

# ***Champion*** **LEVEL 1**

Assembly and  
User Manual



Loving music



DEAR AUDIO ENTHUSIAST

Thank you for your decision to purchase a **clearaudio** *Champion* Level 1 turntable. This turntable is manufactured to the highest degree of tolerance and quality.

Please take a moment to read this owner's manual to ensure correct set up, to avoid any possible damage and to learn how proper care of your **clearaudio** *Champion* Level 1 turntable which will give you many years of musical enjoyment and pleasure.

**clearaudio** electronic GmbH

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## **1. Front view**

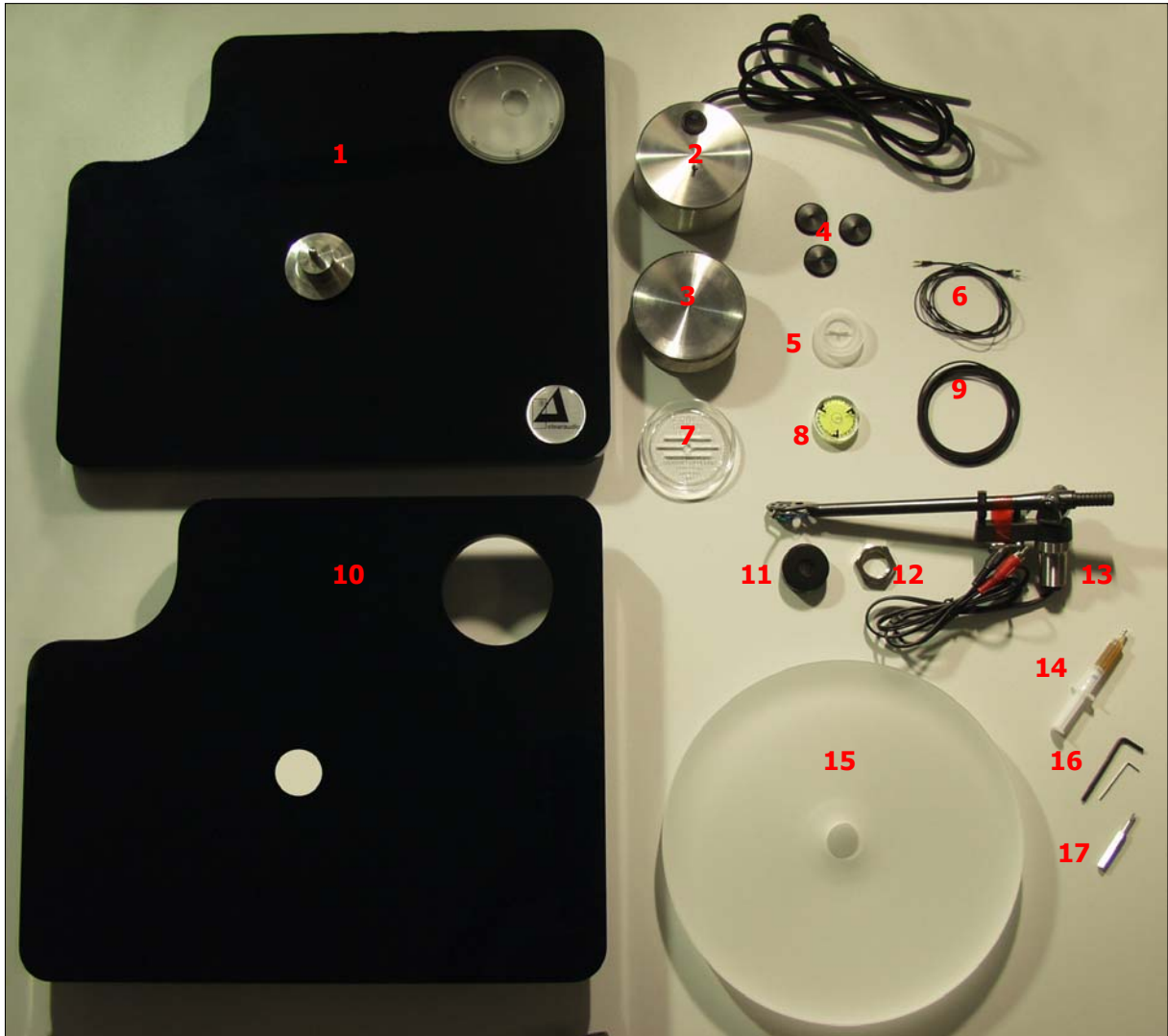
The photo below shows the **clearaudio** *Champion* Level 1 turntable assembled and set up with the Unify tonearm. You can see the use of carefully selected materials and the resonance avoiding construction. Further the stand-alone Motor reduces any induced vibrations and resonances to the turntable chassis.



