# BASIS AUDIO, INC.

## 1400 SIGNATURE SERIES TURNTABLE

**USER'S GUIDE** 

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#### INTRODUCTION

Thank you for purchasing the BASIS 1400 turntable. We are confident that you will come to view your decision to use a BASIS turntable as one of the most musically rewarding equipment choices in your audio experience.

The incredible precision of the BASIS bearing and platter system will allow you to feel the emotion of the music's natural flow. Each instrument's natural timbre will be portrayed with uncanny realism, and the entire presentation will be without the exaggeration and artificial air that the resonances of lesser designs create. Our goal at BASIS is that this effortlessness and realism allow you to relax and appreciate the music more than you ever have before.

We at Basis are proud of the musical information and emotion that the 1400 can convey to the music lover. We realize that many music enthusiasts will be satisfied with this level of performance for a lifetime

→ To realize the potential of your new turntable, and to prevent any damage which would delay your enjoyment, please carefully read these instructions before attempting to assemble your 1400.

### **UNPACKING AND SETTING UP YOUR 1400 TURNTABLE**

NOTE: You will find some white cotton gloves packed with your turntable. You may wish to use the gloves while you are handling the acrylic pieces of the turntable to prevent fingerprinting and scratching of your finely finished Basis turntable.

You will also find a bubble level, which will help you when you are leveling the turntable.

- 1. Locate the box labeled "1400 Bearing".
- 2. Unpack the bearing. Note that the bearing should not be held inverted for more than a few seconds unless you hold the spindle/shaft into the housing. Failure to hold the shaft into the housing will result in the shaft slowly sliding out of the housing, and a subsequent loss of the bearing oil. This would necessitate refilling of the bearing, and could permanently damage carpeting or any fabric onto which the oil might spill. There may be a slight seepage of oil on the bearing as you unpack it. This is normal during shipping. Simply wipe off with a paper towel.
- 3. In the misc. box locate the 2 6-32 x 1/2" long bearing screws and the long hex wrench that fits these screws.

- 4. Unpack the sub chassis. CAUTION: take care not to cut into the sub chassis when opening the package. If you use a knife to cut the tape, cut just deep enough to cut the tape.
- 5. Fit the bearing into the top of the sub chassis (the top side has a counter bore or sunken area) and rotate the bearing so that the screw holes in the bearing line up with the holes in the sub chassis.
- 6. From the rear side, pass the screws through the holes in the sub chassis and screw them into the bearing. **TIGHTEN THE SCREWS LIGHTLY**, using only the short end of the wrench for leverage, or you may damage the acrylic.
- 7. Locate the pod box. Open the box and unwrap the 3 pods.
- 8. Locate the 8-32 x 1" socket head cap screws and the mating hex key. Start with either of the 3 pod locations on the sub chassis. Insert the screw through the top of the sub chassis. Note that one end of the pod has a female threaded hole. Hold this end of the pod against the bottom of the sub chassis at one of the screw locations. Thread the screw into the pod and tighten firmly. Repeat the process for the other 2 pod locations.
- 9. Open the platter box. CAUTION: take care not to cut into the platter when opening the package. If you use a knife to cut the tape, cut just deep enough to cut the tape.
- 10. Note that the bearing has a small mark on its outer rim. The platter also has a small mark on its underside. Orient the platter in your hand so that when you place it on the bearing the two marks will line up. This is the optimal alignment, which will result in the best sound. Using the Basis clamp will further increase the integrity of this interface, duplicating the conditions under which the mating parts were measured and matched at Basis, and resulting in the best possible sound. Carefully place the platter on the bearing. DO NOT DROP THE PLATTER ON THE BEARING OR THE BEARING CAN BE DAMAGED.
- 11. Open the motor box. Carefully lift the motor out, taking care not to allow any side force to act on the pulley. ANY SIDE FORCE OR SHOCK ON THE PULLEY CAN RUIN THE MOTOR BEARINGS.
- 12. After you have placed the turntable in its final location place the motor to the rear of the sub chassis, centered left-to-right **on the centerline of the platter**. Space the motor away from the sub chassis by the approximate width of the belt. NOTE: You may place the motor to the left side of the turntable as an alternate location. In this case, the motor is centered front to rear, and is spaced the same distance from the sub chassis edge, approximately one belt width.
- 13. Loop the belt around the pulley and platter. Guiding the belt at the pulley with one hand to be sure that it does not jump off the pulley, slowly rotate the platter with your other hand to cause the belt to find its natural position on the platter.
- 14. Mount the tonearm following the tonearm manufacturer's instructions.

