

# FLATTEN HOLDER for flattening vinyl records



Flattening vinyl records is not so easy. There are no universal rules how to do it to get a perfectly flatten vinyl. Various devices are available, electric and mechanical, some very expensive and complicated, but the principle of operation is the same; heat the plate to such a temperature that it will be possible to correct the surface, but at the same time it will not damage it. Then, by pressure, cause it to straighten up and after achieving the desired effect, very slowly cool it to ambient temperature. It is not possible to predict until the end of the exact temperature and time in which the record will surrender to our treatment. It depends on the chemical composition of the material from which the plate is made, its weight and thickness. Vinyl from some labels are better undergoing treatment, others are more resistant. Sometimes the procedure should be repeated several times to find the right temperature and time. To find the right parameters, one should carefully increase the temperature and time, because several times setting the same temperature makes the plate resistant to our treatments. To flatten vinyl using our grip, we will use the kitchen electric oven. Gas are unlikely to be used for these purposes. It should also be equipped with a separate baking thermometer because those mounted in the ovens are rarely accurate. There are a lot of recipes on the Internet for selecting the parameters for record flattening and it is worth to read them. You can also find parameter tables depending on thickness, weight or label. However, before we try to flatten a valuable vinyl, **ALWAYS TEST THE METHOD ON A DAMAGED RECORD OR ONE THAT WE DO NOT CARE.**

The basic procedure:

1. Insert the vinyl that you want to flatten into the holder and tighten the screws. Use a new paper inner sleeve (not included). Sleeve with foil are not suitable for this purpose.
2. Set the temperature in the oven to 50 degrees C. and wait until it reaches the set temperature.
3. Put the holder in the oven for 1 hour.
4. Switch off the oven after 1 hour, remove the holder from the oven and allow it to cool down completely (about 40 minutes). When it is cool, remove the vinyl and check the effect.
5. If there is no effect, repeat the operation, increasing the time by 15 minutes. If this does not bring the effect, increase the temperature to 55 degrees and start by 1 hour.
6. Most records are flattened between 1 and 2 hours of heating. The most important thing is to find the temperature at which the vinyl begins to flattening.

The holder is made of high quality and heavy PVC with a thickness of 10 mm.