

# The Beatles on Eight-Track Tape (1966-1987)

## The King of Formats in the 60's and 70's

Updated 28 Ag 20

The eight-track format was developed by Lear as an improvement on the Muntz four-track cartridge. The four-track, for instance, required that the capstan (roller) come up into the cartridge. Eight tracks would have a built-in roller. The Beatles' introduction to the 8-track format in the USA didn't come until August 1966. For average consumers the cartridge format was **new**. It was the biggest thing since the LP. Record companies charged a premium for eight tracks, and they GOT it. See [Abigail Lavine's brief history](#) of the eight-track for more information. The excellent publication which she edited is a fitting tribute to the format that would dominate the market in the early 70's.

Companies had been looking for ways to put a reel tape (the only tape format for the longest time) into a nice neat package. The eight-track and [four-track](#) cartridges were one idea of how to accomplish this. The tape speed was 3¾ inches per second, the same speed as the average reel tape. But the tracks on the tape were closer together, which did produce a reduction in sound quality but made the package more compact. The eight-track also had the advantage of "continuous play." Not only was there never a need to touch the tape itself (which you had to do with the reels) but also you were able to play through an entire album without flipping the tape over.

Eight tracks were popular enough that some special issues were made, and some eight tracks had added tracks to promote them. The [Playtape](#), which also started up in 1966, was like what we would call a cassette single -- except that it was a cartridge like the eight-track.

## Capitol's "White Shell" Phase (1966-1969)

Starting August 13, 1966, Capitol's earliest eight tracks had *white shells*. By 1969, they had determined that the machines left marks on the tapes, so they made black-shelled eight tracks for their stereo eight tracks afterward. In April, 1969, Capitol announced that they had redesigned the tape slicks so as to put all of the information on the front slick. Some of Capitol's eight tracks were prepared with Lear's "Lear Jet" cartridges, while some were assembled with Audiopak cartridges, made by Audio Devices, Inc., a Capitol Industries subsidiary. Later (70's) eight tracks simply state that they were manufactured by Capitol, with no mention of other licensing.

In the following list, the Capitol tapes have white shells with front and back "covers". **The back cover is green.**

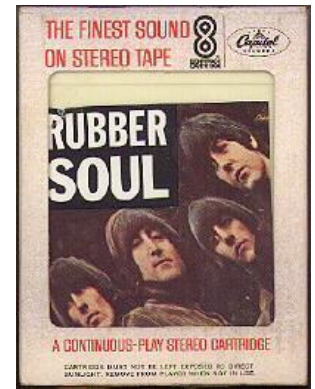
### *Rubber Soul*

Capitol 8XT-2442

Released August 1966.

From 1969 until 1974, this tape was also available through the Capitol Record Club with the additional number TA-63099, first with a white shell and later with a black shell.

SI = 4



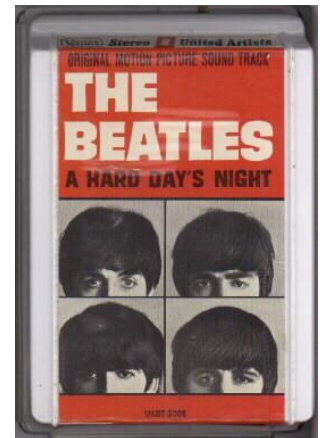
### *A Hard Day's Night*

United Artists UA8T-3006

Released summer 1966.

white shell with red and white track listing. Tape is housed in outer cover/box showing the Beatles' heads.

SI = 8



### *A Hard Day's Night*

United Artists UA8T-3006

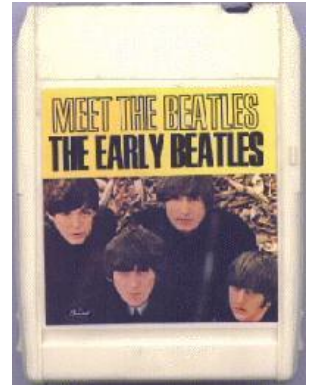
Released later 1966.

white shell with LP cover on front and red and white track listing on back. Group name is misspelled "Beattles." Housed in one of three different shells. This tape appears to be slightly less scarce than the one listed above.

SI = 7



*Meet the Beatles/The Early Beatles* Capitol 8X2T-2521  
Released August 1966.  
two albums combined on one eight track tape.  
SI = 5



*Revolver* Capitol 8XT-2576  
Released fall 1966.  
From 1969 until 1974, this tape was also available through the Capitol Record Club with the additional number TA-63004, first with a white shell and later with a black shell.  
SI = 4



The Capitol eight tracks which follow have *white shells*, front and back covers, and the back cover is white and **pink** (single LP) or white and **blue** (combined eight tracks -- more than 1 album).



*Beatles VI/Yesterday and Today* Capitol 8X2T-2648

Released December 1966.

All of the songs from *Yesterday and Today* are in true stereo.

SI = 5

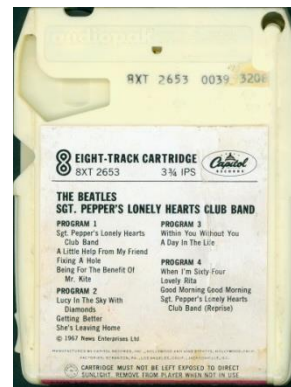


*Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* Capitol 8XT-2653

Released June 1967.

The "Sgt. Pepper Reprise" is extended on this tape. Most copies have a red border around the back. A few later copies have an all-white back cover.

SI = 3

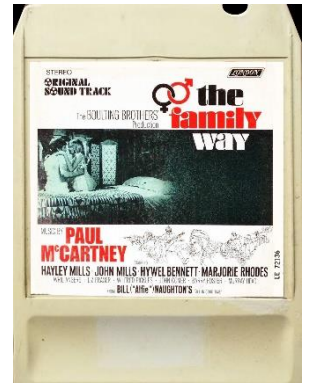


*The Family Way Soundtrack (P)* London LE-72136

Released July 1967.

white shell with front and back "covers." Made by Ampex.

SI = 7



*The Beatles' Second Album* Capitol 8XT-2080

Released July 1967.

Contains one extra song, "And I Love Her." The song "Money" is edited on this tape.

SI = 4





*Something New*

Capitol 8XT-2108

Released July 1967.

Contains one extra song, "Thank You Girl." At least one promo copy exists of this tape.

From 1969 until 1974, this tape was also available through the Capitol Record Club with the additional number TA-63092, first with a white shell and with a black shell.

SI = 4



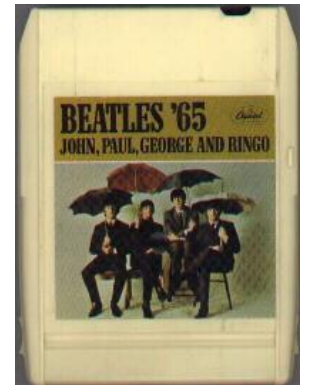
*Beatles '65*

Capitol 8XT-2228

Released July 1967.

Contains one extra song, "You Can't Do That."

SI = 4



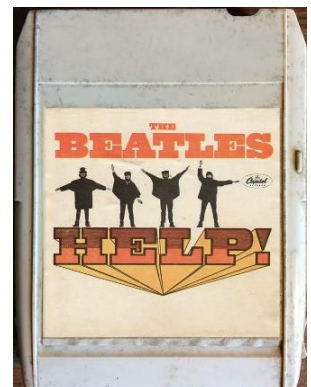
*Help!*

Capitol 8XT-2386

Released July 1967.

At least one promo copy exists of this tape.

SI = 5



*Magical Mystery Tour*

Capitol 8XT-2835

Released December 1967.

This is the last tape known to be found with the earliest form of outer box (see below).

SI = 3



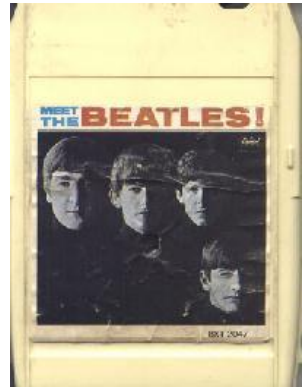
*Meet the Beatles!*

Capitol 8XT-2047

Early 1968

From 1969 until 1974, this tape was also available through the Capitol Record Club with the additional number TA-63093, with a white shell and with a black shell.

SI = 3



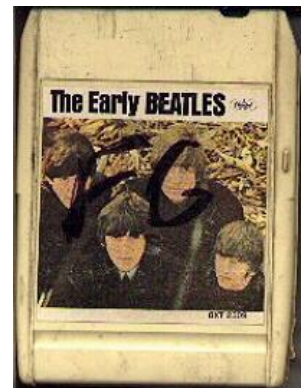
*The Early Beatles*

Capitol 8XT-2309

Early 1968

Capitol separated the two-record, single-tape set into two separate tapes. Contains one extra song, "Roll Over Beethoven."

SI = 4



*Beatles VI*

Capitol 8XT-2358

Early 1968

Contains one extra song, "I'm a Loser."

