Mexican Long Play Releases

Identification Guide

Last Updated: 24 Jl 22



Since Mexico is part of North America, Capitol Records USA (whose role it was to oversee Beatles releases in North America) was able to dictate how their records were marketed in Mexico. However, prior to 1965, Capitol had no record company offices in Mexico and therefore licensed its releases to the Musart label, a prominent Mexican record label. All Mexican LPs on the Musart label are somewhat scarce, most appearing in covers that are unique to Mexico. The Beatles' Musart LPs are particularly hard to find in VG+ or better condition.



Musart Albums

The Beatles, Vol. 2

Musart D-922



Early copies of the LP do not show the catalog number in the upper right part of the front cover. Also, earlier copies show eight Musart album covers on the back cover – none of which are Beatles albums.



Second labels add the abbreviation "Grab en Inglaterra" (Recorded in England). Second back covers show an image of *Conozca a the Beatles* among the albums.



Third back covers show an image of *The Beatles, Vol. 3*. The new front covers have 922 in the upper right. The third labels have "Grabado en Inglaterra" spelled out in full.





The first front cover does not have the catalog number in the upper right. The first back cover features the cover to *Conozca a the Beatles*. In the lower right corner is the cover to *Folklore Mexicano*, Vol. 1. The highest-numbered album is D-903.



The second back cover features a photo of the front cover of this album (*The Beatles, Vol. 3*). The second front cover has 928 in the upper right corner.



The first front cover does not have the catalog number in the upper right. The first back cover features the cover to *Conozca a the Beatles*. In the lower right corner is the cover to *Folklore Mexicano*, Vol. 1. The highest-numbered album is D-903.



The second back cover features a photo of the front cover of *The Beatles, Vol. 3*. The second front cover has 945 in the upper right corner.



This was the first Beatles boxed set in the world. The individual LPs in the set have labels using the new title, *The Beatles*, and the new number. The additional letter in the prefix indicates the number of records in the set.



At the beginning of May 1965, Capitol Records (USA) partnered with Telesistema Mexicana to create Discos Capitol de Mexico – a Capitol/EMI affiliate based in Mexico City. Starting in early July, the new label began releasing records and had the right of first refusal for EMI artists in Mexico. Naturally, that included the Beatles ... and also Herman's Hermans, the Dave Clark Five, the Beach Boys, and other well-known EMI acts.

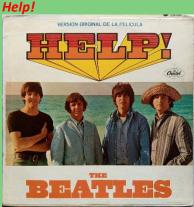
VOL.5

Capitol Albums



Capitol Records established its offices in Mexico in May, 1965. Immediately, they repressed two of the Musart LP's onto their own label and began to issue new Beatles LP's on a style of Capitol rainbow label that had been used on LPs in the United States in the late early 1960s. By the middle of 1966, Capitol of Mexico had taken over the pressing of all of the Musart albums.

There are at least three styles of inner sleeve available on the Capitol Mexico LP's. Two of these are black and white with photos of various Capitol artists, including the Beatles. On the earlier of the two, the Beatles appear in the second photo from the top; they appear in the second from the bottom on the later sleeve. Additionally, records pressed for Capitol Mexico are also found with plastic inner sleeves, similar to those once used by Columbia Records in the USA. Since the plastic sleeves often caused great damage to the LP covers, covers to many albums pressed by Discos Capitol de Mexico are often found with seam splits.



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BEAUUTS

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Help!

Capitol LEM-004 (mono)



Capitol SLEM-004 (stereo)





"HELP!"

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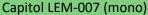
Capitol Will Set Up Firm in Mexico City

HOLLYWOOD—A key step in Capitol Records' plans to in-crease its penetration in all Latin countries will be the es-tablishment of its own record company in Mexico City. Target date is May I. The move is part of an international marketing plan blueprinted by CRI. An-nouncement of this major cor-porate development was made by Alan W. Livingston, CRI, presi-dent, who stated that the new firm would bear the name

Discos Capitol De Mexico, S. A. Discos Capitol De Mexico, S. A. Capitol will own the com-pany jointly with Emilio Az-carraga, noted industrialist who is known throughout the hemi-sphere for his interest in show-business. Accarraga is head of Mexican TV, accarraga is head of Mexicon TV, accarraga is head of Hea

Conozca a the Beatles!









Copies of the album from 1965 to 1967 have the title in a narrow typeface.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the title in a wider typeface.

The album did not come out in stereo until late 1967; see below.

Both the Musart and Capitol Mexico releases of *Conozca a the Beatles* feature the mono mix of "From Me to You." Not only did Capitol-USA not release the song on any LP during the 60's, but also Capitol-USA never released the mono mix of the song before the advent of Beatles CDs in 1987-88.

The Beatles, Vol. 4



Capitol LEM-008 (mono)





Copies of the album from 1965 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface; copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

When the labels for *Vol. 4* were redone in '68, they misspelled Paul McCartney's last name as "MacCartney" all but one time on the label. The first issue has his name spelled correctly every time.

The album did not come out in stereo until late 1967; see below.





Rubber Soul

Capitol LEM-020 (mono)









Copies of the album from 1966 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

The first back cover has the Capitol logo by itself in the upper right. The second back cover has a Capitol logo and the catalog number.



Rubber Soul

Capitol SLEM-020 (stereo)



Copies of the album from 1966 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface. Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

The Beatles, Vol. II



Capitol LEM-044 (mono)



Copies of the album from 1966 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

In the middle of 1966, Capitol reissued the three LPs that had remained with Musart until this time.

