



VALHALLA 2

INSTRUCTION MANUAL



NORDOST

BURNING-IN YOUR CABLES

During the manufacturing process, as insulation is extruded over conductors, gases can become trapped. This combined with the high electrical charges often found in new cables, can result in a brittle and bright sound. In order to solve this problem, and yield the best results possible from your Valhalla 2 cables, it is important let your cables to burn-in.

You must allow a minimum of 150 hours of burn-in time to occur before expecting to hear the true benefits of your new cable purchase. However, the best way to burn-in a set of Valhalla 2 is to bring your cables to your local Nordost dealer for a VIDAR treatment. Once the VIDAR begins running current through cables, the trapped gases are dissipated and small impurities in the conductors' metal begin to act like a diode, favoring current flow in a particular direction. By using extremely wide bandwidth signal as well as a range of both ultra-low and high frequency sweeps, the VIDAR stresses the conductors, neutralizes charges, improves the way that signals pass through metal, and ultrasonically conditions the surface of the conductors. The changes made in both the conductor and insulation



material refine the performance of your audio cable.

While it is most important to implement burn-in upon purchase, there is something to be gained from routine maintenance as well. If cables are left unused for a prolonged period of time they become stagnant. And even through everyday cable use, electrical equipment experiences current leakage, imparting a charge onto your cables. By having your cables treated with the VIDAR, you are conditioning them and allowing the charges to neutralize once again.

However, if you do not have access to a VIDAR, Nordost offers the

System Solution: Set-Up & Tuning Discs, which includes system burn-in and degauss tracks that allow you to condition your cables on your own. This two disc set also offers an extensive range of proven diagnostic tracks that help with speaker placement and sub-woofer integration, performance checks and assessment, and problem location.



POWER CORDS



The Valhalla 2 Power Cord is the most critical cable in your loom. It will ensure the optimum transfer of AC power, free from the harmful effects of electromagnetic interference and radio frequencies, needed to seamlessly run your sound system. Please ensure that the IEC end of the power cord is fitted firmly into the IEC receptacle. Then plug the power connector into the wall socket, or into the your QRT power product. When placing or changing out Valhalla 2 Power

Cords, please be aware that the connectors used on all of our power cords are capable of marking the surface of equipment or furniture if dropped, so careful handling is recommended.

An increasing amount of hifi audio components require the use of IEC C-19 input connectors. For this reason Nordost provides this upgraded option in both our Valhalla 2 Power Cords and our QB8-Mark II power distribution units.

INTERCONNECTS

Valhalla 2 Interconnects are terminated with color-coded RCA and XLR connectors. The connector that shows “HOLO:PLUG” engraved in black should be connected to the black connection (left channel) on the rear of your component. The connector that shows “HOLO:PLUG” engraved in red should be connected to the red connection

(right channel) on the rear of your component. All Nordost cables are directional. To ensure the highest quality sound, the directional arrows shown on the wooden blocks should point in the direction of the signal. Example: On the interconnect placed between a CD player and an amplifier, the arrows should point towards the amplifier.

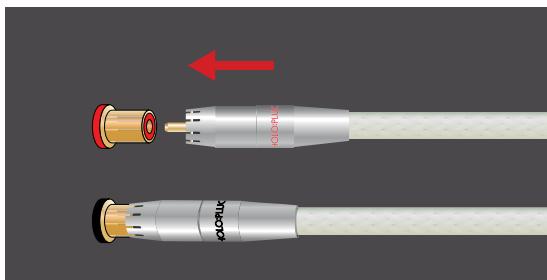
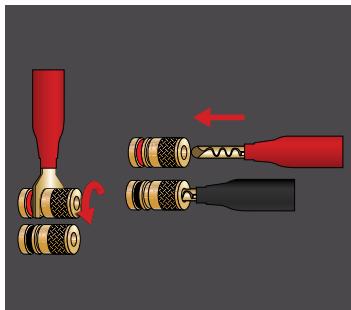
It is important to note cable geometry of Valhalla 2 RCA and XLR Interconnects is specifically constructed for each termination. Due to the distinct design difference between these two cables, re-termination from one variety to the other is not available.

LOUDSPEAKER / BI-WIRE JUMPER CABLES

Valhalla 2 Loudspeaker Cables are terminated with Nordost's own gold-plated HOLO:PLUG® spade and Nordost low-mass Z plug Banana connectors. When installing Valhalla 2 Loudspeaker Cables into your system, do as follows: Attach the connector wrapped in black (-) to the black terminal on both the power amplifier and loudspeaker. Attach the connector wrapped in red (+) to the red terminal on the power amplifier and loudspeaker. All Nordost cables are directional. To ensure the highest quality sound, the connectors marked with directional arrows must point towards the loudspeaker.

Valhalla 2 Loudspeaker Cables are only available in shotgun

configuration. If you should have equipment that requires either bi-wire or bi-amp connections, invest in Valhalla 2 Bi-Wire Jumpers. Valhalla 2 Bi-Wire Jumpers are an exact extension of Nordost's Reference Loudspeaker Cables, ensuring a consistent sonic signature throughout your system.