SI = 4



*Yesterday and Today*

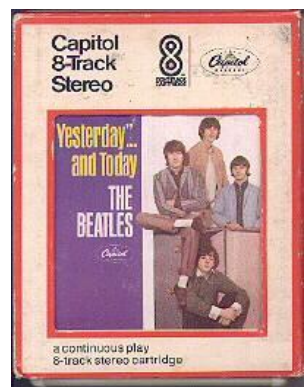
Capitol 8XT-2553

Early 1968

All songs are in stereo. The tape has a purple color bar, causing people to believe wrongly that it features slightly different graphics than the LP.

From 1969 until 1974, this tape was also available through the Capitol Record Club with the additional number TA-63098, with a white shell and with a black shell.

SI = 3



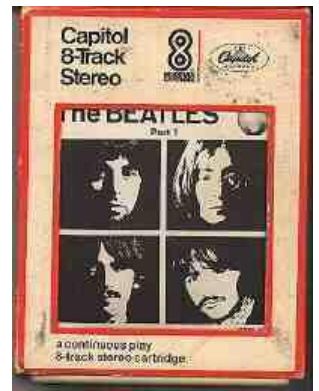
*The Beatles*

Apple 8XWB-101

Released December 1968.

For some reason, the individual tapes are numbered AFTER *Yellow Submarine*, unlike the reel tape and the four track, suggesting that both the eight-track and the cassette were assigned their numbers later. The two 8 tracks were housed in a black outer box with "The Beatles" and a large Apple on it, along with the catalog number. A posterboard sheet separates the two tapes, separately numbered 8XW-160 and 8XW-161.

SI = 3



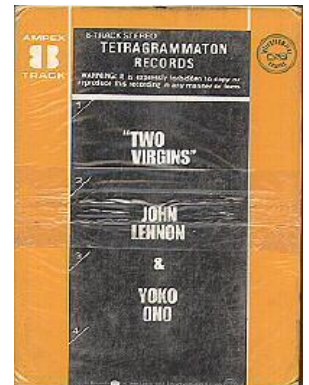
*Two Virgins (J)*

Apple/Tetragrammaton TNM8-5001

Released January 1969.

The outer cover is shown. Made by Ampex.

SI = 5



*Two Virgins (J)*

Apple/Tetragrammaton 873-5001

Released January 1969.

An edited version of cover and outer case are shown. Made by General Recording Tape, Inc. (GRT).

SI = 4



*Two Virgins (J)*

Apple/Tetragrammaton TG-85001

Released January 1969.

An edited version of cover and outer case are shown. Made by North American Leisure Corporation. (NAL).

SI = 5



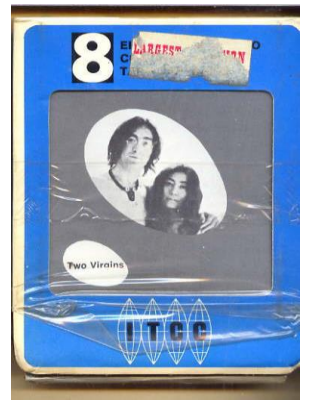
*Two Virgins (J)*

Apple/Tetragrammaton L-5-5001

Released January 1969.

Made by International Tape Cartridge Corporation. (ITCC).

SI = 6



*Yellow Submarine*

Capitol 8XW-153

Released January 1969.

There is no record company logo on the eight-track, which was issued in a Capitol company sleeve. The tape has an extra song, "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds."

SI = 3



*A Hard Day's Night*

United Artists U-3006

Released 1968.

Contains an extended version of "Hard Day's Night." Note the new prefix. This tape has front, back, and spine slicks on a white or black shell.

These copies appear to correspond to the pink/orange label LP's. The front slicks to these copies have the record cover, including a "stereo" banner, and nothing else. The back slicks to these copies feature the stereo "8" logo, corresponding to the "4" logo found on four tracks.

SI = 5

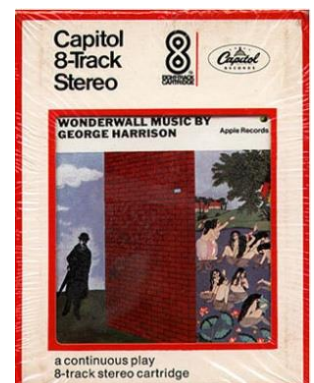


*Wonderwall Music (G)*

Apple 8XT-3350

Released 1969

SI = 3





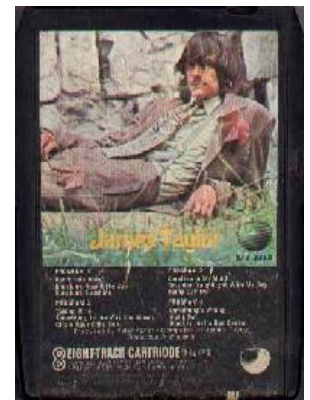
## Capitol's "Black Shell" Phase (1969 – 1982)

In 1969, Capitol Records was making many changes. The "new spirit of Capitol" called for a record label change in June, away from the rainbow label with dome logo and to a green label with a round "C" logo. Shortly before this change, Capitol eight-track shells switched from white in color to black, presumably because black shells were less likely to show machine marks after playing. The Beatles catalog of tapes from *Meet the Beatles* through *The Beatles* (White Album) were reissued somewhat quickly onto the new style. After all existing cover slicks were exhausted, a single "front cover only" design was put forth. Although transitional copies exist that "used up" the existing front and back slicks, for new releases, the "cover" extends to the front and edge of the shell only; there is no back-cover slick.

*Post Card* Mary Hopkin Apple 8XT 3351  
This tape may exist in the earlier "white shell" style.  
This tape may exist in a Capitol Record Club issue.



*James Taylor* James Taylor Apple 8XT 3352  
This tape was probably issued after the LP became popular in 1970.



*Under the Jasmin Tree* Modern Jazz Quartet Apple 8XT 3353  
According to Capitol's "Apple Album Label Series" from March, 1975, this LP was not issued on eight-track.

*Is This What You Want?* Jackie Lomax Apple 8XT 3354



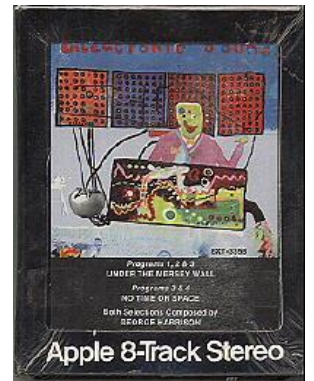
*Life With the Lions* (J)  
1969  
One of two Zapple tapes.  
SI = 3

Zapple 8XT-3357



*Electronic Sound* (G)  
1969  
One of two Zapple tapes.  
SI = 3

Zapple 8XT-3358



*That's the Way God Planned It* Billy Preston  
There are two white apples on the cover.

Apple 8XT-3359



*Space*

Modern Jazz Quartet

Apple 8XT-3360



*The Beatles' Deluxe 3-Pack*

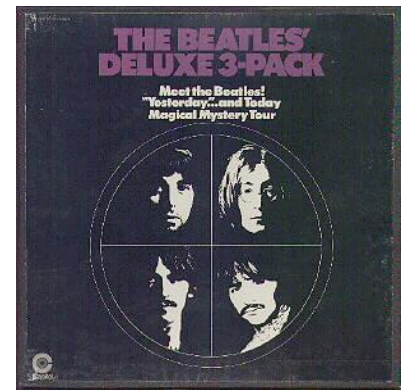
Sept. 1969

Contains *Meet the Beatles*, *Yesterday and Today*, and *Magical Mystery Tour* in a special 12" box. About 15 copies are known to exist!

SI = 10



Capitol 8X3T-358



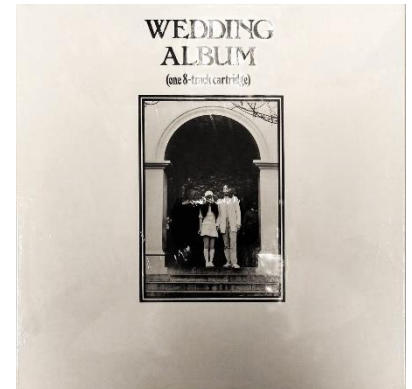
*Wedding Album (J)*

1969

Boxed set with inserts, as the LP. This was later reissued with just the cartridge, whose catalog number is 8XM-3361.

SI = 2

Apple 8AX-3361



*Abbey Road*

October 1969

The first release listed "Her Majesty" as "Her Majesty segment from The End."

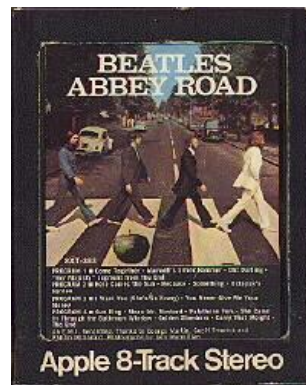
The apple on the cover of this issue is black. Some first pressings were originally housed in a 12" by 4.125" **custom long box**.

SI = 4 (tape)

SI = 10 (long box)

The Beatles

Apple 8XT-383



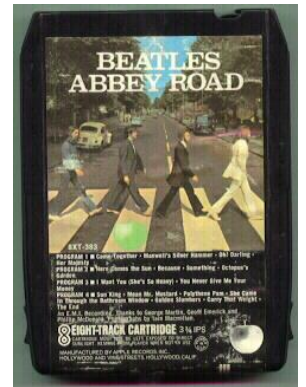
*Abbey Road*

The Beatles

Apple 8XT-383

Circa November 1969?

