

Certified Awards – A Timeline

1st April 1973 - scheme is inaugurated

Initial Qualifying Levels:

SINGLES

Platinum: 1,000,000 copies

Gold: 500,000 copies

Silver: 250,000 copies

ALBUMS (awards initially based on revenue received by manufacturers (usually based on price to dealer))

Platinum: £1,000,000

Gold: £150,000

Silver: £75,000

1st September 1974:

ALBUMS

Platinum: £1,000,000

Gold: £250,000

Silver: £75,000

1st January 1976:

ALBUMS

Platinum: £1,000,000

Gold: £250,000

Silver: £100,000

1st January 1977:

ALBUMS

Platinum: £1,000,000

Gold: £300,000

Silver: £150,000

1st January 1979

From 1979 the awards criteria for albums switched to units:

ALBUMS with an RRP of £2.25 and over:

Platinum: 300,000 units

Gold: 100,000 units

Silver: 60,000 units

ALBUMS with an RRP of £2.24 and under:

Platinum: 600,000 units

Gold: 200,000 units

Silver: 120,000 units

January 1985

Double and Triple Platinum awards instituted

February 1987

Multi-Platinum awards instituted

1988

Dealer price threshold for full price albums switches to £2.43

1st January 1989

SINGLES (for all titles released after 01/01/1989):

Platinum: 600,000 copies

Gold: 400,000 copies

Silver: 200,000 copies

ALBUMS

Dealer Price threshold for full price LPs/cassettes switches to £2.80. CD threshold is £6.00.

1993

Dealer price threshold for full price LPs/cassettes switches to £3.50

1994

Dealer price threshold for full price LPs/cassettes switches to £3.70

2002

Amendment made re albums qualification: if non-full price titles were never released at full price they continue to qualify at 120k/200k/600k levels. Non-full price titles that were initially released at full price qualify at 60k/100k/300k levels.

February 2005

Award for **MUSIC DVD** introduced:

Platinum: 50,000 copies

Gold: 25,000 copies

Downloads (as per sales measured by the Official Charts Company) are eligible to be added to the claimable total for both singles and albums awards.

July 2013

Singles, albums and music videos are automatically certified whenever they pass a new threshold based on over the counter sales as verified by the Official Charts Company. Member companies are still permitted to manually certify titles based on shipments as before. Awards with release dates prior to 1973 now qualify for certification and titles released by non-members are also valid. Separate qualifying levels for budget titles dropped.

July 2014

Streams from audio services are counted towards certified awards for singles. Inclusion of the streaming data is backdated to week one 2014 to ensure it remains consistent with the Official Charts database. Streams are converted using the same ratio that the Official Charts Company use to integrate streams into the Official Singles Chart (100 streams = 1 sale).