

The 70s: More Bands - Disco, Rock etc

&

Punk, New Wave, New Romantic & Ska



Australian Bands

in 70s and 80s



The Beatles (John, Paul, George and Ringo) embark on their solo careers which continue until John Lennon's assassination in 1980 and George's passing from cancer in 2001. Ringo and Paul still going as of 2024.

Rod Stewart embarks on a successful solo career following his role as lead singer of both the Jeff Beck Band and The Faces. As of 2024 he is still performing.

The **1970s** also saw the continuation of artists such as Bob Dylan, Bee Gees, Neil Diamond, Neil Young, Van Morrison, The Rolling Stones, The Who, Traffic, Elvis Presley, Steve Miller Band, Joe Cocker and Santana.

Further, the 70s saw the rise of more complex and heavier music with bands such as Yes, **Pink Floyd**, Jethro Tull, **Led Zeppelin**, King Crimson, Deep Purple, Black Sabbath, Roxy Music, Uriah Heep, Alice Cooper and Emerson Lake and Palmer.

The singer-songwriters entrenched themselves with the likes of Cat Stevens, Carole King, Joni Mitchell, James Taylor, Dolly Parton, Don McLean, Jimmy Buffett and Elton John.

The Doors came to an end with the death of lead singer Jim Morrison in 1971. The same year Creedence Clearwater Revival folded as a result of major internal friction and the departure of lead singer and songwriter John Fogerty.

The album was the big thing with singles just pushing album sales. Also there would be a distinction between Singles Charts (which were more pop ABBA, Smokie, Dr Hook, The Carpenters, Simon and Garfunkel, Bread, Jackson 5, Tony Orlando and Dawn, Donny Osmond) and Album Charts (which were more Rock eg Pink Floyd, Led Zeppelin, Yes, Jethro Tull, Santana). Hence the concept of the one hit wonder. But obviously there artists that were successful in both charts (Linda Ronstadt, Eagles, America, Elton John, John Denver, David Bowie, Stevie Wonder, Slade, The Rolling Stones, ABBA).

Click the following link for Billboard Number 1 singles of the 70s

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Billboard_Hot_100_number-one_singles_of_the_1970s

Click the following link for Billboard Number 1 Albums of the 70s in Australia

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_number-one_albums_in_Australia_during_the_1970s



Glam rock became a term with T-Rex, Mott The Hoople, Wizzard, Sweet, New York Dolls, Slade, Kiss and Roxy Music. This was all to do with heavy use of make-up.

David Bowie introduced a more sophisticated genre with space themes and a variety of charismatic characters such as Ziggy Stardust.

The USA saw the arrival of Country Rock / West Coast Sound (smooth and melodic) with Eagles, America, Linda Ronstadt, Seals and Croft, Loggins and Messina and Emmylou Harris.

The 70's would also see the birth of two new genres, DISCO midway through the decade (dance based predominantly from 1974 through to 1977) and PUNK towards the end of the decade, kicking in hard from 1977.

Punk truly arrived in 1977 with the advent of anti-establishment band the **Sex Pistols**. Punk was aggressive music and the fans exhibiting fashion with razor blades and safety pins and mohawk haircuts. Other bands to appear from this movement were The Clash, The Jam, The Stranglers, The Police, Elvis Costello, The Damned, Generation X (Lead singer Billy Idol), Ian Dury and the Blockheads, X-Ray Spex, Television, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Tubeway Army, Ultravox (all English) while the USA generated Ramones, Dead Kennedys, Blondie, Graham Parker, Talking Heads, The Runaways, New York Dolls, Patti Smith, The Tubes. The earliest exponents of this genre were from the USA Iggy Pop and the Stooges(1967) and MC5(formed in 1963 with debut & live album in 1969 "Kick Out The Jams"). As it became less aggressive it would come to be called New Wave and some New Romantic. Another genre to become popular as an adjunct was Ska with the likes of Madness, The Specials, British Beat, The Selecter and Bad Manners - all English.

Musically Australia was still in its infancy with good artists such as Blackfeather, Sherbet, Daddy Cool, Chain, Billy Thorpe, Spectrum, The Masters Apprentices, Russell Morris, Richard Clapton, Marcia Hines, Ol 55, Stars and Dingo's. Richard Clapton proved himself to be a brilliant songwriter, with great songs from the outset, displayed on his debut album Prussian Blue in 1973.

1974 saw the arrival of debut albums from **Skyhooks** along with **ACDC** (1974), Dragon (1976), LRB(1976), Jo Jo Zep and the Falcons(1977), The Angels (1977) and then in 1978 from Cold Chisel, Midnight Oil, Mondo Rock, Rose Tattoo and The Sports with InXs recording their debut album and getting ready for a 1980 release. And yes, Australia had truly arrived on the music scene with great bands. With the onset of PUNK, Australia had iconic groups Radio Birdman (1977) and The Saints (1977).

Reggae music came to prominence in **1973** with Bob Marley and the Wailers.

International music started charting with Golden Earring (The Netherlands), ABBA (Sweden) and Osibisa (Ghana)

ABBA (Agnetha, Benny, Bjorn, Ani-Frid), formed in 1972. Following their win at Eurovision in 1974 with song "Waterloo" they would become global superstars. Australia was the first country in the world to seriously take notice of them. They would have a string of top 10 and number 1 hits from 1974 to 1982. They would become one of the best-selling music artists in history. Numerous tribute bands appeared on the scene including Bjorn Again and Abbalanche from Australia. Relaunching and cementing their lifelong legend status with the release of a stage musical "Mama Mia" based around their songs which premiered at London West End theatre, the Prince Edward on April 6, 1999. Subsequently, in 2008, it became a movie with Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan and Colin Firth.

England saw the rise of a new genre influenced by traditional (folk) English music "Folk Rock" – Fairport Convention, Steeleye Span, Renaissance Jethro Tull, John Martyn. Of these Jethro Tull was more rock, while the others leant more towards their folk influences.

