

michael jackson number ones songs

michael jackson number ones songs represent some of the most iconic and influential tracks in music history. Known as the "King of Pop," Michael Jackson's career spanned several decades and produced numerous chart-topping hits that defined the sound of pop, R&B, and soul music. His number one songs not only dominated the Billboard charts but also left a lasting impact on pop culture worldwide. This article explores the comprehensive list of Michael Jackson's number one hits, their significance, and the legacy they have built. From his early days with the Jackson 5 to his groundbreaking solo career, these songs showcase his unparalleled talent and widespread appeal. The following sections will provide an overview of his chart-topping singles, the albums they came from, and an analysis of their musical and cultural importance.

- Michael Jackson's Number One Hits on the Billboard Hot 100
- Iconic Albums Featuring Number One Singles
- Evolution of Michael Jackson's Chart Success
- Impact and Legacy of Michael Jackson's Number One Songs

Michael Jackson's Number One Hits on the Billboard Hot 100

Michael Jackson achieved an extraordinary number of number one singles on the Billboard Hot 100 chart, a testament to his immense popularity and musical versatility. These hits spanned multiple decades, often breaking records and setting new standards for the music industry. His ability to blend pop with funk, soul, and rock elements helped him reach diverse audiences and maintain relevance throughout his career.

List of Michael Jackson's Number One Singles

Below is a comprehensive list of Michael Jackson number ones songs that reached the top spot on the Billboard Hot 100 chart during his solo career:

- "Ben" (1972)
- "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough" (1979)
- "Rock with You" (1979)

- "Billie Jean" (1983)
- "Beat It" (1983)
- "Say Say Say" (with Paul McCartney) (1983)
- "Thriller" (1984)
- "I Just Can't Stop Loving You" (with Siedah Garrett) (1987)
- "Bad" (1987)
- "The Way You Make Me Feel" (1987)
- "Man in the Mirror" (1988)
- "Dirty Diana" (1988)
- "Black or White" (1991)
- "You Are Not Alone" (1995)
- "Earth Song" (1996) – UK Number One but not US Billboard

While "Earth Song" topped charts internationally, it did not reach number one on the US Billboard Hot 100. This list reflects the peak of his success within the American music market.

Iconic Albums Featuring Number One Singles

Michael Jackson's number one hits were often part of critically acclaimed and commercially successful albums. These albums not only showcased his vocal prowess but also his innovation in production, choreography, and music video artistry.

Key Albums with Number One Songs

The following albums contain some of Michael Jackson's most celebrated chart-topping singles:

- **Ben (1972)** – Featured the title track "Ben," which became his first solo number one hit.
- **Off the Wall (1979)** – Included "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough" and "Rock with You," which established Jackson as a solo superstar.
- **Thriller (1982)** – The best-selling album of all time, containing the

iconic number one hits "Billie Jean," "Beat It," and "Thriller."

- **Bad (1987)** – Produced a record-breaking five number one singles: "I Just Can't Stop Loving You," "Bad," "The Way You Make Me Feel," "Man in the Mirror," and "Dirty Diana."
- **Dangerous (1991)** – Featured the chart-topping single "Black or White."
- **HIStory: Past, Present and Future, Book I (1995)** – Included "You Are Not Alone," a groundbreaking number one hit.

Each album demonstrated Jackson's evolving musical style and ability to appeal to changing audiences while maintaining commercial success.

Evolution of Michael Jackson's Chart Success

Michael Jackson's number one songs reflect the trajectory of his evolving artistry and commercial achievements. From a child star to the King of Pop, his chart dominance illustrates the shifts in his musical influences and the expansion of his global fanbase.

Early Solo Career and Breakthrough

Michael's first number one single, "Ben," marked the beginning of his solo career outside of the Jackson 5. The song's success demonstrated his ability to connect emotionally with audiences, paving the way for his future hits.

Rise to Global Stardom in the Late 1970s and 1980s

The release of *Off the Wall* and *Thriller* established Jackson as a defining figure in pop music. The number one hits from these albums showcased his innovative fusion of genres and his pioneering music videos, which transformed the industry.

Maintaining Success in the Late 1980s and 1990s

With the album *Bad*, Jackson broke records for the most number one singles from a single album. His later works, including *Dangerous* and *HIStory*, continued to produce chart-toppers that addressed social issues and personal themes, reflecting his artistic maturity.

Impact and Legacy of Michael Jackson's Number One Songs

Michael Jackson's number one songs are more than just chart-topping hits; they have influenced generations of artists and shaped the landscape of popular music. The cultural and musical impact of these tracks continues to be felt worldwide.

Influence on Popular Music and Artists

Many contemporary artists cite Michael Jackson's number one songs as inspirations for their own music and performances. His innovative dance moves, vocal techniques, and music videos set new standards in entertainment and continue to influence the industry.

Global Cultural Significance

Jackson's number one hits transcended language and cultural barriers, making him a global icon. Songs like "Billie Jean" and "Black or White" promoted messages of unity and social justice, contributing to their enduring popularity and relevance.

