

German Beatles Singles

Identification Guide (1961-1972)

Last Updated: 05 Mr 14

Odeon Singles



Typical Odeon "green label" Single

Green Odeon With "Alle" Rim Print



The Odeon green label singles appear in two slightly different styles. The first of these styles, shown above, features the following print around the rim of the label:

**ALLE HERSTELLER. UND URHEBERRECHTE VORBEHALTEN
ÜBERSPIELUNG**

ÖFFENTLICHE AUFFÜHRUNG UND RUNDFUNKSENDUNG UNTERSAGT

(Line breaks in my copy represent larger spaces in the original rim print.)

This print roughly translates to, "All rights of the manufacturer reserved. Copying, public performance, and radio broadcast prohibited."

For the benefit of non-German-speaking people, I refer to this issue as the "Alle" issue. Records with "Alle" as the first word of the rim print were issued by German Odeon until late 1966.

Earlier singles are normally found without "GEMA" in a rectangle. Singles from 1964-1966 normally feature this. Also, earlier singles may be found WITH "Keep a/c" in a rectangle. Those singles which were originally issued on the "Alle" label are as follows:

Catalog Number	Songs	Notes
O 22-396	Please Please Me/Love Me Do	BIEM and GEMA logos on LMD side

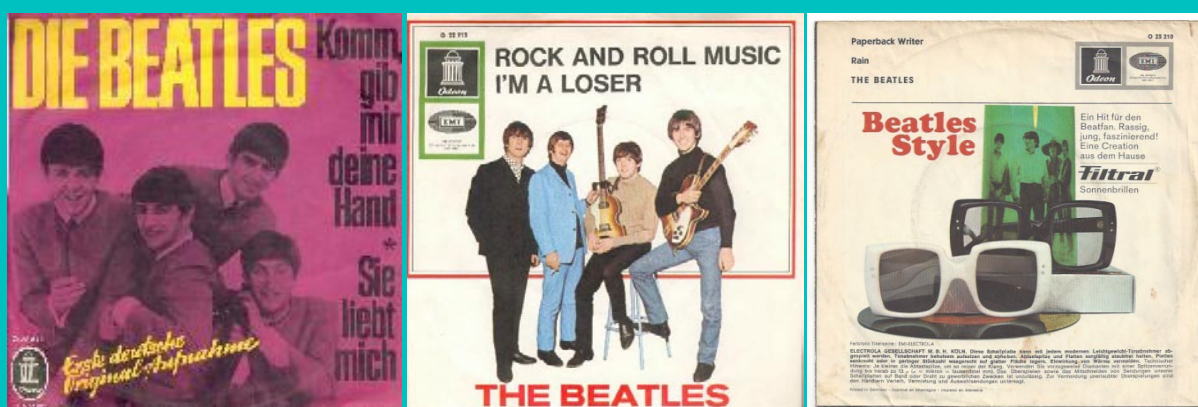
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-416	From Me to You/Thank You Girl	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-554	She Loves You/I'll Get You	
O 22-581	Twist and Shout/Boys	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-623	I Want to Hold Your Hand/This Boy	
O 22-638	It Won't Be Long/Money	BIEM and GEMA logos Money side
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-633	Misery/Ask Me Why	
O 22-671	Komm Gib Mir Deine Hand/Sie Liebt Dich	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
	Picture Sleeve to the above single	Sleeve has incorrect title "Sie Liebt Mich."
	Picture Sleeve to the above single	Sleeve has correct title "Sie Liebt Dich."
O 22-681	All My Loving/I Wanna Be Your Man	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-697	Can't Buy Me Love/You Can't Do That	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-710	Do You Want to Know a Secret?/Little Child	BIEM and GEMA logos
	same	GEMA logo only
O 22-741	Please Mr. Postman/Hold Me Tight	
O 22-745	I Call Your Name/Long Tall Sally	
	Title sleeve to the above single	Gold/yellow with words
	Title sleeve to the above single	Greenish/yellow with words
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo of the Beatles waving
O 22-760	Hard Day's Night/Things We Said Today	
O 22-789	I'll Cry Instead/A Taste of Honey	
O 22-792	And I Love Her/I Should Have Known Better	
O 22-797	Tell Me Why/If I Fell	
O 22-820	Matchbox/I Saw Her Standing There	
O 22-838	Slow Down/I'm Happy Just to	