One of the biggest bands to emerge was English band Fleetwood Mac [(who had been around for at least 10 years with various lineups but two core members John McVie (bass) & Mick Fleetwood(drums)] in 1975 with their new lineup featuring Americans, Stevie Nicks and Lindsay Buckingham. This lineup would launch them into super stardom.

Other major bands / artists to appear included from the USA included Little Feat, Bruce Springsteen with debut album in 1973, Billy Joel in 1977, Tom Petty (1976), John Denver(1974 with his 7th album "Back Home Again"), John Cougar Mellencamp(1978) and the brilliant Steely Dan, Michael Jackson (1979 with release of 5th album "Off The Wall" would become a phenomenon)while in England there was Genesis (Peter Gabriel on lead vocals and Phil Collins on drums with Phil later taking over lead vocals on the departure of Peter Gabriel), Queen in 1975 with the release of Bohemian Rhapsody (on their third album A Day at the Races"), Supertramp (1974), 10CC(1975), Dire Straits (1978).

1977 would see the release of one of the biggest selling albums of all time Meatloaf's "Bat out of Hell" (around 43 million #7) along with Pink Floyd's Dark Side of the Moon (1973 – 45 million #4), Eagles "Hotel California" (1976 – 40 million #8), Fleetwood Mac "Rumours" (1977 – 40 million #10), Bee Gees "Saturday Night Fever (1977 – 40 million #11), Eagles "Greatest Hits (1976 – 44 million #6) Michael Jackson's "Thriller" (1982 – 100 million #1), AC DC "Back in Black" (1980 – 50 million #2, Michael Jackson "Bad" (1987 – 45 million #5). As you can see most of the top selling albums occurred during the 70s or were achieved by 70s artists in the 80s. The other two to reach 40 million or more were Shania Twain in 1997 with "Come on Over" and Whitney Houston with "The Bodyguard" soundtrack in 1992.

See the following link for more info on album sales

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_best-selling_albums

At the close of the decade, **1979** would also see the revival and re-invigoration of 60s icon Cliff Richard's career with the release of "We Don't Talk Anymore" #1 UK and #7 USA, #3 Australia and a string of hits to follow Carrie (1979) #4 UK, Dreamin(1980) #8 UK, #10 USA, #4 Australia, A Little in Love (1980) #15 UK, Wired For Sound (1981) #4 UK, #2 Australia, #71 USA. An earlier hit in Devil Woman (1976) - #6 in USA, #9 UK, #3 Australia had not resulted in the same continuous stream of hits.

Also by the end of the 70s, Disco was dead and Punk was just another music category.

International bands that emerged in the 70s:

UK: Roxy Music, Queen, Electric Light Orchestra, Supertramp, Paul McCartney and Wings, Bad Company, Emerson Lake & Palmer, Gentle Giant, 10CC, The Strawbs, Greenslade, Ten Years After, Uriah Heep, Steeleye Span, Dire Straits, Steeleye Span, Alan Parsons Project, Renaissance, Manfred Manns Earth Band, Eurythmics.

US: The Doobie Brothers, Eagles, Charlie Daniels Band, Mahavishnu Orchestra, Steely Dan, Styx, Bachman-Turner Overdrive, Bread, Little Feat, War, ZZ Top, Seals and Croft, Hall and Oates, Dolly Parton, Ike and Tina Turner, J Geils Band, Return To Forever, Marshall Tucker Band, Foreigner, Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers, Toto, Lynyrd Skynyrd, Meatloaf, George Thorogood and the Destroyers, The Blues Brothers, Huey Lewis and the News.

International Solo Artists in the 70s

USA: Billy Joel, Glen Campbell, Don McLean, Jimmy Buffett, Ry Cooder, Carole King, Cher, Harry Nilsson, Boz Scaggs, Bonnie Raitt, Jackson Browne, Harry Chapin, Linda Ronstadt, Lou Reed, Bette Midler, Jim Croce, Suzi Quatro, Bruce Springsteen, Roy Buchanan, JJ Cale, Gram Parsons, Tom Waits, Amazing Rhythm Aces, Elvin Bishop, Nils Lofgren, Warren Zevon, Emmylou Harris, George Benson, John Cougar, Johnny Winter, Prince, Carly Simon, Christopher Cross, Nicolette Larson, Pat Benetar, Rickie Lee Jones, Joe Walsh

UK: John Martyn, Gilbert O'Sullivan, Leo Sayer, Joan Armatrading, John Cale, Leo Sayer, Rory Gallagher, Roy Harper, Mike Oldfield, Robert Palmer, Peter Dinklage, Chris Rea, Bryan Ferry, Chris DeBurgh

World Music bands that emerged in the 70s by Country of Origin:

Sweden: ABBA

Ghana: Osibisa

Jamaica: Bob Marley and the Wailers

Netherlands: Golden Earring, Focus

Heavy Pop Rock in the 70s:

UK: Slade, Status Quo, The Sweet

US: The Runaways, Kiss



Disco period - mid to late 70s - USA

USA: Earth Wind & Fire, Rose Royce, Barry White, Sister Sledge, The O'Jays, KC & the Sunshine Band, The Pointer Sisters, Hues Corporation, George McCrae, LaBelle, Shirley and Company, Van McCoy, Brothers Johnson, The Ritchie Family, Donna Summer, Wild Cherry, Average White Band, Thelma Houston, The Sylvers, The Trammps, Candi Staton, Hot Chocolate, Joe Tex, La Belle Epoque, Marilyn McCoo & Billy Davis, The Emotions, Village People, Commodores, Gloria Gaynor, Grace Jones, Rick James, Lipps Inc, Amii Stewart, Kool and the Gang, Sylvester, The Gibson Brothers, Peaches and Herb, Patrick Hernandez, Anita Ward, The Three Degrees, Chic, Alicia Bridges, B T Express, Chaka Khan, Dan Hartman, Ester Phillips, Fatback Band, Kelly Marie, Maxine Nightingale, MFSB, The Spinners, The Stylistics, A Taste Of Honey, Teena Marie, Vicki Sue Robinson, Viola Wills, The Whispers

