# **CUSTOMER REVIEWS OF**

# ISONIC ULTRASONIC VINYL RECORD CLEANERS



Reviewed in the United States on January 27, 2020 Style: 3. 10-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

I have been buying new and used records for over 40 years. I stopped buying used classical records about ten years ago because it never failed that when I'd find a Mercury Living Presence in perfect condition I would get home and find out that it sounded like sandpaper. I tried all the solvents and cleaning systems out there but to no avail. An audiophile friend of mine recommended this unit and I trusted his judgment. I am glad I did. I initially cleaned ten albums that were set to go to Goodwill and nine of them came out perfect. One was a solo guitar (Julian Bream) and it was absolutely stunning. To date, about 90 to 95% of all the records I've cleaned have turned out Mint and stunning. I am even cleaning new records before recording them because it makes the silent grooves in between songs SILENT and the quite passages DEAD QUIET. I thought the unit would be a pain to use but I'm finding that I actually enjoy the process. You may want to purchase an additional tub for rinsing. My only complaint is that the screw that is used to secure the shaft that holds the records to the motor on my unit stripped when I went to handtighten it. The screw is a M3-0.5 (which is a very small and finely threaded screw). Amazon said that they would have a replacement shaft assembly sent to me but I have yet to receive it. I was able to tap out the hole to a M4-0.7 and this slightly larger screw secured the shaft to the motor spindle. I am not associated with iSonic and don't write many reviews. This product, however, deserved one. Also!!!! My unit has a heater and I have found that if you get the water temp above the low 80s that your albums will warp. It is my understanding that heat does not help or improve the cleaning process. That appears to be true. If you do insist on using the heaters, pay attention to your water temperature. Great product and very well built.

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## ★★★★ Great machine

Reviewed in the United States on January 15, 2020

#### **Verified Purchase**

If you occasionally buy bulk used records, then this machine is important.

It can clean large records in a short period of time. Does not require top notch materials. I used filtered water and a small quantity of "Simple Green" biodegradable cleaner. If you have an old record vacuum (I have a 30 year old Nitty Gritty) then your job is done well.

I received the machine with neither wipes nor detergent.

One person found this helpful





Kim M. Black

## ★★★★★ Impressive!

Reviewed in the United States on December 7, 2019

Style: 1. 5-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

This was a gift and my friend loved it!





### ★★★★★ It seems to work

Reviewed in the United States on October 14, 2019

Style: 6. Cleaning solution | Verified Purchase

So far it cleans well. I've already cleaned some pretty nasty  $45 \mathrm{s}$  you can see the crud coming off as it cleans



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### **Customer Review**

The manufacturer commented on the review below



## ★★★★☆ Not Inexpensive but Well Worth my Investment

October 7, 2019

Style: 3. 10-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

This ultrasonic cleaner does a very good job cleaning records that are not filthy - for that pre-cleaning needs to be done. This is true for all USC (ultrasonic cleaners). Cleaning 10 records at a time is a great convenience and the system works quite well.

Four of the label protectors as delivered were missing rubber o-rings. A call to Isonic and they replaced them immediately. Another question I had was answered immediately also

I limit to 4 stars mainly because I feel that there is some room for improvement with the machine - but these are not major. Main one is control of bath temperature for record cleaning. Lowest setting is 104F degrees - too high for records. I heat bath to 90-95 degrees and turn it off. Bath remains near that temp for 10 minute cleaning. Also, I do not recommend the cleaning fluid as sent with unit. Though more complicated, I make my own as outlined on various internet sites including on Arthur Salvatore at his High End Audio pages under Ultrasonic.

I do recommend this unit to anyone wanting to get the best cleaning and best sound from their records.

This was the BIG and GOOD surprise for me about USC - the LPs properly cleaned this way SOUND MUCH BETTER.

I wish the machine was not so expensive, but in my experienced opinion compared to alternatives this complete package is a very worthwhile investment.

