

Essential Rock Collection For Libraries

Introduction

By Rebecca Littman

While my training is as a classical musician, I've been a dedicated rock listener since childhood and have always had an interest in reading magazines and books about rock and its influence on popular culture. This list of the 'top140' albums was compiled using a variety of these sources such as 'best of' articles in Rolling Stone and Spin magazines, lists compiled by the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and VH1, millenium/decade-ending articles in the New York Times, The Music Library Association's Basic Music Library, and many long, sometimes contentious, discussions with friends and colleagues who share my love of the music.

Selection criteria is different for recordings from the 50s than for the 60s through the 90s. The advent of the 'concept album' in the 1960s changed forever the way that rock is listened to and recordings from the last 4 decades were selected primarily for the influence the album as a whole had on rock's performers and its development, though on occasion it is only one song on the album that made a particularly great impact. Recordings from the 50s were selected to represent artists and general stylistic influences rather than albums, so they tend to be greatest hits or compilations of songs. It can be argued that the 1990s are so recently ended that we cannot say definitively what will influence the future, and it's very possible that time will relegate some of my choices to the history heap. That being said, I have attempted to show the way in which rock's influences are wide ranging

by including in the 90s list Rap and Hip Hop artists in the way that Country and the Blues influenced the early rock artists.

Only currently in-print recordings are included, although, unlike classical music where recordings go out of print within a year or two, that has not been such an issue in general. Very little rock music of any consequence has ever really gone out of print, making the transition to new formats easily. The quality of pre-1980s (i.e. pre digital techniques) recordings may vary at this point depending on whether or not they have been remastered or simply re-released with a minimum of enhancement. If there is a remastered release available, that version is listed here.

Personal bio: grew up in Eugene, Oregon. Play bassoon and sing and play early music. BA in Music History, University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Graduate study in musicology at University of California, Davis. Master of Librarianship at University of Washington. Job history: Music Librarian with Technology Specialization at East Carolina University, Greenville, NC. Currently Music Librarian, and Head of the Music & Sound Recording Library, at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee.

Rebecca Littman
Head, Music & Sound Recording
Library
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee

The Fifties

CAPITOL COLLECTORS SERIES

KINGSTON TRIO (1990)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP92710 \$9.92

CHESS BOX

BERRY*CHUCK (1955-73)
3 CD SET
UNI/CHESS RECORDS MCA80001 \$38.28

BEST OF RUTH BROWN

BROWN*RUTH (1949-59)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI72450 \$13.80

BIRTH OF SOUL

COMPL. ATLANTIC R&B RECORDINGS
1952-1959
CHARLES*RAY
3 CD SET INCLUDES BOOKLET
WEA/ATLANTIC ATL82310 \$34.30

CHESS BOX

DIDDLEY*BO (1955-68)
2 CD SET
UNI/CHESS RECORDS MCA19502 \$24.47

CADENCE CLASSICS-20 GREATEST HIT

EVERLY BROTHERS (1957-60)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI5258 \$13.80

BEST OF

HALEY*BILL & COMETS (1951-53)
UNI/MCA MCA11957 \$9.92

COLLECTION

HOLLY*BUDDY (1957-58)
UNI/MCA MCA10883 \$27.86

LEGENDARY MODERN RECORDINGS

HOOKER*JOHN LEE (1948-54)
EMD/VIRGIN VIR39658 \$9.92

VINTAGE COLLECTION SERIES

JACKSON*WANDA (1956-61)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP36185 \$9.92

ORIGINAL SUN GREATEST HITS

LEWIS*JERRY LEE (1956-63)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI70255 \$9.92