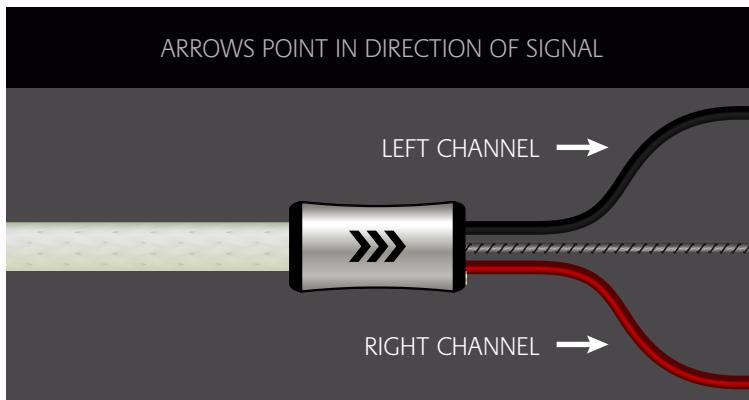


TONARM CABLE +

1. CONNECTING

Connect the DIN / RCA / XLR connectors to the outputs on your turntable and inputs on your phono-stage. For RCA and XLR configurations, the red wire denotes right channel, and the black wire denotes left channel.

Please note that Nordost tonearm cables are directional. To correctly orient your cable, make sure that any arrows found on the breakout barrels are pointing towards your phono-stage.

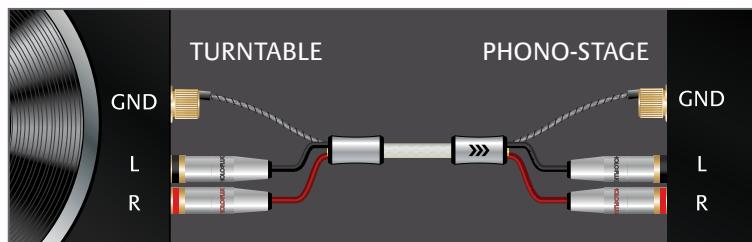


2. GROUNDING

If you are experiencing any noise (hum) while listening to your turntable set-up, you are most likely suffering from a ground loop. In order to eliminate this problem, you must address the grounding between your turntable and phono-stage. Most turntables and phono-stages are equipped with ground screws on their chassis. Connect the Bond Ground Wire (the wire terminated with spade connectors that is permanently attached to the tonearm cable) to

the ground screws on both your turntable and your phono-stage. This connection will bond the two chassis together, creating a secure,

low noise connection between the two components.



3. ADDITIONAL / SHIELD GROUNDING

When needed, 'Detachable Ground Wires' can be inserted into the cable's breakout barrels, allowing you to use the cable's shield as an additional ground loop prevention.

Each unique system has its own ideal grounding configuration. You'll need to figure out what works best for your system through experimentation...



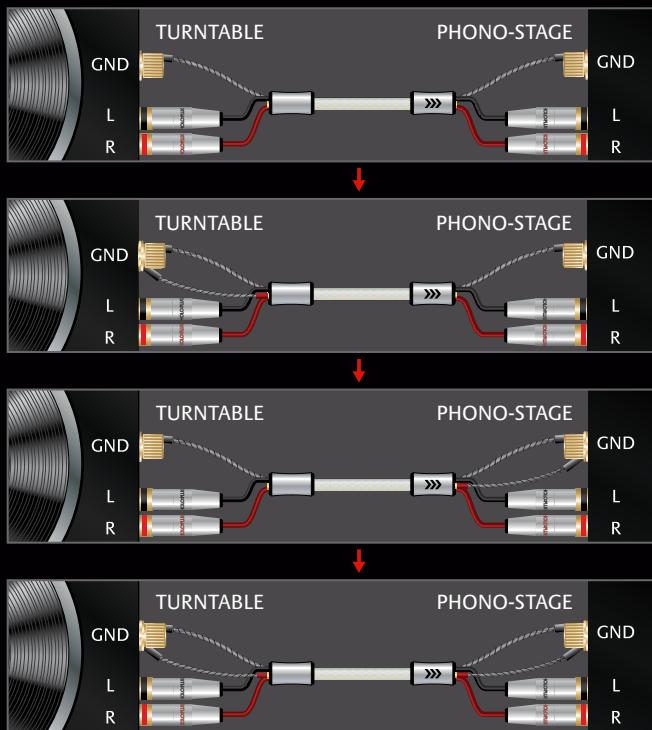
First, play some music without any of the Detachable Ground Wires attached and see how it sounds.

Then, try inserting one of the Detachable Ground Wires to your cable on the end closest to the turntable. Connect the spade of the Detachable Ground Wire to the ground post on your turntable.

