

“Can I use any 2M stylus on any 2M body?”

This comes up every once in a while and yes, mechanically, any 2M stylus will fit any 2M body. However, if you put a 2M Black stylus on a 2M Red body you don't get a 2M Black; more like a 2Maroon (if such a thing existed). Here's why:

Red/Blue bodies use Oxygen Free Copper (OFC) for the windings; this is a warm, lush, forgiving and bloomy wire. Perfect for these lower priced cartridges and the tables they're likely to be used on.

Bronze/Black bodies use Silver-Plated High-Purity Copper (SHC) which is vastly more resolving, has a much broader tonal palette and a more neutral (sweet, but borderline cool) tonal balance. SHC delivers the superior resolution which high-performance analog rigs demand.

Although the difference in wiring is one aspect, there are also mechanical differences between the two body types. Bronze/Black bodies also get a more sophisticated and tighter-tolerance generator, which is why the jump from Blue to Bronze is a bigger sonic improvement (and more spendy) than a simple stylus upgrade might indicate.

What all this means is that just because you *can* do it, doesn't mean it's a good idea. The low level resolution, intimacy and composure on demanding material the top two styli deliver would be obscured by the lesser wire in the Red/Blue bodies. This is why Ortofon recommends using Red/Blue styli with Red/Blue bodies and Bronze/Black styli with Bronze/Black bodies. Hope this clarifies, feel free to call us with questions!