Recognition and Awards

Numerous accolades were awarded to Michael Jackson for his number one songs, including Grammy Awards, American Music Awards, and inductions into various Halls of Fame. These honors recognize his contribution to music and his record-breaking achievements on the charts.

Summary of Michael Jackson's Number One Songs' Legacy

- Set new records for chart performance and sales
- Revolutionized music videos and live performances
- Influenced countless musicians across genres
- Promoted social messages through popular music
- Maintained lasting popularity decades after release

Frequently Asked Questions

How many number one songs did Michael Jackson have?

Michael Jackson had 13 number one singles on the Billboard Hot 100 chart during his career.

Which Michael Jackson song was his first number one hit?

Michael Jackson's first number one hit as a solo artist was "Ben" in 1972.

What Michael Jackson songs reached number one on the Billboard Hot 100?

Some of Michael Jackson's number one songs include "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough," "Billie Jean," "Beat It," "Thriller," "Bad," "Black or White," and "You Are Not Alone."

Did Michael Jackson have any posthumous number one songs?

Yes, Michael Jackson's song "Love Never Felt So Good," a duet with Justin Timberlake, reached number one on some charts posthumously.

Which Michael Jackson album produced the most number one singles?

The album "Bad" produced the most number one singles, with five songs reaching number one on the Billboard Hot 100.

Did Michael Jackson have any number one songs as part of The Jackson 5?

Yes, Michael Jackson had several number one hits with The Jackson 5, including "I Want You Back," "ABC," and "I'll Be There."

Which Michael Jackson number one song is considered his signature hit?

"Billie Jean" is widely considered Michael Jackson's signature number one hit and one of the most influential songs in pop music history.

How long did Michael Jackson's number one hits typically stay at the top of the charts?

The duration varied, but for example, "Billie Jean" stayed at number one for seven weeks, while "You Are Not Alone" held the top spot for six weeks.

Are Michael Jackson's number one songs still popular today?

Yes, Michael Jackson's number one hits remain popular worldwide, frequently streamed and covered, and continue to influence artists across genres.

Additional Resources

1. *Billie Jean: The Story Behind the Song*

This book delves into the creation and impact of one of Michael Jackson's most iconic number one hits, "Billie Jean." It explores the inspiration behind the lyrics, the innovative production techniques, and how the song helped redefine pop music in the 1980s. Fans will enjoy behind-the-scenes anecdotes and the cultural significance of the track.

2. *Thriller Nights: Inside Michael Jackson's Groundbreaking Album*

Focusing on the album that produced multiple number one hits, including "Thriller," this book provides an in-depth look into Michael Jackson's creative process. It covers the making of the album, the collaborations, and how it revolutionized music videos and the music industry. Readers gain insight into the legacy of this record-breaking work.

3. *Beat It: The Rock and Roll Collaboration That Changed Pop*

This book explores the story of "Beat It," highlighting the collaboration between Michael Jackson and guitarist Eddie Van Halen. It discusses the song's blend of pop and rock, its message about violence, and its role in broadening Michael's audience. The book also touches on the iconic music video and its influence.

4. *Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough: The Rise of Michael Jackson*

Tracing the early solo career of Michael Jackson, this book centers on the hit "Don't Stop 'Til You Get Enough." It examines the shift from his Motown roots to a more mature sound, the disco-funk elements, and the song's success that marked his emergence as a solo superstar. The narrative also covers the cultural atmosphere of the late 1970s.

5. *Black or White: A Song for Unity and Change*

This book analyzes the powerful message behind the number one hit "Black or White," focusing on themes of racial harmony and social justice. It discusses the song's production, its groundbreaking music video, and the global impact it had upon release. The book also reflects on Michael Jackson's role as an artist advocating for change.

6. *Bad: Rebellion and Redemption in Pop Music*

Exploring the "Bad" era, this book looks at the title track's contribution to Michael Jackson's image as a bold and rebellious artist. It covers the songwriting, choreography, and the cultural context of the late 1980s. Readers learn about the challenges and triumphs that shaped the making of this number one hit.

7. *Heal the World: Michael Jackson's Anthem for Peace*

This book highlights the humanitarian message behind "Heal the World," a song that became an anthem for global peace and charity. It details the inspiration for the track, the philanthropic efforts it supported, and its lasting influence on both music and social activism. The narrative celebrates Michael's commitment to making a difference.

8. *The Way You Make Me Feel: Love and Passion in Pop*

Focusing on the upbeat and soulful number one hit "The Way You Make Me Feel," this book explores themes of romance and emotional expression in Michael Jackson's music. It examines the song's production, the energetic choreography, and the music video's storytelling. Fans will appreciate the behind-the-scenes insights into one of his most beloved tracks.

9. *Smooth Criminal: The Art of Storytelling in Music*

This book delves into the narrative style of "Smooth Criminal," highlighting Michael Jackson's ability to combine catchy rhythms with intriguing storytelling. It discusses the song's composition, the iconic lean dance move, and the cinematic quality of the music video. The book also explores the cultural impact of this thrilling number one hit.

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