Baccara(Spain), Santa Esmeralda(France), Silver Convention(Germany), Tina Charles(UK), Boney-M(UK, Jamaica, Netherlands - put together in Germany)

New Rock / Metal - 70s

US: Van Halen, Aerosmith, Foghat, Quiet Riot, Twisted Sister, Cheap Trick,

UK: Iron Maiden, Hawkwind, Motorhead, Judas Priest, Def Leppard, Whitesnake, Black Sabbath (Ozzy Osbourne)

Pop - 70s

US: Smokie, Dr Hook

New Wave, Punk Period - late 70s and early 80s - includes New Romantic and Ska

Started to emerge in the period 1974 - 1976 and kicked in really strongly in 1978. Punk followers were usually more aggressive and their fashion was very dark and almost evil looking. Punk seemed to transition into the smoother and sometimes more electronic New Wave and finally New Romantic appeared during the 80's. However, New Romantic tended to be more about the fashion than the music. Punk really launched from Britain, in spite of a couple of earlier exponents in the USA – Iggy Pop and the Stooges & MC5.

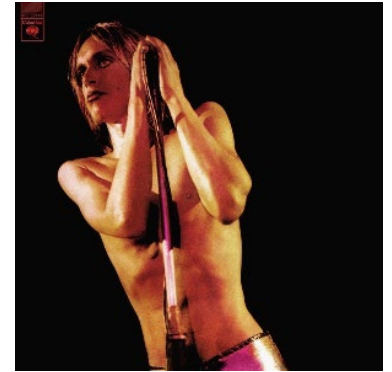
Punk



The Sex Pistols



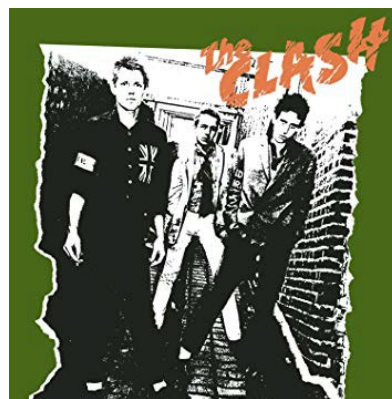
Punk Fans



Iggy Pop



Ramones



The Clash



The Stranglers



Image from Sex Pistols "God Save The Queen"



Legendary US club CBGBs - birth place for so many US punk and new wave bands

Of the 70s punk bands, the best of them are probably The Clash, Ramones, Sex Pistols, Iggy Pop & the Stooges, The Stranglers.

There were others, who were exceptional, that were grouped into the punk era but they were not really aggressively punk - these included Elvis Costello, Graham Parker and the Rumour, The Boomtown Rats, The Jam.

UK - Punk: Sex Pistols, The Clash, Elvis Costello, The Stranglers, The Boomtown Rats, Ian Dury and the Blockheads, X-Ray Spex, Graham Parker and the Rumour, Generation X (Billy Idol), Wreckless Eric, Buzzcocks, Jona Lewie, Lene Lovich, Violent Femmes, The Jam

UK - New Wave: Orchestral Manoeuvres In The Dark, The Cure, Siouxsie and the Banshees, Joy Division, Magazine, The Psychedelic Furs, Echo and the Bunnymen, Tubeway Army, China Crisis, The Vapors, Fischer-Z, Gary Numan, New Order

UK-SKA: The Specials, UB40, The Selector, British Beat, Madness

UK - New Romantic: Adam and the Ants, Spandau Ballet, Duran Duran, Thompson Twins, Simple Minds, Flock Of Seagulls, ABC, Haircut 100, Culture Club

UK - Pop New Wave: UK Squeeze, The Pretenders, Joe Jackson, The Police, XTC, Dr Feelgood

USA - Punk: Dead Kennedys, Iggy Pop & the Stooges, The Tubes, Patti Smith, Ramones, MC5

USA - New Wave: Talking Heads; Devo, The Motels, Television

USA - Pop New Wave: The Cars, Martha and the Muffins (Canada), The B52s, The Go Gos, Blondie

New Wave



Debbie Harry from Blondie



Talking Heads



Devo

New Romantic



Adam and the Ants



Culture Club (with Boy George)



Spandau Ballet



Duran Duran



Madness



The Specials

Australia's music industry really grew from the late 70s into the 80s, both in number and quality.

Australian and New Zealand Artists in the 70s

Australian music flourished in 70s and 80s in both number and quality .

Initial artists to emerge in the early 70s (of these only John Farnham continued): Daddy Cool, La De Das, Zoot, Blackfeather, Brian Cadd, Country Radio, Jeff St John, Spectrum, Healing Force, [John Farnham](#)

And then came

[Dragon](#), [AC/DC](#), Ayers Rock, [Cold Chisel](#), Dingoos, [Skyhooks](#), [Sherbet](#), Russell Morris, [John Williamson](#), [Olivia Newton John](#), Ted Mulry, Rick Springfield, [Richard Clapton](#), Renee Geyer, Stevie Wright, Anne Kirkpatrick, [The Angels](#), The Saints, [Marcia Hines](#), [Little River Band](#), Air Supply, Jimmy and the Boys, [Midnight Oil](#), [Mental As Anything](#), Rose Tattoo, [Mondo Rock](#), The Sports, John English, [John Paul Young](#), Jo Jo Zep and the Falcons, Stars, Goanna, [Icehouse](#), [InXs](#), The Go Betweens, Radio Birdman, [Australian Crawl](#), The Dugites, Matt Finish, [Men At Work](#), The Models, Moving Pictures, The Radiators, The Choirboys, The Cockroaches, Dynamic Hepnotics, The Swingers