	Dance With You	
O 22-851	I Feel Fine/She's a Woman	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles with bar stool
O 22-893	No Reply/Eight Days a Week	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car
O 22-915	Rock and Roll Music/I'm a Loser	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles with bar stool
	Picture sleeve to the above single (1968)	Photo: Beatles in MMT outfits
O 22-950	Ticket to Ride/Yes It Is	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car
O 22-999	Kansas City/I Don't Want to Spoil the Party	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles with bar stool
O 23-023	Help!/I'm Down	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside car; white banner across top; front logo at left
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside car; white banner across top; front logo at right and back logo at left
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside car; white banner across top; logo at right on both sides
O 23-031	Yesterday/Act Naturally	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles with bar stool
	Picture sleeve to the above single (1968)	Photo: Beatles in MMT outfits; catalog number next to logo
	Picture sleeve to the above single (1968)	Photo: Beatles in MMT outfits; catalog number above logo
O 23-122	We Can Work It Out/Day Tripper	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles at beach; red-orange background
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles at beach; pale background; print size is smaller
O 23-152	Michelle/Girl	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Pale green, flat sleeve
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Medium green, flat sleeve
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Green glossy sleeve
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Mostly green; ad for glasses on back and line under picture
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Mostly green; ad for glasses on back; no line under picture
O 23-171	Nowhere Man/What Goes On?	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo from "I Feel Fine" video; back has ad for Max Factor lipstick
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Back has pictures of other records

O 23-210	Paperback Writer/Rain	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Sleeve lists Beatles records on back
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Ad for glasses on back and line under picture
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Ad for glasses on back; no line under picture

NOTE 1: The earlier records were issued with a stock sleeve depicting the Beatles and showing the record label. In NM condition, these sleeves sell for up to \$50.

NOTE 2: As a general tip, an original picture sleeve sells for about the same as the single it contained.



Green Odeon With "Urheber" Rim Print



In fall, 1966, the rim print was changed on all Odeon releases to read:

**URHEBER- UND LEISTUNGSSCHUTZRECHTE, BESONDERS VERVIELFÄLTIGUNG
(AUSSER ZUM PERSÖNLICHEN GEBRAUCH),
VERMIETUNG,
AUFFÜHRUNG, SENDUNG, VORBEHALTEN**

Roughly speaking, this translates to:

"Copyright and property rights, especially reproduction (except for personal use), rental, performance, and broadcasting, [are] reserved."

Again for the benefit of those who do not read German, I will call this the "Urheber" issue. Singles made from 1967 to 1969 are of the "Urheber" label style. A list of all Beatles singles which were originally issued on the "Urheber" label follows:

Catalog Number	Songs	Notes
O 23-260	Yellow Submarine/Eleanor Rigby	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles in concert
O 23-436	Strawberry Fields Forever/Penny Lane	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car on both sides
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Ad for Pernod champagne on back
O 23-560	All You Need is Love/Baby, You're a Rich Man	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles at premiere; 1 st picture on back is "Strawberry Fields Forever" single
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles at premiere; 1 st picture on back is an Al Martino single
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles at premiere; back has an ad for Beatles medaillen
O 23-660	Hello Goodbye/I am the Walrus	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car; Goodbye misspelled as "Good Bye"
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles inside a car; error corrected
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: Beatles with bar stool
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Drawing: Beatles flying airplane: 1 st pic on back is "Hello Goodbye"
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Drawing: Beatles flying airplane: 1 st pic on back is Cliff Richard Single
O 23-733	Lady Madonna/The Inner Light	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Mostly green (as "Girl" sleeve)
	Picture sleeve to the above single	John wears red coat ("Tyrol" sleeve)
O 23-880	"Hey Jude"	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: MMT outfits; catalog number next to logo
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: MMT outfits; catalog number above logo
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Photo: MMT outfits; folds out to show ad for Falke stockings

NOTE: The song "Strawberry Fields Forever" is slightly longer than the usual mono mix.

Apple Singles



In early 1969, all new Beatles releases switched to the Apple label. By April, however, Germany had become part of the European Economic Community (EEC). From that point on, all records, new and rerelease, would be issued with the new EEC numbering system. All singles from "Get Back" on feature the new numbering. Here is a list of German Beatles singles on the Apple label.

Catalog Number	Songs	Notes
O 24-004	Ob-la-di Ob-la-da/While My Guitar Gently Weeps	
1C006-04084	Get Back/Don't Let Me Down	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Mostly blue-violet
1C006-04108	Ballad of John and Yoko/Old Brown Shoe	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Mostly red
	Picture sleeve to the above single	White with text
1C006-04266	Something/Come Together	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Titles in light green
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Titles in dark green
1C006-04353	Let it Be/You Know My Name	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Typical LIB sleeve
1C006-04514	Long and Winding Road/For You Blue	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	B/W sleeve with photos from film

As the reader will notice, Germany issued many singles which have neither a British nor an American counterpart. Those singles listed above which feature their normal (UK) b-sides are shown in quotation marks. From 1966 on, Germany stayed with the British issues for the most part, releasing only one "American" single (Long and Winding Road) and one unique single (Ob-La-Di Ob-La-Da) after that time.

