

The Boy Band & Girl Group Phenomenon

1980s, 1990s and 2000s

Boy Bands - The Origins

One would have to say it had its origins in the 60s with Motown and groups like Jackson 5, The Temptations and Four Tops, Smokey Robinson and the Miracles.



On reflection, these groups seem to have more credibility but probably because of the significance they have in music history.

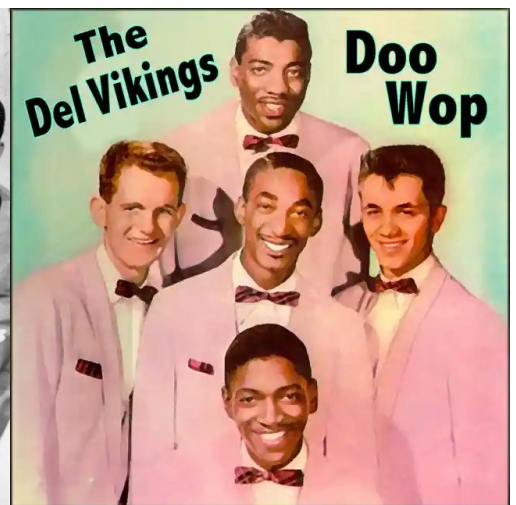
That's not to say boy bands of the 80s, 90s and 2000s weren't hugely successful, it's just that their success seemed to be associated with millions of screaming, crying early teenage girls. The other issue is that they are usually put together by a third party with a view to making money, rather than coming together themselves because of like-minded musical interests. And appearance was everything, they had to be good looking (read what BMG & Simon Cowell said about Westlife). *The instability in these bands probably relates to the young age at which most of them joined.*

You will also see that a number of these boy bands eventually sue the management that put them together over financial matters, usually fraud related. This probably relates to the fact that because they are put together, the primary motivation is money more than the music.

But, a lot of them did write their own songs, which the aforementioned Motown bands did not (except for Smokey Robinson and the Miracles).

You can however go further back with the concept of pure vocal groups with the following in the 1950s. The term Doo-Wop was used for the musical style of a lot of these groups.

The Drifters ("Money Honey"), The Coasters ("Poison Ivy"), The Spaniels ("Goodnight Sweetheart, Goodnight"), The Chords ("Sh-Boom"), Frankie Lyman & the Teenagers ("Why Do Fools Fall In Love"), The Del-Vikings ("Come Go With Me"), The Platters ("The Great Pretender") and many more.



OR even the 1940s with "The Ink Spots" and "The Mills Brothers"

So, the use of the "Boy Band" or "Girl Group" in this context, from 1980's onward, describes a pop vocal group. Usually, they do not play any instruments and focus their attention on singing and dancing. And as said above, they are usually a put together group and appearance / image is critical to marketing.

New Edition (Boston, Massachusetts, USA) 1978



Members: Ricky Bell, Michael Bivens, Ronnie DeVoe, Ralph Tresvant and **Bobby Brown**.

The group was self-formed. Their break came when they performed in a band competition being run by record producer Maurice Starr. Starr was their initial manager but was sacked after the first album for embezzling funds. Starr then promptly formed New Kids on The Block.

Bobby Brown left after the third album (actually voted out because of recurring problems. Reappeared for their 6th album. Bobby launched a solo career. He also eventually married (1992) Whitney Houston - they divorced in 2007. Whitney died in 2012.

Most albums were top 10 in US R&B charts. Second album went #1 on the US R&B charts.

Singles "Candy Girl" (1983), "Cool It Now" (1984) "Mr Telephone Now" (1984) all went #1 on the US R&B charts

"Cool It Now" was their highest charting single on the National US charts #4

They released a total of SEVEN albums with FIVE albums between 1983 and 1988 "Candy Girl" (1983), "New Edition" (1984) and "All For Love" (1985), "Under The Blue Moon" (1986) – a quartet, "Heartbreak" (1988).

Johnny Gill joined in 1987 returning the band to a quintet. Famous for his 1993 solo hit "The Floor". He appears on their last three albums.

Sixth Album : "Home Again" (1986) went #1 on the national US charts.

Seventh Album "One Love" (2004) five members (no Bobby Brown)

Bell, Bivins & DeVoe formed the trio Bell Biv DeVoe in 1988. Tresvant and Gill released solo albums.

Since 2006 they have been performing with all six members (including Bobby Brown)

Boyz II Men (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA) 1985



Original members under the name, Boyz II Men, Nathan Morris, Wanya Morris, Shawn Stockman, [Michael McCary](#) (left in 2003 due to ill health)

Currently a trio.