Next, if you have a ground option on the phono-stage end, disconnect the Detachable Ground Wire from the turntable end of the tonearm cable, and insert it into the phono-stage end. Connect the spade of the Detachable Ground Wire to the phono-stage ground, and listen again.

Finally, if applicable, insert both Detachable Ground Wires to the two ends of your cable, connect them to ground on the turntable and the phono-stage, and listen one last time.

Based on your findings, configure whichever set-up had the least noise.



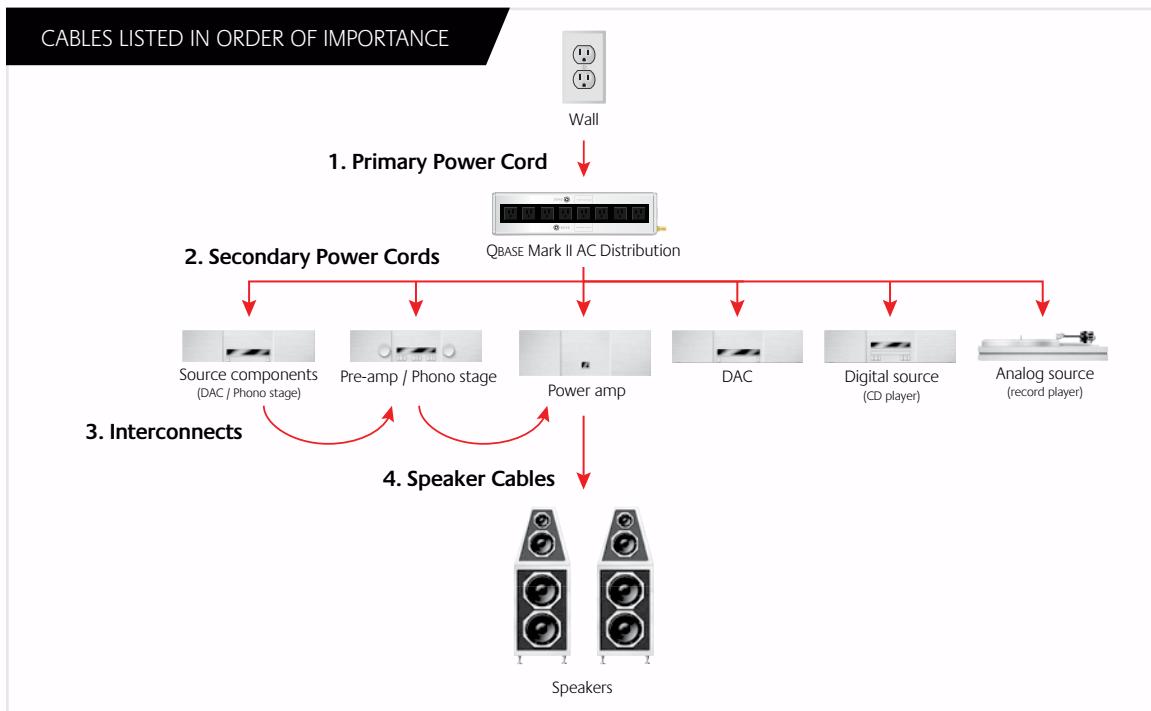
IMPORTANCE OF A FULL LOOM

Valhalla 2 will transform your hifi system. Music lovers who wire their systems entirely with these Reference Cables will not only achieve the performance they have been searching for, but will discover results they never imagined were possible. Using Valhalla 2, you will finally find yourself immersed in a complete and pure musical experience.

However, if a full loom of Valhalla 2 is not an immediate possibility, you can make your upgrade in stages. If any of your components are of a higher quality than others in your system, it is best to service those components by upgrading their cables first. However, for systems with components of equal quality, Nordost has provided you with a comprehensive framework to help

prioritize your system upgrade. First, identify the most important cable in your system — the power cord coming out of the wall, feeding your QB8 distribution block — and continue by following the diagram below...

(Note: Every system is unique. There is always a chance you may benefit from deviating from this guide.)





NORDOST



Cable Type
Serial Number
Termination
Length

**To qualify for the limited lifetime warranty on your Nordost cable, original purchasers should fill out and return the card to the right or register the product at:
www.nordost.com/product-registration.php**



VALHALLA 2

Warranty Registration Card

Please complete and return this Warranty Registration Card within 30 days of purchase together with proof of purchase to:

**Nordost, 93 Bartzak Drive,
Holliston MA 01746, USA**

Warranty Registration Cards can also be scanned and emailed to **info@nordost.com** or faxed to **+1 508 893 0115**

Name.....

Address.....

.....

.....

Postal Code.....

Country.....

Tel no.

Email

PRODUCT INFORMATION

Cable Type.....

Serial Number.....

Termination

Length

Date of Purchase.....

Dealer Name.....

Country





NÖRDOST





VALHALLA 2

HOLO:PLUG

HOLO:PLUG

HOLO:PLUG

HOLO:PLUG





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