"Her Majesty" is listed. The apple logo on this issue is green.  
SI = 2



*Live Peace In Toronto*

(J)

Apple 8XT-3362

1970

Capitol's address in California is listed on the cover.  
SI = 2



*A Hard Day's Night*

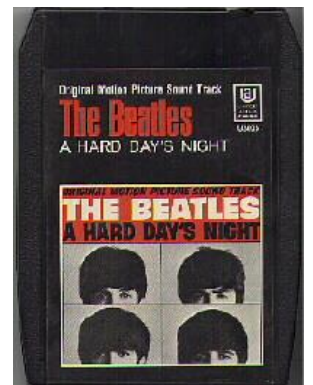
The Beatles

United Artists U-3006

1970

Contains an extended version of "Hard Day's Night." This is the 4th issue of the record on 8 track. This tape has front and back slicks on a black shell. These copies, corresponding to the black/orange label LP's, have "The Beatles," the title, and a soundtrack statement at the top of the front slick, along with the "U around a" logo. The shot of the LP cover is more closely cropped. There is no sticker on the spine.

SI = 3



*Hey Jude!*

The Beatles

Apple 8XT-385

Feb. 1970

Capitol's four factories are listed on the cover.

SI = 2



*Let It Be*

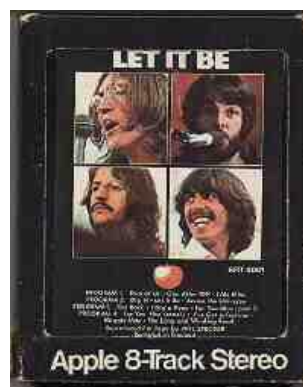
The Beatles

Apple ART-8001

Apr. 1970

Numbered as a special United Artists tape.

SI = 2





# Post-Beatles Apple/Capitol Eight Tracks

## 1970 - 1987

The eight-track tape format gained dominance in the late 1960's, and by the early 1970's even the LP was being rivaled. In the magazines, record clubs were advertising the eight-track tape in preference to any other format. But after the advent and acceptance of Dolby Noise Reduction, the cassette tape began to gain in popularity, eventually eclipsing the eight-track. By 1982, the major record companies decided that the eight track tape was too expensive to produce, given the amount of revenue then being generated. In a sweeping decision, the eight track tape was eliminated from record stores. By 1987, even the major record clubs were no longer offering the eight track option.

During the decade of the 70's, the former Beatles still held a leading place among members of the music industry. Consequently, most of their individual releases and most releases on their record label, Apple, were issued in all available formats.

### Terminology

"Grips" refer to the method of construction of the eight track shell. Specifically, the left and right sides of the shell contained a means for extracting the tape from a player. On Capitol/Apple tapes, these can be found in three styles:

- "Raised grips" are single pieces of plastic about 1cm across that stick out from the tape approximately 1mm from the rest of the tape. These grip styles are reasonably common throughout Capitol/Apple history but are less common in 1969-70 and after about 1977.
- "Holes" are indentations that jut into the sides of the tape. At most, they go about 7mm into the tape shell. These are relatively common from early 1969 through 1970.
- "Ribs" are a series of vertical, stripe-like, raised sections. Although common at other companies prior to their use by Capitol, these become common after 1976 and were usually manufactured by the factory at Winchester, Virginia.

*McCartney*

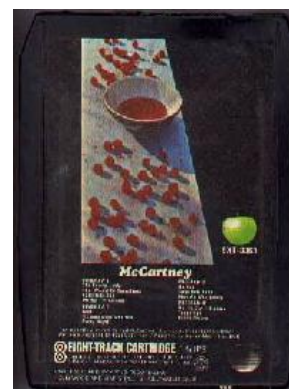
Paul McCartney

Apple 8XT-3363

First issues of this tape feature the Hollywood address of Capitol Records.

There are two apples on the cover, one in white and one in green.

Released 1970.



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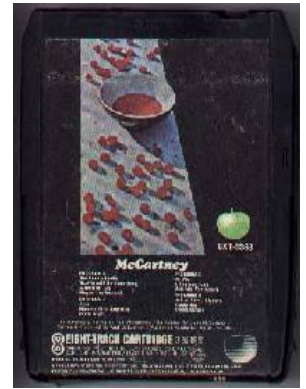
The following Apple tapes have black shells with front cover slicks. Capitol's **four factories** are listed on the cover, except as noted. In addition to those tapes listed below, the Beatles' *Hey Jude!* tape was also issued in this style.

*McCartney*

Paul McCartney

Apple 8XT-3363

Second issues of this tape feature the four factories of Capitol Records. There are two apples on the cover, one in white and one in green.



*Magic Christian Music*

Badfinger

Apple 8XT-3364

There are two apples on the cover, one in white and one in green.



*Sentimental Journey*

Ringo Starr

Apple 8XT-3365



The following Apple tapes have black shells with front cover slicks. The address of Apple Records appears as 1700 Broadway in New York City. The Apple logo(s) on the cover is/are also smaller, and the word "apple" was added to the logo. The change in style took place in October, 1970. Oddly, the Beatles *Let it Be* displays the later "small logo" style.

By 1971, most of the shells depict a Capitol logo on the back with a "TM" beside it. Prior to that time, the Capitol trademark, "audiopak," was more common.

*Beaucoups of Blues*

Ringo Starr

Apple 8XT-3368

This tape features the earlier "large logo," with apple" underneath. Released 9/70.



*No Dice*

Badfinger

Apple 8XT-3367

There are two Apple logos on the cover, one in white and the other in green. Underneath the address is written "An abkco Managed Company." Released 11/70.



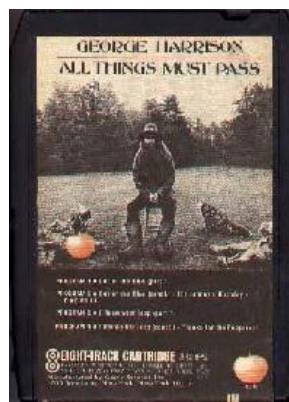
*All Things Must Pass*

George Harrison

Apple 8XWB-639

Contains two tapes, numbered 8XW-663 and 8XW-664.

First issues were shipped in a grayscale outer cover with orange apple and featured front cover/label slicks that show the LP cover. The Apple logos are orange. These seem to have ended some time in 1971. I have seen a copy with a purchase date from early 1971.



*All Things Must Pass*

George Harrison

Apple 8XWB-639

Contains two tapes, numbered 8XW-663 and 8XW-664.

Later issues were shipped in a grayscale outer cover with orange apple and featured front cover/label slicks that show the poster which came with the LP. The Apple logos are orange, with diagonal stripes. This pressing continued past the official end of the "Apple period."



*The Whale*

John Tavener

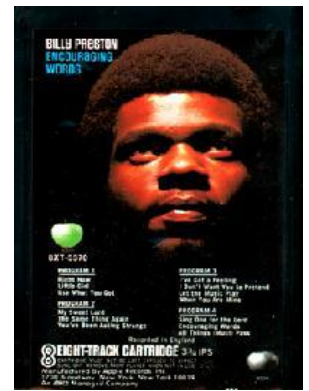
Apple 8XT 3369

According to Capitol's "Apple Album Label Series" from March, 1975, this LP did not come out on tape.

### *Encouraging Words*

Billy Preston

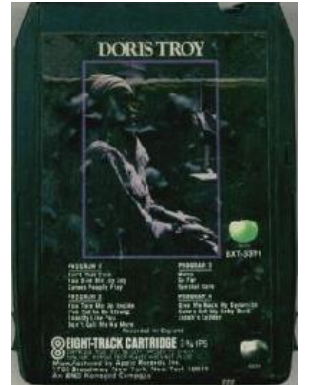
Apple 8XT-3370



*Doris Troy*

Doris Troy

Apple 8XT-3371

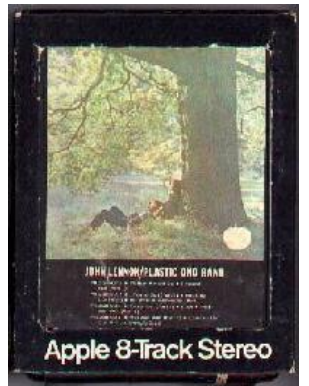


### Plastic Ono Band

# John Lennon

Apple 8XW-3372

The Apple logos on this tape are solid white.



### Plastic Ono Band

Yoko Ono

Apple 8XW-3373

The Apple logos on this tape are solid white.