The album did not come out in stereo until late 1967; see below.

The Beatles, Vol. III

Capitol LEM-045 (mono)





Copies of the album from 1966 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

In the middle of 1966, Capitol reissued the three LPs that had remained with Musart until this time.

The album did not come out in stereo until late 1967; see below.









Beatles for Sale

Capitol LEM-046 (mono)





Copies of the album from 1966 to 1967 have the catalog number in a Roman typeface.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the catalog number in a sans-serif typeface.

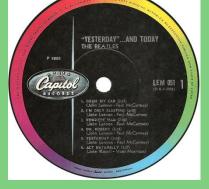
In the middle of 1966, Capitol reissued the three LPs that had remained with Musart until this time.

The album did not come out in stereo until late 1967; see below.

Yesterday...And Today



Capitol LEM-051 (mono)



Copies of the album from 1966-67 have a smaller pressing ring than usual, and "P 1966" appears on the label.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the usual wide pressing ring, and the date of issue is not on the label.











Copies of the album from 1966-67 have a smaller pressing ring than usual, and "P 1966" appears on the label.

Copies from 1968 and 1969 have the usual wide pressing ring, and the date of issue is not on the label.



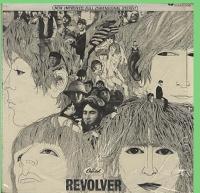
On LP's pressed before *Yesterday...and Today*, the matrix number underneath the catalog number (on the label) is NOT enclosed in parentheses. In mid-1966, Capitol began to use parentheses around the matrix number. Therefore, from *Y*&*T* on, the matrix number is contained in parentheses.



The mono *Revolver* LP contains channeled-down stereo mixes of all of the songs except for "Here, There, and Everywhere." Additionally, the introduction to "Taxman" has been trimmed off. While the French *Revolver* LP is also missing the introductory count-in, that album features the mono mix of the song.

Revolver

Capitol SLEM-056 (stereo)





Copies of the album from 1966-67 have "P 1966" on the label. Copies from 1968 and 1969 do not have the date of issue on the label.





Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band Capitol LEM-081 (mono)





The first pressing has the same typeface as the albums that came out from 1965 to early 1966. The second pressing (1968) does not indicate the year of manufacture.





Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band Capitol SLEM-081 (stereo)



The first pressing indicates a date of manufacture in 1968. The second pressing (c. 1968-70) does not indicate the year of manufacture.





In the second half of 1967, Capitol Mexico began to release the earlier albums in stereo for the first time, with back covers that have the "New Improved Full Dimensional Stereo" logo wrapping around to the front. By this time, a *sans serif* font was being used for the catalog number and matrix number on the label. Mono copies made during this period have the same (new) label style.

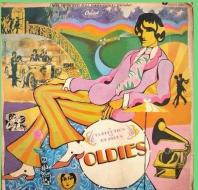
A Collection of Beatles Gold Records

Capitol LEM-090 (mono)



The album title in England was A Collection of Beatles Oldies...But Goldies.

A Collection of Beatles Gold Records



Magical Mystery Tour

Capitol SLEM-090 (stereo)



Capitol LEM-103 (mono)





Most albums pressed on the rainbow label after the middle of 1968 do NOT have the year printed on the label. Often, later copies are found with the date of mastering etched into the matrix of the record.

At this point in time, in early/mid-1968, the earlier mono-only albums were reissued. At the same time, Capitol gave them their first stereo pressings.

Apple Albums

In 1968, the Beatles switched to the Apple label. The LP's on Capitol did not switch to Apple but remained on Capitol. The printing around the rim of the label on the Apple LP's is almost identical to what was used on the Capitol rainbow label albums. However, at the bottom of the label "Marca Registrada" has been changed from the singular to the plural: the rim print on the Apple LP's reads "Marcas Registradas."



The first pressing indicates a date of manufacture in 1968. The second pressing (c. 1971) does not indicate the year of manufacture. Third pressings indicate a date of 1973.

The first covers have "The BEATLES" embossed in approximately the same location as the embossing on copies from the US. They were not numbered.



The first pressing indicates no date of manufacture. The second pressing has entirely different print, and no date. The third pressing indicates a date of 1972.

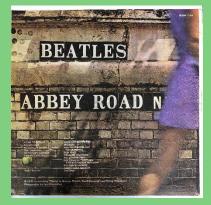
Abbey Road



Apple SLEM-179



The true first pressing has THE BEATLES in large, thin pint – as one sees on *The Beatles* (SLEMB-134). All early copies feature covers with a white border around the cover graphics. The second label came out immediately after the first, still in 1969. It employs the typefaces that Apple would use on the *Beatles Again/Hey Jude* album in early 1970.





The Beatles Again



Apple SLEM-200



The true first pressing has a cover with a white border around the cover graphics. Later copies of the LP have the title changed to *Hey Jude*, as was the case in most countries.







The first pressings were housed in an outer box, labeled on the back as being made in Mexico. Following the pattern set by the UK, the box contained the album and a color Get Back book. Later copies came out without the box.

Polydor Albums

One LP was released in Mexico on the red Polydor label (as in other countries).



Mexican Polydor released the album in 1967 with this, its original British title. In 1969, and again in 1972, the album became The Beatles and Tony Sheridan – released on the Belart label. It moved to Polydor's Karusell label in 1973, taking the American title of *In the Beginning*.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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