Originally started by Nathan Morris in high school and called "Unique Attraction". The other three were Marc Nelson, George Baldi, Jon Shoats & Marguerite Walker. In 1987 they added Wanya Morris. In 1988 Baldi, Shoats & Walker left. That year they added Stockman and McCary making them a quintet.

Also in 1988 they renamed the group Boyz II Men (after a New Edition song "Boys to Men" from the album "Heartbreak")

Nelson left the group before their first album.

They have released 14 albums, the last being in 2017.

Singles "Motownphilly"(1991) #3 on charts from their first album "Cooleyhighharmony" (#3 on US National Charts)

"End of the Road" (1992) #1 from Eddie Murphy movie soundtrack "Boomerang"

Their third album "II" (1994) went #1 on national charts .

Singles from this album: "I'll Make You Love Me" (spent 14 weeks at #1) and the song to replace it at #1 was another Boyz II Men song "On Bended Knee"

They are only the second group in history to replace themselves at #1 on the charts. The other was The Beatles.

New Kids on the Block (Dorchester, Massachusetts, USA) 1984

The so called “boy band” phenomenon probably started in the 80s with **New Kids on the Block**. *Yes, a put together group* by manager Maurice Starr (who had previously been sacked by New Edition for embezzling funds). Formed in 1984, the group initially included Donnie Wahlberg and younger brother Mark Wahlberg. Mark, however, left after a few months. The average age of the group at this time was 15.

Lineup: Donnie Wahlberg, Jonathon Knight, Jordan Knight, Joey McIntyre, Danny Wood



Their period of success ran from 1986 (first album) through to 1990. Their second album “Hangin Tough” (1988) featuring the smash hit “You Got It (the Right Stuff)” and their 4th album “Step by Step” (1990) were both #1 smash hits.

On their first two albums the group wrote the songs, with Donnie being the major contributor. The 4th album was mostly written by their manager and the 5th featured lots of 3rd party songwriters with contributions to some songs by group members,

The band split after their 5th album in 1994. However, in 2008 they reformed with all the original lineup. Since then, they have released 3 albums, the most recent being in 2024.

Take That (England) 1990

Then in 1990 came Take That from Manchester, England (with Robbie Williams and Gary Barlow). Initially lasting from 1990 to 1996. Robbie Williams (the youngest member) was only 16 when the group was formed by then manager, Nigel Martin-Smith. After hearing Gary Barlow and given his songwriting ability, Nigel decided to build the group around him. *So essentially a put together group.*

Lineup (ages in 1990): Gary Barlow (19), Robbie Williams (16), Mark Owen (18), Howard Donald (22), Jason Orange(20).

From 1990 – 1996 the band released three albums (two number 1s and one number 2 on the charts) and had 14 top ten singles, with the EIGHT of which were #1 smash hits.



“Back For Good” is perhaps their most well known song worldwide with all age groups.

Robbie Williams left the group in 1995 and the group officially broke up in 1996. However they reformed in 2002 with all original members except Robbie Williams. Since then, they have released 6 albums five of which reached #1 and the sixth reached #2.

Boyzone (Ireland) 1993



Formed in Dublin, Ireland in 1993, it featured Ronan Keating.

Created by talent **manager, Louis Walsh**. *So again, a put together group.*

Lineup: Ronan Keating, Michael Graham, Keith Duffy, Stephen Gately, Shane Lynch

They released three albums from 1995 – 1998, all either #1 or #2 on the charts.

Gately passed away in 2009, aged 33 (undiagnosed heart condition)

Reformed in 2010 with four original remaining members – released four albums since #1, #7, #12, #10

Westlife (Ireland) 1998

From Ireland, the group formed 1998 in Dublin and included Brian McFadden, once engaged to Delta Goodrem and a judge on The Voice Australia.

Original lineup came together naturally Kian Egan, Mark Feehily, Shane Filan (all schoolmates) plus Derek Lacey, Graham Keighron, Michael Garrett. Originally called Six As One and then IOYOU.

They then came to the notice of Boyzone **manager Louis Walsh**. Simon Cowell, then at BMG, would not sign them because, in his words, “They have great voices but they are the ugliest band I have ever seen”. Which further tells you how “Boy bands” are perceived and marketed.



So Louis then put together a new version of the group, keeping Kian, Shane and Mark. To this lineup he then recruited Brian McFadden and Nicky Byrne and so in July 1998 “Westlife” was born. *Essentially, a put together group.*

Lineup: Brian McFadden, Nicky Byrne, Kian Egan, Shane Filan, Mark Feehily.

They were signed to RCA records by Simon Cowell. Disband in 2012, reunited in 2018.

Since then they have released 12 albums - TEN #1s and TWO #2s on the music charts. Most recent release being 2021.

