

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

Label	Prefix	Colour	RRP	Introduced	Genre and comments
HMV	7R	Red	8/11½	Nov. 1952	Classical. Active to 1954.
HMV	7P	Plum	6/4	Nov. 1952	Popular, including popular classical. 1xx series active to 1954; resurrection 1958. 2xx series September 1959.
Columbia	SCB	Light Blue	8/11½	Feb. 1953	Classical. Only active 1953.
Columbia	SCD	Dark Blue	6/4	Feb. 1953	Popular, including popular classical. Active 1954; restarted 1959.
Parlophone-Odeon	BSP	Brown	8/11½	Feb. 1953	Classical. Only active 1953.

Table VIII. EMI 7" SP sequences. Dates sourced from *The Gramophone September 1954 Long Playing Classical Record Catalogue* and www.45cat.com. RRP's sourced from *The Record Year 2*.

Label	Prefix	Colour	Price	Introduced	Genre
HMV	7ER	Red	15/11	Apr. 1954	Classical.
Columbia	SEL	Light Blue			
HMV	7EP	Plum	11/3½	Apr. 1954	Classical.
Columbia	SED	Dark Blue			
HMV	7EB	Black	10/7½	Apr. 1954	Classical.
Columbia	SEB 3xxx				
HMV	7EG	Green	9/3½	Apr. 1954	Popular, including popular classical.

Table IX. EMI monaural 7" EP sequences. Dates sourced as per Table VII. RRP's sourced from *The Record Guide* (2e). SEG, Columbia's equivalent sequence to HMV's 7EG, had no known records of purely classical repertoire advised during the 1950s, hence exclusion.

Label	Prefix	Colour	RRP	First advised	Comments
Nixa	45 EP 7xx	Red	11/11½	Dec. 1954 to Feb. 1955	First issue probably February 1955. <i>Popular Classics</i> series.
Philips	ABE	Red	12/7	Prob. Sep. 1955	Closer in colour to other labels' Plum.
Philips	NBE	Green	11/3½	Prob. Sep. 1955	
Pye	CEC	Red	13/2½	Jun. 1957	
Pye	CEM	Green	12/10½	Dec. 1957	
Nixa	NEC	Red	15/3½	Apr. 1958	Sequence first advised November 1955 at 13/2½ but no records issued. First record numerically in sequence published 1957 but not advised until August 1958 amongst the <i>third</i> batch of NEC releases.
Pye	CSEM	Green	10/9	Oct. 1959	Stereo.

Table X. Pye-Nixa and Philips classical EP sequences in order of first release. First issue dates and RRP's at first issue sourced from *The Gramophone March 1955 Long Playing Classical Record Catalogue* and *The New Records*. Nixa series EP's still on catalogue during 1959 became Pye label releases, though maintaining original catalogue numbers.