*Champion* Level 1 assembled and set up

## **2. Package contents**

The **clearaudio** *Champion* Level 1 turntable is delivered in a special packaging to ensure its safe transport. Please check the contents as shown in the picture below and in the list on the next page:



### Overview of package contents

Not shown: a pair of white gloves

|    |  |     |   |
|----|--|-----|---|
| 1. | Champion acrylic chassis with mounted bearing      | 10. | Champion acrylic chassis (lower part)   |
| 2. | Complete preassembled stand-alone motor            | 11. | REGA-counterweight  |
| 3. | Decoupling device for the motor                    | 12. | REGA-tonearm base nut   |
| 4. | Three <i>Flat Pads</i> to be lawn under the Spikes | 13. | Complete preassembled REGA-OEM tonearm  |
| 5. | Pulley made out of acrylic including fixing screws | 14. | Tube of grease for servicing the platter bearing  |
| 6. | Grounding cable to ground the bearing screw        | 15. | High-precision turntable platter made out of solid silicon acrylic                              |
| 7. | <b>clearaudio</b> Clever Clamp                     | 16. | Hex key wrenches : one to adjust the tonearm height, the other for the screws to mount the base |
| 8. | Precision level gauge                              | 17. | Screw-driver made out of aluminium  |
| 9. | Two drive belts (one spare)                        |     |   |

## **3. Assembly and Operation**

First please put on the white gloves to avoid finger prints on the surface of the acrylic chassis during installation.

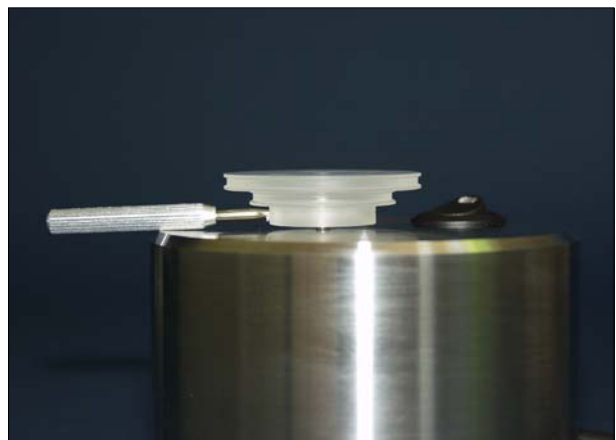
1. Place first the lower part-chassis on a clean and soft surface. Please pay attention, that the surface of your HiFi-rack is horizontal and vertical correctly adjusted, by using the delivered level gauge. **Important:** Never turn the Spikes of the turntable chassis, they had been adjusted in the factory. Use the delivered Flad Pads to avoid scratches on the surface of your HiFi-rack. After that place the chassis with the mounted bearing onto the first one.



2. Now unpack your turntable platter and place the platter carefully on the upper part of the bearing which is mounted in the turntable chassis. **Important:** take care not to cause too much pressure!



3. Place the pulley on the motor spindle. The distance between the pulley and the motor housing should be approx. 1-2mm. Tighten the little screws inside the pulley with the aluminium screwdriver provided.



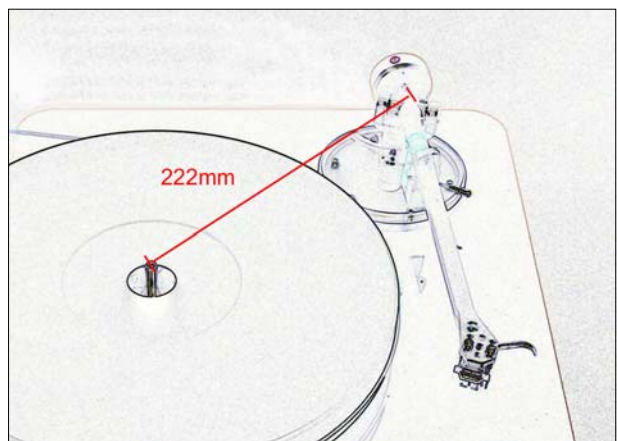
4. Place the decoupling base for the motor in the indent of the chassis and place the motor on it. The switch of the motor should be on the outside of the turntable and the space between motor and chassis approx. 1cm. (for an exact adjustment see chapter 4).



5. Please screw the tonearm carefully into the upper part of the tonearm base. Then slide the tonearm nut over the tonearm cable and tighten it, but not too much because the tonearm should be still able to turn.



6. Now you can While holding the unit you can adjust the tonearm height (VTA = vertical tracking angle) when you have a cartridge mounted. The VTA is adjusted correctly if the tonearm sits parallel to the turntable platter surface after lifting it down. Now loosen the six screws with the provided hex key wrench, to be able to set the distance between the spindle and the tonarm bearing crosspoint to 222mm, by turning the tonearm base. After that you can fix the six screws again.



7. Turn the tonearm into the final position where the tonearm is almost parallel to the right hand edge of the chassis. After that you can fix the tonearm in this position by holding the tonearm nut with one hand and turning the tonearm against, while using the other hand or tight the large nut with a wrench. Mount the tonearm counterweight.