AC/DC



Australian Crawl



Cold Chisel



InXs



Midnight Oil



Mental As Anything

Australian and New Zealand Artists in the 80s

The Church, Eurogliders, Little Heroes, Machinations, Sunnyboys, Do Re Mi, Hoodoo Gurus, Hunters and Collectors, Spy V Spy, Uncanny X-Men, Pseudo Echo, The Party Boys, The Black Sorrows, Beasts of Bourbon, Kids In The Kitchen, Nick Cave and the Bad Seeds, Gang Gajang, Boom Crash Opera, Crowded House, Paul Kelly, Noiseworks, Jimmy Barnes, Chantoozies, Yothu Yindi, D D Smash, I'm Talking, Kylie Minogue, Dave Dobbyn, Kate Ceberano, The Cruel Sea, John Diesel and the Injectors, Baby Animals, Powderfinger, The Screaming Jets, The Divinyls



The Divinyls



Kylie Minogue



Crowded House



Yothu Yindi



Hunters and Collectors

The most successful of these are highlighted in green, although all produced great music.

The great songs came from AC/DC, Cold Chisel, InXs, Midnight Oil, Crowded House, Dragon, Skyhooks, Hoodoo Gurus, Hunters and Collectors, Richard Clapton, Little River Band, Australian Crawl, Icehouse, Eurogliders, Boom Crash Opera, Paul Kelly, Jimmy Barnes, Kylie Minogue, Jo Jo Zep and the Falcons, The Sports.

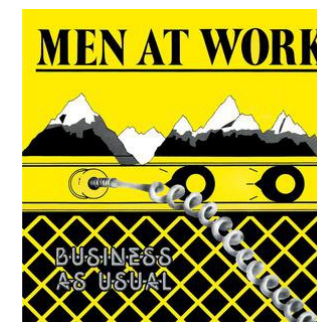
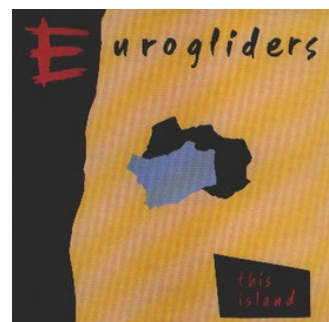
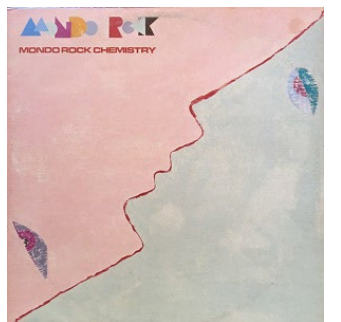
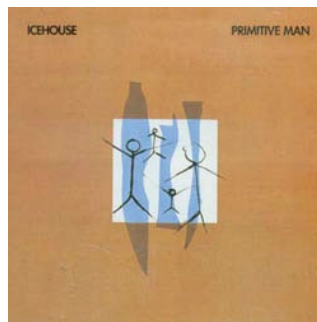
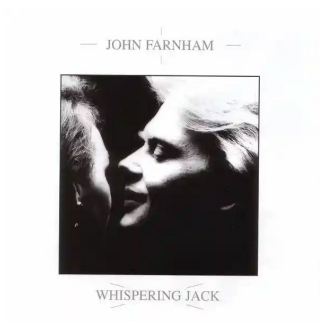
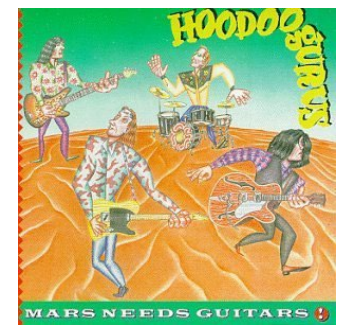
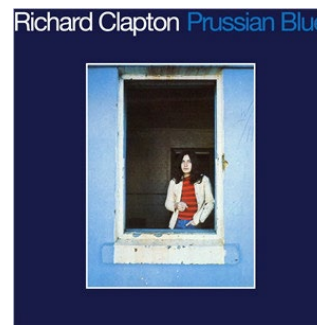
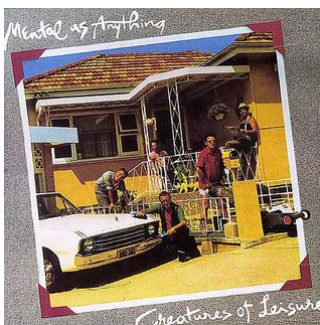
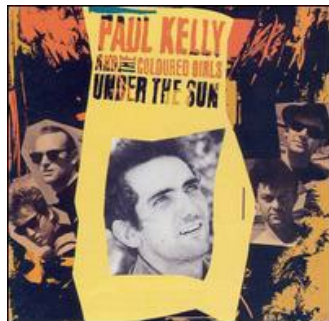
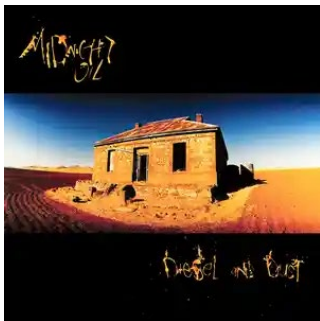
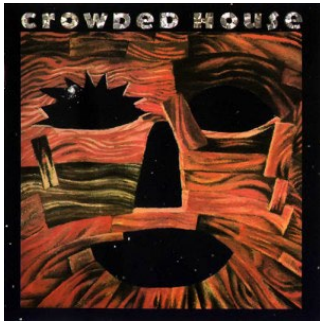
AC/DC: It's A Long Way To The Top; TNT; Dirty Deeds; Highway To Hell; Let There Be Rock; Back In Black; Hells Bells; Thunderstruck; High Voltage; Jailbreak; You Shook Me All Night Long;

Cold Chisel: Khe Sanh; Cheap Wine; Breakfast At Sweethearts; Choirgirl, Forever Now; When The War Is Over; Bow River;

Postscript

Australian bands of the 70s and 80s were outstanding, and in some cases, eclipsed their international counterparts. Although they were hugely successful in Australia, gaining success overseas was very difficult. Bee Gees, InXs, Kylie Minogue and AC/DC gained that success. InXs and Kylie mostly in UK. Another band Air Supply gained success in the USA. While Bee Gees, Olivia Newton John and AC/DC became global giants. Yothu Yindi signed to US label Hollywood Records but then seemed to fade from sight.