Brian left in 2004, after their 4th album.

Backstreet Boys (Orlando, Florida, USA) 1992

Formed in 1992 by manager Lou Pearlman. *Another put together group.*

Lineup: Nick Carter, Howle Dorough, AJ McLean, Brian Littrell, Kevin Richardson



Released 4 albums between 1996 and 2000.

Released 6 albums from 2005 to 2022)

All but their Christmas album have been top ten, with three #1s and three #2s.

June 2006 Richardson left the band. 2012 Richardson rejoined the group.

They sued their manager, Lou Pearlman in 1998 for unpaid earnings and financial unfairness.

NSYNC (Orlando, Florida, USA) 1995

Lineup: Justin Timberlake, JC Chasez Chris Kirkpatrick, Joey Fatone & Lance Bass (who replaced Jason Galasso)

Formed 1995. Chris Kirkpatrick, one of the members, put the band together following conversations with Lou Pearlman who created Backstreet Boys. *Essentially put together.*

The name was initially inspired by Timberlake's mother who commented on how "in sync" the voices were. But, maybe, coincidentally it also follows the last letters of their first names justin**N**, chris**S**, Joe**Y**, jason**N**, j**C**



Released four albums from 1997 to 2001)
#2, #7, #1, #1

Most well known songs: "I Want You Back", "Bye, Bye, Bye"

After their fourth album the group went on an indefinite break. Timberlake went onto a successful music and acting career.

Occasionally get together for one-off shows.

They sued their manager, Lou Pearlman in 1999 for fraud and misrepresentation.

More Recently

Jonas Brothers (New Jersey) 2005

Brothers: Kevin, Joe & Nick Jonas



Formed 2005

Seven albums since 2005.

All but first album in the top ten, with three consecutive #1s (3rd, 4th & 5th albums)

Forty singles with 2019 single “Sucker” reaching #1 and most being in the top 40.

Nick married to actress Priyanka Chopra (TV series Quantico and Citadel as well as being Miss World 2000)

Joe was married to actress Sophie Turner (Game of Thrones, X-Men and Lara Croft in new Tomb Raider TV series)

One Direction (London, UK) 2010



Formed on X-Factor in 2010. *Put together group.*

Five albums 4 x #1 and 1 x #2

Lineup: Niall, Zayn Malik, Liam Payne, Harry Styles, Louis Tomlinson

Zayn left after the 4th album in 2015

2016 the group split.

2024, October Liam Payne died (falling from balcony in Buenos Aires) – age 31.

K-POP – Boy Bands

South Korean pop bands.

BTS are probably the biggest of these bands.

Put together by Big Hit Entertainment

Other K-Pop boy bands include

Seventeen, Stray Kids, EXO, NCT, ATEEZ.



Girl Groups



The Andrews Sisters



The Chordettes

Can be traced back as far as the 40s and The Andrews Sisters.

The Andrews Sisters - Minneapolis, Minnesota, USA, 1937-1953

(three sisters - Laverne, Maxine and Patty) – “Rum and Coca Cola” (1945) and “Boogie Woogie Bugle Boy”(1941) the latter covered by Bette Midler in the 1970s.

They really started performing at a very early) in 1925

Being sisters they started singing together very young, ages 14, 9 & 7 in 1925, but only came to the attention of people in **1937, via their radio broadcasts**, at which point they were 23, 21 & 19 respectively.

They were massive in their day, working not only with the bands but also making numerous cameos in movies. Also working with the likes of megastar, Bing Crosby.

Between 1938 and 1945 they had 30 top 10 hits and 6 #1s.

Patty left the group first in 1950 and the group finally broke up completely in 1953.

The Chordettes - Sheboygan, Wisconsin, 1946

Main songs: Mr Sandman (1954), Lollipop(1958): formed in 1946; disbanded 1963.

Original lineup: Janet Ertel (b. Janet Buschmann), Alice Mae Spielvogel (b. Alice Buschmann), Dorothy Schwartz and Jinny Osborn. In 1950 Carol Buschmann replaced Alice and in 1952 Lynn Evans replaced Dorothy Schwartz.

The groups final lineup was Carol Buschmann, Janet Ertel, Jinny Osborn, Nancy Overton, Lynn Evans.

The group folded in 1963.

