

The British Classical Record Industry, 1945-59: Fidelity and Formats

Format	Introduced	Label	Source and comments
12" LP	Jun. 1950	Decca	<i>The Gramophone</i> .
10" LP	Jun. 1950	Decca	<i>The Gramophone</i> .
7" SP	Nov. 1952	HMV	Date from EMI archive copies of two records from the first batch of releases.
10" MP	Jul. 1953	Decca	<i>The Gramophone</i> . Format discontinued for new releases after Jun. 1958 (<i>The New Records</i>).
7" EP	Apr. 1954	HMV and Columbia	<i>The Gramophone September 1954 Long Playing Classical Record Catalogue</i> .
Monaural tape	Late Aug. 1954	HMV	<i>The Gramophone September 1954 Long Playing Classical Record Catalogue</i> .
7" 33½ rpm 'LP'	Sep. to Dec. 1954	Concert Artist	<i>The Gramophone December 1954 Long Playing Classical Record Catalogue</i> .
Stereo tape	Oct. 1955	Columbia and HMV	<i>The New Records</i> .
Stereo 12" LP	Jun. 1958	Pye and Nixa	<i>The New Records</i> . Barfe (2004, p. 201) states August 1958. The Nixa LP was not a classical release.
Stereo 7" EP	Jun. 1958	Nixa	<i>The New Records</i> . Barfe (Ibid.) states August 1958. Not a classical release.
Stereo 7" SP	Sep. 1958	Nixa	<i>The New Records</i> . Not a classical release.
Stereo 10" LP	Sep. 1958	HMV	<i>The New Records</i> .

Table XVII. The first known release on each new format, irrespective of whether the first batch of releases included classical or not (it is noted, where not).

Pre-dec.	Decimal	Pre-dec. cont/d.	Decimal cont/d.	Pre-dec. cont/d.	Decimal cont/d.	Pre-dec. cont/d.	Decimal cont/d.
84/-	£4.20	35/10	£1.79	19/10½	£0.99½	10/9	£0.54
73/6	£3.67½	35/-	£1.75	15/3½	£0.76½	9/8½	£0.48½
63/-	£3.15	32/4½	£1.62	14/7	£0.73	8/3	£0.41½
55/-	£2.75	30/11½	£1.55	13/2½	£0.66	6/10	£0.34
47/6	£2.37½	29/6	£1.47½	12/10½	£0.64½	6/5½	£0.32½
42/-	£2.10	27/10	£1.39	12/7	£0.63	5/9	£0.29
41/8½	£2.08½	27/3½	£1.36½	12/3½	£0.61½	5/4½	£0.27
39/11½	£2.00	26/6	£1.32½	11/11½	£0.60	5/0½	£0.25
39/6	£1.97½	24/6½	£1.22½	11/3½	£0.56½	4/4	£0.21½
36/5½	£1.82½	20/10	£1.04	10/11½	£0.55	–	–

Table XVIII. Pre-decimal to decimal conversion table for all RRP's listed in the previous tables.