Live venues were everywhere and major bands could be seen regularly. The Australian music scene could not have been healthier.



The Great Albums You should listen to or own (from the 60s, 70s or 80s)

- 1 **Pink Floyd** "Dark Side of The Moon" and "Wish You Were Here"
- 2 **Yes** "The Yes Album", "Fragile" and "Close To The Edge"
- 3 **The Rolling Stones** "Get Yer Yas Yas Out", "Sticky Fingers", "Exile on Main Street", "Let It Bleed"
- 4 **The Beatles** "Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band", "Abbey Road", "Revolver", "Rubber Soul"
- 5 **Led Zeppelin** "Led Zeppelin II", "Led Zeppelin IV", "Physical Graffiti"
- 6 **The Beach Boys** "Pet Sounds"
- 7 **Bob Dylan** "Blonde on Blonde", "Blood on the Tracks", "Desire", "Highway 61 Revisited"
- 8 **Eagles** "Hotel California"
- 9 **Paul McCartney and Wings** "Band on the Run"
- 10 **David Bowie** "The Rise and Fall of Ziggy Stardust and The Spiders from Mars", "Station To Station", "Low"
- 11 **Dire Straits** "Dire Straits", "Brothers in Arms", "Makin Movies", "Love Over Gold"
- 12 **Creedence Clearwater Revival** "Green River", "Cosmos Factory", "Willie and the Poor Boys"
- 13 **Neil Young** "Harvest", "After The Goldrush", "Tonight's The Night"
- 14 **Talking Heads** "Remain In Light"
- 15 **Bruce Springsteen** "Born To Run", "Darkness On The Edge Of Town",
- 16 **Roxy Music** "Avalon", "For Your Pleasure"
- 17 **The Clash** "London Calling"
- 18 **Genesis** "Selling England By The Pound"
- 19 **Elton John** "Goodbye Yellow Brick Road"
- 20 **Cat Stevens** "Tea For The Tillerman"
- 21 **Rod Stewart** "Every Picture Tells A Story"
- 22 **Simon and Garfunkel** "Bridge Over Trouble Waters"
- 23 **Steely Dan** "Aja", "Cant Buy A Thrill"
- 24 **Billy Joel** "The Stranger", "Piano Man"
- 25 **The Police** "Synchronicity"
- 26 **Bob Marley** "Exodus", "Natty Dread"
- 27 **U2** "The Joshua Tree", "War"
- 28 **Queen** "A Night At The Opera"
- 29 **Elvis Costello** "My Aim Is True", "This Years Model"
- 30 **Van Morrison** "Astral Weeks", "Moondance"
- 31 **The Allman Brothers Band** "Live At The Fillmore East"
- 32 **The Band** "The Band", "The Music From Big Pink"
- 33 **The Doors** "The Doors", "LA Woman"

- 34 **The Who** "Who's Next"
- 35 **Paul Simon** "Graceland"
- 36 **Jimi Hendrix** "Are You Experienced", "Electric Ladyland"
- 37 **Patti Smith** "Horses"
- 38 **Carole King** "Tapestry"
- 39 **Michael Jackson** "Thriller", "Off The Wall"
- 40 **Prince** "Purple Rain"
- 41 **Fleetwood Mac** "Rumours"
- 42 **Stevie Wonder** "Songs In The Key Of Life", "Innervisions"
- 43 **Marvin Gaye** "What's Going On"
- 44 **Joni Mitchell** "Blue"
- 45 **Eric Clapton** "Layla and Other Assorted Love Songs"
- 46 **Jethro Tull** – "Thick As A Brick"
- 47 **Supertamp** – "Crime of the Century"
- 48 **Mike Oldfield** – "Tubular Bells"

Other Artists You Must Listen To

BLUES: B B King, John Lee Hooker, Muddy Waters, Bo Diddley, Howlin Wolf, Robert Johnson

60s British The Kinks, The Who, The Yardbirds, The Animals, Manfred Mann, Spencer Davis Group, Hermans Hermits, The Hollies, Cream, Procol Harum

60s USA The Lovin Spoonful, The Monkees, The Turtles, Jefferson Airplane, Neil Diamond

White Blues John Mayall

Punk/New Wave/Ska/New Romantic Ramones, Sex Pistols, Duran Duran, Madness, Elvis Costello, The Jam

Female 60s Dusty Springfield, Petula Clark, Janis Joplin

Soul/Motown Aretha Franklin, The Supremes, The Four Tops, The Temptations, The Miracles, James Brown, Sam Cooke, Ray Charles, Wilson Pickett

50s USA Chuck Berry, Elvis Presley, Roy Orbison, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, Buddy Holly, The Drifters

Guitarists Eric Clapton, Rory Gallagher, Jeff Beck

OZ 60s The Easybeats, Billy Thorpe and the Aztecs, Bee Gees, The Twilights, Masters Apprentices

Various Santana, Osibisa, Joni Mitchell, Crosby Stills Nash and Young, Tim Buckley, The Moody Blues, King Crimson, Chicago. Doobie Brothers, Little Feat, Black Sabbath, Grateful Dead, Joe Cocker, Deep Purple, Lou Reed, T.Rex, Traffic, Electric Light Orchestra, Z Z Top, John Martyn, Fairport Convention, Steeleye Span

From the 70s On – OZ Artists and their Albums to listen to (just a few)

