

VINYL RECORDS

About Vinyl Records

Vinyl records started to replace the earlier shellac 78 rpm discs during the 1950's, advantages being longer playing times, lighter and less easily broken. The most common types are the 45 rpm 'single' and the 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ rpm 'long play'. There are also 7" 'extended play' records, plus 12" 'singles' which may have been recorded at either of the speeds mentioned. The sound quality of a vinyl record can be very good, some say superior to a compact disc, however the downside is that surface noise can be intrusive, also that both records and their playing equipment tend to be bulkier and less convenient to use than CDs and CD players.

Transfer of audio

Your disc is played on a good quality turntable and recorded into a specialised computer programme. Next the file is processed with automatic detection and subsequent reduction of crackles and pops, without affecting the actual recording. More serious 'clicks' caused by surface damage can be manually reduced on an individual basis, but there is always compromise here between reducing unwanted noise and affecting the 'wanted' audio. In the case of music LPs, any noise between tracks is replaced with silence, and markers are inserted to allow searching for specific songs or sections. Levels are then optimised for a maximum playing level. When this is complete, the programme is 'burnt' to a disc and a simple text label printed and fitted. Finally, the CD is tested for correct operation and supplied with a library case.

It should be noted that a recordable CD can hold an absolute maximum of 80 minutes, so longer running times will require more than one CD.

Please ring us on **01329 238522** for further details.