Other Girl Groups of the 1950s who had major success in the USA

The McGuire Sisters (*left below*) – hits included “Sincerely” (1955), “Sugartime” (1958)



The Kim Sisters (*right above*) (1953-1975) – probably the first K-Pop band – “Harbor Lights” (1959)

Below are the first three African-American girl groups to enjoy national success in the USA

The Teen Queens – “Eddie My Love” (1956)

(*left below*)

The Bobbettes (1955-1974) – “Mr Lee” (1957)

(*centre below*)

The Chantels (1957-1970) - “Maybe” (1958)

(*right below*)



By the 1960s it was quite a big thing with Motown groups **The Supremes**, **Martha and the Vandellas**, **The Marvelettes** plus other artists from other labels such as **The Ronettes**, **The Crystals** & **The Shirelles**.



The Marvelettes



The Supremes (Diana Ross far right)



The Shirelles

Pointer Sisters - Oakland, Ohio, USA 1969

(Sisters June, Bonnie, Anita, Ruth). Between 1969 to 1972 the group grew from a duo (Bonnie & June), to a trio (plus Anita) and finally a quartet (Ruth).



Initially their sound was a mix of jazz and country.

Their first big hit came in 1978 with a cover of the Bruce Springsteen song "Fire" (#2)

After that, they became distinctly pop.

"He's So Shy" (1980), "Slowhand" (1981), "Should I Do IT" (1982), "I'm So Excited" (1982), "Automatic" (1984), "I'm So Excited" (1984), "Neutron Dance" (1984), "Jump (For My Love)" (1984)

They released 15 studio albums and had 13 Top 20 US hits between 1973 and 1987.

Bonnie left the group in 1977.

2006 June died (drug addiction) and was replaced by Ruth's daughter Issa. 2009 Ruth's granddaughter Sadako joined the group. In 2015 Anita left the group due to ill health leaving Ruth as the only original member.

Anita died in 2022. Bonnie died in 2020. As of 2026, Ruth (age 80) is the only sister still alive.

Sister Sledge – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA 1971

Again all sisters - Kathy, Joni, Kim and Debbie Sledge. Formed in 1965, but they were very young (the eldest Debbie being 11).

In 1972 they signed to Atlantic Records (the youngest Kathy was 13), the eldest was now 18. Their first Top 10 hit “He’s The Greatest Dancer” and Top 5 hit “We Are Family” came in 1979. Their ages now ranged from 20 to 25. They had been releasing songs since 1971.



In 1989 Kathy left, but returned in 1993. Kim left in 2000. By June 2003 the lineup was Debbie and Joni plus Debbie’s daughter Camille. At this point they were a trio. In 2006 Debbie’s eldest daughter, Amber, joined the group. By 2008 the lineup was Joni, Amber and friend Chele Davis (replacing Debbie)

Salt’n’Pepa - New York City, USA 1985

Real names Salt (Sheryl James), Pepa (Sandra Denton) and DJ Spinderella (Deidra Roper)

Songs: “Push It” (1987); “Lets Talk About Sex” (1991); “Whatta Man” (1993) with En Vogue



En Vogue - Oakland, California. USA 1989

1111Formed by Atlantic Records personnel Denzil Foster and Thomas McElroy. *So, again a manufactured group.*



Original members Terry Ellis, Dawn Robinson, Cindy Heron & Maxine Jones.

Seven albums between 1990 and 2018.

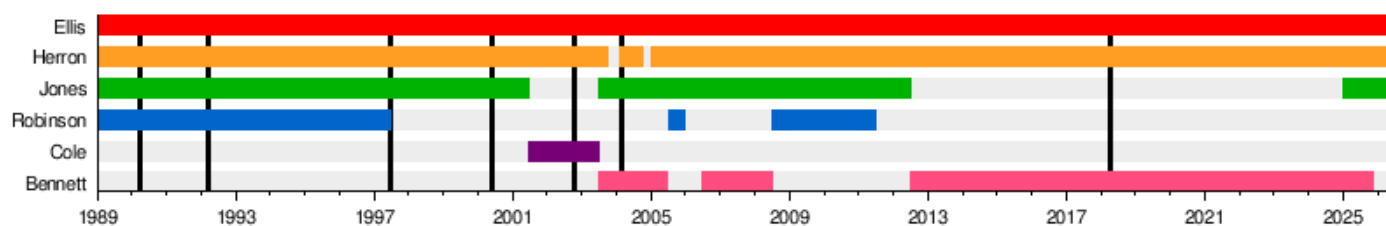
First single "Hold On" (1990 - #2); sixth single "My Lovin' (You're Never Gonna Get It)" (1992-#2); "Whatta Man" (1993 #3 with Salt-N-Pepa); "Don't Let Go Love" (1996 #2)

Terry Ellis is the only continuous member, with Cindy Herron a close second.

Initially a quartet, at various stages they have dropped back to being a trio.

