It is said that the first Beatles' film, *A Hard Day's Night*, was filmed in black and white because United Artists did not wish to waste color film on a group that would surely be a fad. It is said to the contrary that the black-and-white look was an intentional decision on the part of the director. It has also been circulated for years that United Artists chose to release the film so that they could also issue a soundtrack album.

Whether any of the above is true, United Artists did arrange a deal to release the *Hard Day's Night* soundtrack in the United States and Canada. This first Beatles movie went through several title changes, from Beatlemania #1 (its working title) to Off the Beatle Track (rumored, which became the title to one of George Martin's albums) to *A Hard Day's Night*, after Ringo coined the famous expression. Producer Walter Shenson called upon John and Paul to write a song called "Hard Day's Night," to play over the opening sequence, which had already been filmed. Lennon and McCartney obliged.

If the Hard Day's Night script from the Beatles' fan club *Bulletin* is correct, the sequence of scenes in the final movie is different from the originally scheduled sequence. According to the "Making of..." documentary, some scenes were shot on the spur of the moment. The film premiered in London on July 6, 1964, and the United Artists soundtrack album was released on June 26th. By mid-August, every major theater in the United States (and many smaller ones) was showing the movie.

The American soundtrack album differs from the British *Hard Day's Night* album in two major respects. First, the cover is entirely different. The North American front cover is red and displays the film title and "The Beatles" in large print (along with saying that this is the soundtrack). Only four Beatle photos are on the front cover of the US album, with others being moved to the back cover, taking the place of the liner notes found on the British release.

Secondly, the soundtrack features only the songs which were scheduled to be featured in the movie, including "I'll Cry Instead," which was dropped from the film. "You
Can't Do That" had been dropped from the film also, but that song does not appear on the soundtrack LP. United Artists never received stereo mixes of the songs from Parlophone, and so the stereo album features crude attempts at rechanneling the mono recordings into stereo. The album was filled out with George Martin instrumentals (from the film), and these do appear in true stereo on the stereo record.

Apparently, the contract with United Artists forbade them from issuing singles. Nevertheless, the LP held the Number One position long enough to keep Capitol's Something New album at #2. The company did issue two George Martin instrumental singles (UA 745 and UA 750), complete with Beatle picture sleeves, but as part of their arrangement with EMI, Capitol issued the Beatles singles, including the title track. Capitol collected most of the film songs onto their Something New album, a collection which they agreed not to call "A Hard Day's Night," so as not to compete with the United Artists album. Curiously, Capitol refrained from including the title song on any album until 1973, even though their collection, Hey Jude, was issued in 1969 and HDN would have made a good addition to that record. This may have been part of Capitol's arrangement with United Artists.
Label 01
Mono        UAL-3366
Black label with colored circles
As all covers do, the label mis-titles one song as “I Cry Instead.”

Columbia-Pitman & Columbia Terre Haute

HV Waddell

RCA-Indianapolis

RCA-Rockaway

Plastilite
Possible Covers:
The first covers (MC1) credited only "This Boy" to Maclen Music alone; the other songs are co-credited to Unart Music. The second covers (MC2) credit both "This Boy" and "I Cry Instead" to Maclen Music only.

One of the companies that printed the back cover slicks used a layout that was improperly aligned. The photograph of Paul in the lower right corner has an additional black bar at the right side on these copies, but it is correct on other copies. Neither appears to be more scarce. Furthermore, both covers MC1 and MC2 exist with and without the additional black bar – indicating likely that the printer did not correct the error.

The Columbia label printers never corrected the “I Cry Instead” error. For this reason, copies of the album pressed by Columbia are known to exist just as commonly with either cover MC1 or cover MC2.

Label 01
Stereo UAS-6366
Black label with colored circles
As all covers do, the label mis-titles one song as “I Cry Instead.”
Possible Covers:
The first covers (SC1) credited only "This Boy" to Maclen Music alone; the other songs are co-credited to Unart Music.
The second covers (SC2) credit both "This Boy" and "I Cry Instead" to Maclen Music only.