Polydor Singles

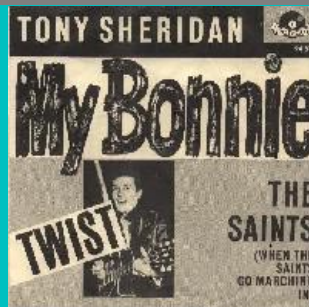


Orange "Scroll Label" Polydor

It was the Polydor label in Germany that introduced the Beatles to the world, when, in June of 1961, the Beatles were given a now-famous break into the music industry. Tony Sheridan was a British singer whose Elvis-like style appealed to the German public. Singing songs with which his German listeners were already familiar, Tony often arranged them into rock and roll numbers. Tony's session with the Beatles produced eight released numbers and several alleged outtakes (which have not seen the light of day...yet). The eight released tracks were often coupled with Sheridan tunes that did not feature the Beatles.

Prior to about March, 1964, German singles on the Polydor label were issued on an orange label with "Polydor" in a scroll at the top and with stars above the Polydor logo.

Catalog Number	Songs	Notes
NH 24-673	"My Bonnie" (rock)/"The Saints"	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Does not have "TWIST"
NH 24-673	"My Bonnie" (twist)/"The Saints"	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	Has "TWIST" in a box
NH 52-906	"Sweet Georgia Brown"/"Nobody's Child" (white label promo)	



NOTE 1: The "rock" version was released in October or November of 1961 and features the word "rock" underneath the title of "My Bonnie." The record itself sports a slow introduction in

German. The "twist" version not only has the word "twist" on the label but also has the introduction in English. The "twist" version was released in January, 1962. The picture sleeve to the "twist" version is the same as that of the "rock" version, except that the "twist" version has an additional rectangular box containing the word "twist."

NOTE 2: When Tony Sheridan recorded the song, "Sweet Georgia Brown," with the Beatles, he sang the original lyrics to the song. That original version was released only on a few records around the world in 1962 and 1963. After the Beatles' rise to popularity, Tony returned to the studio in January, 1964, to re-record the lyrics. These new lyrics make Georgia out to be a very hip chick, musically, and mention the Beatles.

NOTE 3: The "Sweet Georgia Brown" single numbered NH 52-906 was actually an export record pressed for release in Great Britain.



Red Polydor Label

After February, 1964, Polydor modernized their label styles. All new releases in Germany came out on the new red label. The logo is also strikingly different on these releases. Since "My Bonnie" was still in print, it was re-released with a new number and (of course) the new label style.

Catalog Number	Songs	Notes
52-273	"My Bonnie"/"The Saints"	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	
52-275	"Why"/"Cry for a Shadow"	
	Picture sleeve to the above single	
52-317	"Ain't She Sweet"/"Take Out Some Insurance On Me, Baby"	
52-324	"Sweet Georgia Brown"/"Skinny Minny"	

NOTE: White label promotional copies exist for each of the above singles on a label style resembling the new red label. These sell for \$250 to \$500 each.

A Word About Condition

The **condition** of a record is all-important as to determining its value. The values shown are drastically reduced for lesser condition copies, as shown below:

Near Mint, or NM, condition records are unscratched. If the label has stickers or tape, this must be noted. Essentially, they look like they just came from the store.

Very Good Plus, or VG+, condition records will have very few scratches. Without close inspection, they might pass for Near Mint copies. A VG+ record normally sells for half what a NM copy goes for. In Europe, this condition is called **Excellent**, EX.

Very Good, or VG, condition records have a fair amount of scratches, but they by no means appear "beat up". A VG condition record normally sells for one fourth of the NM price. In Europe, this condition is called VG+.

Very Good Minus, or VG-, condition records are starting to appear quite scratched. Still, when played, they play through, although the surface noise is becoming distracting. Many singles are commonly found in this condition. A VG- condition record normally sells for one sixth of the NM price. In Europe, this condition is called VG.

Good, or G, condition records look scratched--basically all over, but they'll play through well enough to enjoy the song. A G condition record sells for one tenth of the NM price. [Some dealers also use a grade of G+, which sells for one eighth of the NM price.]

Fair, or fr, condition records are generally worthless unless the record is rare. They're scratched up and have distracting surface noise, but they're not completely ruined. No chips missing, and not cracked. They sell for one twentieth of the NM price or less.

Poor, or pr, condition records are basically ruined. They may be warped, cracked, chipped, or otherwise unsuitable for collecting. Most collectors only accept poor condition copies of something really rare until a better one comes along. They're virtually worthless.

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