

Please Please Me / The Beatles

See Hunter Davies, *The Beatles*, with a new introduction, New York: Norton, 2009 and Tim Riley, *Tell Me Why: A Beatles Commentary*, New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1988.

Released on Parolophone March 1963

14 tracks

- 4 songs from their two hit singles (“Love Me Do” / P.S. I Love You” and “Please Please Me” / “Ask Me Why”))
- 10 tracks recorded in one day
 - 6 covers
 - 4 original songs by McCartney/Lennon
- recorded 11 titles in 9 hours and 45 minutes
 - “Hold Me Tight” not used on this album
 - instruments on one track, vocals on second track to facilitate both mono (preferred sound in 1963) and stereo mixing
 - “A Taste of Honey” is Paul double-tracked
 - singles were used, with exception of “Love Me Do”
 - entire recording process (including editing and mixing) took 25 hours

Album topped UK charts at same time their third single (“From Me To You”) also topped singles charts

- no.1 for 30 weeks and replaced by Beatles second album, *With the Beatles*
- stayed in top 20 for another 9 months

In US: Vee-Jay records will release “Please Please Me” and “From Me To You” in 1963. These have no impact on the American charts.

With the Beatles / The Beatles

Released on Parolophone March 1963

14 tracks

- 4 songs from their two hit singles (“Love Me Do” / P.S. I Love You” and “Please Please Me” / “Ask Me Why”))
- 10 tracks recorded in one day
 - 6 covers
 - 7 original songs by Lennon / McCartney
 - 1 by Harrison

Recorded in 28 hours over 6 days between July 18 and October 23, 1963

Last twin-track recording; future singles and albums will use four-track recording for greater flexibility.

More rerecording, perfecting of the sound

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