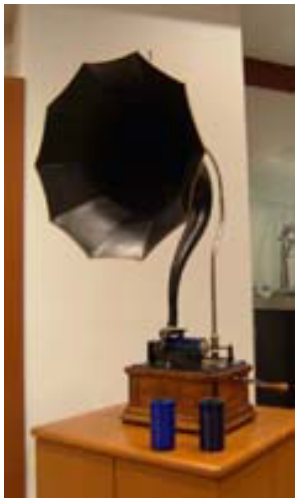
Re-cord Museum



Fireside Model B

Made in the U.S. by Thomas Edison in 1912. The gramophone played cylindrical records that had spiral grooves. The total recording time possible for each record was 4 minutes. The records were made of plaster, and the outer surface was made of wax. Back then it was impossible to make copies, so each record was an actual recording. That's one reason why only a few copies were made. It was very time consuming. The needle used to play the records is made of sapphire.

Edison Phonograph Diamond Disc A-250

This phonograph uses a diamond needle to play the records. The first flat records produced a very high quality sound, but the high price and thickness of the records was a real drawback.
This phonograph was the first to have a volume control. The volume is controlled by moving a felt ball either closer or farther away from the speaker.

Victrola

Made in the U.S. in 1928, it was the most popular phonograph used in America. The phonograph was a wind-up model that used a steel needle. The player used thinner records that were cheaper and easier to ship compared to the thick records, but the sound quality was not as good. The reason for the decreased sound quality is the method for picking up the information on the record. The thick records picked-up the information in an "up and down" fashion as the record moved beneath the needle. The thin record`s information was picked-up in a "zig-zag" motion. The volume was controlled by opening or closing the lid and doors.

EMG Expert Senior

Made in England in 1935. This electric phonograph used 2 needle types, bamboo and steel. The bamboo needle was well suited for listening to recordings of reed instruments, and it could create a very warm, natural sound. The steel needle was better at reproducing the sounds of brass instruments such as the trumpet and trombone. You can hear the sharper sounds created by the steel needle.

Re-cord Hall

The Record Hall is the centerpiece of the museum. The design and construction of the Hall allows you to hear the most accurate sound reproduction possible. Made in 1997, the Al-Phone speakers are the largest in Japan, and were made at a cost of USD $200,000. The Goto Unit Company made the custom-built speakers which measure 1.7m high by 3.4m long. Please don`t confuse these large speakers with other large speakers that were primarily designed to play at high decibel levels. The Record Hall speakers are designed to accurately reproduce sound throughout the frequency range of the human ear. If possible, please sit in the "sweet spot", or center chairs, to hear the best stereo separation. While its possible to request any type of music, we suggest you think of your "unplugged" favorites, which would showcase the sound system`s ability to reproduce the sound of acoustic instruments and the human voice. The shape of the Record Hall enables sound waves to travel in one direction only, so you`ll notice there is greater clarity compared to other listening environments. Please request your favorite song, sit back, relax, and enjoy the beautiful music. Please come again!