GEORGIA PEACH

LITTLE RICHARD (1955-57)
FANTASY/SPECIALTY
SPC7012 \$13.60

**FOR THE LONELY****ANTHOLOGY 1956-1965**

ORBISON*ROY
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI71493 \$13.80

FROM NASHVILLE TO MEMPHIS**ESSENTIAL 60'S MASTERS**

PRESLEY*ELVIS
5 CD SET INCLUDES 64 PAGE BOOK
BMG/RCA RCA66160 \$66.00

TOP TEN HITS

PRESLEY*ELVIS (1956-72)
BMG/RCA RCA56383 \$19.80

ROCKABILLY

VA-AS GOOD AS IT GETS
2 CD SET
AS GOOD AS IT GETS AGAG25054
\$ 12.67

DOO WOP BALLADS

VA-BEST OF DOO WOP (1954-61)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI75763 \$13.80

LOUD FAST & OUT OF CONTROL

VARIOUS ARTISTS
4 CD SET
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI75704 \$63.29

HIS BEST 1947-55

WATERS*MUDDY
UNI/CHESS RECORDS MCA9370 \$12.90

The Sixties

MOANIN' IN THE MOONLIGHT

HOWLIN' WOLF (1962)
2 CD SET
UNI/CHESS RECORDS MCA5908
\$9.92

**HELP! (BRITISH)**

BEATLES (1965)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46439 \$14.90

REVOLVER (BRITISH)

BEATLES (1966)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46441 \$14.90

WE'RE ONLY IN IT FOR THE MONEY

ZAPPA*FRANK (1968)
RYKO RYK10503 \$14.99

PET SOUNDS

BEACH BOYS (1966)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP26266 \$13.80

BEATLES

BEATLES (1968)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46443 \$30.38

SURREALISTIC PILLOW

JEFFERSON AIRPLANE (1967)
BMG/RCA RCA3766 \$13.80

EVERYBODY KNOWS THIS IS NOWHERE

YOUNG*NEIL & CRAZY HORSE (1969)
WEA/WARNER WB2282 \$9.92

GREATEST HITS VOL 1 (64-66)

YARDBIRDS (1964-66)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI75895 \$13.80

SELLS OUT

WHO (1967)
UNI/MCA MCA11268 \$9.92

VELVET UNDERGROUND & NICO

VELVET UNDERGROUND (1967)
PGD/A&M PLG531250 \$9.92

COLUMBIA STUDIO RECORDINGS

SIMON & GARFUNKEL (1964-70)
3 CD SET
SONY/COLUMBIA COL63815 \$43.94

ANTHOLOGY SERIES

ROSS*DIANA & SUPREMES (1962-69)
2 CD SET INCLUDES 20 PAGE BOOKLET
UNIVERSAL UNIV016409 \$24.80

OUT OF OUR HEADS

ROLLING STONES (1965)
PGD/ABKCO ABK7429 \$13.80

VOL. 1-VERY BEST OF

REDDING*OTIS (1963-67)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI71147
\$9.92

IN CONCERT

PETER PAUL & MARY (1964)
WEA/WARNER WB1555 \$18.22

ABBEY ROAD

BEATLES (1969)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46446 \$14.90

GREATEST HITS

KINKS (1966)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI70086 \$13.80

**RUBBER SOUL (BRITISH)**

BEATLES (1966)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46440 \$14.90

MR. TAMBOURINE MAN

BYRDS (1965)
SONY MUSIC SNY64845 \$9.92

SGT. PEPPER'S LONELY HEARTS CLUB

BEATLES (1967)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46442 \$14.90

LED ZEPPELIN 2

LED ZEPPELIN (1967)
WEA/ATLANTIC ATL82633 \$13.80

SAY IT LOUD I'M BLACK & I'M PROUD

BROWN*JAMES (1969)
PGD/A&M PLG841992 \$9.92

ARE YOU EXPERIENCED?