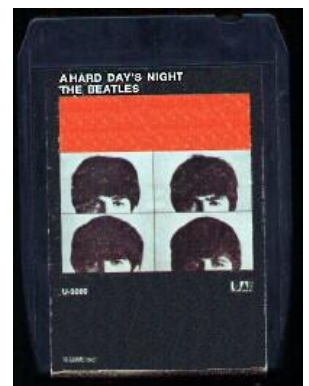


## *A Hard Day's Night*

## The Beatles

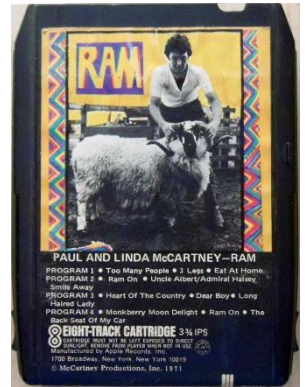
United Artists U-3006

Contains an extended version of "A Hard Day's Night." This tape corresponds to the "tan label" copies of the LP. Issued from c. 1971-2 to c. 1977. This tape has a copyright date of 1967 on the back, but it was not issued in '67.





*Ram* Paul and Linda McCartney Apple 8XW-3375  
 There is no record company logo on the cover slick.  
 "© McCartney Productions, Inc 1971" is written below the address.



*Radha Krishna Temple* Radha Krishna Temple Apple 8XW-3376  
 Two solid white Apple logos on the cover slick.  
 SI = 8



*Come Together* soundtrack Apple 8XW-3377



*Imagine* John Lennon Apple 8XW-3379  
 There are two white Apple logos on the cover.



*Imagine* John Lennon Apple Q8W-3379  
 The first "Quadrasonic" eight track from Apple, and the only one to have been issued with a green shell. The outer box is also green.

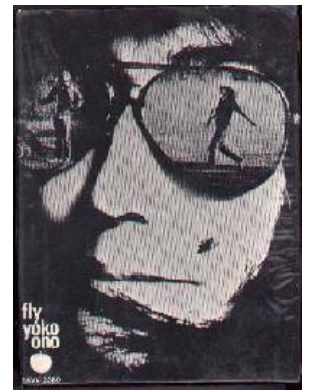


*Fly*

Yoko Ono

Apple 8XVV-3380

This set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XC-3382 and 8XC-3383, housed in an outer box.



*Earth Song; Ocean Song*

Mary Hopkin

Apple 8XW-3381

There are two solid white Apple logos on the cover.



*Raga*

soundtrack

Apple 8XW-3384

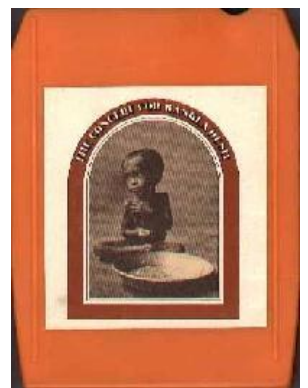
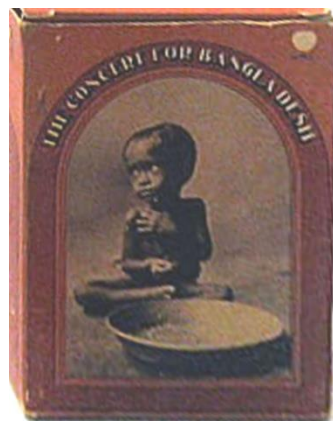
Hard to find.  
SI = 9.



*The Concert for Bangla Desh* soundtrack

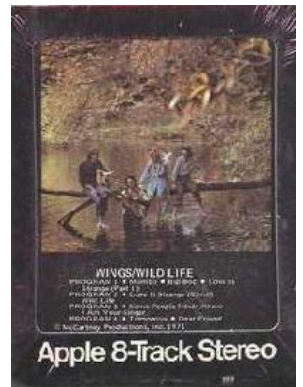
Apple ZAX-31230

Manufactured by Columbia and numbered as part of their series. The tape shells are orange. The Apple logos on the back cover slick and spine are in the same (dark brown) color as the print. The Apple logos are solid. Contains two tapes, individually numbered ZA-31231 and ZA-31232.



*Wild Life* Wings  
There is no record company logo on the cover.

Apple 8XW-3386



*Straight Up* Badfinger

Apple 8XW-3387



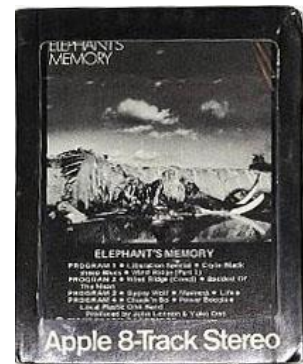
*El Topo* soundtrack

Apple 8XW-3388



*Elephants Memory* Elephants Memory

Apple 8XW-3389



*Brother*

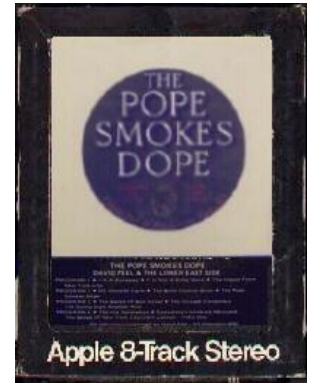
Lon and Derrek Van Eaton Apple 8XW-3390



*The Pope Smokes Dope*  
Hard to find.  
SI = 9.

David Peel

Apple 8XW-3391



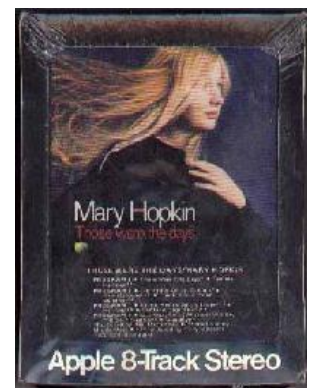
*Some Time in New York City* John Lennon and Yoko Ono Apple 8XAB-3392  
The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XW 3393 and 8XW 3394, housed in a yellow and black outer box.



*Those Were the Days*  
One Apple logo on cover.

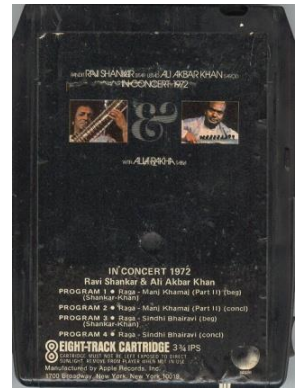
Mary Hopkin

Apple 8XW-3395

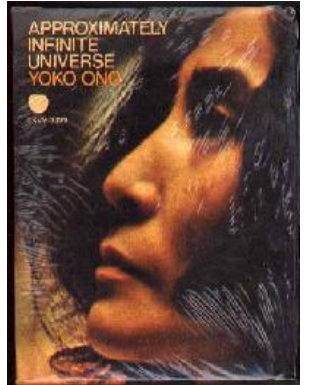




*In Concert 1972* Ravi Shankar & Ali Akbar Khan Apple 8XVV-3396  
The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XC 3397 and 8XC 3398, housed in an outer box.  
SI = 9.



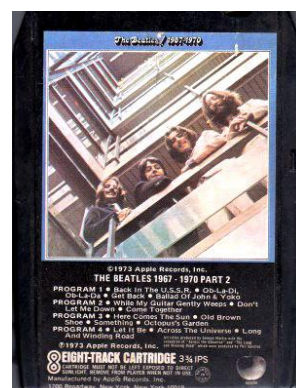
*Approximately Infinite Universe* Yoko Ono Apple 8XVV-3399  
The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XC 3401 and 8XC 3402, housed in an outer box. The Apple logo is solid white with a cross under it.



*Phil Spector's Christmas Album* Various Artists Apple 8XW-3400  
According to Capitol's "Apple Album Label Series" from March, 1975, this LP was not issued on eight track.

*1962-1966* The Beatles Apple 8XWB 3403  
The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XC-3405 and 8XC-3406. The set is very common. Usually, one finds copies pressed after 1975. The Apple logo was NOT removed at the end of 1975.

*1967-1970* The Beatles Apple 8XWB 3404  
The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XC-3407 and 8XC-3408. The set is very common, with copies pressed after 1975 being most common. The Apple logo was NOT removed on later copies.



The following Apple tapes were made during the transition between the two New York addresses. The address is simply shown as "New York, New York." Original copies of these tapes depict a Capitol logo on the back of the shell with a "TM" beside it. Mid-1973 appears to have seen the change to the registered trademark symbol.

*Red Rose Speedway* Paul McCartney and Wings Apple 8XW-3409  
There are two white Apple logos on the cover.  
*Living in the Material World* George Harrison Apple 8XW-3410

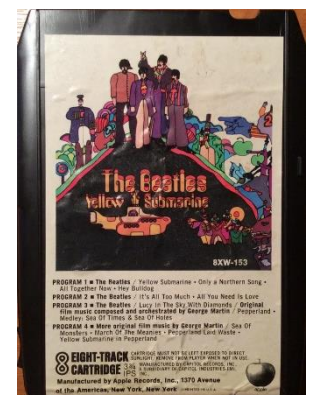


The following Apple tapes list the address of Apple Records as "1370 Avenue of the Americas" in New York City. The back side of the black Apple Records housing (still) shows a warranty. Original copies of these tapes depict a Capitol logo on the back of the shell with a "TM" beside it. Mid-1973 appears to have seen the change to the registered trademark symbol.

