

Norwegian Beatles Albums

Identification Guide

Updated: 24 De 16

Purple Parlophone/Odeon Label



Norway's history of production of Beatles records is quite interesting. Until after mid-1964, Norway did not produce their own Beatles LP's. Instead, copies were imported from England, Germany, the United States, Denmark, and sometimes other countries, in order to meet the need of Norwegian Beatles fans. Even when Norwegian EMI began to produce their own LP's, they were pressed sparsely. Consequently, not every Beatles album was available on a "domestic" Norwegian pressing, and all Norwegian Beatles' LP's are hard to find.

The first label on which Beatles LP's were available in Norway has both "Parlophone" and "Odeon" in 3D lettering against a purple background.

The albums which were originally issued on the purple label are:

Title	Catalog Number
<i>A Hard Day's Night</i> (with Swedish cover)	PMCO 1230 (mono)
<i>Beatles For Sale</i> (with UK-made cover)	PMCO 1240 (mono)

NOTE: While all Norwegian albums are difficult to find, *A Hard Day's Night* is an extreme rarity.

Black and Gold Parlophone



In 1965, Norwegian Parlophone made the decision to change the label style to resemble the "gold label" that had been used in England. Stereo LP's were also made available for the first time.

Those album which was originally issued on this label style was as follows:

Title	Catalog Number
<i>Help!</i> (mono, UK-made cover)	PMC 1255
<i>Help!</i> (stereo, UK-made cover)	PCS 3071

Black and Silver “Old Style” Parlophone



Later in 1965, Norwegian Parlophone opted to change the print color from gold to silver. The *Help!* album was reissued onto the new style, and two new LP's were released with this label.

Title	Catalog Number
<i>Rubber Soul</i> (mono, UK-made cover)	PMC 1267
<i>Revolver</i> (mono, UK-made cover)	PMC 7009
<i>Revolver</i> (stereo, UK-made cover)	PCSO 7009

NOTE: According to my sources, no stereo copies of *Rubber Soul* are known to have been manufactured in Norway. Instead, it is thought probable that stereo copies were imported from Denmark.

Black and Silver "Flat Print" Parlophone

By 1967, most Parlophone affiliates were adopting label styles similar to those used in England. At this time, Norwegian Parlophone changed their label to more closely resemble the "black and yellow" label that was being used in the UK and the similar-looking label that was available in Denmark and elsewhere.



Title	Catalog Number
<i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> (stereo, UK-made or German-made cover)	PCS 7027

NOTE: In 1971, a Norwegian release of the German/Dutch LP, **Beatles Greatest** (Parlophone OHMS-3001) was issued in Norway on the "flat print" Parlophone label.

Apple Albums



In 1968, all new Beatles releases switched to the Apple label, but Norway was content to import their early LP's from England, especially given the trademark issues surrounding the use

of the Apple logo. By the time of *Abbey Road*, these issues were resolved; consequently, the remaining Beatles albums were released on the Apple label.

Title	Catalog Number
<i>Abbey Road</i> (UK-made cover)	PCS 7088
<i>Let It Be</i> (boxed, UK-made cover and book)	PXS-1
<i>Let It Be</i> (regular, UK-made cover)	PCS 7096

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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