HENDRIX*JIMI (1967)
UNI/MCA MCA11602 \$13.80

TROUT MASK REPLICA

CAPTAIN BEEFHEART (1969)
WARNER BRO. WB27196 \$14.17

WILLY & THE POOR BOYS

CREEDENCE CLEARWATER REVIVAL
(1969)
FANTASY FAN8397 \$13.60

CROSBY STILLS & NASH

CROSBY STILLS & NASH (1969)
WEA/ATLANTIC ATL82651 \$13.80

DOORS

DOORS (1967)
WEA/ELEKTRA EA74007
\$13.80

**HIGHWAY 61 REVISITED**

DYLAN*BOB (1965)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY9189 \$9.92

LADY SOUL

FRANKLIN*ARETHA (1968)
WEA/ATLANTIC/RHINO RHI71933 \$9.92

BLOOD SWEAT & TEARS

BLOOD SWEAT & TEARS (1969)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY63986 \$9.92

The Seventies

LAYLA & OTHER ASSORTED LOVE SONGS

DEREK & THE DOMINOS (1970)
PGD/POLYGRAM POL847090 \$12.90

ARE WE NOT MEN? WE ARE DEVO

DEVO (1978)
WEA/WARNER WB3239 \$9.92

LIVE AT FILLMORE EAST

ALLMAN BROTHERS BAND (1971)
UNI/MERCURY PLG531260 \$13.80

PARALLEL LINES

BLONDIE (1978)
EMD/CHRYSALIS
CAP21192 \$9.92



RISE & FALL OF ZIGGY STARDUST

BOWIE*DAVID (1972)
EMD/VIRGIN VIR21900 \$12.90

AMERICAN BEAUTY

GRATEFUL DEAD (1970)
WEA/WARNER WB1893 \$9.92

ALL THINGS MUST PASS

HARRISON*GEORGE (1970)
2 CD SET
EMD/CAPITOL CAP30474 \$21.45

GOODBYE YELLOW BRICK ROAD

JOHN*ELTON (1973)
UNI/ISLAND PLG528159 \$15.25

PEARL

JOPLIN*JANIS (1971)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY65786 \$9.92

TAPESTRY

KING*CAROLE (1971)
SONY/EPIC SNY65850 \$9.92

IMAGINE

LENNON*JOHN (1971)
INCLUDES BOOKLET
EMD/CAPITOL CAP24858B \$12.90

AMERICAN PIE

MCLEAN*DON (1971)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46555
\$9.92



LADIES OF THE CANYON

MITCHELL*JONI (1970)
WEA/WARNER WB6376 \$9.92

DARK SIDE OF THE MOON

PINK FLOYD (1973)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP46001 \$14.90

MY AIM IS TRUE

COSTELLO*ELVIS (1977)
2 CD SET
WEA/RHINO RHI74285 \$13.80

RAMONES

RAMONES (1976)
WEA/RHINO RHI74306 \$13.80

STICKY FINGERS

ROLLING STONES (1971)
EMD/VIRGIN VIR39525 \$13.80

TALKING HEADS '77

TALKING HEADS (1977)
WEA/WARNER WB6036 \$9.92

SONGS IN THE KEY OF LIFE

WONDER*STEVIE (1976)
2 CD SET
UNI/MOTOWN UNIV157357 \$24.00

HOTEL CALIFORNIA

EAGLES (1976)
WEA/ELEKTRA EA103 \$13.80

NIGHT AT THE OPERA

QUEEN (1975)
UNI/HOLLYWOOD HWD061065 \$13.80

WHAT'S GOING ON

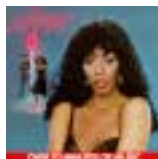
GAYE*MARVIN (1973)
PGD/MOTOWN MOT530883 \$9.92

ABRAXAS

SANTANA (1970)
SONY MUSIC SNY65490 \$9.92

BAD GIRLS

SUMMER*DONNA (1979)
PGD/POLYGRAM
PLG822557 \$9.92



TEA FOR THE TILLERMAN

STEVENS*CAT (1972)
UNI/A&M PLG546884 \$15.25

BORN TO RUN

SPRINGSTEEN*BRUCE (1975)
SONY MUSIC SNY33795 \$12.90

HORSES

SMITH*PATTI (1975)
BMG/ARISTA ARI18827 \$11.50

NEVER MIND THE BOLLOCKS HERE'S

SEX PISTOLS (1977)
WEA/WARNER WB3147 \$9.92



SOUNDTRACK

SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER
(1977)
UNI/MERCURY PLG825389
\$17.37

RUMOURS

FLEETWOOD MAC (1977)
WEA/WARNER WB3010 \$13.80

The Eighties

RUN-D.M.C.