*Ass* Badfinger Apple 8XW-3411



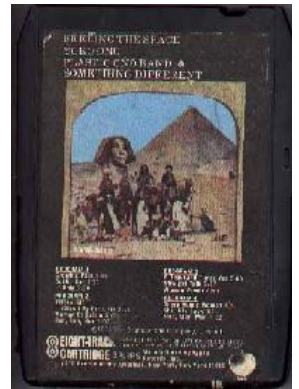
*Yellow Submarine* The Beatles Apple 8XW-153  
This tape is listed separately because not only does the cover feature the 1370 address, but also the song selections have been reordered so that they appear in the same order as on the LP. Contains the additional selection, "Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds."



*Feeling the Space*

Yoko Ono

Apple 8XW-3412



*Ringo*

Ringo Starr

Apple 8XW-3413

Contains an extended version of "Six O'Clock," which is found only on promotional copies of the LP and on other tapes.



*Ringo*

Ringo Starr

Apple Q8W-3413

The LP was going to be issued in quad, but that never happened. A few original quad slicks survived. It is not currently known what became of the quad mix of the album; maybe it's sitting in the vaults waiting for an eventual release.



*Mind Games*

John Lennon

Apple 8XW-3414

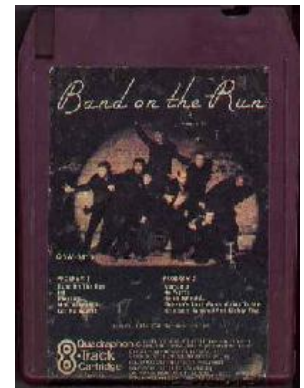
Two white Apple logos appear on the cover.



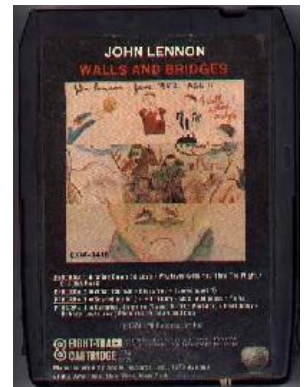
*Band on the Run* Paul McCartney and Wings Apple 8XZ-3415  
Two white Apple logos are shown on the cover.



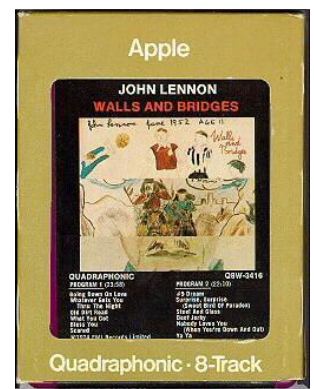
*Band on the Run* Paul McCartney and Wings Apple Q8W-3415  
The quadraphonic issue has a purple shell and was housed in a gold "Apple" outer box.



*Walls and Bridges* John Lennon Apple 8XW-3416  
Stereo tape.



*Walls and Bridges* John Lennon Apple Q8W-3416  
The quadraphonic issue has a purple shell and was housed in a gold "Apple" outer box.





*Imagine*

John Lennon

Apple Q8W-3379

Second issue. Later Quadraphonic eight tracks have purple shells and were housed in gold outer cases.

Issued 1974.



*Goodnight Vienna*

Ringo Starr

Apple 8XW-3417

Stereo tape.



*Goodnight Vienna*

Ringo Starr

Apple Q8W-3417

The quadraphonic issue has a purple shell and was housed in a gold "Apple" outer box.



*Dark Horse*

George Harrison

Apple 8XW-3418

The Apple logo has under it: "apple records from capitol records."



Rock N Roll                      John Lennon                      Apple 8XK-3419

Rock N Roll                      John Lennon                      Apple 8XK-3419

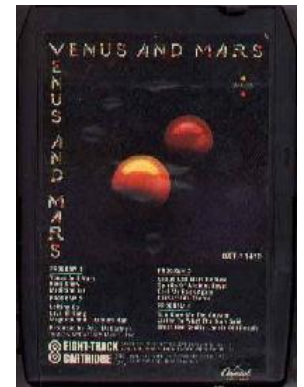
Rock N Roll                      John Lennon                      Apple 8XK-3419



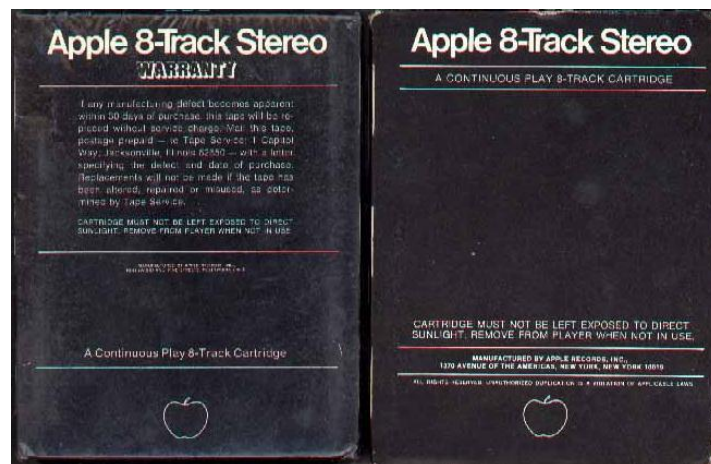
*Venus and Mars* Paul McCartney & Wings Capitol 8XT-11419

*Venus and Mars* Paul McCartney & Wings Capitol 8XT-11419

The manufacturer is shown as "McCartney Music," whose address on 54th Street in New York is given. NO "All rights reserved" statement, although the quad release (see below) has it.



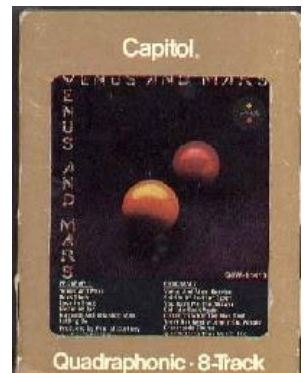
The following Apple and Capitol tapes have the additional slogan "All rights reserved. Unauthorized duplication is a violation of applicable laws," printed on both the tape cover and the outer housing. The warranty for the tapes was removed. In the case of Apple tapes, the 1370 address is now shown on the back of the outer box.



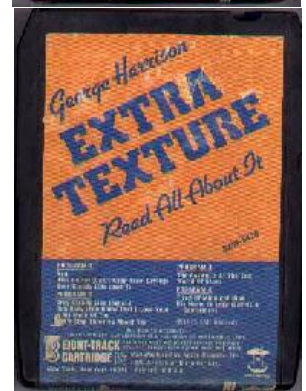
An "original" and 1975 issue box.

Original copies of these tapes depict a Capitol logo on the back of the shell with a registered trademark symbol beside it. There is NO Capitol Records factory symbol to the right of the words "Pat. Pending".

*Venus and Mars* Paul McCartney & Wings Capitol Q8W-11419  
The quadraphonic issue of this tape features a purple shell and is housed in a gold "Capitol" outer box. The manufacturer is shown as "McCartney Music," whose address on 54th Street in New York is given. "All rights reserved" statement on cover.



*Extra Texture* George Harrison Apple 8XW-3420  
"Apple core" logo.



*Shaved Fish* John Lennon Apple 8XW-3421



*Blast From Your Past* Ringo Starr Apple 8XW-3422



*Wings at the Speed of Sound* Wings

Capitol 8XW-11525

The manufacturer is shown as "MPL Communications, Inc." The address is shown as "34 W. 54th St." in New York. The actual address is **39** W. 54th St..



*Rock and Roll Music*

The Beatles

Capitol 8X2K-11537

Two LP's on one tape. Later reissued onto two eight tracks. The tape was also released at first inside an outer long box.

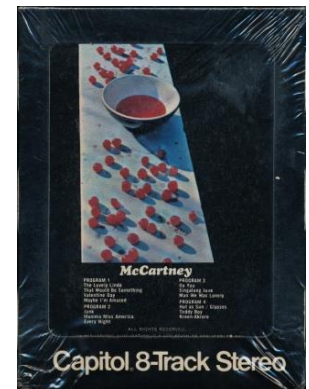


*McCartney*

Paul McCartney

Capitol 8XT-3363

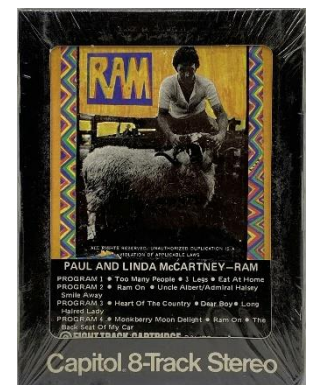
"All rights" appears, and the Apple logos were removed from the cover.



*Ram*

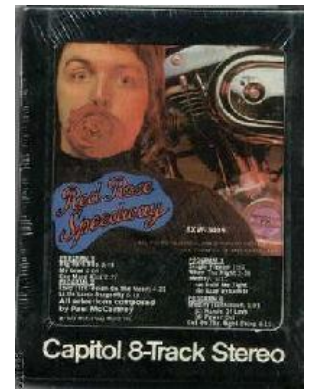
Paul and Linda McCartney Capitol 8XW-3375

"All rights" appears, and the Capitol logo has been added to the cover.





*Red Rose Speedway* Paul McCartney and Wings Capitol 8XW-3409  
 "All rights" appears, and the Apple logos were removed from the cover.

