

Radique Turntable Connectivity FAQ

Better Sound Starts Here

Updated: January 21, 2026

Does turntable cable quality really matter?

Yes. A turntable's output is tiny compared to a regular line-level source like a CD player or streamer—typically on the order of one-fiftieth to one-sixty-fifth of the voltage of a standard source signal, depending on the cartridge and system. Because the signal is so low, any interference, poor shielding, or marginal connections can introduce hum, noise, and loss of detail that becomes very audible once the signal is amplified. Upgrading to high-quality, well-shielded RCA cables can make a noticeable difference in clarity, soundstage, and low-level detail.

What makes a good turntable interconnect cable?

Look for three main things:

- Heavy shielding: Braided copper shielding plus aluminum foil to block electromagnetic and radio-frequency interference before it reaches the phono stage.
- Quality conductors: Multiple strands of high-quality copper to provide a clean, low-resistance path for the signal.
- Good mechanical design at the connectors: Secure contact without stressing the jacks on your gear.

Radique's [Gold Series Interconnects](#) use a 6-layer construction with 262 tinned copper strands per channel, heavy braided shielding (128 copper strands plus aluminum foil), and gold-plated RCA connectors for reliable contact and noise rejection. Customers who upgrade typically report a quieter background and better retrieval of fine details in their records.

Do I really need shielded cables for my turntable?

Yes. Turntable RCA cables carry a very low-level signal that is far more susceptible to hum and interference than standard line-level connections. Strong nearby fields from power transformers, wall warts, dimmers, and wireless gear can couple into poorly shielded cables and become audible noise. Properly shielded interconnects—like the [Gold Series Interconnects](#)—help keep that interference out of the signal path.

Radique Turntable Connectivity FAQ

Better Sound Starts Here

Updated: January 21, 2026

What about the ground wire—does it need shielding too?

No. This is a common misconception. The ground wire does not carry audio signal; it simply provides a reference ground path to prevent hum and ground loops between the turntable and the amplifier or phono preamp. Because there is no audio signal to protect, shielding a ground wire does not improve its performance.

What matters for ground wires is:

- A solid, secure connection at both the turntable and the amplifier/phono stage.
- Any decent insulated wire (commonly 18–20 AWG stranded) is perfectly adequate for the job.

For customers who bring in their turntables locally, Radique can also fit a proper spade connector to the existing ground wire to make the connection more secure and user-friendly.

My turntable has fixed RCA cables. Can Radique upgrade them?

Yes. For turntables with factory-installed, hard-wired RCA cables, Radique offers a cable upgrade service for local customers. The original interconnects can be replaced with [Gold Series Interconnects](#), and a quality spade can be added to the ground wire if it does not already have one.

This service is available for local customers in the Eastern Ontario / Western Quebec region who are willing to drop off and pick up at our Kanata location. Typical turnaround time is about one week or less, depending on the current service queue. Radique does not ship turntables due to the high risk of transit damage.

To inquire about pricing and book an appointment, please email

sales@radique.com

with details about your turntable model.

How can I tell if my ground connection is the problem?

A persistent low-frequency hum (often around mains frequency of 60Hz) is the classic sign of a grounding problem. Helpful checks include:

- Confirm that the turntable's ground wire is present and firmly attached at both ends.

Radique Turntable Connectivity FAQ

Better Sound Starts Here

Updated: January 21, 2026

- Ensure it connects to a single ground point—usually the ground terminal on the phono preamp or receiver—to avoid ground loops.
- Keep signal cables and ground wires routed away from large power transformers and mains cables where possible.

If the hum persists after these checks, Radique is happy to help customers troubleshoot further by email or in person for local visits.

✨ How are Radique's Gold Series cables different from basic RCA cables?

Feature	Gold Series Interconnects	Typical basic RCA cables
Conductor	262 tinned copper strands per channel, multi-layer construction for low resistance and robustness	Often single or few thin strands, lower and less consistent copper quality
Shielding	Heavy braided copper plus aluminum foil for strong noise rejection	Minimal or no shielding, more prone to picking up hum and RF noise
Connector fit	Deliberately slightly looser fit to avoid stressing vintage RCA jacks—prevents pushing fragile chassis-mounted jacks back through the panel when plugging in	Many aftermarket "audiophile" cables grip extremely tightly and can damage older RCA jacks; cheap cables may be loose in an unreliable way
Connector shape	Slim-body design so adjacent pairs can be used on vintage amps with very closely spaced RCA inputs	Bulkier housings can interfere with neighboring jacks on tight vintage layouts
Noise performance	Designed for low induction and strong shielding to keep the noise floor down on phono signals	More susceptible to interference and added noise, especially in phono applications

Radique Turntable Connectivity FAQ

Better Sound Starts Here

Updated: January 21, 2026

The design of the Gold Series connectors intentionally balances secure contact with mechanical safety for older equipment, making them especially well-suited to vintage amplifiers and receivers.

Can I use the same cables for my turntable and other sources?

Yes. While turntables benefit the most from high-quality shielding due to their very low output level, the [Gold Series Interconnects](#) work extremely well for any RCA-connected source such as CD players, DACs, and tuners. Many customers standardize on a single high-quality cable type across their systems for consistency and reliability.

How do I get started?

- To buy cables: Order [Gold Series Interconnects](#)
 - (available in 8", 2.5', and 5' lengths) directly on the Radique website.
 - To upgrade fixed turntable cables locally: Email sales@radique.com
 - to discuss your turntable model and book a drop-off / pick-up time at the Kanata location.
 - For questions about your specific setup: Reach out by email and Radique can help plan the best connectivity approach for your turntable system.
-

Contact:

sales@radique.com

www.radique.com