One of the companies that printed the back cover slicks used a layout that was improperly aligned. The photograph of Paul in the lower right corner has an additional black bar at the right side on these copies, but it is correct on other copies. Neither appears to be scarcer. Furthermore, both covers SC1 and SC2 exist with and without the additional black bar – indicating likely that the printer did not correct the error.

The Columbia label printers never corrected the “I Cry Instead” error. For this reason, copies of the album pressed by Columbia are known to exist just as commonly with either cover SC1 or cover SC2.

Label 01dj
Mono UAL-3366
White label promotional copy with circles
As all covers do, the label mis-titles one song as “I Cry Instead.”
Released June, 1964.

Columbia-Pitman HV Waddell
Some copies are stickered as promos on the cover, while other copies came in normal mono covers. Both east-coast and west-coast promotional copies exist, with the west-coast (Waddell) copies being much scarcer.
Label 02
Mono UAL-3366
Black label with colored circles
The label corrects the spelling of “I’ll Cry Instead.”

HV Waddell (i) HV Waddell (ii) Monarch
Later labels from Waddell have a wider space around the spindle hole than all earlier Waddell pressings do. The Monarch job number, Δ 9490, indicates that Monarch began preparing records for distribution on the west coast in about September, 1966.

Label 02
Stereo UAS-6366
Black label with colored circles
The label corrects the spelling of “I’ll Cry Instead.”

HV Waddell (i) HV Waddell (ii) Monarch
Later labels from Waddell have a wider space around the spindle hole than all earlier Waddell pressings do. The Monarch job number, Δ 9595, indicates that Monarch began preparing records for distribution on the west coast in about September, 1966.
Pink vinyl, west-coast stereo. Only one known copy exists, and it spells "I'll Cry Instead" correctly. Discovered by collectors in 1997, the record was manufactured at the Waddell plant and is most likely a "fantasy" item created by an employee. The photo is from Perry Cox.

Why Two Covers?
As the album was being prepared, United Artists realized that since "I'll Cry Instead" was not used in the film, the song was not co-published by Unart Music. Copies printed after mid-June of 1964 credit both "This Boy" and "I Cry Instead" [sic] to Maclen Music; the other songs on the LP are co-credited to Maclen and Unart. The same issue with publishing credits plagued the singles that Capitol released during this period. As an interesting note, even though the publishing credits were corrected on the covers, some reissue copies of the LP show the original, incorrect, cover credits listing "This Boy" as the only song not co-credited to Unart.

Sticker
Some covers that were printed in summer, 1964, have stickers attached to them that promoted the presence of George Martin's "This Boy" single and the song "And I Love Her." This sticker has been counterfeited.

Christmas Banner
A few copies of the album that came out in December, 1964, have a red and green Christmas banner wrapped around them.
Mono  
UAL-3366 (T-90828)  
Black label with colored circles  
As all covers do, the label mis-titles one song as “I Cry Instead.”  
Available through the Capitol Record Club in late 1966 and early 1967.

This is the only specially-marked Record Club issue of any Beatles record documented to have been issued in mono. Both label and cover list the record club's catalog number. The cover is folded differently than covers normally manufactured for UA. Since the records were pressed by Capitol’s Jacksonville (IL) factory, these covers have a "4" on the back and were made by the same company that made covers to accompany records pressed by the Jax plant.

Label 01RC1  
Stereo  
UAS-6366 (ST-90828)  
Black label with colored circles  
As all covers do, the label mis-titles one song as “I Cry Instead.”  
Available through the Capitol Record Club in late 1966 and early 1967.
Label 68
Stereo UAS-6366
Pink and Orange label

All pressings of the album from this point on appear in stereo only. On some copies, the back cover has been corrected so that only a blank white space remains, instead of the publishing credits. There are four typesetting variations of this label style. Three of these keep the misspelling of "I Cry Instead," and the one that corrects it adds a new misspelling: "Tell Me Who" instead of "Tell Me Why." Progressive Label & Litho reportedly typeset the "Tell Me Who" labels. These different labels can be identified as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label Style</th>
<th>Misspellings</th>
<th>&quot;The Beatles&quot;</th>
<th>Vocal/Instrumental Info</th>
<th>Song Times</th>
<th>Song Credits</th>
<th>Titles Justified</th>
<th>Pressing Plant or Matrix Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>All Disc *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AA</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>All Disc *</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>RCA Rockaway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>X</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>Columbia TH</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Copies from All Disc Records have the AudioMatrix stamp. Some or all copies identified from this point on as “Monarch (?)” may have been pressed by Research Craft, another LA plant.