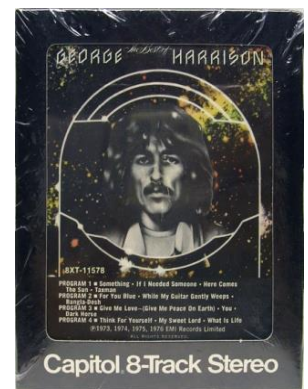


*Band on the Run* Paul McCartney and Wings Capitol 8XZ-3415  
 The "All rights" slogan has been added and the Apple logo has been replaced by the Capitol logo. A few copies were available in 1977 on "Touch-Me" hanger cards. See below.



The Capitol eight-tracks made after mid-1976 indicate the factory of manufacture. The symbol is depicted on the back of the shell and uses the same factory symbols as Capitol's vinyl records used. Copies pressed in Winchester, Virginia, in 1976 tend to have AUDIOPAK on the back instead of the Capitol logo. Additionally, Winchester copies have "rib" style grips.

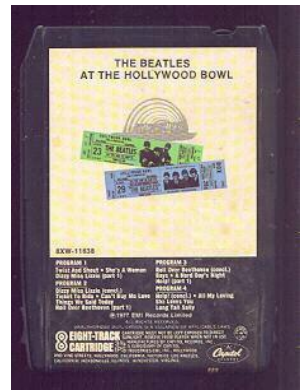
*Best of George Harrison* George Harrison Capitol 8XT-11578



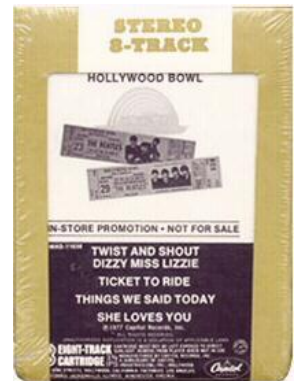
*Wings Over America* Wings Capitol 8X3C-11593  
 The set consists of two tapes, numbered 8XK-11594 and 8XK-11595.



*At the Hollywood Bowl*      The Beatles      Capitol 8XW-11638  
 Some copies (8ZT-11638) were sold on hanger cards designed by Ivy Hill. These were called "Touch-Me" tape packs.



*At the Hollywood Bowl*      The Beatles      Capitol SMAS-11638  
 Advance promotional copy, with the same prefix as the LP.



*Thrillington* Paul McCartney  
Artist name shown as Percy Thrillington.  
SI = 9

Capitol 8XT-11642



*Love Songs* The Beatles

Capitol 8X2B-11711



*Yellow Submarine* The Beatles  
Scarce reissue on Capitol, c. 1977.  
SI = 9

Capitol 8XW-153



*London Town* Wings

Capitol 8XW-11777





*Wings Greatest*

Wings

Capitol 8XOO-11905

The catalog number prefix is incorrectly shown on the cover as 8X00 instead of 8XOO. The manufacturer is shown as MPL Communications, Inc.. Their address on 54th Street in New York is given.

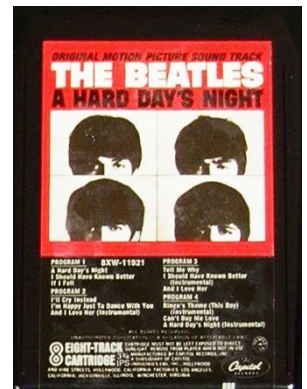


*A Hard Day's Night*

The Beatles

Capitol 8XW-11921

Capitol's reissue of the United Artists record.

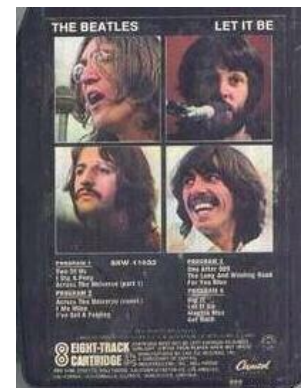


*Let it Be*

The Beatles

Capitol 8XW-11922

Capitol's reissue of the earlier Apple record, which had been released in conjunction with United Artists.



Capitol tapes that originally came out from 1980 on feature the UPC "bar code". Otherwise they are similar to the tapes shown above.

Here are some scarce Capitol reissues in the budget line:

*Rock n' Roll Music, Vol. 1*

The Beatles

Capitol 8N-16020

*Rock n' Roll Music, Vol. 2*

The Beatles

Capitol 8N-16021

Reissues of the two-record set. The second tape is scarcer than the first.





*Mind Games*  
1980

John Lennon

Capitol 8N-16068



*Rock 'n' Roll*  
1980

John Lennon

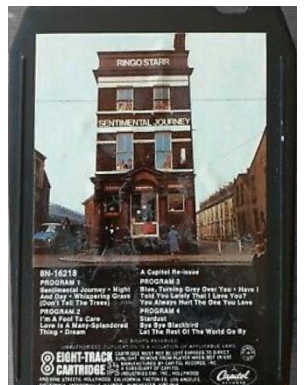
Capitol 8N-16069



*Sentimental Journey*  
1981

Ringo Starr

Capitol 8N-16218



*Rarities*  
1980

The Beatles

Capitol 8XA 12060



*Reel Music*

The Beatles

Capitol 8XV 12199

This was the last group eight-track tape available in stores.  
1982

See below for a Special Markets tape that came out in 1983.



#### *A Note About Reissues of Earlier Capitol/Apple Tapes:*

The entire Beatles catalog prior to *Abbey Road* was first available on "white shell" eight track cartridges, as detailed in the previous article. One can distinguish "black shell" tapes made after that time as follows:

- front and back covers on black shell -- transitional, 1969
- back of shell has large "audiopak™" -- c. 1969 - 1971
  - "hole" style grips are more common in 1969-1970 than in 1971
  - "raised grips" are more common from 1971 on
- back of shell has Capitol logo and "TM" -- c. 1971 - 1974
- back of shell has Capitol logo and the registered trademark symbol ®; there is NO factory symbol -- 1974 - 1975
- no warranty on outer box -- 1975 on
- back of shell has Capitol logo and the registered trademark symbol; a Capitol Records factory symbol is shown -- 1976 - 1982.

NOTES: The prefixes on *Rubber Soul* and *Revolver* changed from 8XT to 8XW in 1976. The Capitol logo replaced the Apple logo on *Hey Jude*, *The Beatles*, and *Abbey Road* in 1976.

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## Non-Capitol/Apple Eight-Track Tapes

Although there were many "pirate" and "bootleg" eight tracks of Beatles/solo material released in the 1970's and 1980's, the only legitimate releases before the end of the Apple period were *In the Beginning*, *Live and Let Die*, and *John Lennon Sings the Great Rock and Roll Hits*.

After the close of Apple, the ex-Beatles went to various record companies. The "discovery" of the Star Club tapes also led to the release of several eight tracks during the period 1977-1982. Although 1982 brought with it the end of the commercially-available eight track, certain tapes were available as late as 1987 through record clubs.

*In the Beginning (Circa 1960)* The Beatles  
with title outer box

Polydor 8F 4504



*In the Beginning (Circa 1960)* The Beatles  
Capitol Record Club issue

Polydor TA-60360



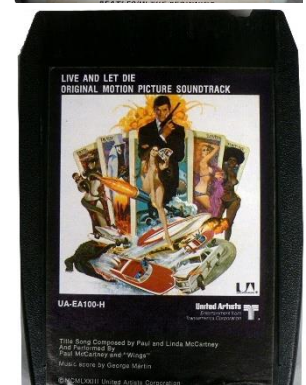
*In the Beginning (Circa 1960)* The Beatles  
Record Club of America issue

Polydor 31270-8



*Live and Let Die* Paul McCartney  
Black-shelled copies are commercial UA copies.

United Artists EA-100



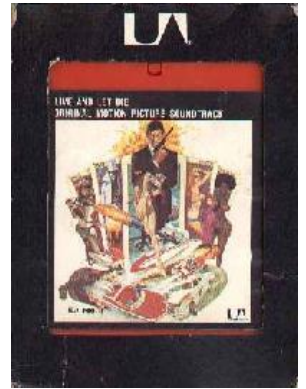


*Live and Let Die*

Paul McCartney

United Artists EA-100

Some copies of this tape have red shells, indicating that they were manufactured by Columbia. These may be Columbia Record Club copies.

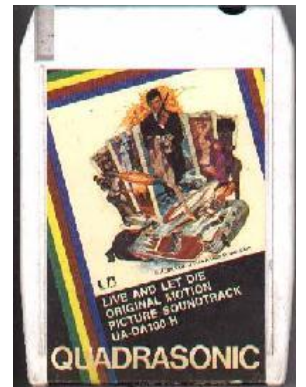


*Live and Let Die*

Paul McCartney United Artists UA-DA-100-H

Scarce Quad tape. Copies of this tape have white shells.

