Identifying New Zealand Beatles LP's

Updated 2019



Black and Silver Parlophone Label



The Beatles first began hitting it big in New Zealand in the middle of 1963. During the early 1960's, New Zealand Parlophone was issuing albums on a black label with an old style "Parlophone" at the top, similar to the black-and-gold label from England. The writing on this issue is in silver print. The albums originally issued on this label style were as follows:

Number	Songs
PMCM 1202	Please Please Me (mono only)
PMCM 1202	With the Beatles (mono only)
PMCM 1230	Hard Day's Night (mono)
PCSM 3058	Hard Day's Night (stereo)

NOTE: New Zealand Parlophone did not issue Beatles LP's in stereo until early 1964. A photo/scan of a stereo copy of *Please, Please Me* has surfaced showing it on this label. I cannot verify its authenticity.



Light Blue Parlophone Label



At the end of 1964, New Zealand Parlophone changed label styles. With black print on light blue, the new label was easier to read. All of the earlier LP's were reissued onto this new style in both mono and stereo. The albums originally issued on this label style were:

Number	Songs
PCSM 3045	With the Beatles (stereo, 1964 or 1965)
PMCM 1240	Beatles For Sale (mono)
PCSM 3062	Beatles For Sale (stereo)
PCSM 6042	Beatles VI (stereo)
PMCM 1255	Help! (mono)
PCSM 3071	Help! (stereo)
PMCM 1267	Rubber Soul (mono)
PCSM 3075	Rubber Soul (stereo)
PMCM 7009	Revolver (mono)
PCSM 7009	Revolver (stereo)
PMCM 7533	Greatest Hits (mono)

PMCM 7016	A Collection of Beatles Oldies (mono)
PCSM 7016	A Collection of Beatles Oldies (stereo)
PCSM 7027	Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band (stereo)

NOTE 1: Please Please Me may exist in stereo on this label. A Hard Day's Night does exist.

NOTE 2: The earliest stereo pressings of *With the Beatles* have STEREO in round print.

NOTE 3: The label on Beatles VI reads IV instead of VI.

NOTE 4: Blue label issues through 1965 can be found with "STEREO" above the word

"Parlophone," while Revolver and Sgt. Pepper only have it below.

Yellow and Black Parlophone Label



In 1968, the label style changed once again. The new label style resembles closely the label style used by Parlophone in England. The albums originally issued on this label style were:

Number	Songs
PCSM 7070	Yellow Submarine (stereo)

NOTE: The earlier LP's were reissued onto the new label style.

NOTE 2: *The Beatles* is not known to exist on this style.

Apple Label



When the catalog switched to Apple in 1969, New Zealand Parlophone also began pressing Apple label albums, although the earlier albums remained on Parlophone. These issues featured rim print mentioning their manufacture in New Zealand. The LP's originally issued on this label style were:

Number	Title
PCS 7067/8	The Beatles (stereo)
PCSM 7070	Yellow Submarine (stereo)
PCSM 7088	Abbey Road
CPCS 106	Hey Jude!
PXS 1	Let It Be (boxed)
PCSM 7096	Let It Be (regular)
TVSS 8	Essential Beatles
PCSM 6084	Magical Mystery Tour

NOTE: Some copies of *Essential Beatles* (originally pressed in late 1971) have the unsliced label slick on side 2.

NOTE 2: All of the LP's except for TVSS 8 were later reissued onto a black and silver Parlophone label and then onto another Apple label.

NOTE 3: The Beatles was issued with a top-loading, numbered cover, as it was in England. Most covers were printed in Australia, but some are New Zealand originals. True first pressings of this LP have the "N" of "No." to the left of the number leaning to the left. (Later copies have the "N" slanted right.) The numbering began with 010001, and early copies (before about 20,000) are also missing the George Martin credit on the label.

Other LP's



World Record Club Issues

In 1965, *Please Please Me* was issued on the Young World Label through the World Record Club. In about 1972, the World Record Club also issued *Magical Mystery Tour* with a cover shared only by Australia.

Catalog Number	Title
EZ 1033	Please Please Me (mono)
SEZ 1033	Please Please Me (stereo)
SLZ 8308	Magical Mystery Tour (blue-green label)
SLZ 8308	Magical Mystery Tour (orange label)

NOTE: This may have been the first appearance in New Zealand of *PPM* in stereo.

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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