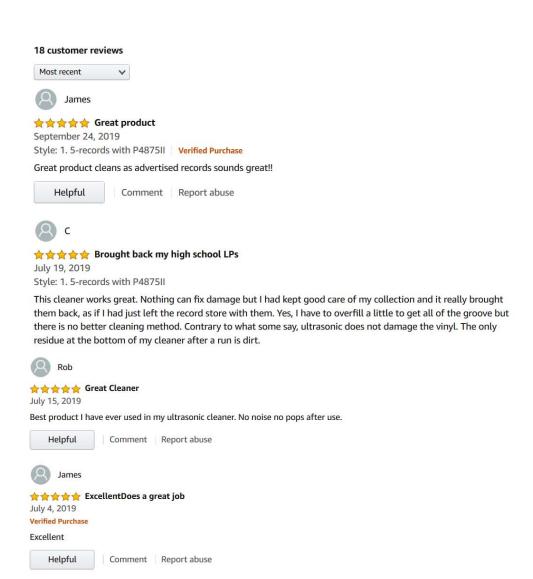
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The manufacturer commented on this review (What's this?)

AtoZ MANUFACTURER 25 minutes ago

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Heater is not needed to clean vinyl record so just leave it off. Once it's run a couple of cycles, water will become lukewarm which is perfect for vinyl record cleaning. A new version with 95F temperature setting is also available upon request.





### ★★★★ BEST WAY TO CLEAN - DIRECTIONS INCLUDED HERE

June 22, 2019

Style: 2. 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T Verified Purchase

2 MONTH UPDATE: Have now cleaned over 1,000 records and can say I love this machine. It consistently reduces pops, clicks and tics while greatly improving the overall sound stage of all albums.

Took me a while to part with \$700, but now I believe it was money well spent.

#### NOTE: MUST USE DISTILLED WATER ONLY

You can clean about 100 records per 2 gallons of distilled water and roughly you can clean, rinse and dry about 10 records per hour.

You will also need a rinse tank to recycle the distilled water used for rinsing the records. I bought the GOPLUS parts cleaning tank for \$65 here on Amazon and it works great.

If you haven't cleaned up to 100 records, you can filter the water in both the ISONIC and the GOPLUS units. Simply use a large coffee filter placed in a large hand held wire strainer, hold over a large pan and place the drain tube connected to the unit in the filter, open valve and filter the gunk out of the water. Now it's ready for use again.

#### DIRECTIONS FOR CLEANING, RINSING AND DRYING RECORDS

1) Fill the ISONIC tank with distilled water up to or just past the max. fill level noted by a fill line on the inside of the tank. Add 2 capfuls of the concentrated cleaner (included with purchase), then select the DEGAS cycle (1:30 min).

I also add a pint of 91% Isopropyl alcohol to the mix to improve overall cleaning and it works very well and will not harm your vinyl.

2) Fill the GOPLUS tank with 2 gallons of distilled water and position the flexible rinser arm as shown in my images. I add a quarter cup of distilled white vinegar to the water to help keep the water fresh.

3)Take a dish drainer and pinch the plate holders together into pairs (as shown in my images). This holds the records upright and allows air to pass through during the drying process. You will also need a fan on a stand for this process as well.

- 4) Place up to 5 records on the arm of the record support using all of the discs for 5 records or a combination of discs and spacers for fewer records, place the knob on the end and tighten down to seal and secure the records (a washer may be added to some batches of thinner records to improve the o-ring seal). Now tip records over into the bath and turn on the switch to begin the record rotation. You will want to let these turn in the bath for at least 15 to 30 minutes to soften up the dirt lodged in the grooves of your records. The pre-soaking is critical to removing the crud from your records, so being patient will pay off in improved sound. Think about removing a label from a jar. The longer you soak it, the easier it is to remove the label.
- 5) After soaking is complete, then you will select 10 minutes on the timer and begin the ultrasonic cleaning process.
- 6) Once cleaning cycle is complete, tip the records up out of the bath and allow to drip dry for about 5 minutes. You can use a small spice jar (as pictured) to prop the arm up at about a 45 degree angle. After this process you can tilt the arm all the way up to remove the knob and records for rinsing.
- 7) Take the 1st record off the arm and hold only by the edges and thoroughly rinse both sides of the vinyl using the GOPLUS unit (as pictured). Try not to get the labels wet during the rinsing process, but if you do just use a paper towel and gently wipe the water off of the labels before placing into the dish drainer for drying. Repeat this process for all cleaned records.
- 8) You should be able to place up to 5 records in the dish drainer (as pictured), then place in front of a floor fan on highest speed for about 15 minutes to completely dry. If there are still droplets present, you can fan dry longer as needed. For records with just a drop or two left on the surface, use the wipes included with purchase to wipe off

9) Once record is completely dry you can place it back into it's protective sleeve and jacket. DONE.