Rare copies exist of an All-Disc pressing (matrix code 114) with Label 68AA (below). The labels were printed by a different printer than All-Disc normally used.
Label 70
Stereo UAS-6366
Orange and Black label

The back cover to most copies has been corrected so that only a blank white space remains, instead of the publishing credits. Later copies are found with a dark red cover (see below).

There are four typesetting variations, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label Style</th>
<th>Misspellings</th>
<th>&quot;The Beatles&quot;</th>
<th>Vocal/Instrumental Info</th>
<th>Song Times</th>
<th>Song Credits</th>
<th>Titles Justified</th>
<th>Pressing Plant or Matrix Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>All Disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B1</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B2</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>❌</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B3</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B4</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>Monarch (?)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Label B1 has the title copy almost identical to Label 68B.
Label B2 has tighter vertical spacing and title 4 is shifted to the right.
Label B3 has the “D” in “dance with you” slightly to the left of the word “I’m” above it.
Label B4 has the alignment fixed, so that “dance” lines up better with “I’m.”

On label D, the line "Original motion picture soundtrack" is in thinner print than on B1-B4, and STEREO is in larger, bolder print. Otherwise, the labels appear to have originated from the same printer. That label 70D is the last of the five labels is apparent from the appearance of the large STEREO with the tan label.
Label 71
Stereo UAS-6366
Tan label without rights disclaimer

Copies from this point on usually have darker maroon covers. The back cover has been corrected so that only a blank white space remains, instead of the publishing credits. There are five label variations, as described in the table below.

Some tan-label copies of the LP mistakenly reversed two of the credits on the back cover, instead showing Alun Owen as the film company and United Artists as the screenwriter. Above, you can see a photo of this strange (but not rare) variant.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label Style</th>
<th>Misspellings</th>
<th>&quot;The Beatles&quot; Vocal/Instrumental Info</th>
<th>Song Times</th>
<th>Song Credits</th>
<th>Titles Justified</th>
<th>Pressing Plant or Matrix Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1-3</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Left</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>□</td>
<td>Center</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Three minor variants exist in label 71A. Label 71A1 has “STEREO” below the catalog number in the upper right. Label 71A2 has “STEREO” above the catalog number, and there is no blank space above or below STEREO. Label 71A3 has “STEREO” above the catalog number, with blank space above and below STEREO.
Label 71r
Stereo UAS-6366
Tan label with rights disclaimer

This label style exists in five typesetting variations, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label Style</th>
<th>Misspellings</th>
<th>&quot;The Beatles&quot;</th>
<th>Vocal/Instrumental Info</th>
<th>Song Times</th>
<th>Song Credits</th>
<th>Titles Justified</th>
<th>Pressing Plant or Matrix Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>All Disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>✗</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>All Disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>Columbia TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>☒</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>Not known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>RCA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Label A has the album title centered over the song titles; label B has “The Beatles” at left and the album title at right. Label C has "STEREO" in thin print at the top right, and the title information is centered on the label. Label D has "ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK" at the left and the title at the right.
Label 77
Stereo UAS-6366
Sunrise label

The label style exists with four typesetting variations, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Label Style</th>
<th>Misspellings</th>
<th>&quot;The Beatles&quot;</th>
<th>Vocal/Instrumental Info</th>
<th>Song Times</th>
<th>Song Credits</th>
<th>Titles Justified</th>
<th>Pressing Plant or Matrix Info</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A1</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>All Disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A2</td>
<td>Tell Me Who</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Left</td>
<td>All Disc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>×</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>Columbia TH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>×</td>
<td>×</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>Not known</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R</td>
<td>I Cry Instead</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>Center</td>
<td>RCA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Label A1 has the word “STEREO” on the label; label A2 does not.
Label D has "ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK" at the left and the title at the right.
Label 78
Capitol  SW-11921
Purple label with large logo and “MFD.” rim print