Richard Clapton “Prussian Blue”, “Girls on the Avenue”, “Goodbye Tiger”

InXs “Shabooh Shoobah”, “The Swing”, “Listen Like Thieves”, “Kick”

The Angels “Face To Face”, “No Exit”, “Dark Room”

Cold Chisel “East”, “Circus Animal”, “Breakfast At Sweethearts”

Midnight Oil 10.9.8.7.6.5.4.3.2.1, “Diesel and Dust”, “Blue Sky Mine”

Icehouse “Primitive Man”, “Man Of Colours”, “Icehouse

AC/DC “Back In Black”, “TNT”, “Highway To Hell”

Australian Crawl “Boys Light Up”, “Sirocco”

Mental As Anything “Best Of Mental As Anything”

Dragon “Sunshine”, “O Zambezi”, “Body and the Beat”

Paul Kelly “Post”, “Gossip”, “Under The Sun”

Crowded House “Woodface”, “Crowded House”

Skyhooks “Living In The 70s”

Hunters and Collectors “Human Frailty”, “Ghost Nation”

The Black Sorrows “Harley and Rose”, “Hold On To Me”

John Farnham “Whispering Jack”

Hoodoo Gurus “Stoneage Romeos”, “Mars Needs Guitars”

Mondo Rock “Chemistry”

Little River Band “Diamantina Cocktail”

Eurogliders “This Island”

The Sports “Don’t Throw Stones”

Then There’s The Great Songs (very limited list)

Chuck Berry – “Johnny B Goode”

Beach Boys – “Good Vibrations”, “God Only Knows”

The Beatles – “Hey Jude”, “A Day In The Life”, “Yesterday”, “Let It Be”, “I Want To Hold Your Hand”

Johnny Cash – “I Walk The Line”

Sam Cooke – “Wonderful World”

Buddy Holly – “That’ll Be The Day”, “Everyday”, “Heartbeat”

Them – “Gloria”, “Baby Please Don’t Go”

Queen – “Bohemian Rhapsody”, “Somebody To Love”

The Rolling Stones – “Satisfaction”, “Gimme Shelter”

Led Zeppelin – “Stairway To Heaven”, “Kashmir”, “Whole Lotta Love”,

Bob Dylan – “Like A Rolling Stone”, “Blowin In The Wind”

Eagles – “Hotel California”

Dire Straits – “Sultans of Swing”

David Bowie – “Space Oddity”, “Heroes”

The Clash – “London Calling”

U2 – “One”, “I Still Haven’t Found What I’m Looking For”,

Bruce Springsteen – “Thunder Road”, “Born To Run”

Pink Floyd – “Shine On You Crazy Diamond”, “Wish You Were Here”, “Us and Them”

Neil Young – “Heart of Gold”, “After The Goldrush”, “Cinnamon Girl”, “Powderfinger”, “Down By The River”

Billy Joel – “Scenes From An Italian Restaurant”, “Piano Man”, “Innocent Man”, “Allentown”

Elton John – “Candle In The Wind”, “Tiny Dancer”

Simon and Garfunkel – “Bridge Over Troubled Water”

The Police – “Every Breath You Take”

Van Morrison – “Brown Eyed Girl”, “Moondance”, “Jackie Wilson Said”, “Cyprus Avenue”, “Into The Mystic”, “Have I Told You Lately”

Steely Dan – “Deacon Blues”, “Reelin In The Years”

Rod Stewart – “Gasoline Alley”, “Maggie May”, “Mandolin Wind”, “Ooh La La”

Carole King – “Its Too Late”, “Natural Woman”, “You’ve Got A Friend”

Michael Jackson – “Billie Jean”

Stevie Wonder – “Superstition”

Alice Cooper – “Only Women Bleed”, “Schools Out”

Leonard Cohen – “Hallelujah”

Roberta Flack – “Killing Me Softly With His Song”

Tina Turner – “Whats Love Got To Do With It”

Dionne Warwick – “I Say A Little Prayer”, “Walk On By”

The Beatles or Bette Midler – “In My Life”

The Band – “The Weight”

Prince or Patti Smith – “When Doves Cry”

Prince – “Purple Rain”

Talking Heads – “Once In A Lifetime”

John Lennon – “Imagine”

Fleetwood Mac – “Dreams”

Aretha Franklin – “Respect”

The Kinks – “You Really Got Me”, “Waterloo Sunset”

Otis Redding – “(Sittin’ on) The Dock of the Bay”

Jimi Hendrix – “All Along The Watchtower” (Bob Dylan song)

The Temptations – “My Girl”

Elvis Presley – “Suspicious Minds”

Tracy Chapman – “Fast Car”

Smokey Robinson & the Miracles - “The Tracks of My Tears”

The Animals – “House of the Rising Sun”

Louis Armstrong – “What A Wonderful World”

Creedence Clearwater Revival – “Have You Ever Seen The Rain”, “Proud Mary”, “Fortunate Son”

Roy Orbison – “Oh Pretty Woman”

John Farnham – “The Voice”

Review of the 80s

The 80s was epitomised by bad fashion, bad hair dos and Stadium Rock ie the epic sounding rock bands such as Bon Jovi (debut album 1984), Journey, Def Leppard, Motley Crue, Whitesnake, Foreigner, Aerosmith, Van Halen and REO Speedwagon.



New Romantic became a successful genre with English bands Duran Duran, Culture Club, Spandau Ballet, Simple Minds, ABC, Flock of Seagulls and Thompson Twins.

