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Vinyl Grading Chart

The Goldmine scale used by Discogs, from Mint to Poor

Grade	Illustration	What it means	Price vs NM
M Mint		Unplayed and flawless. Use this grade sparingly; a sealed package alone does not establish perfection.	—
NM / M− Near Mint		Almost pristine, without obvious wear or playback defects.	Reference price
VG+ Very Good Plus		Minor cosmetic marks from careful use, without an adverse effect on listening.	About half
VG Very Good		Wear and surface noise are apparent, but the noise does not dominate the music.	A quarter or less
G+ / G Good Plus / Good		Significant noise and wear, yet the record should play through without skipping.	—
F / P Fair / Poor		Severe damage; uninterrupted playback may be impossible.	0–5%, if it sells at all

Prices: Goldmine's rule of thumb, relative to Near Mint. G+ and G remain distinct grades, as do F and P; each pair is grouped here to keep the chart readable. AI-generated images illustrate the scale; they cannot establish a record's actual grade.

Grade the record and the sleeve separately

- **Media** is the disc: groove condition and playback.
- **Sleeve** is the cover: ring wear, creases and seam damage.
- **Media VG+ / Sleeve VG** means a better-preserved disc inside a more worn cover. If a listing only says "VG+ / VG", check the field labels rather than guessing their order.
- On Discogs the sleeve can also be **Generic** (a plain or company sleeve, not graded further) or **No Cover** (the original cover is missing). Read the seller's item condition comment as carefully as the grades.

Before you buy, ask the seller

1. Is this a visual grade, a play grade, or both?
2. Were both sides checked in full, or only selected passages?
3. Are there repeating clicks, distortion, skips or sections with pronounced crackle?
4. Can you show the labels, sleeve corners and spine clearly?
5. Which inserts are included, and what is their condition?

Based on the Goldmine grading standard used by Discogs.

Get CRATTO free on the App Store and grade every record in your collection on this scale. →

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