



LP cleaning agent *L'Art du Son*

L'Art du Son is suitable for all vinyl, colored vinyl, picture discs and shellac records because in contrast to many other products on the market *L'Art du Son* contains no alcohols nor emulsifying additives nor silicone based anti-foam ingredients. No harmful biocide conservative agents are added as they would be in contact with the human skin and we are committed not to harm the user by adding strange chemicals of no valid use to the cleaning process of the record itself.

For that reason both *L'Art du Son* concentrate and solution contain suspended particles which resolve after shaking. The components of *L'Art du Son* are non-hazardous to the environment, non-allergenic and almost entirely bio-degradable. One flask of *L'Art du Son* concentrate is sufficient to prepare 5 liters of cleaning solution which lasts for roundabout 500 LPs. The color of the concentrate is light blue with white visible particles. The color of the solution is almost clear, with small white ingredients floating in the solution.

Preparing the solution

The optimal concentrate/water-ratio is around 1:50. To prepare ca. 1 L of the solution add 20 mL of *L'Art du Son* concentrate by using the supplemented measuring jug to 1 L of water. We recommend to prepare only as much solution as you really need since the solution degrades after a period of time since it comes without conservatives! Keep both the concentrate and solution dark and cold.

L'Art du Son is designed to clean your records with various qualities of water purity grades and hence remains immune to the water's quality range available to the user. It is functional in many variations regarding the concentrate's dilution ratio and works well from 18 mL up to 26 mL per liter depending on the user's favorable cleaning technique.

Cleaning

Apply an adequate amount of the mixed solution onto your records and give it a short time to be effective. The dirt will get released from the grooves. The more time you give it the more effective it will be. We recommend 2 to 5 minutes per LP but shorter intervals are effective as well depending on the degree of pollution and the effectiveness of your record cleaning machine. You can repeat the procedure several times if your LPs are very dirty. *L'Art du Son* contains a special antistatic formula as well and helps avoiding electrostatic recharge of the cleaned records.

Storage life

In our experience the concentrate lasts up to five years if it is kept cool and dark after opening it. Older flasks may wear an expiration date which is meant as a rough point of reference. White particles can occur and are no indication of decay. They dissolve into smaller particles after shaking the flask.

We know that there are some misunderstandings regarding the visible particles:

Please notice that the chemicals forming those visible particles in the flask are functional to the important chemical properties of the cleaning and antistatic process itself. As they are lipophilic they are visible in a water based concentrate. In a mixed solution grey fingernail-shaped particles however indicate the decomposition of the cleaning concentrate. It is still effective but at a lower degree and it will be ineffective soon. The grey color is a sign of bioactive organisms like *Aureobasidium pullulans* (an airborne fungus) and other common microorganisms that start to biodegrade the ingredients. It is totally random if the mixed solution ever gets in contact with any organisms that start to live in the solution container one uses for storage. Both concentrate and solution decompose faster in plastic containers than in tinted glass.

Tips and tricks

Recommendations for the use with...

...**Knosti-cleaning bath**: Pour the cleaning solution away after every cleaning day. Although filtered the solution drops effectiveness when reused. To improve the cleaning result rinse your records with distilled water before you dry those.

...**microfiber cloth & "Cheap Thrill"**: Apply the cleaning solution (e.g. with a spray bottle), foam with a record brush and rinse your records with an adequate share of distilled water. We recommend the use of a soft microfiber-brush, such as the Mobile Fidelity Record Brush but a soft sponge works, too. Repeat this procedure if necessary.

...**vacuum record cleaning machines**: Apply the cleaning solution and foam it. Please empty and clean your internal storage tank occasionally like you would do with any tank that is in touch with dirt – otherwise mud starts to develop like any camper van-user might know....

...**Okki Nokki**: Vacuum-clean your LPs two/three times to prevent from noises due to electrostatic charging. If noises occur yet ground the pick-up. Make sure your vacuum suction arm is clean and correctly closing otherwise dirt will be spread instead of sucked away.

FAQs

Is it possible to use higher concentrated *L'Art du Son* cleaning solutions?

Yes, it is possible. In our experience the optimal ratio *L'Art du Son*-concentrate/water is between 18 mL to 26 mL and 1 L water. With very dirty records it is much more effective to repeat the cleaning procedure with fresh solution than adding more concentrate.

Are there differences in the effect using different waters?

Not in general. The *L'Art du Son*-cleaning solution provides a well thought of and sufficient amount of cleaning agents to absorb dirt particles. But the chance of contaminating your cleaning solution with microorganisms, e.g. fungi or algae, drops dramatically with the use of distilled water and carefully cleaned containers. Furthermore hard tap water may leave remnants.

What are the effects of *L'Art du Son*?

L'Art du Son reduces and equalizes electrostatic charges in the groove which leads to a homogenous electric field. A low electrostatic profile is preferable in order to trace the groove properly. A result of a low electrostatic profile of the record's surface explains the magic of *L'Art du Son*. Another benefit is a lesser attraction of dust/dirt particles.

Nota bene: Either brushes operated by hand or the pick-up are suitable for cleaning/foaming your LPs. Clean the brushes after each cleaning session and rinse those with distilled water.

Empty the wastewater holding tank before it floods your cleaning machine. For a permanent use (e.g. with various vacuum cleaning machines) it is reasonable to add anti-foaming agents to the wastewater container as some machines' motors are sensible to internal humidity.

BE AWARE: Do not mix those chemical agents with the cleaning solution! Most of their properties are not researched nor formulated for the use with the chemical material of records.