- 15. Level the turntable by turning the rubber feet located in the pods in the appropriate direction to raise or lower the corner in question.
- 16. Adjust the feet on the motor so that the belt rides 1/8" or more above the bottom of the platter. This will prevent the belt from jumping off the platter if the turntable is bounced while the platter is rotating.
  - Enclosed with your turntable are 12 rubber rings to place over the threads of any motor feet you have partially unscrewed in your adjustments. You may stack as many rings as necessary on the threads of the motor feet. Then you may lightly tighten the feet, slightly compressing the rubber rings, so that the threads are under tension, thus eliminating any free play or "wobble" between the feet and motor.
- 17. To operate the 1400 at 45 RPM simply place the belt on the upper, larger portion of the 2 tier pulley.
- 18. Connect the bearing ground wire to the ground on your preamplifier or to a true ground. This wire drains static electricity from the platter/bearing assembly and is not critical sonically except for performing this task.
- 19. When playing your 1400, you will note that many records will not make intimate contact with the acrylic platter. Due to the extreme accuracy of the platter on the 1400 turntable, along with the favorable mechanical impedance characteristics of the acrylic platter material, you will notice substantial performance gains when achieving good contact between platter and record. At a minimum, the Basis Record Weight should be used to obtain better contact. For the best possible coupling, the superior Basis Record Clamp should be used, which will last a lifetime and will fit any Basis turntable.

Please contact your dealer for information on the Basis weight and clamp.

#### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS CONCERNING THE 1400 TURNTABLE

#### Question:

"What type of turntable stand should I use?"

#### Answer:

You may use any stand, depending on whether you are seeking increased isolation or merely convenience. However, before spending any significant amount of money on an isolation stand you should consider upgrading from the 1400 to the 2001, which has more effective isolation and anti-resonance characteristics than any stand.

#### Question:

"Must I disassemble my 1400 to move it?"

#### Answer:

You should always remove the platter when moving the turntable to prevent damage to the bearing.

#### Question:

How do I clean my 1400?

#### Answer:

The platter should be cleaned with a widely available cleaning fluid called "Simple Green." This removes finger prints, oils, dust, and most normally found substances without changing the finish.

The sub chassis should be cleaned with a soft cloth and water or Simple Green. To remove fine scratches or stubborn materials you may call Basis and request our special cleaning cloths and compound.

#### BASIS AUDIO, INC. LIMITED 10 YEAR WARRANTY

BASIS AUDIO, INC. warrants this product to be free from defects in workmanship and materials for a period of 10 years from date of purchase.

Purchaser must submit to BASIS within 30 days of purchase the completed, signed, and dated warranty registration form and a copy of the bill of sale for this warranty to become valid. Failure to do all of the above shall render this limited warranty void and inapplicable.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if damage is due to: abuse, neglect, operating or assembling in a manner other than described in this manual, normal wear and tear, or shipping /handling.

Warranty is void and inapplicable if this product has been modified, repaired or tampered with by anyone other than BASIS or a BASIS authorized representative.

Should this product fail to meet the above warranty purchaser assumes sole obligation to re-package and return the unit to the dealer, BASIS, or a designated service representative at his/her own expense.

The unit will be returned after repair from Basis FREIGHT COLLECT.

This warranty is extended to the first owner for a period not to exceed 10 years from the date of first sale.

Implied warranties related to the above are limited to the duration of this warranty.

Warranty is not extended to cover ANY incidental or consequential costs or damages to the purchasers.

Certain states do not allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, or an exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, so the aforementioned limitations and exclusions may not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.