cartridge body.

6. Health Advice

Sustained exposure to high volume can lead to various auditory impairments. Exercise responsible use of high volume levels.



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7. Service

Clearaudio cartridges may only be repaired by the manufacturer; otherwise, the warranty claim will be voided. Service for all **Clearaudio** products should exclusively be carried out by authorized dealers. If, despite the high manufacturing standards, service is required, the **Clearaudio** cartridge must be sent to **Clearaudio** through your authorized dealer.

8. Transport

If further transportation of the cartridge is necessary, always use the original packaging. Otherwise, your cartridge could sustain serious damage.

Clearaudio cannot assume liability for damages incurred during transportation due to improper packaging.

9. Disposal



This product must not be disposed of together with regular household waste.

WEEE Registration Number: DE26004446

10. CE Marking

CE This electronic product complies with the applicable directives for obtaining the CE mark.

UK
CA

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1. Included accessories

- Allen key 2mm
- Cartridge mounting screws (2pcs. M2.5 x 6mm; 2 pcs. M2.5 x 10mm)
- User manual
- Warranty card
- Return delivery note

Additional analogue accessories are available at: www.analogshop.de

The following are recommended:

- **Clearaudio** *Test Record* (Art. No. LP43033)
- **Clearaudio** *Break-In Test Record* (Art. No. BIN070904)
- **Clearaudio** *Setting Template* (Art. No. AC005/IEC)
- **Clearaudio** *Stylus Gauge* (Art. No. AC094)
- **Clearaudio** *Weight Watcher touch* (Art. No. AC163)
- **Clearaudio** *Elixir of Sound* (Art. No. AC003)
- **Clearaudio** *Diamond cleaner brush* (Art. No. AC014)

2. Mounting procedure

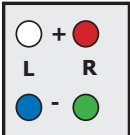
Take the cartridge out of the packaging. To avoid damage, we recommend leaving the stylus guard on the cartridge while mounting the cartridge onto the tonearm.

Use the screws provided to mount your **Clearaudio** MC cartridge (the cartridge threads in the body comply with the metric standard for M 2.5mm screws and have the standard spacing of 12.7mm).

Be careful not to over-tighten the screws as they may strip the threaded holes.

Now connect the pins of your **Clearaudio** cartridge to the jacks of the headshell or tonearm cable, taking care not to use too much force. If necessary, you can use suitable precision pliers or tweezers for assistance.

Please note the colour coding below in order to ensure the correct phase in music playback, otherwise an audible sound deterioration would result.

	Left output (L+) >>	white
	Left ground >>	blue
	Right output (R+) >>	red
	Right ground >>	green

Pic. 1: Colour marking of the signal pins



We recommend the following order of assembly:

1. Mount the MC cartridge into the tonearm.
2. Connect the tonearm or turntable ground with the preamplifier ground (before plugging in the electrical power supply).
3. Plug the tonearm cable into the phono inputs of your preamplifier.
4. Turn down the volume control to a minimum position (position 0).
5. Plug the mains power cord into your electrical power supply.

Our tip for mounting the cartridge:

Choose a bright workplace and good tools, and take your time so you can concentrate.

3. Adjustment of the tracking force

Carefully remove the stylus guard from the cartridge by grasping it with your thumb and forefinger and gently pulling it forward.

The correct tracking force of your cartridge can be found in the technical data in this user manual.

Please only use these values, since if the tracking force is too light (1g or less) the cartridge could jump out of the record groove and damage the needle.

However, you should never set a tracking force of more than 5g as this could cause damage to the diamond and thus to the cartridge.

In the event that it is not possible to set the optimal tracking force due to the cartridge being too light, you should use a spacer plate available from your **Clearaudio** importer/dealer.

Further valuable information for the correct adjustment of your cartridge can be found in the respective user manual of the turntable and/or tonearm manufacturer.

