

AMPERCHART

ROCK

1. **Don't Look Back**
Boston/Epic
2. **Some Girls**
Rolling Stones/Rolling Stones Records
3. **Double Vision**
Foreigner/Atlantic
4. **Who Are You**
The Who/MCA
5. **Grease**
Soundtrack/RSO
6. **Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band**
Soundtrack/RSO
7. **Natural High**
Commodores/Motown
8. **Worlds Away**
Pablo Cruise/A&M
9. **Stranger in Town**
Bob Seger & the Silver Bullet Band/Capitol
10. **Nightwatch**
Kenny Loggins/Columbia
11. **Saturday Night Fever**
Soundtrack/RSO
12. **City to City**
Gerry Rafferty/United Artists
13. **But Seriously, Folks**
Joe Walsh/Asylum
14. **Come & Get It**
Rick James/Gordy
15. **Darkness at the Edge of Town**
Bruce Springsteen/Columbia
16. **Pyramid**
Alan Parsons Project/Arista
17. **Bat out of Hell**
Meat Loaf-Epic/Cleveland Int'l
18. **Octave**
Moody Blues/London
19. **Obsession**
UFO/Chrysalis
20. **The Cars**
The Cars/Elektra
21. **Songbird**
Barbra Streisand/Columbia
22. **Sleeper Catcher**
Little River Band/Capitol
23. **Aja**
Steely Dan/ABC
24. **Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band**
Beatles/Capitol
25. **Mixed Emotions**
Exile-Warner/Curb

RECOMMENDED RECENT RELEASES

- Along the Red Ledge**
Hall and Oates/RCA
- Bish**
Stephen Bishop/ABC
- Skynyrd's First and Last**
Lynyrd Skynyrd/MCA
- In the Dark**
Dyan Diamond/MCA
- Twin Sons of Different Mothers**
Dan Fogelberg & Tim Weisberg/Epic
- Living in the USA**
Linda Ronstadt/Asylum
- Snake Bite**
David Coverdale/United Artists
- Luxury You Can Afford**
Joe Cocker/Asylum
- Frozen in the Night**
Dan Hill/20th Century Fox

SOUL

1. **Blam**
Brothers Johnson/A&M
2. **Natural High**
Commodores/Motown
3. **Life is a Song Worth Singing**
Teddy Pendergrass/Epic/Phila. Int'l.
4. **Together**
L.T.D./A&M
5. **Get Off**
Foxy/Dash
6. **Come Get It**
Rick James & the Stone City Band/Gordy
7. **In the Night Time**
Michael Henderson/Buddah
8. **A Taste of Honey**
Capitol
9. **Sunbeam**
Emotions/Columbia
10. **The Concept**
Slave/Cotillion
11. **You Send Me**
Roy Ayers/Polydor
12. **Love Shine**
Con Funk Shun/Mercury
13. **Betty Wright Live**
Betty Wright/Alston
14. **Strikes Again**
Rose Royce/Whitfield
15. **Is It Still Good for You**
Ashford & Simpson/Warner Bros

RECOMMENDED RECENT RELEASES

- The Wiz**
Soundtrack/MCA
- Live and More**
Donna Summer/Casablanca
- Secrets**
Gil Scott-Heron & Brian Jackson/Arista
- Mother Factor**
Mothers Finest/Epic
- The Best of the Trammps**
The Trammps/Atlantic

JAZZ

1. **Images**
Crusaders/Blue Thumb
2. **Sounds**
Quincy Jones/A&M
3. **Feels So Good**
Chuck Mangione/A&M
4. **You Send Me**
Roy Ayers/Polydor
5. **Cosmic Messenger**
Jean Luc Ponty/Atlantic
6. **Sunlight**
Herbie Hancock/Columbia
7. **Weekend in L.A.**
George Benson/Warner Bros
8. **Friends**
Chick Corea/Polydor
9. **Tropico**
Gato Barbieri/A&M
10. **Freestyle**
Bobbi Humphrey/Epic
11. **In the Night Time**
Michael Henderson/Buddah
12. **Pat Metheny**
Pat Metheny/ECM
13. **Secrets**
Gil Scott-Heron & Brian Jackson/Arista
14. **Don't Let Go**
George Duke/Epic
15. **Super Blue**
Freddie Hubbard/Columbia
16. **Larry Carlton**
Warner Bros.
17. **Arabesque**
John Klemmer/ABC

