

South African LP Releases

Identification Guide

Last Updated 21 De 16

Old Style Odeon with "Pressed in S.A."



The Beatles began to become popular in South Africa in Spring, 1963. Therefore, their albums in SA were released at approximately the same times as their releases in England. The first few albums were released on a black-and-silver old-style label, with a three-dimensional Parlophone logo at the top. The first line of the rim print at the bottom is "Pressed in S.A. under directions of the Parlophone Co. Ltd." The label backdrop may be black or dark blue.

LP's originally released on this label style	Catalog Number
<i>Please, Please Me</i>	PM CJ 1202
<i>With the Beatles</i>	PM CJ 1206
<i>Big Beat of the Beatles</i>	PM CJ 64
<i>A Hard Day's Night</i>	PM CJ 1230

NOTE: The earliest copies of *Please Please Me* have a visible pressing ring near the edge of the label and another near the spindle hole. The other two LP's, and later copies of PPM, may have either the additional pressing rings or a single pressing ring about 1" in diameter.

NOTE 2: The *Big Beat* album is unique to Africa. It contains:

Side 1: Can't Buy Me Love; She Loves You; Love Me Do; This Boy; You Can't Do That; I Wanna Be Your Man

Side 2: I Want to Hold Your Hand; From Me to You; Ask Me Why; I'll Get You; Thank You, Girl



Blue Old Style Label With "All Rights"



In late 1964 and early 1965, Parlophone-SA was in transition. The label color was blue, and the rim print remained the same as it had been on the earlier release. However, the additional line beginning with "Pressed in SA" was removed, leaving only "All rights of the manufacturer...."

LP's originally released on this label style	Catalog Number
<i>Beatles For Sale</i>	PMCJ 1240

NOTE: This album was quickly reissued onto the new label style, below.

NOTE 2: *A Hard Day's Night* is also known to exist with this label style.

Blue Old Style Label With "Unauthorised Public Performance"



In spring, 1965, Parlophone-SA changed the single line of rim text to read "Unauthorised public performance, broadcasting and copying of this record prohibited". Like its predecessor this label would not last long. While no "new" Beatles records were pressed in this style, all of the earlier albums are known to exist as reissues with this label.

Blue Old Style Label With "Registered User" Print



In 1965, Parlophone-SA was still transitioning label styles. This label was available in both mono and stereo for the first time. The label color was still blue, and the first line of the rim print reads "Pressed for or by a registered user". The earlier LP's, including *Big Beat*, were reissued onto this label style – which remained through most of the rest of 1965.

LP originally released on this label style	Catalog Number
<i>Help!</i> , mono	PM CJ 1255
<i>Help!</i> , stereo	PCS J 3071

Black and Silver Label With "Pressed for..."



Later in 1965, Parlophone-SA switched to a label style resembling the one used in Scandinavia: a black label with "PARLOPHONE" in silver. Naturally, the three-dimensional logo unique to South Africa was retained. This label was available in both mono and stereo, and the earlier LP's were reissued onto it. The bottom line of the rim print reads "Pressed for or by a registered user".

LP's originally released on this label style	Catalog Number
<i>Rubber Soul</i> , mono	PMCJ 1267
<i>Rubber Soul</i> , stereo	PCSJ 3075
<i>Revolver</i> , mono	PMCJ 7009
<i>Revolver</i> , stereo	PCSJ 7009
<i>Collection of Beatles Oldies</i> , mono	PMCJ 7016
<i>Collection of Beatles Oldies</i> , stereo	PCSJ 7016
<i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> , mono	PMCJ 7027
<i>Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band</i> , stereo	PCSJ 7027
<i>The Beatles</i> , mono (top-opening, numbered)	PMCJ 7067/8
<i>The Beatles</i> , stereo (top-opening, numbered)	PCSJ 7067/8

NOTE: All of the earlier LP's were released onto this label style.

NOTE 2: The first issue of *Sgt. Pepper* has a single-pocket cover.

Green EMI Label



As countries began using the EEC numbering in 1969, Parlophone-SA changed to a label backdrop that promoted their participation in EMI, but they retained their three-dimensional logo. Copies released in 1969 have a greenish tint to them. None of the earlier LP's appear with this label tint, so the reason for its usage remains unknown.

LP originally released on this label style	Catalog Number	Value in NM Condition
<i>Yellow Submarine</i>	PCSJ 7070	\$60
<i>Abbey Road</i>	PCSJ 7088	\$40

Black EMI Label



Also in 1969, a more familiar black EMI label with silver print was used. *The Beatles* was still appearing in numbered form when Parlophone switched to this label style.

LP's released on this label style	Catalog Number
<i>Hey Jude</i>	PCSJ 149
<i>Let it Be</i>	PXSJ 1 (boxed)
<i>Let it Be</i>	PCSJ 7096

NOTE: The entire catalog was reissued onto this label and is generally not collected.

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 known as **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 known as Very Good Plus.

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 known as Very Good.

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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