The consolidation of Metal with the arrival of Metallica(1983). Others to emerge Iron Maiden (1980), Pantera(1983), Slayer(1983), Megadeath(1985), Sepultura (1986),



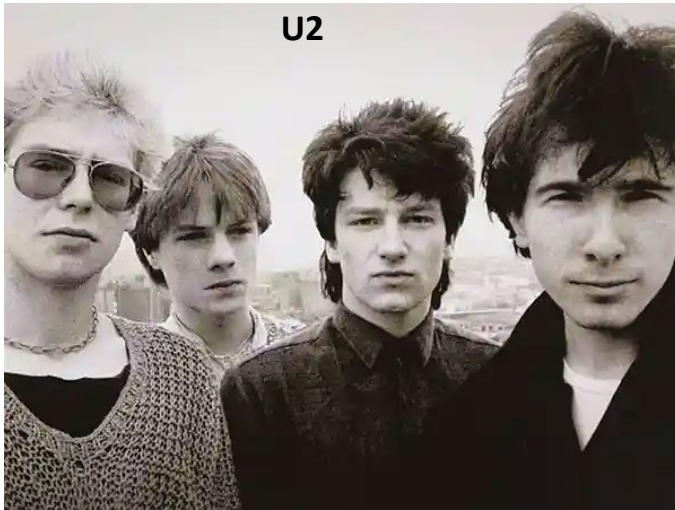
The continued success of Billy Joel opening up the year with "Glass Houses", Bob Seger "Against The Wind", Bruce Springsteen "The River", Dire Straits "Makin Movies" – 3rd album, Joan Armatrading "Me Myself I" – 6th album, Elton John – 14th album, Eric Clapton, John Cougar Mellencamp – 4th album, Roxy Music "Flesh and Blood" – 7th album and penultimate album, Talking Heads 3rd album "Remain in Light", The Police 3rd album "Zenyatta Mondatta", ACDC Back in Black – 8th and most successful album.

Fleetwood Mac, Genesis, Jimmy Buffett, Queen, Santana, The Rolling Stones, Michael Jackson had continued success.

Prolific artists Neil Young and Van Morrison (both releasing about 9 albums per decade) Neil's most recent album was last year (2025) and Van's was also last year (2025).

The Rolling Stones continue to release albums (about 6 in the 80s) and tour regularly.

U2 debut album “Boy” 1980, Pretenders(1980 – debut album)



Duran Duran debut album 1981, Eurythmics debut album 1981

Tina Turner releases the album “Private Dancer” in 1984 which will launch her into international super stardom.



Madonna debut album 1983.



Joe Cocker goes from strength to strength.

1980 Led Zeppelin disband following the death of drummer John Bonham. In 1982 they released their last album Coda, a collection of previously unreleased material.

Bob Marley passes away in 1981 aged 36 and his final album “Confrontation” is released posthumously in 1983.

1981 Paul Kelly releases debut album “Talk” with his band The Dots. Paul will go on to be one of Australia’s greatest songwriters.

1980 and Australian Crawl release 1st album “Boys Light Up”, Cold Chisel “East” – 3rd album, Icehouse debut album, InXs debut album, Mental as Anything 2nd album, Midnight Oil (3rd release), Richard Clapton (6th album – “Dark Spaces”), Split Enz “True Colours”, The Angels 4th album “Dark Room, InXs return from USA tour and release 3rd album “Shabooh Shoobah” (1982), Hunters and Collectors debut album 1982, Divinyls release their first album in 1982, Hoodoo Gurus debut Album “Stoneage Romeos” in 1984, Jimmy Barnes releases 1st solo album in 1984 “Bodyswerve”, The Black Sorrows release 1st album “Sonola” in 1984 , 1985 sees debut albums for D0-Re-Mi, GANGgajang (formed by original members of The Angels and The Riptides), Crowded House debut album 1986, Noiseworks 1987, Matt Finish “Short Note” debut, Men at Work – debut “Business as Usual”, Divinyls debut 1982 Hunters and Collectors debut 1982.

Movies to incorporate music: Fame, Olivia Newton John 2nd movie “Xanadu”, The Blues Brothers, The Village People “Can’t Stop The Music”,



Disco bands to survive into the 80s included Kool and the Gang, Sister Sledge

60s/70s bands still releasing albums include The Moody Blues, Yes, Santana, Pink Floyd, Jethro Tull, Fleetwood Mac, Grateful Dead, Genesis, Steve Miller Band, The Rolling Stones, Chicago, King Crimson, Queen, Bee Gees, The Doobie Brothers

Jefferson Airplane(1965-1973, 1989, 1996 – 10 albums and always with original members), to Jefferson Starship(1974 – 1984, 1992 – present 11 albums and still with some original members) to simply Starship (1984 to present – 4 albums no original members)



60s/70s Solo Artists Paul Simon, Paul McCartney, John Lennon, Neil Diamond, Linda Ronstadt, Rod Stewart, John Denver, Joe Cocker, Jimmy Buffett, Jackson Browne, Eric Clapton, Bruce Springsteen, Bob Dylan, Steve Winwood, Van Morrison, Elton John, Barbra Streisand, David Bowie, Neil Young.

Hip Hop legends NWA release their first album in 1987.



All boy bands start to make their appearance, initially with New Kids on the Block in 1986.

Motown was sold to MCA Records in the mid 80s.

Artists like The Temptations, Four Tops, Gladys Knight and the Pips from the 60's would continue to release albums .

Stevie Wonder would remain one of the labels more prominent artists. Stevie was a Motown artist from his first album in 1962 to his last album in 2005.

Lionel Richie (from Commodores) would become a major solo act on Motown label in the 1980s.

Stock Aiken and Waterman (S.A.W.) break out as a songwriting/production house. Artists would include : Bananarama(Songs initially by Jolley & Swain then S.A.W. - 1983), Rick Astley (1987 – S.A.W) , Kylie Minogue(1988 S.A.W.), Mel and Kim (1987 S.A.W.)

Kylie Minogue on her way to international fame (predominantly the UK)

Finally the CD becomes **THE** medium for music (records and tapes begin to phase out).

First album to be released on CD was Billy Joel's "52nd Street" in 1982.

Record companies thought this would end people taping records (lost revenue), instead it was the beginning of the end.