Currently they consist of three original members: (Ellis, Herron & Jones)

Timeline [\[edit \]](#)



Bananarama - London, UK. 1980



Lineup: Sara Dallin, Keren Woodward, Siobhan Fahey

Had numerous hits between 1981 and 1989. This included ten Top 10 hits.

Their success started with "It Aint What You Do (It's The Way That You Do It)" which also featured The Funboy Three.

As of 2025 they are still performing.

Spice Girls London, UK. 1994

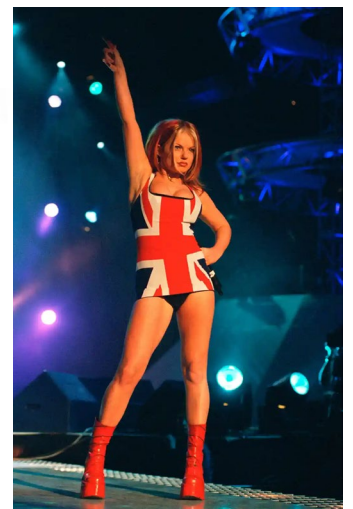
Formed by Heart Management in 1994. *So, again a manufactured group.*

Image, songs, video clips.

Lineup: Ginger Spice (Gerri Halliwell), Baby Spice (Emma Bunton), Scary Spice (Melanie Brown), Sporty Spice (Melanie Chisholm) and Posh Spice (Victoria Beckham).

They were very focused on control of their direction. They had also spent extensive time in songwriting workshops. All songs credited to Spice Girls.

The group left Heart Management in 1995. Eventually signed with 19 Entertainment (Simon Fuller) in mid 1995. But by this stage there was significant “buzz” around the band with numerous record companies now wanting to sign them. A few months later they signed a 5 album deal with Virgin Records.



On 8 July 1996 they released their first single “Wannabe” in the UK. The single was not released in the US until January 1997. It entered the charts at number 11 – the highest ever debut by non-American artist at the time. It reached number 1 in the US within 4 weeks.

They released a book “Girl Power!” which sold out in a day and made a film “Spice World”. The soundtrack to the film

Main songs: Wannabe, Say You’ll Be There, Spice Up Your Life, 2 Become 1, Stop they had 9 x #1 (6 consecutive #1s – second only to The Beatles with 7) and 1 x #2 singles.

Geri Halliwell left the group in 1999 and in December 2000 they technically split. But in 2007 they reunited for a world tour. Since then there have been occasional performances (without Victoria Beckham). As of 2026 rumours have surfaced of a reunion including Beckham.

Destiny's Child – Houston, Texas, USA 1997

Seeds of the group began 1990. Beyonce and friend LaTavia Roberson joined another group. Kelly Rowland who was living in the Knowles house at the time joined in 1992. The group was a 6 piece called Girl's Tyme.

In 1993 the lineup was reduced to four. At this stage Beyonce's dad started managing them (voluntarily). Also the name changed to DESTINY.

In 1997 their name became Destiny's Child.

Signed to Columbia Records in 1992.

At this stage the lineup was Beyonce Knowles, Kelly Rowland, LaTavia Roberson and LeToya Luckett. This lineup appeared on the first two albums.

First single in 1997 was "No, No, No"

Problems in December 1999 led to a lineup change.

New lineup Beyonce Knowles, Kelly Rowland, Michelle Williams and Farrah Franklin.



Farah quit a few months after joining leaving them as a 3 piece, Knowles, Roland & Williams.

The group released 5 albums. The 3 piece lineup featured on the last three albums.

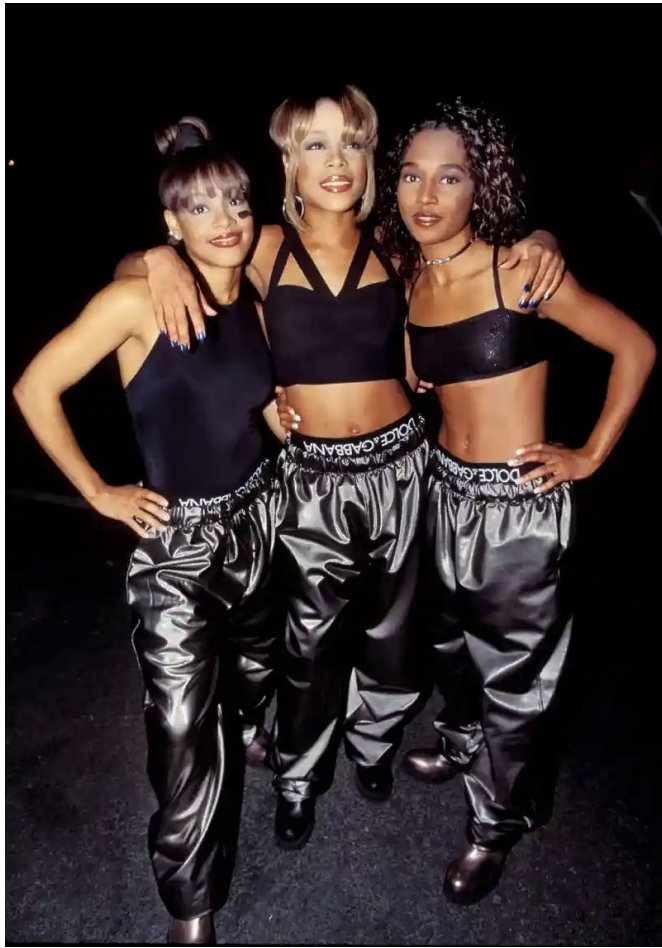
Their 3rd album "Survivor" went to number 1 and the 5th album went to number 2. The 4th album was a Christmas album.