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4. Troubleshooting

If you encounter an issue with your cartridge, first check for potential causes to rule out incorrect operation. If the problem persists, please contact your dealer!

Never attempt to open the casing and/or repair it yourself, as this will void your warranty!

Error	Cause	Measure
No Sound	Are the other components operational?	Check if the other devices are operational and that the volume is not set too low.
	Defective stylus	Check the stylus of the cartridge. Is it bent, or is the diamond/entire stylus missing? Please contact your dealer to have the cartridge repaired or replaced. Never attempt to remove the stylus assembly on your own!
	Are the connections properly attached?	Inspect the connections of the cartridge. Are they correctly attached according to the color coding? Are they securely fastened?

Poor sound quality / noise	Is the record or stylus dirty or damaged?	Clean the record / cartridge. Clearaudio offers many useful accessory products for maintenance and cleaning. If there's damage, we recommend assessment by a specialist and possibly replacement.
	Is the cartridge properly installed on the tonearm?	Check the installation according to the respective user manual and adjust if necessary.
	Is the tracking force set too low/high?	Adjust the tracking force.
	Is the correct operating mode (MM / MC) selected on the amplifier?	Check the settings on your phono preamplifier.
Sound output on only one speaker	Are the connections properly attached?	Inspect the connections of the cartridge. Are they correctly attached according to the color coding? Are they securely fastened?

5. Technical data

	<i>concept mc</i>	<i>concept mc Signature</i>
Total mass:	8.0g	8.0g
Frequency response:	20Hz - 20kHz	20Hz - 20kHz
Output voltage (at 5 cm/sec):	0.4mV	0.4mV
Channel separation:	> 28dB	> 30dB
Channel balance:	< 0.5dB	< 0.3dB
Tracking ability:	80µm	80µm
Recommended tracking force:	2.2g (± 0.2g)	2.2g (± 0.2g)
Cartridge impedance:	11Ω	11Ω
Cantilever / stylus shape:	Boron / Micro Line	Boron / Micro Line
Compliance:	9µ/mN	9µ/mN
Coil assembly:	--	—
Coil material:	OFC - copper	OFC – copper
Cartridge body:	Aluminium-magnesium alloy with ceramic surface layer	Aluminium-magnesium alloy with ceramic surface layer
Manufacturer's warranty:	2 years*	2 years*

*Provided that the warranty card is correctly completed and returned to **Clearaudio**, or your product is registered online at <https://clearaudio.de/en/service/registration.php>, within 14 days after purchase.

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The full, extended warranty period for the *concept mc / concept mc Signature* cartridge is 2 years. To receive this full **Clearaudio** warranty, you must either complete and return the relevant section of the warranty registration card to **Clearaudio**, or register your product online at <https://clearaudio.de/en/service/registration.php>, within 14 days of purchase.

Otherwise only the legal warranty can be considered.

The full 2 year warranty can only be honoured if the product is returned in its original packing.

Um die volle **clearaudio** Garantie (für *concept mc / concept mc Signature* 2 Jahre) in Anspruch nehmen zu können, senden Sie uns bitte die beigelegte Garantiekarte innerhalb von zwei Wochen korrekt und vollständig ausgefüllt zu oder registrieren Sie die Garantie online unter <https://clearaudio.de/de/service/registration.php>, da sonst nur die gesetzliche Gewährleistung berücksichtigt werden kann. Nur wenn das Produkt in der Originalverpackung zurückgeschickt wurde kann **clearaudio** die Garantiezeit von 2 Jahren gewährleisten.



ENGLISH WARRANTY

For warranty information, contact your local **Clearaudio** distributor.

RETAIN YOUR PURCHASE RECEIPT

Your purchase receipt is your permanent record of a valuable purchase. It should be kept in a safe place to be referred to as necessary for insurance purposes or when corresponding with **Clearaudio**.