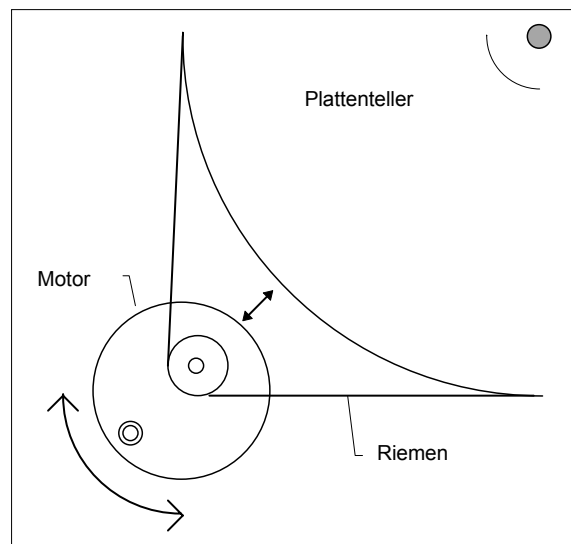


8. To change the height of the tonearm lift, turn it up to the high position and loosen the little screw at the front. Now you can move the plate of the lift. The distance between record and cartridge diamond when it is lifted up should be about 5mm. Tighten the screw again.

9. Place the belt first round the platter, then round the smaller diameter of the pulley (33 1/3 rpm).

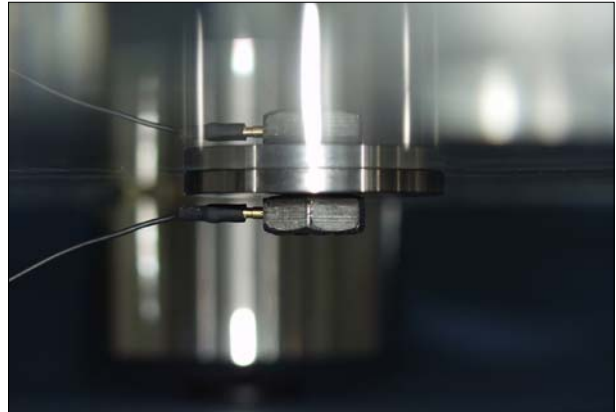
10. The tension of the belt can be changed by turning the motor about its axis. The tension is correct if the correct turntable speed is achieved within 10 seconds. **If the tension is too high, the motor could start to vibrate a little bit.** If the tension is too loose, the turntable will not achieve a constant and correct speed.

11. Assemble the cartridge according to the manufacturer's instructions.





12. If you should have problems with hum, the turntable may need to be grounded. In this case, connect the grounding wire supplied to the screw of the bearing and to the earth connector of your amplifier.



The **clearaudio** *Champion* Level 1 turntable is now completely assembled and you can now enjoy listening to music.

#### **4. Speed calibration**

Install the drive belt, first around the platter, then around the motor pulley. There are two diameters on the motor pulley:

- smaller for 33 1/3 rpm
- larger for 45 rpm

To correctly adjust the belt tension, turn the motor around its axis. Proper tension will be achieved through eccentric placement of the motor pulley or if you have enough space on your platform, just change the distance between the motor and the turntable chassis. The belt tension is correct if the belt can be deflected by approximately 3/4 inch by a finger.

#### **5. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

Please take the time to fill out the enclosed warranty card and return it to Clearaudio or your local distributor / dealer. **If you do not return this card within 14 days of purchase the guarantee will only be for a period of two years from the date of purchase.** During any transportation of the turntable, always remove the platter and inverted bearing. If this is not done, **DAMAGE COULD OCCUR!**

Please regularly check the mains leads of your motor assembly. If there is any damage to any wires or the mains plug, have them replaced immediately by a qualified person (your dealer or distributor).

To clean the turntable, use only special acrylic cleaner, which is **not alcohol based**. **Otherwise you could damage the material (haircracks and spots on the acrylic surface).**





## **6. Service**

If the platter (without drive belt) does not turn as easy as usual, you should squeeze a 5mm long line of the bearing grease into the upper part of the platter bearing.

If any service or repair on all **clearaudio** products is necessary, please contact your dealer / distributor or contact **clearaudio** directly. We will inform you about your nearest service location.

**PLEASE RETAIN ALL ORIGINAL PACKAGING.** You will need it if this unit has to be transported and/or shipped.

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## **7. Technical Data**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Construction :   | Geometrically resonance-optimized chassis,<br>beltdrive |
| Speeds:          | 33 1/3 rpm / 45 rpm                                     |
| Drive unit:      | Stand-alone synchronous motor                           |
| Platter bearing: | Patented, inverted bearing with polished ball inside    |
| Platter:         | Silicon acrylic, surface absolutely plain               |
| Speed variation: | ±0,1 %  |
| Weight:          | Approx. 14 Kg, with motor                               |
| Dimensions:      | Approx. 470 mm x 390 mm x 180 mm                        |
| Warranty:        | 5 Years (see chapter 5)                                 |