Main Songs: "Say My Name", "Bills, Bills, Bills", "Jumpin Jumpin ", "Survivor", "Independent Women", "Bootylicious" – all of which were either #1 or #2 hits.

The group ended in 1996 and Beyonce went on to a mega solo career.

TLC - Atlanta, Georgia, USA 1990 – 2002, 2015 -

Formed by record producer Ian Burke and for one of his clients Crystal Jones. *Manufactured.*



Original lineup Crystal Jones, Tionne Watkins & Lisa Lopes but under the name “2nd Nature”

New manager Peri “Pebbles” Reid renamed the group TLC (Tionne, Lisa, Crystal)

New record label LaFace saw potential with Tionne & Lisa but not so much with Crystal. Crystal replaced with Rozonda Thomas in 1991.

Lineup: Rozonda “Chilli” Thomas, Tionne “T_Boz” Watkins, Lisa “Left Eye” Lopes (died 2002)

Released FIVE albums

Most successful were 2nd album “CrazySexyCool” (1994 #3) featuring the #1 singles “Waterfalls” and “Creep” and the 3rd album “Fanmail” (1999 #1) containing the #1 singles “No Scrubs” and “Unpretty”.

Sold over 60 million records

Pussycat Dolls - Los Angeles, California, USA 2003 – 2008, 2017-2022

Went through numerous line up changes between 1990 and 2003 when Interscope Records became involved. *Manufactured really.*



Line up: Nicole Scherzinger, Carmit Bachar, Ashley Roberts, Jessica Sutta, Melody Thornton, Kimberley Wyatt

Bachar quit in 2008.

Group broke up in 2010; reformed in 2020 with 5 original members (minus Thornton).

As of 2026 they are a trio (Scherzinger, Roberts & Wyatt)

Two top 10 albums only

Their biggest hit is “Don’t Cha” reached #2.

Fifteen singles with the latest in 2026.

Fifth Harmony - Miami , Florida, USA 2012 – 2018, 2025 -

Product of X Factor USA. *So, manufactured.*

Original lineup: Ally Brooke, Normani, Dinah Jane, Lauren Jauregui, Camila Cabello (Cabello left in 2016)

Three albums “Reflection” (2015); “7/27” (2016 #5); “Fifth Harmony” (2017 #4)

Most successful single “Work From Home” (2016 #4)



All Saints - London, UK 1993-2001, 2006-2008, 2013-2016, 2017-2022

Formed by two of the members.

Melanie Blatt, Shaznay Lewis, Simone Rainford.

Rainford left and in 1996 sisters Nicole and Natalie Appleton joined making it a quartet.



Sugababes manager, Ron Tom, became involved, although Shaznay and Melanie still had overall control.

Released FIVE albums and 16 singles.

First album “All Saints” (1997 #2)

Second Album “Saints and Sinners” (2000 #1)

Singles: “I Know Where Its At” (1997 #4); “Never Ever” (1997 #1); “Under The Bridge (1998 #1); Lady Marmalade” (1998 #1); *All from the 1st album*

“Pure Shores” (2000 #1); “Black Coffee” (2000 #1) *Both from the 2nd album*

The group broke up in 2022.

Little Mix - London, UK 2011 - 2022

A product of X Factor UK. *So, manufactured.*

Lineup: Leigh-Anne Pinnock, Jade Thirlwall, Perrie Edwards and Jesy Nelson (Jesy left in 2020)

Released SIX albums from 2012 to 2020, all of which were top 5.

#1 singles include “Cannonball” (2011); “Wings” (2012); “Black Magic” (2015); “Shout Out To My Ex” (2016); “Sweet Melody” (2020)



Since leaving Jesy has been through numerous relationships, attempted suicide, been bullied online and given birth to twins with *spinal muscular atrophy*, meaning they may never walk.