SI = 8



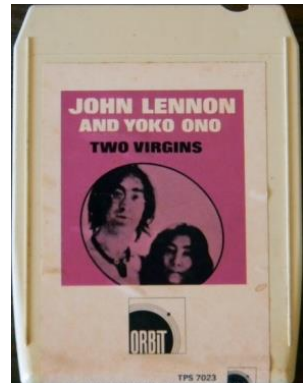
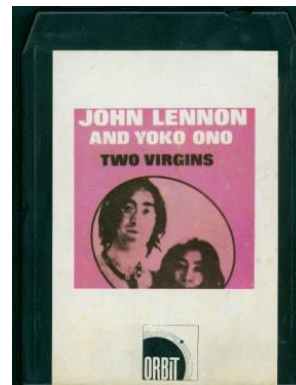
*Two Virgins*

John Lennon & Yoko Ono

Orbit TPS-7023

Orbit was a legitimate budget label, c. 1974. Copies exist with white shells, or with black shells.

SI = 7



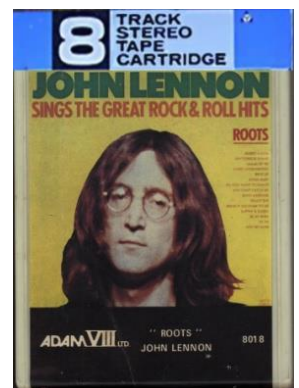
*John Lennon Sings the Great Rock and Roll Hits*

John Lennon

Adam VIII 8018

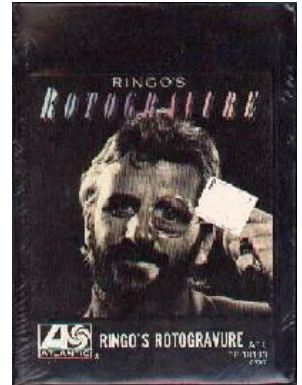
Lear Jet shell. Probably about 200 copies were released. A copy sold for \$612 in Summer, 2002; very few copies have sold since.

SI = 10



The post-Apple period saw John Lennon retire for five years before signing up with Geffen Records. Paul McCartney remained with Capitol (see above) through 1978, then spending approximately five years with Columbia. George Harrison migrated to his own label, Dark Horse. Ringo Starr spent time with Atlantic, then Portrait (CBS), then Boardwalk Records.

*Ringo's Rotogravure* Ringo Starr Atlantic TP 18193  
Tape was housed in a black outer box on which was glued cover graphics and song titles.



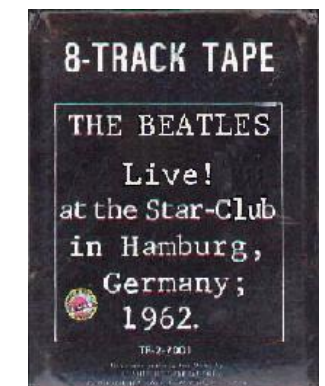
*Thirty-Three and 1/3* George Harrison Dark Horse DAH M8-3005



*Ringo the 4<sup>th</sup>* Ringo Starr Atlantic TP 19108



*Live! at the Star Club* The Beatles Lingasong TP-2-7001  
Tape is housed in a custom outer box.



*Bad Boy*

Ringo Starr

Portrait JRA 35378

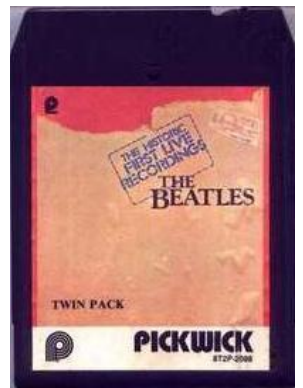


*First Live Recordings*

The Beatles

Pickwick 8T2P-2098

Equivalent to the Two-Record Set



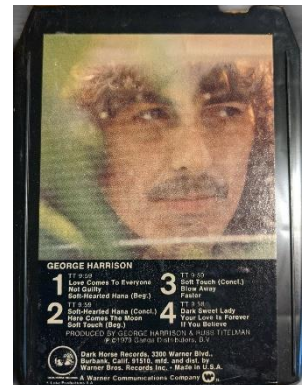
*George Harrison*

George Harrison

DAH M8-3255

Commercial copy with black shell and track listing.

First copies have no line of text between the song titles and the production credit.



*George Harrison*

George Harrison

DAH M8-3255

Commercial copy with black shell and track listing.

Second copies have an additional line indicating that the speed change that appears at the end of one song is deliberate, and not a tape error.



*George Harrison*

George Harrison

DAH M8-3255

Columbia Record Club issue with blue border

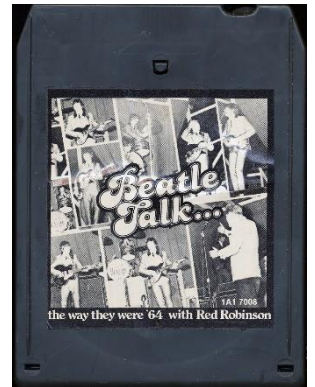
SI = 7



*Beatle Talk*  
Columbia Record Club issue

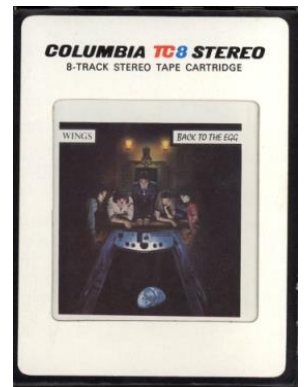
The Beatles

Great Northwest 1A1-7008



*Back to the Egg*

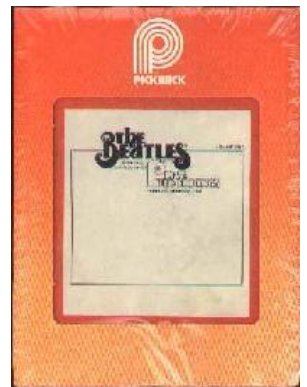
Paul McCartney & Wings Columbia FCA-36057



*Beatles Live Vol. 1*

The Beatles

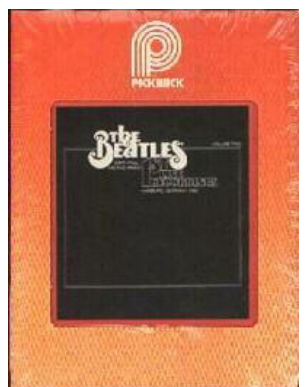
Pickwick P8-3661



*Beatles Live Vol. 2*

The Beatles

Pickwick P8-3662



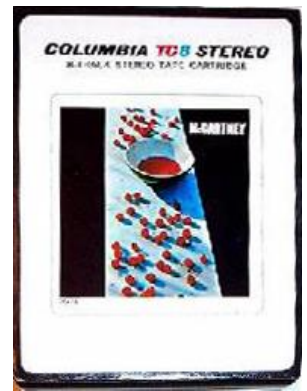


*McCartney*

Paul McCartney

Columbia JCA-36478

Reissue of the Apple tape. "McCartNEY" is written across the front cover in white.



*Ram*

Paul McCartney

Columbia JCA-36479

Reissue of the Apple tape.

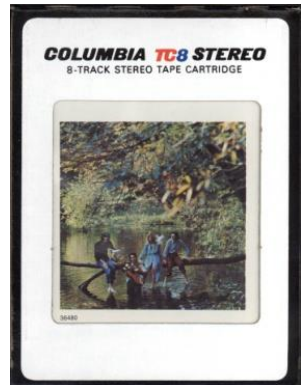


*Wild Life*

Wings

Columbia JCA-36480

Reissue of the Apple tape.



*Red Rose Speedway*

Paul McCartney & Wings

Columbia JCA-36481

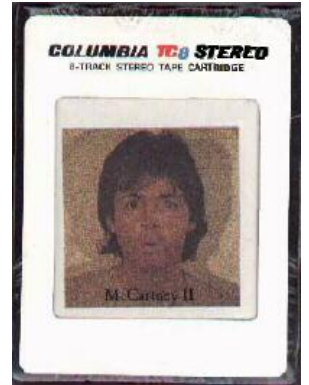
Reissue of the Apple tape.



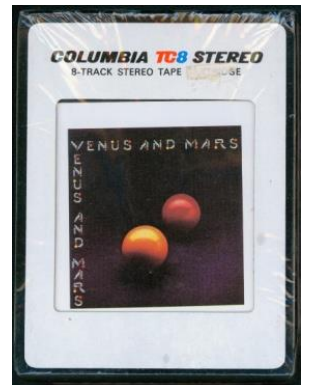
*Band on the Run* Paul McCartney & Wings Columbia JCA 36482  
 Reissue of the Apple tape. Columbia's deal with Paul McCartney allowed them to immediately reissue material that was at least five years old. Columbia reissued this tape and the four tapes above it in 1979.



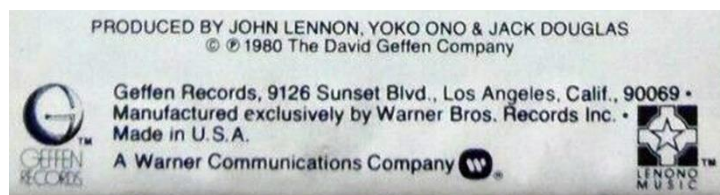
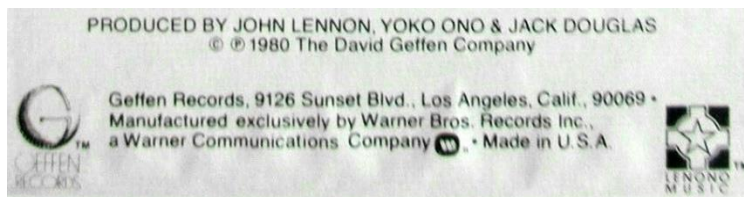
*McCartney II* Paul McCartney Columbia FCA-36511



*Venus and Mars* Paul McCartney & Wings Columbia JCA-36801  
 Reissued in 1980 after the fifth anniversary of the original release.  
 SI = 8.