REMEMBER - this will not eliminate damages done to records such as scratches, excessive groove wear, mold due to poor storage (for mold, try cleaning by hand with a lint-free soft, clean cloth and some Dawn dish soap before running through the Isonic cleaner). For persistent mold switch to 91% isopropyl alcohol in place of soap.

SIT BACK AND ENJOY PLAYING YOUR FAVORITE, NEWLY CLEANED RECORDS! Read less



6 people found this helpful

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### Michael Landskroner

### ★★★★ Best LP Cleaning System . . . and I tried quite a few

June 18, 2019

Style: 2. 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T | Verified Purchase

IMO, this is better than the more expensive Kirmuss which uses the same 'engine' but at a higher cost. It is also better than my \$4K Audiodesk but not as easy to use. I like cleaning 5 records at a time and once the washing is done and I let my 2 filtered 4" box fans dry the records in about 15 minutes. I also fill it up, almost touching the label protectors to make sure the inner grooves are cleaned also which you can't adjust in the Kirmuss. I also added a 'turtle filter' to filter the water and it works well.

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Robert L. McIntyre

#### ★★★☆☆ Effective

June 16, 2019

Style: 2. 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T Verified Purchase

I was impressed with the amount of crud laying at the bottom of the basin after washing just a few records I obtained from the thrift store. I would have given this five stars except that I had to devise a workaround when I discovered that the records weren't turning. When lowered into the water, the rod that holds them was slightly angled down (not parallel). This resulted in there not being enough friction to turn them. So I hung a cast iron chain which probably weights about three pounds from the motor assembly to use as a counterweight and it worked. It works every time now. This is not a deal-breaker for me. I am happy with this product. If this happens to you, just find something to use as a counterweight. Someone else may have a different workaround if they experienced this same thing.

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Comment

The manufacturer commented on this review (What's this?)

AtoZ MANUFACTURER 8 days ago

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Make sure that the bracket is fully engaged over the housing. It shouldn't be tilted if it's fully engaged. Another way is to add the 5-record extension which will bring in another bracket to support the records from both sides.

#### Showing 1-10 of 11 reviews



I'm very happy with my purchase. It's easy to set up and run. I've done vinyl records and jewelry in it already and it's such a difference before and after!



I write very few reviews on Amazon-this product deserves one. If you are like me and have an old vinyl collection from the 60's-80's until cds came along, you need this device. I bought the 10 record cleaner and it does what it states-your old vinyl will sound as good as it can (if you played the crap out of your vinyl it will not make it sound new, but there is a clear sound difference before/after). If you are not a labor intensive individual like me, then get this. I have hundreds of old friends just waiting for me to re-discover them. Vinyl is final, all else fails to live up to analog sound. Long live vinyl.





It's a modification of a small standard ultrasonic unit, adding the motor, spindle and spacers to allow 5 LP records to be cleaned ultrasonically simultaneously. I bought the extension and spacers to allow 10 to be cleaned at once. It's still fairly labor-intensive, requiring wiping the records one-by-one and re-sleeving before the cleaning solution dries on the records (I bought microfiber wipes for that - have not used the included paper wipes). The diluted cleaning solution and ultrasonic cleaning does little for greasy fingerprints, so I'll be trying a 4-to-1 distilled water (RO, actually) and isopropanol solution with a bit of surfactant (recommended on some blogs) and may comment on that when I have time. Records DO sound much better, although some pops persist. I bought a cheap 60X lighted clip-on for my cell phone camera to see if I can detect remaining dirt deep in the record grooves that might be more effectively removed with the above solution, or longer run time in the ultrasonic bath. I have used the heater to raise the solution from room temperature to 'tepid', which will accelerate the solvent effects of the alcohol, although not the ultrasonic effects (the included instructions say not to use the heater). I also cut a stack of 1/8" plastic spacers to use when I don't want to clean exactly 5 (or 10) records - the instructions suggest using any old records to complete the spacing effect needed so that the end clamp can compress the stack and seal moisture away from the labels (something cheap that iSonic should have simply included). Make sure the unit is perfectly level - you'll need the tank's fluid level at near the lip of the tank to clean the run-out inner band of the records, and if the tank is the least bit unlevel, the records at one end (or the other, depending on which side of the tank is higher) of the spindle won't get in the solution - and it would also be easy to spill solution over the lip into the machine's innards.