Sugababes - London, UK 1998 -

Formed by All Saints manager, Ron Tom and Sarah Stennett.

Again manufactured.

Original members: Mutya Buena, Keisha Buchanan, Siobhan Donaghy

At one stage the lineup was completely different but in late 2011 the original lineup reformed.

From 2001 to 2011, the three original members slowly left until the line consisted of Jade Ewan, Amelle Berrabah and Heidi Range.

Eight albums between 2000 and 2022. Second album "Angels With Dirty Faces"(2002) #2; third album "Three" (2003) #3; fourth album "Taller In More Ways" (2005) #1; fifth album "Change" (2007) #1

Thirty four singles Freak Like Me (2002 - #1), "Round Round" (2002 - #1); "Hole In The Head" (2003 - #1); "Push The Button" (2005 - #1); "Walk This Way" (2007 - #1 with Girls Aloud); "About You Now" (2007 - #1); "Girls" (2008 - #3); "get Sexy" (2009 - #2)



B*Witched - Dublin, Ireland 1997 – 2002, 2012 -

Two sisters (Edele & Keavy Lynch) plus 2 friends (Lyndsay Armaou & Sinead O'Carroll).

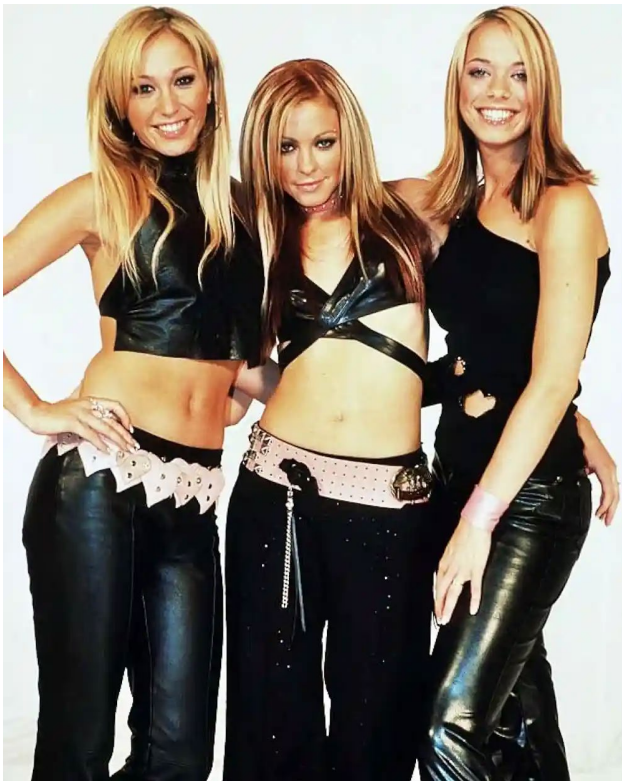
Released two albums – the first “B*Witched” reaching #2, as well as eleven singles.

Their first single “C'est La Vie” (1998) reached #1 and their 2nd single “Rollercoaster” (1998) reached #2.



Atomic Kitten - Liverpool, UK 1998 – 2008, 2013 - 2024

Put together by Orchestral Manoeuvres in the Dark members Andy McCluskey and Stuart Kershaw. *Again manufactured.*



Original members: Kerry Katona, Liz McClarnon, Natasha Hamilton.

In 2000 Katona quit and was replaced by Jenny Frost.

They released three albums – first two went #1 and the third album reached #5.

They released 19 singles. Their biggest hit “Whole Again” #1 came in 2001.

They also had a #1 hit with The Bangles song “Eternal Flame”

Girls Aloud - London, UK 2002-2009, 2012-2013, 2023-

Created through TV Show Popstars hence *manufactured*

Original lineup: Cheryl, Nadine Coyle, Sarah Harding (died 2021 cancer), Nicola Roberts, Kimberley Walsh.

Released FIVE albums between 2003 and 2008.

Originally managed by **Louis Walsh** (Boyzone & Westlife)



K-POP – girl groups

South Korean pop bands. Now a new massive phenomenon.

Blackpink are probably the biggest of these groups. Formed in 2010 by YG Entertainment. *Put together.*



Others include: AKB48, New Jeans, Girls Generation, Red Velvet, 2NE1, Twice, Wonder Girls

Australia has had its go at this too

Girlfriend 1991 - 1996

Melanie Alexander, Siobhann Heidenreich, Lorinda Noble, Jacqui Cowell, Robyn Loau



Jacqui, Siobhan & Melanie met at dance school and eventually decided to form a group.

Their dance teacher Janice Breen became involved along with songwriter/producer Noel MacDonald.

