

POPULAR MUSIC HISTORY TIMELINE

1877	Thomas Edison invents sound recording
1887	Emile Berliner builds the first gramophone - 78 rpm
1889	Columbia founded by Edward Easton
1892	Era of Tin Pan Alley
1895	Guglielmo Marconi invents the radio
1914	ASCAP - American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers founded
1919	renames it Radio Corporation of America (RCA)
1924	Music Corporation of America (MCA) founded in Chicago
1925	78.26 rpm chosen as industry standard for recorded music
1926	16 inch acetate-coated discs introduced (33 1/3 rpm)
1929	Decca records founded in Britain
1931	Abbey Road recording studio opened in London
1931	was a semi-hollow body guitar with sound holes.
1936	Gibson company produces the ES-150 electric guitar
1940	Disney's "Fantasia" introduces stereo sound
1945	Les Paul invents echo-delay, multi-tracking, and other techniques
1948	Columbia introduces 12-in 33 1/3 rpm vinyl record
1948	Leo Fender introduces the Telecaster electric guitar
1949	RCA Victor introduces the 45 rpm vinyl record
1952	Sam Phillips founds Sun Records
1953	Sun Records records first Elvis Presley record
1954	Record companies switch from 78 rpm to 45 rpm
1957	Dick Clark's American Bandstand takes to the airwaves
1959	Barry Gordy founds Tamla Motown Records in Detroit
1963	50% of American recordings made in Nashville, TN
1969	Woodstock Music Festival - 300,000 people attend
1973	George Lucas' film "American Graffiti" begins revival of 1950's and 60's music
1975	SNL debuts on TV
1975	over 500,000 copies & "Platinum" over 1,000,000
1976	Marantz invents the "boombox"
1979	Sony introduces the "Walkman"
1980	John Lennon murdered in NYC
1981	Michael Jackson 15 minute music video - "Thriller"
1982	Sony and Philips introduce CD's
1991	Lollapalooza Festival started & Protools recording software invented
1992	MP3 is invented to store music on computers
1994	First internet radio station at University of North Carolina - WXYC
1995	Rock and Roll Hall of Fame opened in Cleveland, OH
1996	DVD introduced in Japan
2003	Apple introduces iTunes
2009	Digital sales account for 98% of all singles sold in the USA and Britain