IMPORTANT

When seeking warranty service, it is the responsibility of the consumer to establish proof and date of purchase. Your purchase receipt or invoice is adequate for such proof.

FOR U.K. ONLY

This undertaking is in addition to a consumer's statutory rights and does not affect those rights in any way.



FRANÇAIS GARANTIE

Pour des informations sur la garantie, contacter le distributeur local **Clearaudio**.

CONSERVER L'ATTESTATION D'ACHAT

L'attestation d'achat est la preuve permanente d'un achat de valeur. La conserver en lieu sûr pour y reporter aux fins d'obtention d'une couverture d'assurance ou dans le cadre de correspondances avec **Clearaudio**.

IMPORTANT

Pour l'obtention d'un service couvert par la garantie, il incombe au client d'établir la preuve de l'achat et d'en corroborer la date. Le reçu ou la facture constituent des preuves suffisantes.



DEUTSCH GARANTIE

Bei Garantiefragen wenden Sie sich bitte zunächst an Ihren **Clearaudio** Händler.

Heben Sie Ihren Kaufbeleg gut auf.

WICHTIG!

Die Angaben auf Ihrer Quittung erlauben uns die Identifizierung Ihres Gerätes und belegen mit dem Kaufdatum die Dauer Ihrer Garantie-Ansprüche. Für Serviceleistungen benötigen wir stets die Gerätenummer. Diese finden Sie auf dem Typenschild auf der Rückseite des Gerätes oder auch in der beigefügten Garantie-Registrierkarte.



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NEDERLANDS **GARANTIE**

Voor inlichtingen omtrent garantie dient u zich tot uw plaatselijke **Clearaudio**.

UW KWITANTIE, KASSABON E.D. BEWAREN

Uw kwitantie, kassabon e.d. vormen uw bewijs van aankoop van een waardevol artikel en dienen op een veilige plaats bewaard te worden voor evt, verwijzing bijv, in verband met verzekering of bij correspondentie met **Clearaudio**.

BELANGRIJK

Bij een evt, beroep op de garantie is het de verantwoordelijkheid van de consument een gedateerd bewijs van aankoop te tonen. Uw kassabon of factuur zijn voldoende bewijs.

ITALIANO **GARANZIA**

L'apparecchio è coperto da una garanzia di buon funzionamento della durata di un anno, o del periodo previsto dalla legge, a partire dalla data di acquisto comprovata da un documento attestante il nominativo del Rivenditore e la data di vendita. La garanzia sarà prestata con la sostituzione o la riparazione gratuita delle parti difettose. Non sono coperti da garanzia difetti derivanti da uso improprio, errata installazione, manutenzione effettuata da personale non autorizzato o, comunque, da circostanze che non possano riferirsi a difetti di funzionamento dell'apparecchio. Sono inoltre esclusi dalla garanzia gli interventi inerenti l'installazione e l'allacciamento agli impianti di alimentazione. Gli apparecchi verranno riparati presso i nostri Centri di Assistenza Autorizzati. Le spese ed i rischi di trasporto sono a carico del cliente. La casa costruttrice declina ogni responsabilità per danni diretti o indiretti provocati dalla inosservanza delle prescrizioni di installazione, uso e manutenzione dettagliate nel presente manuale o per guasti dovuti ad uso continuato a fini professionali.

ESPAÑOL **GARANTIA**

Para obtener información acerca de la garantía póngase en contacto con su distribuidor **Clearaudio**.

GUARDE SU RECIBO DE COMPRA

Su recibo de compra es su prueba permanente de haber adquirido un aparato de valor, Este recibo deberá guardarlo en un lugar seguro y utilizarlo como referencia cuando tenga que hacer uso del seguro o se ponga en contacto con **Clearaudio**.

IMPORTANTE

Cuando solicite el servicio otorgado por la garantía el usuario tiene la responsabilidad de demostrar cuándo efectuó la compra. En este caso, su recibo de compra será la prueba apropiada.



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2023