MacDonald found Robyn and Lorinda. So essentially became a manufactured group, with songs mainly written by MacDonald and produced by MacDonald.

Singles included "Take It From Me" (1992 #1)

In 1994 Robyn left the group to pursue a solo career. They then changed their name to GF4.

In 1995 Jacqui left the band and was replaced by Belinda Chapple (later in Bardot)

Due to lack of success of GF4 singles their album was shelved and group broke up in 1996.

Teen Queens - Sydney, Australia 1991 - 1993

Three model-singer-actresses. Roxanne Clarke, Kellie Crawford, Liza Watt.



Had minor chart success with covers of various Motown and 60s songs including "Be My Baby", "I Can't Help Myself", "Love How You Love Me"

Kellie Crawford went on to join Hi-Five.

Bardot – Australia, 1999-2002

Manufactured group. Formed on TV show Popstars with lineup Chantelle Barry, Sophie Monk, Sally Polihronas, Katie Underwood, Belinda Chapple. Chantelle Barry left within the first year and was replaced by Tiffani Wood. First single “Poison” went to #1 in Australia. Underwood left in 2001. The group broke up in 2002.



Chantelle Barry, Sophie Monk, Sally Polihronas, Katie Underwood, Belinda Chapple

Sophie Monk went on to be a successful television and radio host.

Human Nature – Sydney, NSW

By far the most successful



Lineup: Andrew Tierney, Michael Tierney, Toby Allen, Phil Burton

Thirteen albums, the first four featured original songs. All albums from 2005 onwards are covers.

The majority of these albums reached #1 with the remaining reaching top 10.

Singles (originals): “Tellin Everybody” (1996); “Wishes” (1997 #6); “Whisper Your Name”(1997 #18);
“Everytime You Cry” (1997 #3 with John Farnham); “Last To Know” (1999 #14)

In 2009 they became the second Australian group ever to obtain a Las Vegas Residency. A year long engagement at the Imperial Palace

CDB - Melbourne 1991



Hit song: “Lets Groove” 1995

3 Albums

Members: Andrew De Silva, Brad Pinto, Gary Pinto and Danny Williams

In 1997 Jude Nicholas joined, replacing Andrew DE Silva.

Disbanded 1999

Reformed 2006

Justice Crew – Sydney, Australia - 2009

Members: John & Ien Pearce, Lukas Bellesini, Paul Merciadetz, Samson Smith and Solo Tohi.

Won 4th season of Australia's Got Talent in 2010.

Hit song "Que Sera" (2014)

Formed in 2009 as a dance troupe.

Rose to fame on the fourth season of Australia's Got Talent.

1 Album

Former members: Omar Kamara and Anastasios Pepousis both left in 2011. Emmanuel Rodriguez sacked in 2014.



The only Australian one of any significance is Human Nature

If you are looking for any historical vocal groups from Australia, then there is

The Delltones Australia 1958 - 2017

Formed by two Lifesavers from Bronte Surf Club: **Noel Widerberg** (lead vocals) and **Ian "Pee Wee" Wilson** (bass vocals). More in line with vocal Doo-Wop groups from the USA.



The next two to join were **Warren Lucas** (tenor vocals) and **Brian Perkins** (Baritone vocals)

The group became enormously successful in Australia in the early sixties.

Noel was killed in a car accident in 1962 at Brighton-Le-Sands. **Colin Loughnan** replaced Noel.

Hit singles included "Get A Little Dirt On Your Hands"(1962), "Come A Little Bit Closer" (1963 - #1 hit), "Hangin Five" (1963 - #3 hit) – written by Police Officer / Manly Lifesaver Ben Acton, "Hey Girl Don't Bother Me" (1964)

Warren Lucas left around 1965. Replaced by Wayne Cornell. then Bill Kerwyn and then **Sep Martin** (around 1968)

Col Loughnan left 1966 replaced by Bill Kerwyn and then **Bob Pierse** (about 1968)

Ray Burton was in group for under a year 1965 - 1966

Broke up in 1973 but reformed in 1978 with Ian "Pee Wee" Wilson, Brian Perkins, Bob Pierse and Sep Martin. This lineup lasted until late 1981. From that time onward Ian "Pee Wee" Wilson was the only consistent member.

From 1981 – 2017 the group went through about another 12 members. Final lineup being "Pee Wee" Wilson, Owen Booth, Merv Dick, Woody Finlayson and Danny Myers. All had been with the group since the mid eighties.

Certainly not the same vibe as all the other boy bands but their longevity is amazing.

More a sixties revival rock'n'roll band from the 80's onward. Probably amongst the highest earning club bands from this time onward.