Software developers invented programs that would exactly duplicate CDs. CD burning became a thing on computers and over time CD sales plummeted.

People say however that records are sonically better than CDs.

Review of the 90s

In general the 90s was defined by the rise of grunge and alternative rock Nirvana, Soundgarden, Mudhoney, silverchair, Hole.....

Alongside this came the settling of hip hop into mainstream NWA, Cypress Hill, OutKast, Bone Thugs-n-Harmony....

The resurgence of all girl/boy bands

Spice Girls (1994 Ginger Spice – Geri Halliwell, Baby Spice – Emma Bunton, Scary Spice – Mel B, Sporty Spice – Mel C, Posh Spice – Victoria Adams/Beckham), Take That (1992 - Robbie Williams), Boyzone(1995 – Ronan Keating), Human Nature (1996), Backstreet Boys(1996), NSYNC(1997 - Justin Timberlake), Westlife(1999 - Brian McFadden)

In addition, electronic music was growing in popularity, mostly dance, and in particular the so-called DJ and guest vocalists egg David Guetta, Calvin Harris, The Chainsmokers, Daft Punk, Avicii, Swedish House Mafia, Tiesto, Mark Ronson.



Also, Mariah Carey launched her debut album in 1990.

Nirvana released "Never mind" in 1991 featuring the single "Smells Like teen Spirit". This album and Grunge (Seattle Sound) would change the music industry forever. A low budget album (\$65,000) that toppled Michael Jackson's "Dangerous" (cost \$10 million) from the number one spot. This would impact not only budgets for albums but would have a flow on effect for recording studios with many closings and their charges having to drop.

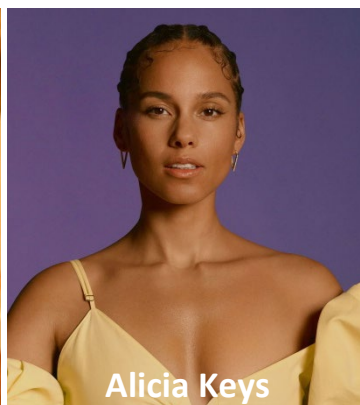
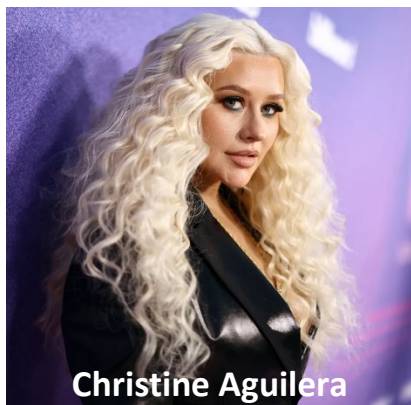
Further with the development of more affordable, high quality digital recording software, the home studio became realisable and dance music/hip hop became more popular. Young people began developing this at home using samples.

July 1994 saw the release of the first mp3 encoding software l3enc. Another nail in the coffin for music sales. This software compressed the original song to a tenth of its size. The compression algorithm took into account what the ear and brain would process and removed elements that would not be readily detected as missing, especially when played on car radios.

By the end of the decade platforms like Napster came into being allowing people to download music for free. This was still essentially pirating and eventually led to court cases but nevertheless it opened the door to the concept of streaming. Another problem for CD sales.

With the advent of the 2000's female artists became the dominant force

Pink, Taylor Swift, Katy Perry, Jennifer Lopez, Beyonce, Dua Lipa, Billy Eilish, Lady Gaga, Christine Aguilera, Alicia Keys, Amy Winehouse, Norah Jones, Kelly Clarkson, Miley Cyrus, Mariah Carey, Gwen Stefani, Ariana Grande, Britney Spears, Rihanna, Lana Del Rey, Dido, Fergie, Celine Dion, Shania Twain, Shakira, Avril Lavigne, Adele, Trisha Yearwood, Selena Gomez, Halsey, Sia, Carley Rae Jepsen, Lizzo, Demi Lovato, Charlie XCX, Meghan Trainor, Mya, Nicki Minaj, Rita Ora, Kesha, Aaliyah, Lorde etc



Other singers from the previous decades still maintaining a profile include

Madonna, Cher, Dolly Parton, Gloria Estefan, Barbra Streisand, Bette Midler, Diana Ross

Newer female artists Sabrina Carpenter, Olivia Ridrigo, Ava Max, Doja Cat, SZA, Chappell Roan, Tate McRae, Ice Spice, Doechii, Kali Uchis, Glorilla, Tyla, Pink Pantheress, Karol G, Raye, Kenya Grace

Music Artists to reach billionaire status

Jay-Z	\$2.6 Billion
Taylor Swift	\$1.6 Billion
Rihanna	\$1.6 Billion
Bruce Springsteen	\$1.2 Billion
Jimmy Buffett	\$1.03 Billion
Beyonce	\$1 Billion
Paul McCartney	£1.03 Billion
Andrew Lloyd Webber	£1.03 Billion

Others in Entertainment and Sport to reach billionaire status

David Geffen	\$9.1 Billion	Record Company owner and executive
Steven Spielberg	\$7.1 Billion	Film Producer and Director
George Lucas	\$5.2 Billion	Film Producer and Director (Star Wars)
Michael Jordan	\$3.8 Billion	Basketballer
Oprah Winfrey	\$3.2 Billion	Actress and TV Show Host
Kim Kardashian	\$1.9 Billion	? Influencer?
Peter Jackson	\$1.7 Billion	Film Producer and Director
Tiger Woods	\$1.3 Billion	Golfer
J K Rowling	\$ 1.2 Billion	Author (Harry Potter)
Le Bron James	\$ 1.2 Billion	Basketballer
Arnold Schwarzenegger	\$ 1.2 Billion	Actor and Politician
Jerry Seinfeld	\$ 1.1 Billion	Actor ("Seinfeld")
Roger Federer	\$1 Billion	Tennis Player