

PROJECT TOPIC SUBMISSION: DOCUMENTING A VINYL RECORD COLLECTION

The proposed project outlines a music database designed to store details of a personal collection of vinyl records, primarily for tracking and for insurance documentation purposes. The database will catalog general release information for each album in the collection like the featured artist, the tracks on the albums, and its record label. It will also store information on each album's physical condition and monetary value.

For each album, the following information will be compiled:

- Each entry in the database catalogs an Album. Each album is identified by its catalog number. Also stored are the album's title, its SKU/barcode, its country of release, its release date, and the label producing the record.
- Each album features one featured artist, represented by the artist's name. Artists may either be a singer, a vocal group, or an instrumental group. (Accompanists or guest artists will not be considered here). An artist may have released multiple albums over their career.
- While each album must have at least one track, most have several tracks, and each track has a track title and duration.
- The format of each album can be: Double LP, LP, EP, 10", 7", or boxed set.
- As many albums are special limited-edition presses, the color of the vinyl records is noted.
- The condition of the album is graded on a scale of Mint, NM, VG+, VG, VG-, G, F, and P. Three parts of the album must each receive their own grade: the outer jacket, the media, and the printed inner sleeve, if there is one. For insurance purposes, the condition the outer jacket and media is required.
- The database records the date each album was acquired into the collection, as well as value of each album in USD.
- Ideally, image files of the album's outer jacket and record labels would be included with each entry, but I imagine that might add a level of difficulty beyond what is intended for this project.
- I hope also to include means to display totals for the collection – the number of records and the collection's value.