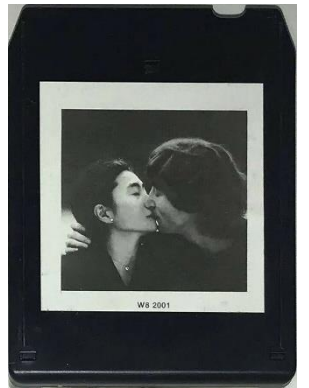
*Double Fantasy* John Lennon & Yoko Ono Geffen GEF W8-2001  
 Two early copies of the tape exist. The first has the Geffen Records address information in small type. The last bit of information is "Made in U.S.A." The second style has a larger typeface. The last line of information is "A Warner Communications Company".



*Double Fantasy* John Lennon & Yoko Ono Geffen GEF W8-2001  
 Blue shell. Columbia Record Club issue, 1981.  
 SI = 7



*Double Fantasy* John Lennon & Yoko Ono Geffen GEF W8-2001  
 Black shell. Columbia Record Club issue, 1981-2.  
 SI = 6



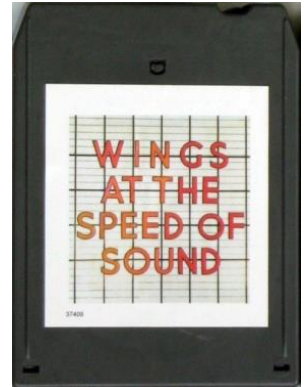
*Double Fantasy* John Lennon & Yoko Ono Geffen S-104689  
 RCA Record Club issue.  
 SI = 5



*Somewhere in England* George Harrison Dark Horse DH8 M8-3492



*Wings at the Speed of Sound* Wings Columbia JCA-37409  
Reissued after the fifth anniversary of the original release.



*Stop and Smell the Roses* Ringo Starr Boardwalk NB8-33246  
Prices vary widely on this tape.



*Tug of War* Paul McCartney Columbia TCA 37462



*John Lennon Collection* John Lennon Geffen GEF-L8-2023  
The last commercially-released Beatles-related eight track tape.





Other issues of the Star-Club material include:

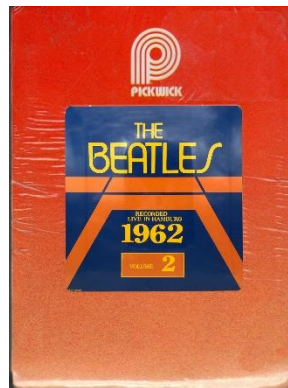
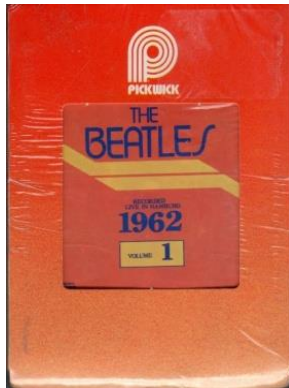
*Recorded Live in Hamburg, Vol. 1*      The Beatles      Pickwick B8N-90053

*Recorded Live in Hamburg, Vol. 2*      The Beatles      Pickwick B8N-90063

*Recorded Live in Hamburg, Vol. 3*      The Beatles      Pickwick B8N-90073

A 1978 reissue of the 1977 release on Lingasong...this time in three volumes.

SI = 7 (each)



*Live at the Star Club*      The Beatles

HMI 8-2200

A 1981 reissue of the 1977 release on Lingasong.

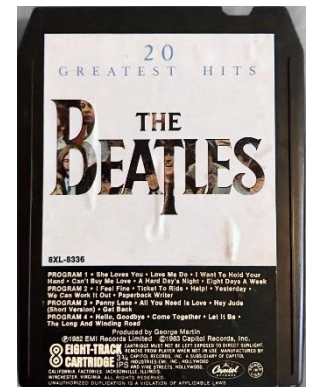
SI = 6



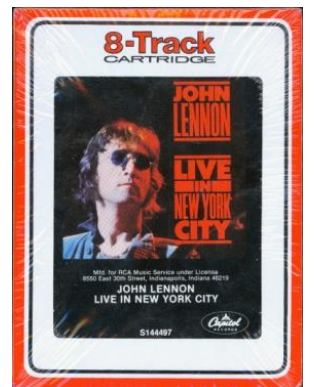
Three later tapes, listed below, were available ONLY through record clubs (as eight tracks waned in popularity).

*20 Greatest Hits*                      The Beatles              Capitol Special Markets 8XL-8336

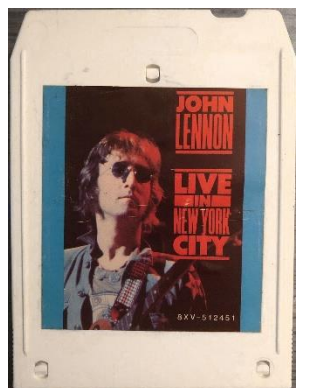
The purpose for this Capitol Special Markets eight track is not known. It is dated 1983, although the LP was released in 1982. Under ten copies have been confirmed.



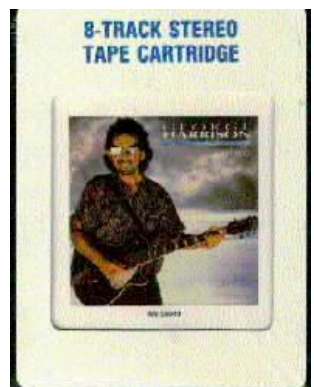
*John Lennon Live in NYC*              John Lennon              Capitol S-144497  
Available through the RCA Record Club



*John Lennon Live in NYC*              John Lennon              Capitol 8XV-512451  
Available through the Columbia Record Club



*Cloud Nine*                              George Harrison              Dark Horse W8-25643  
Available through the Columbia Record Club



## Original Outer Boxes

The original outer box for *Rubber Soul* and *Revolver* is hard to find. It is white colored and has "The finest sound in stereo tape" at the upper left in red. The *Rubber Soul* eight track on this page is housed in the original box. This box was "used up" on later 8 tracks until about the end of 1967.

The original outer box for the combined 8 track *Meet the Beatles/Early Beatles* is also hard to find. It is mostly white, with [2 Complete Albums](#) in blue in the upper left and [A CONTINUOUS-PLAY STEREO CARTRIDGE](#) in blue at the bottom.

The original outer box for all single-play Capitol-made 8 tracks made from 1967 through *Yellow Submarine* is white with red trim. "Capitol 8-track stereo" is printed in black in the upper left. Check out the photo of the *Sgt. Pepper* eight track to view this sleeve.

*Yesterday and Today/Beatles VI* was originally housed in a white sleeve with blue trim. The words "Two Complete Albums" are printed in black in the upper left. The photo of that tape on this page is housed in the original box.

Original Capitol stereo tape boxes from 1969 through 1974 are black with white print. Although no original Beatles-related 8 tracks were released in this box originally, all black shell reissues of the Capitol tapes were housed in these boxes. The words "Capitol 8-track stereo" appear at the bottom. On the back cover is a warranty.

Original Apple stereo tape boxes from 1969 through 1974 are black with white print. The words "Apple 8-track stereo" appear at the bottom. On the back cover is a warranty.

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## About the Scarcity Index

We have introduced a Scarcity Index to indicate the relative rarity of tapes. The rating ranges from 1 to 10, with 1 being "very common" and 10 indicating that fewer than 20 copies are known to exist.

With few exceptions, all of the Beatles' Capitol and Apple eight tracks sold reasonably well, and original copies can be easily found (although not always in "near mint" condition). Their Scarcity Indices are normally 3, with more common tapes like the second *Abbey Road* rating a 2 and slightly less common tapes like *Early Beatles* rating a 4. With the exceptions noted above, all original tapes should be considered somewhat plentiful in average grades.

## Scarcity

Most 8 tracks that you see are mid- to late-70's black shell issues. The first issue of *Abbey Road* is less common than the second issue. Most of the white-shelled Capitol tapes are hard to find in NM condition, and sealed copies command a premium.

The Capitol Record Club tapes are somewhat hard to find, and their value may escalate if their scarcity is appreciated.

The first issue of *A Hard Day's Night* is rare, especially with its outer plastic box.

The quad tapes are always good to find. *Thrillington* and *The John Lennon Collection* are scarce later tapes. The most expensive item by far is *The Beatles' Deluxe 3-Pack*, which yields \$2000 in NM condition.



Above are some tapes from the Capitol Record Club. Consult Perry Cox's price guide series for more detailed information, and see also the page on this site about the Capitol Record Club.

## The Beatles on Eight-Track Tape (1966-1987) by Frank Daniels

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**New for July from Capitol: The Beatles!  
The Beach Boys! 8-Track Blockbuster Release!**