Label 83
Capitol  SW-11921
Rainbow label with rim print in the color band

Jacksonville  Winchester

Capitol Records obtained the right to issue the entire Liberty/UA catalog, and eventually issued *A Hard Day’s Night* on their purple label. At this point, they corrected the misprints on the label. This album was reissued by Capitol in 1983 and again in 1988, but this first Capitol release is the most common of the three.
Label 88
Capitol SW-11921
Purple label with small logo and “MANUFACTURED” rim print
**Original Tapes from United Artists**

**Reel-to-Reel Tapes**

**A Hard Day’s Night**

United Artists MUA-3366 7½ ips

7” reel-to-reel tape, mono. Sixties boxed logo.

United Artists MUA-3366 7½ ips

5” reel-to-reel tape, mono, for two-track machines. Sixties boxed logo.

United Artists MUA-6366 7½ ips

7” reel-to-reel tape, stereo. Small, red, rectangular label. Sixties boxed logo.

United Artists MUA-6366 7½ ips

7” reel-to-reel tape, stereo. Large, red, semicircular label. Sixties boxed logo.

United Artists UAX-6366 3¼ ips


United Artists UAX-6366 3¼ ips

A Hard Day's Night United Artists UST-6366-A 7½ ips

7” reel-to-reel tape. Black reel with silver label. Logo from 1970 on label. Back cover indicates that the tape was made by Greentree Electronics. Issued in 1970.

A Hard Day's Night United Artists UST-6366-A 7½ ips

7” reel-to-reel tape. Gray reel. Logo from 1970 on label. Back cover indicates that the tape was made by Magtec. Issued c. 1972.

Four-Track Tapes

A Hard Day's Night United Artists UA4T-4013


A Hard Day's Night United Artists U-6006

White-shelled cartridge. Issued c. 1968.

A Hard Day's Night United Artists U-6006

**Eight-Track Tapes**

A Hard Day's Night United Artists UA8T-3006

White-shelled cartridge. Red and white track listing. Tape is housed in outer cover/box showing the Beatles' heads. Issued in 1966.

A Hard Day's Night United Artists UA8T-3006

White-shelled cartridge with cover on front and red and white track listing on back. Group name is misspelled "Beattles." Housed in one of three different shells. This tape appears to be slightly less scarce than the one listed above. Probably released in late 1966.

A Hard Day's Night United Artists U-3006

This tape has front, back, and spine slicks on a black shell. Contains an extended version of "Hard Day's Night." These copies appear to correspond to the pink/orange label LP's. The front slicks to these copies have the record cover, including a "stereo" banner, and nothing else. The back slicks to these copies feature the stereo "8" logo, corresponding to the "4" logo found on four tracks.
This tape has front and back slicks on a black shell. Contains an extended version of "Hard Day's Night." These copies, corresponding to the black/orange label LP's, have "The Beatles," the title, and a soundtrack statement at the top of the front slick, along with the "U around a" logo. The shot of the LP cover is more closely cropped. There is no separate sticker on the spine.

This tape has front and back slicks on a black shell. Contains an extended version of "Hard Day's Night." This tape corresponds to the "tan label" copies of the LP. Issued from c. 1971-2 to c. 1977. It has a copyright date of 1967 on the back, but it was not issued in '67.

Playtapes

White-shelled tape with black-and-white label. Contains eight songs from the LP. This is the only Beatles Playtape known to exist which features eight songs. Issued 1966.

Cassettes

White-shelled tape with yellow paper label. Features 60's UA logo. Song titles are listed on the inside of the cover/card. Made for UA by Mercury. Issued 1966. This was the first commercial Beatles cassette in the USA.
**A Hard Day's Night** United Artists K-9006


**A Hard Day's Night** United Artists K-9006

Blue-shelled tape with yellow paper label. Cassette comes in slide-out black title box, reading "EFR" (Extended Frequency Response). The maker is shown as "Liberty/UA". Back cover is mostly green with black print. Contains an extended version of the title song. Issued c. 1970.

**A Hard Day's Night** United Artists K-9006


**A Hard Day's Night** United Artists K-9006


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