BEATLES

On December 24, 2015, at 12:01 a.m., the Beatles released their music for the first time on digital streaming platforms such as Spotify, Google Play, Tidal and Amazon Prime. The British band considered one of the most influential bands in the history of music — has had its songs played millions of times since the release.

THE BEATLES' MOST PLAYED TRACKS ON SPOTIFY

Number of plays as of February 2016.

12.9 million

"Here Comes the Sun" 12.1 million

"Let It Be' 11.9 million

10.2 million

9.6 million

I Want to Hold Your Hand" 8.4 million

Twist and Shout" 6.8 million

She Loves You" 6.5 million

6.3 million

GEORGE HARRISON

Harrison was brought onto the band in 1958 by Paul McCartney, and he became the lead guitarist of the Beatles. Harrison wrote several of the band's songs, including (perhaps most famously) "Something."

JOHN LENNON

Lennon was the singersongwriter who founded the Beatles. Lennon was iving in Liverpool in 1957 when he met Paul McCartney, decided to partner with him, and began to change the music world.



McCartney played bass for the Beatles, and he has either written or co-written 32 songs that have reached the #1 spot on Billboard's Hot 100 list. After the band's break-up, McCartney formed a band called Wings, and later began a solo career.



RINGO STARR

Starr — born Richard Starkey — was the drummer for the Beatles. He became famous by drumming for the band Rory Storm and the Hurricanes, and he joined the Beatles in 1962 (replacing their original drummer, Pete Best).





THE BEATLES & TECHNOLOGY

The Beatles' decision to digitially stream their music so many years after digital streaming's beginning fits the band's pattern of allowing technological developments in the music world to prove their worth before taking advantage of them.



Compact Discs

First Beatles





THE BEATLES THROUGH THE AGES

August — The band played its first performance in Hamburg, Germany (the first of 47 shows there).

0-24 year-olds: 30%

45-55 year-olds: 22%

25-44 year-olds: 48%

January 1962 — Brian Epstein became the manager of the Beatles, signing a 5-year contract with them.

April — The Beatles held the top five spots on the Billboard Hot 100 Chart. The "British Invasion" of the U.S. had begun.

December — The band released its sixth studio album, Rubber

1965

August— The Beatles released Revolver.

November — The Beatles released an album that hecame known as the White Album (a result of its

September — The band released Abbey Road.

May — The Beatles released their final album, Let It Be.

February — The first Beatles compact disks (CDs) were sold.

November—The

December — The band's Beatles released their music became available on various digital platforms

1960

1961-

1963

1966

1967

1969

1970

1980

1987

2001

July—John Lennon and Paul McCartney met and planned to start the Beatles.

George Harrison joined the band

February -

August—The Beatles (sans Starr) performed their first show at Liverpool's Cashah dance club

The Beatles returned to Liverpool and played at least 30 shows each month, gaining great popularity.

October 1962 — The Beatles' first single, "Love Me

to You" was released and became the Beatles' second single (after "Please. Please Me") to reach #1 on the charts.

August — The Beatles performed in NY's Shea Stadium, signaling a change in the nature of live performance from small venues to stadiums.

June — The band released the music video for "Paperback Writer" setting the model for music videos

June — The Beatles were part of the first-ever live global satellite TV broadcast, "Our World," during the peak of the Vietnam War.

performed together for the last time.

April — The Beatles publicly announced their break-up.

December — John Lennon was shot and killed by a fan in New York City.

November — George Harrison died of cancer in McCartney's home.

> SOURCES: Spotify, www.beatlesstory.com www.insights.spotify.com, www.nytimes.com, www.biography.com