

# A & M

**History:** The A&M label was started by Herb Alpert and Jerry Moss in Los Angeles California in 1962 and named using the first letters of each of their last names. The label was sold to PolyGram Corporation in June 1989 and Alpert and Moss then formed Almo using the first two letters of their last names.

**Mono/Stereo identification:** The labels used on both Mono and Stereo releases were the same. The record numbers for Mono were in the 1xx series while the Stereo added a '4' to the number making it 41xx. The early pressings of the first 8 or 10 LPs issued the stereo records without adding a '4' to the number. For example, LP #101 was issued in Stereo as 101S, then as SP 101 and later as SP 4101. LPs #102 through 108 were issued in Stereo as SP 10x and then later as SP 410x. The last Mono record issued was #146 in 1967.

## Label Numbering Series:

**Standard:** #101/4101 in 1962 to #4422 in 1974. The series then switched to the #36xx series of numbers till #3665 and at that point, the numbering system continued with #4500 which lasted until #5401 in 1992.

**CTI Jazz & Audio+Master:** Starting in 1967, the Mono releases (all five 5 of them) were numbered in the 200x series while the Stereo were numbered in the 30xx series. The final release was in 1974. The design of the label was the same as the standard series and changed when the standard series label changed.

**Reissues:** This began in 1981 with SP 3100 and continued to approx. SP 3431.

**3500 Series:** Mostly 2 LP sets issued from 1971 to 1974.

**3700 Series:** 1973 to 1985.

**6xxx Series:** 1969 to 1987, mostly 2 LP sets.

**37xxx Latin Series:** 1981 to 1986.

## LABEL: #1



**DESCRIPTION:** Crème color label with brown print and logo at the top (not in a box).

**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .

**NOTE:** It is rumored that an LP was released before this one as LP 100 by Bob Regan and Lucille Starr. Bob and Lucille would later release an LP as LP106/SP106 by the Canadian Sweethearts. We have not seen a US copy of LP100.

## LABEL: #2



**DESCRIPTION:** Brown label with the logo at the top in a white box.

**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .

**NOTE:** This label was used on several titles during the first 2 or 3 years of operation. The last known LP issued with this label was by Herb Alpert titled "Whipped Cream & Other Delights".

**LABEL: #3**



**DESCRIPTION:** Brown label with the logo on the left edge of the label in a white box.

**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .

**NOTE:** The last LP that was released in Mono was on this label.

**Known Variations:** The width of the white box on the left measures 13/16 of an inch on some releases and 1 & 1/8 inch on others. No determination can be made at this time as to whether this is a datable variation. The registration mark was added to the label just under the front part of the trumpet around LP SP 4178 as shown below.



**LABEL: #3dj**

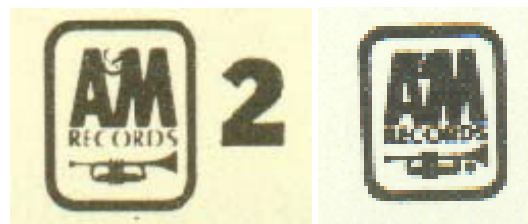


**DESCRIPTION:** This is the first known promotional label. The label is all white with black text and with the A&M logo in red. The position of the promotional blurb and the wording varied from one release to the next.

**LABEL: #4**



**DESCRIPTION:** An overall gray label with a large brown "AM" logo. The small logo at the bottom has the word "RECORDS" between the "A&M" and the trumpet as shown below. The registration symbol appears to have been added back to the logo under the trumpet around 1981 as shown below.



**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .



**LABEL: #4a**



**DESCRIPTION:** An overall gray label with a large brown “AM” logo. The logo at the bottom has now removed the word “RECORDS” from above the trumpet and added it under the box.

**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .

**NOTE:** Numerous variations exist concerning the letters at the bottom of the label to the left of the logo on both labels 4 & 4a. We currently do not know what the letters represent or if these are datable variations.

**LABEL: #4dj**



**DESCRIPTION:** White label, black print promotional issue.

**NOTE:** This is just one of the promotional label styles was used as early as 1972. Others included the promotional blurb to the right or left of the center hole.

**LABEL: #5**



**DESCRIPTION:** Black label with 5 spinning discs and the logo in a box on the right side.

**FROM:** .

**UNTIL:** .

**LABEL: #5dj**



**DESCRIPTION:** White label, black print promotional issue.

# A & M Special Series

LABEL: #S1 Quad



**DESCRIPTION:** Custom-made Quadraphonic label, blue and gray. The numbering system for the Quadraphonic releases simply added a "5" to the standard Stereo release number and changed the prefix from 'SP' to 'QU'.

LABEL: #S2 Quad



**DESCRIPTION:** Same as the standard #4 style label, plus quadraphonic logo and prefix (QU-5) added to the number.

LABEL: #S3 Audiophile



**DESCRIPTION:** White and red label.

Do you have a label variation not shown or a better graphic of a label variation that is shown? Please send new or improved images of any examples via email to:

[rlguide@recordranch.com](mailto:rlguide@recordranch.com)

Your contribution will be greatly appreciated and your name will appear on the "Credits" page of the next edition. If you would prefer not to have your name listed, please let us know when you send any images.

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