RUN-D.M.C. (1984)
BMG/ARISTA ARI16406 \$13.80

JOSHUA TREE

U2 (1987)
UNI/ISLAND PLG842298 \$15.25

SPEAKING IN TONGUES

TALKING HEADS (1983)
WEA/WARNER WB23883 \$9.92

NOTHING LIKE THE SUN

STING (1987)
UNI/A&M AM6402 \$15.25

BORN IN THE USA

SPRINGSTEEN*BRUCE (1984)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY38653 \$13.80

SHE'S SO UNUSUAL

LAUPER*CYNDI (1984)
SONY/EPIC SNY62169 \$9.92

LUCINDA WILLIAMS

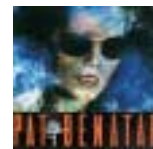
WILLIAMS*LUCINDA (1988)
KOCH RECORDS KOC8005 \$14.55

DIFFERENT LIGHT

BANGLES (1986)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY40039 \$8.88

BEST SHOTS

BENATAR*PAT (1989)
EMD/CHRYSALIS
CAP21715 \$12.90



DAMAGED

BLACK FLAG (1981)
SST SST7 \$12.72

SLIPPERY WHEN WET

BON JOVI (1986)
PGD/POLYGRAM PLG538089 \$9.92

TRACY CHAPMAN

CHAPMAN*TRACY (1988)
WEA/ELEKTRA EA60774 \$9.92

LONDON CALLING

CLASH (1980)
SONY/EPIC SNY63885 \$9.92

SWEET DREAMS (ARE MADE OF THIS)

EURYTHMICS (1983)
BMG/RCA RCA4681 \$9.92

PETER GABRIEL

GABRIEL*PETER (1980)
UNI/GEFFEN GEF2035 \$9.92

APPETITE FOR DESTRUCTION

GUNS N'ROSES (1987)
UNI/GEFFEN GEF24211 \$15.25

SMITHS

SMITHS (1984)
WEAWARNER WB25065 \$13.80

BIG SCIENCE

ANDERSON*LAURIE (1982)
WEAWARNER WB3674 \$9.92

DAYDREAM NATION

SONIC YOUTH (1988)
UNI/GEFFEN/DGC GEF24515 \$9.92

LIKE A PRAYER

MADONNA (1989)
WEAWARNER WB25844 \$13.80

MASTER OF PUPPETS

METALLICA (1986)
WEA/ELEKTRA EA60439 \$13.80

STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON

N.W.A. (1989)
EMD/PRIORITY PRY57112
\$12.90

**PRETTY HATE MACHINE**

NINE INCH NAILS (1989)
TVT RECORDS TV2610 \$14.94

SYNCHRONICITY

POLICE (1983)
UNI/A&M AM3735 \$15.25

PRETENDERS

PRETENDERS (1980)
WEAWARNER WB6083 \$9.92

PURPLE RAIN

PRINCE (1984)
WEAWARNER WB25110 \$9.92

EPONYMOUS

R.E.M. (1988)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP93457 \$12.90

NICK OF TIME

RAITT*BONNIE (1989)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP91268 \$12.90

GRACELAND

SIMON*PAUL (1986)
WEAWARNER WB46430 \$13.80

THRILLER

JACKSON*MICHAEL
(1982)
SONY MUSIC SNY66073
\$12.90



The Nineties

SLANTED & ENCHANTED

PAVEMENT (1992)
MATADOR MAT38 \$10.82

UNDER THE TABLE & DREAMING

MATTHEWS*DAVE BAND (1994)
BMG/RCA RCA66449 \$16.90

ENTER THE WU-TANG (36 CHAMBERS)

