

Those Crazy Cover Numbers

Compiled by Frank Daniels in 2012; updated 07 Se 24

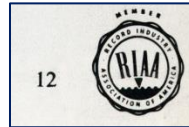
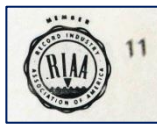
Over the years, Capitol Records contracted with almost two dozen companies to print black-and-white back covers for their albums. Each company indicated that they had printed any given cover by means of a small number located either at the bottom left side or the bottom right side of the back cover. Since some of these “cover numbers” appeared for a short time and only with covers that were sent to specific Capitol factories, it is often possible to determine – based on the number that appears – approximately when the album cover was printed. We generally believe that for all LP’s except *Revolver*, a black-and-white back slick that does not show any cover number indicates that Capitol or RCA printed some covers in-house for that LP. The Scranton plant pressed no reissue LP’s from early-1969 on.



Generally speaking, these cover numbers are associated with the time frames shown in the table below:

Cover Number	Usually Found With Beatles LP's from Factory	Approximate Dates Used
2	Scranton	1963-1967
3	Scranton, Columbia	1963-1969
4	Jacksonville	1965-1967
5	Los Angeles	1963-1966
6	Los Angeles, Winchester	1963-1970
7	Columbia	c. 1969
8	Decca	1965-1966
9	Jacksonville	1967-1972r
10	Scranton	1965
11	Winchester	1975-1978
12	Winchester	1970-1978
13	Winchester	1972r-1978
14	?	Not known
15	?	Not known
16	Jacksonville; Longines	1968-1972
17	Jacksonville	1975-1972r (sometimes later)
18	Los Angeles	1970-1972r
19	Los Angeles	1971-1972r
20	?	Not known
21	Winchester	c. 1970

Decca/Longines pressed albums for the Capitol Record Club from 1969 to 1972.



The following tables detail the cover numbers that are known to exist, and with what pressings they are associated.

Meet the Beatles (S)T-2047

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	M/S	62
3	Scranton, Columbia	M/S	62, 62x
4	Jacksonville	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles	M/S	62
6	Los Angeles, Columbia	M/S	62, 62x, 69
9	Jacksonville	M/S	62, 69, ac, af
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, as, ar, 72r, 78
16	Columbia, Jacksonville, Longines	S	62, 62x, 69, af
17	Jacksonville	S	ar, 72r
18	Los Angeles, Columbia	S	ac, af, ar, 72r

The Beatles' Second Album (S)T-2080

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	M/S	62
3	Scranton, Columbia	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles	M	62
6	Los Angeles, Columbia	M/S	62, 69
9	Jacksonville	S	62, 62x, 69, ac, af
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, as, ar, 72r, 78
16	Jacksonville, Longines	S	62x
17	Jacksonville, non-Capitol	S	ar, 72r
18	Los Angeles, Columbia	S	ac, af, ar, 72r

Something New (S)T-2108

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton, RCA	M/S	62
3	Scranton, Columbia; Winchester	M/S	62; 62x; 69
4	Jacksonville	S	62
5	Los Angeles	M/S	62
6	Los Angeles, Columbia	M/S	62; 62x
7	Columbia?	S	62
9	Jacksonville	S	ac, af
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, as, ar, 72r
16	Jacksonville, Longines	S	62x
17	Jacksonville	S	ar
18	Los Angeles, Columbia	S	69, ac, af, ar, 72r

The Beatles' Story (S)TBO-2222

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
12	Scranton	S	62x
16	Jacksonville	S	69, af, ar

Beatles '65 (S)T-2228

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton, RCA	M	62
3	Scranton, Decca	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles	S	62
6	Los Angeles, RCA, Columbia (x)	M/S	62, 62x
9	Jacksonville	S	af
12	Winchester	S	69, af, as, ar, 72r
16	Jacksonville	S	62x
17	Jacksonville	S	ar
18	Los Angeles	S	69, ac, af, ar, 72r

The Early Beatles (S)T-2309

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	M	62
3	Scranton	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles, Columbia, Jax	M/S	62, 62x, ac
6	Los Angeles	M/S	62
9	Jacksonville	M/S	62, ac, af
10	Scranton	M	62
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, as, ar
16	Jacksonville	S	62x
17	Jacksonville	S	ar, 72r, 78
18	Los Angeles	S	ac, af, ar, 72r
19	Los Angeles, Columbia	S	62x, 69, af, ar

Beatles VI (S)T-2358

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	M/S	62
3	Scranton, Decca	M/S	62
4	Jacksonville	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles	S	62
6	Los Angeles, Winchester	M/S	62, 62x, 69, ac
9	Jacksonville	M/S	62, 78
11	Winchester	S	ar
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, as, ar, 72r
13	Winchester	S	78
16	Jacksonville, Longines	S	62, 62x, ac, af, 72r
18	Los Angeles	S	ac, af, ar, 72r

The "see label" cover information is found on original pressings and with (all?) later copies having a "6" cover.

Rubber Soul (S)T-2442

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	M/S	62
3	Scranton, Decca	M/S	62
4	Jacksonville, Decca	M/S	62
5	Los Angeles, RCA	M/S	62
6	Los Angeles	M/S	62
7	Columbia	S	62
8	Decca	M/S	62
9	Jacksonville, MCA Pinckneyville	S	62, 62x, 69, ac, af, 72r
12	Winchester	S	af, as, ar
16	Longines	S	
17	Jacksonville	S	ar
18	Los Angeles	S	62x, 69, ac, af, ar, 72r
21	Scranton, Winchester	S	62, 62x, 69

Yesterday...And Today (S)T-2553

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
2	Scranton	S	62 butcher
3	Scranton	M	62 butcher
4	Jacksonville	M	62 butcher
5	Los Angeles	S	62 butcher
6	Los Angeles	M	62 butcher
2	Scranton	S	62
3	Scranton, Columbia	M/S	62
4	Jacksonville	M/S	62 no P/O
5	Los Angeles	S	62
6	Los Angeles	M/S	62, 62x, ac
8	Scranton	S	62
9	Jacksonville	S	62, 62x, 69, 71, ac, af, 72r
11	Winchester	S	72r
12	Scranton, Winchester	S	62x, 69, af, ar, 72r
16	Jacksonville, Longines	S	62x, ac, af, ar, 72r
18	Los Angeles	S	ac, af
21	Scranton, Winchester	S	62, 69

Revolver (S)T-2572r

Cover Number	Known With Beatles LP's from Factory	Mono or Stereo	Label Styles
4	Jacksonville	S	62, 62x
5	Los Angeles	S	62
6	Los Angeles, Columbia	M/S	62, 62x
9	Jacksonville	S	ac
12	Columbia, Winchester	S	62x, 72r
16	Jacksonville, Longines	S	62x, 69
17	Jacksonville	S	ar
18	Los Angeles	S	69, 72r

Apparently on account of the black cover, many copies of *Revolver* do not have a cover number.

The label styles described here are these:

Abbreviation	Description
62	Black rainbow label
62x	Black rainbow label with subsidiary print above color band.
69	Green label with "C" logo
71	Red label with "C" logo
ac	Apple label with Capitol logo
af	Apple label with "Mfd. by Apple" on full side
as	Apple label with "Mfd. by Apple" on sliced side
ar	Apple label with "all rights" disclaimer
72r	Orange label
78	Purple label

As far as reissues of all albums before *Abbey Road* are concerned, the **as** variation appears only on LP's pressed in Winchester, VA, in 1973-4.

