

= Number Ones ( video ) =

Number Ones is a video album by American recording artist Michael Jackson . It was released on DVD on November 13 , 2003 under the Epic Records record label , in conjunction with the promotion for Jackson 's greatest hits album , of the same name ( although the album and DVD have different songs ) . The DVD , which is Jackson 's fourth DVD album , contained fifteen music videos , which was directed and produced by various people . It consists of music videos filmed and released by Jackson from 1979 's Off the Wall to 2001 's Invincible . Just like the album , the DVD has four different covers .

Notable music videos included on the DVD were " Beat It " , " Billie Jean " and Thriller ? which received heavy rotation on MTV in the 1980s , and are credited as having transformed the music video from a promotional tool and into an art form , and " Black or White " and " Scream " which were also prominent on channels like MTV in the 1990s . Number Ones received praise from contemporary music critics and was commercially successful internationally . The DVD peaked at number one on the Australian Top 40 Music DVD in Australia . Number Ones has been certified twenty two times platinum in Australia by the Australian Recording Industry Association and is the best selling music DVD ever by a male solo artist in Australia . It is also thirteen times platinum in the United States by the Recording Industry Association of America .

= = Background = =

In 1972 , while still a member of the band The Jackson 5 , Michael Jackson released his first of what would be ten studio albums , Got to Be There . Four singles were taken from the album , although they were not promoted by music videos , and this pattern continued for his next three studio albums , Ben ( 1972 ) , Music & Me ( 1973 ) and Forever , Michael ( 1975 ) . Unlike in the past , Jackson released his debut music video for the lead single , " Don 't Stop ' Til You Get Enough " , from his 1979 album , Off the Wall . Jackson subsequently began releasing music videos for his singles to promote both the song itself and the album . His music videos from the 1980s ? particularly the music videos for " Billie Jean " and Thriller ? received heavy rotation on channels like Music Television ( MTV ) . The popularity of his music videos that aired on MTV , such as " Beat It " , " Billie Jean " and Thriller ? credited for transforming the music video from a promotional tool and into an art form ? helped bring the relatively new channel to fame . Music videos such as " Black or White " and " Scream " made Jackson an enduring staple on MTV in the 1990s . Due to length , some of Jackson 's music videos are considered to be short films . Some of them drew criticism for their violent and sexual content , others were lauded by critics and awarded Guinness World Records for their length , success and expense . From 1979 to 2003 , Jackson released thirty @-@ six music videos .

= = Content and release = =

Number Ones was released in conjunction with Jackson 's greatest number one hits of the same name on November 18 , 2003 . The DVD was released worldwide on November 13 , 2003 . Number Ones is the fourth DVD album to be released by Jackson , the previous three were Dangerous ? The Short Films , Video Greatest Hits ? HIStory and HIStory on Film , Volume II . The DVD contained ninety one minutes of music video Jackson had already released from as early as 1979 , to as late as 2001 . This compilation was also released in Asia on double Video CD format .

Music videos from Jackson 's studio albums , which were Off the Wall ( 1979 ) , Thriller ( 1982 ) , Bad ( 1987 ) , Dangerous ( 1991 ) , HIStory : Past , Present and Future , Book I ( 1995 ) , Blood on the Dance Floor : HIStory in the Mix ( 1997 ) and Invincible ( 2001 ) , were featured on the DVD . The DVD consisted of fifteen music videos , both long and short form versions . " I Just Can 't Stop Loving You " ( 1987 ) , " Break of Dawn " ( 2001 ) , the then newly recorded " One More Chance " ( 2003 ) and a live version of " Ben " ( 1972 ) did not make it onto the DVD , while " Blood on the Dance Floor " ( 1997 ) , which was on the DVD , was not on the American version of the album of

the same name , same with " Man in the Mirror " for the international version of the album .

= = Reception = =

= = = Commercial reception = = =

Number Ones peaked at number one the ARIA Top 40 Music DVD chart in Australia . It was ranked at number two , charting behind only Funhouse Tour : Live In Australia by Pink , on the Australian Highest Selling Music DVD chart for 2009 . It also peaked at number three on the Swedish DVD Albums Chart . In Czech Republic , Number Ones peaked at number fourteen on the DVD chart . Number Ones peaked at number three on the Hungarian Top 20 DVD chart . In Italy , Number Ones peaked at number nine on the country 's DVD album chart , as of the first week of May 2010 , it has stayed on the chart for forty five weeks . The DVD album was certified thirteen times platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America for the sales of over 1 @. @ 3 million units in the United States . Number Ones was also certified twenty two times platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association for the sales of over 330 @, @ 000 units in Australia . Recording Industry Association of Japan certified the DVD gold for the sales of over 100 @, @ 000 units in Japan . For the sales of over 25 @, @ 000 units in Spain , Productores de Música de España gave the album two times platinum certification . Number Ones was also certified six times platinum for the sales of 30 @, @ 000 units in New Zealand , as well as gold by the Polish Society of the Phonographic Industry for the sales of at least 5 @, @ 000 units in Poland .

= = = Critical reception = = =

Number Ones was generally well received by contemporary music critics . William Ruhlmann , a writer for Allmusic , stated that watching the videos in order made him ' experience ' Jackson 's changing appearance over the year ; noting things such as Jackson 's skin becoming lighter ( a result of his Vitiligo ) . Ruhlmann commented that seeing Jackson 's changing appearance , as well as the videos itself helped him understand Jackson 's career more , commenting , " Number Ones was released at what appeared to be the end of Michael Jackson 's long , troubled reign as a pop star , and it contained many clues to both his success and his downfall . " Ruhlmann further noted that " a messianic theme ran through many of the videos " like the relatively modest " Beat It , " which is about stopping violence , to " Earth Song , " in which Jackson restored ravaged rain forests and even brought the dead back to life . Dan LeLuca of the Philadelphia Inquirer described Number Ones as being a " reminder " of the " MTV era " . Jeff Mires of News Pop Music Critic felt that the release of both the Number Ones CD and DVD was a good opportunity to " revisit Jackson 's music " .

= = Track listing and formats = =

Notes :

^ A The short version of the music video is featured on Number Ones .

^ B The ' speed @-@ up ' version of the music video is featured on Number Ones .

^ C " Don 't Stop ' Til You Get Enough " , " Smooth Criminal " , and " Blood on the Dance Floor " were excluded on the Chinese version .

= = = Formats = = =

The DVD album has been released in one version , as a one disc release .

Keep case ? DVD size packaging

The video was also available on double Video CD ( in the Asian market only ) .

= = Chart performance = =

= = Personnel = =

Credits