WU-TANG CLAN (1993)
BMG/RCA RCA66358 \$13.80

SUPERUNKNOWN

SOUNDGARDEN (1994)
UNI/A&M AM540198 \$15.25

SIAMESE DREAM

SMASHING PUMPKINS (1993)
EMD/VIRGIN VIR88267 \$13.80

BLOOD SUGAR SEX MAGIK

RED HOT CHILI PEPPERS (1991)
WEAWARNER WB26681 \$13.80

O.K. COMPUTER

RADIOHEAD (1997)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP55229 \$13.80

OUT OF TIME

R.E.M. (1991)
WEAWARNER WB26496 \$13.80

BLACK REIGN

QUEEN LATIFAH (1993)
UNI/MOTOWN MOT6370
\$9.92

**EXILE IN GUYVILLE**

PHAIR*LIZ (1993)
EMD/CAPITOL CAP23227 \$9.92

TEN

PEARL JAM (1991)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY47857 \$13.80

WHAT'S THE STORY MORNING GLORY

OASIS (1995)
SONY MUSIC SNY67351 \$12.90

LIFE AFTER DEATH

NOTORIOUS B.I.G. (1997)
BMG/ARISTA/BAD BOY BAD73019
\$16.90

NEVERMIND

NIRVANA (1991)
UNI/DGC RECORDS GEF24425 \$15.25

I DO NOT WANT WHAT I HAVEN'T

O'CONNOR*SINEAD (1990)
EMD/CHRYSALIS CAP21759 \$9.92

FUMBLING TOWARDS ECSTASY

MCLACHLAN*SARAH (1994)
BMG/ARISTA ARI18725 \$11.50

DIRT

ALICE IN CHAINS (1992)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY52475 \$9.92

IMMACULATE COLLECTION

MADONNA (1990)
WEAWARNER WB26440 \$16.27

FOLLOW THE LEADER

KORN (1998)
SONY/COLUMBIA SNY69001
\$13.80

**RITUAL DE LO HABITUAL**

JANE'S ADDICTION (1990)
WEAWARNER WB26223 \$9.92

CRACKED REAR VIEW

HOOTIE & THE BLOWFISH (1994)
WEA/ATLANTIC ATL82613 \$13.80

LIVE THROUGH THIS

HOLE (1994)
UNI/DGC RECORDS GEF24631 \$15.25

MISEDUCATION OF LAURYN HILL
 HILL*LAURYN (1998)
 SONY MUSIC SNY69035
 \$11.50



TO BRING YOU MY LOVE
 HARVEY*P.J. (1995)
 UNI/ISLAND PLG524085 \$13.80

CHRONIC
 DR. DRE (1990)
 DEATH ROW PIDR50611 \$12.90

IMPERFECTLY
 DIFRANCO*ANI (1992)
 RIGHTEOUS BABE RIG3 \$14.00

POST
 BJORK (1995)
 WEA/ELEKTRA EA61740 \$13.80

ODELAY
 BECK (1996)
 UNI/DGC RECORDS GEF24823 \$15.25

LITTLE EARTHQUAKES
 AMOS*TORI (1991)
 WEA/ATLANTIC ATL82358 \$13.80

METALLICA
 METALLICA (1991)
 WEA/ELEKTRA EA61113 \$13.80

Collection Summary

This collection spans five decades of rock and includes:

140 Titles
 160 compact discs
 Total Retail Price \$2,519.80
 Total Library Price \$2,031.33

To order the entire collection, please list "Essential Rock Collection for Libraries" on your purchase order.

To order selected titles to fill in your collection, please list each item on your purchase order or circle the items on the newsletter.

The Music Library Service Company is a wholesale provider of recorded music and videos exclusively for libraries. For over a decade, we have supplied music to hundreds of libraries like yours.

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Core Classical Collection

Basic Music Library summary includes:

- **Classical**
- **Jazz**
- **Blues**
- **Movies & Showtunes**
- **Rock**
- **Gospel & other Christian**
- **Pop & New Age**
- **Rhythm & Blues, Soul**
- **Country & Western**

Monthly New Releases

Billboard Chart Summary