RECOMMENDED RECENT RELEASES

- Lady Time**
Ella Fitzgerald/Pablo
- All Things Beautiful**
Jimmy Ponder/LRC
- Splendid**
Phillip Catherine & Larry Coryell/Elektra
- What About You!**
Stanley Turrentine/Fantasy
- Before the Rain**
Lee Oskar/Elektra

COUNTRY

1. **Heartbreaker**
Dolly Parton/RCA
2. **Stardust**
Willie Nelson/Columbia
3. **Love or Something Like It**
Kenny Rogers/United Artists
4. **When I Dream**
Crystal Gayle/United Artists
5. **Let's Keep It That Way**
Anne Murray/Capitol
6. **Waylon & Willie**
Waylon Jennings & Willie Nelson/RCA
7. **Only One Love in My Life**
Ronnie Milsap/RCA
8. **Elvis Sings for Children and Grown-ups Too**
Elvis Presley/RCA
9. **Entertainers On and Off the Record**
Statler Bros.-Mercury
10. **Variations**
Eddie Rabbitt/Elektra
11. **Ten Years Gold**
Kenny Rogers/United Artists
12. **The Best of the Statler Bros.**
Mercury
13. **It's a Heartache**
Bonnie Tyler/RCA
14. **Honky Tonk Heroes**
Conway Twitty-Loretta Lynn/MCA
15. **Room Service**
The Oak Ridge Boys/ABC

RECOMMENDED RECENT RELEASES

- Tear Time**
Dave & Sugar/RCA
- Face of a Fighter**
Willie Nelson/Lone Star
- Expressions**
Don Williams/ABC
- Banjo Bandits**
Roy Clark & Buck Trent/ABC
- What Have You Got to Lose**
Tom T. Hall/RCA

Record Expenditures:
Fleetwood
Max

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We've been dealing, for the most part, in generalities. For some specifics on why it costs so much to make a rock album, we turn to a revealing article by Howard Cummings in the May, 1978 issue of *Recording Engineer/Producer*. Richard Dashut and Ken Caillat, who engineered Fleetwood Mac's *Rumours*, opened up with some behind-the-scenes glimpses.

The original schedule, according to Caillat, was to spend five weeks recording the album and another week mixing and editing, all at the Record Plant in the San Francisco suburb of Sausalito. By the time they were finished, eleven months later, here's what they did:

— Spent 18 hours a day, seven days a week, for 2½ months in the studio writing, rehearsing, and recording. Caillat says that, as the sessions commenced, Lindsey Buckingham, Christine McVie and Stevie Nicks each had a few ideas; nothing more. After those 2½ months in the studio — one in the \$150/hour class — the band broke for six weeks' touring.

— Upon returning from the road, the band and engineers listened to the tapes and decided that several songs had been recorded in the wrong key. All instruments save percussion were erased from the master tapes and re-recorded in the new key.

— The Mac are fastidious about their sound. So much so that the engineers spent 18 hours getting proper miking of Mick Fleetwood's kick drum. The rest of his kit took longer. After the initial set-up, the engineers spent 2½ hours each day tuning and miking the drum set. The rest of the instruments, each with its own problems, took longer. Buckingham used several different guitar-amplifier combinations; Christine McVie used seven different pianos and employed four different piano tuners at different times.

— By the time mixing and editing were completed, Fleetwood Mac had rented studio time in Sausalito, Los Angeles, and Florida.

— No matter how fastidious they were about their sound, by the time recording was complete the tapes had worn through enough that there was a noticeable drop in high-frequency fidelity. At that point, Dashut and Caillat say they cancelled all dreams of winning a "best engineering" Grammy. They won it anyway.

— There were so many orders for the album that many more than the usual number of master lacquers were made — enough so that for a while there were as many as 19 a day being run off the increasingly-thin master tape. Enough so that, according to the engineers, there is an even more noticeable fidelity drop between the first and second million copies of the album. And so on, down the line. The album has so far sold more than fourteen million copies worldwide, all derived from that same tattered and torn master tape.

Angeleno Harold Bronson has produced records, including "It's Gonna Be a Punk Rock Christmas" by The Ravers, none of which has cost \$150,000.