

The 45rpm Phono Gazette



Early 45 rpm Records



Picture from 1949 ad courtesy of Phil Vourtsis Collection
Early 45 rpm Records were Available in 7 Colors

When the RCA Victor Engineers were given a clean slate to design the new record and record player, they spent a lot of time improving the record. They looked at every shortcoming of the existing 78 rpm record and improved on it. The 78 was noisy and extremely brittle. Using vinyl as the new material took care of both of these problems. 78's are big and heavy. This was remedied by reducing the size to about 7 inches and putting the grooves closer together and lowering the rpms to 45. 78's are hard to handle and need to be balanced on a skinny spindle. The 45 center spindle is much larger allowing the dropping mechanism to be housed inside the spindle. The larger hole also makes handling the new record much easier. When 78's are stacked, they scratch each other and put tremendous stress on the small center hole when the records are separated. The 45 has a raised label which keeps the grooves from touching each other. It also makes it easier for the records to be separated by the spindle blades. By using different colored vinyl, it is much easier to identify what type of record or music you have. Red for classical, black for pops, yellow for children's music, etc. Unfortunately this last idea became too costly and was phased out

found that earlier RCA output vacuum tubes with gray lettering sound better than the newer tubes with red lettering. Bill has also found a way to stop vibration problems on model 8HF45P. Bass causes the grill cloth to vibrate against the wooden support slats where the woofer is mounted. By removing the woofer and sliding half of a popcicle stick with some glue between the grill and the wooden slat, deposit a little bit of the glue so that the grill will stick to the wooden slat. Remove the stick and reinstall the woofer.

The Workbench

Tips from you folks

If the tonearm on your rp-190 does not return to the lead-in groove of the next record, you need to clean up the return spring linkage. Paul Childress suggests



Return spring Assembly



Return spring shaft

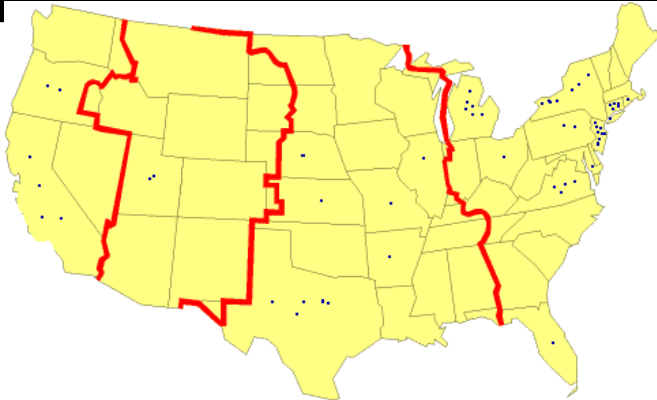
disassembling the parts and cleaning the shaft with fine emery paper until it shines like a penny. Another area that Paul feels must be superclean is the return spring arrangement for the idler wheel. He removes the plate assembly on top of the motor and thoroughly cleans it with gogo and water.



Motor mounting plate

Ever notice that some push/pull amps sound better than others? Bill Jones has ← Continued

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Where you folks reside

Back in the second issue (Nov. '95) I showed a rather archaic snapshot of our 11 subscribers. I thought it was time to update the map with the new tools I have access to. You are the blue dots and the red lines show the different time zones. I'm purposely keeping the numbers down because it would become too unwieldy to produce many more of these newsletters. So you are the chosen ones! Since I am not a geography wizard, I placed your blue dot near the center of your state if I wasn't sure where your city or town resides. As you can see, we are scattered all over the country with a bit more concentration on the East Coast. There are probably two reasons for that. First, this is where I live so I'm more inclined to meet people with similar interests, second, this is where the phonographs were manufactured (Camden, New Jersey) and there was a healthy amount of people who could afford them in this area. From the map I can see that the gazette is reaching 18 states across the U.S. and I sometimes send a copy to acquaintances in Australia and Japan.

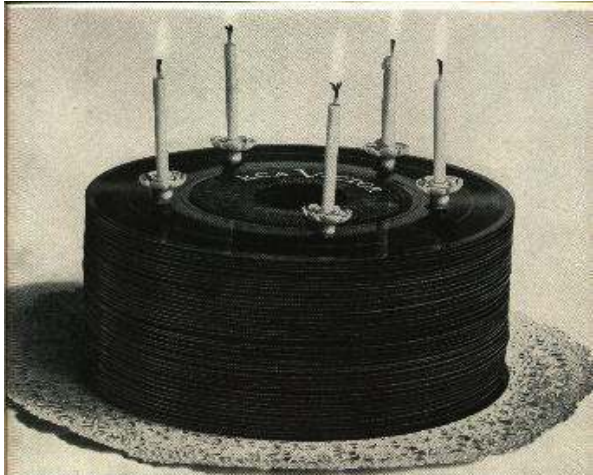


This cake has nothing to do with phonos but it sure looks good!

Cakes!



Check out this delicious looking 45J attachment made by Doug Robinson to celebrate his last birthday. It's playing one of my favorite oldies, Sincerely, by the Maguire Sisters.



The 5th Anniversary of '45 brings many happy returns to you!

RCA RADIO CORPORATION OF AMERICA

World leader in radio—first to introduce—first to perfect music

In 1954 RCA Victor celebrated the 5th anniversary of the 45. They were not as original as some of us with the shape of the cake!



Department store demonstrations show how television makes shopping easier—saves time!

Shopping by Television—a coming convenience

You know television as an exciting source of news and entertainment. But what about its many other uses?

250,000 people—at a demonstration arranged by RCA Victor—learned the advantages of “Shop-by-Television.” Television receivers, located throughout a big store, showed customers what was going on in other departments . . . saved time, made shopping simpler.

88% of these customers said television was a major help . . . 62% said the program had drawn them to the store . . . more than half intended to visit departments where televised merchandise was sold. Sales of many televised items jumped 200% above normal!

Beyond its value *within* a store, “Shop-by-Television” is already reaching across the air waves to enter customers’ homes. How convenient it will be to see merchandise on the screen of your RCA Victor television receiver, and then

be able to do much of your shopping by telephone!

Progressive research leads to new uses for radio-electronic products and services, and to the quality you associate with the names RCA, and RCA Victor.



When in Radio City, New York, be sure to see the radio, television and electronic wonders at RCA Exhibition Hall, 36 West 49th Street. Free admission. Radio Corporation of America, RCA Building, Radio City, N. Y. 20.



RADIO CORPORATION of AMERICA