Do not use RO water as it's corrosive towards stainless steel! You could end up with holes in the stainless tank over time. You probably got an early inventory from Amazon. The new inventory including the 10-record version have 4 spacers added. Contact iSonic to get the spacers if you don't have it. Also most microfiber cleaning cloth don't absorb water well. The lint free tissue absorbs water well and it doesn't leave any fibers.



#### \*\*\* \*\* \* Best System anywhere-Isonic P4875II

March 29, 2019

Style: 1. 5-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

I've been collecting albums since the 1960's. I have an extensive collection. I have tried various cleaners, vacuums, brushes and magic wands. You will never find anywhere, for the price, a better cleaning system than this one. I have cleaned a quantity so far that have left a very visible amount of gunk in the bottom of the tank. I use Distilled water and the Isonic Cleaner. The difference in visual examination before and after of the album and the improvement in sound quality cannot be denied. This unit is easy to use and is a high quality build. I highly recommend the Isonic P4875II. Nothing cleans better.



4 people found this helpful



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Clash Fan

#### \*\*\* New Bracket Design

March 21, 2019

Style: 2 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T | Verified Purchase

Works great! Includes a new bracket that lowers arm so that inner groove now is submerged when spinning/cleaning. I am so impressed with the cleaner that I ordered the extension that will allow me to clean up to 10 records at a time.

Also, customer service is awesome. iSonic called me to confirm that I had the new bracket and offered to send a new one with the extension, if I did not have the new one and the recently added spacers.

#### Highly recommend this system.

6 people found this helpful



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#### \*\* \* Rescues dirty vinyl well

February 6, 2019

Style: 1. 5-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

Use distilled water only. Do not use the detergent that comes with it as it leaves a residue. Otherwise a great value and cleans far better that any type of vacuum machine.

One person found this helpful



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The manufacturer commented on the review below



## ★★★☆ Very impressive machine!

January 9, 2019

Style: 2. 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T Verified Purchase

The machine came in extremely well packaged. Unboxing and setting up was very easy. Once the instructions were read and the tank filled I did a trail run of five albums. I was very pleased with the outcome. The albums had a brand new like sheen to them. So the pro's are easy to set up, easy to use, and performs very well! Con's noisy, as you would expect, and some albums the inner most track doesn't get submerged so it doesn't clean that part. My system came with all the necessary hardware such as the label protecting discs, motor shaft, wall transformer (for the album rotation), power cord for the main unit, motor unit and bracket, bottle of cleaning concentrate, and finally the operation manual. I purchased this for my albums but it will also clean just about anything that will fit into the tank!

5 people found this helpful

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Predrag Kos

### ★★★☆☆ Great

January 7, 2019

Style: 1. 5-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

Great product for the price. It does the job, and is fairly quiet. The depth of the basin is not quite deep enough to accommodate last grooves. But that is minor compared to other good features of this product.

5 people found this helpful



You may add water to pass the MAX line a little to submerge all the grooves. There is about 1/4" space above the MAX line. This should the last grooves. Do not allow the water level to be higher than the rim of the stainless tank. It's sealed with a silicon gasket but you don't want it underwater all the time.



**★★★★★** Great September 2, 2018

Style: 1. 5-records with P4875II Verified Purchase

#### Perfect at cleaning new and used records

Music became more open, wider soundstage, and the noise floor almost disappear. After trying many other products this one without a doubt is the best cleaning method I have ever tried. I just wish the rod that comes with the record spinner was longer, otherwise best money I have ever spend on a record cleaning machine.

8 people found this helpful



### Showing 11-11 of 11 reviews



May 7, 2018

Style: 2. 5-records with P4875-4T or P4875II-4T | Verified Purchase

Works great

4 people found this helpful

