

THE BEST & WORST CHRISTMAS SONGS

In the UK and the US, having* a No 1 at Christmas is huge*! Most songs are terrible, but it wouldn't be Christmas without them!

Four of the best



LAST CHRISTMAS - WHAM!

The talented George Michael had one of his biggest hits with this 1980s synthpop ballad about having his heart broken* by a girl at Christmas.



LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! LET IT SNOW! - DEAN MARTIN

Some people insist that this is not a Christmas song because it doesn't mention Christmas. Calm* down, people! As performed* by Dean Martin, this is the closest* festive music gets to being sexy.



ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS YOU - MARIAH CAREY

It took her an hour to write and is now the most successful Christmas song by a female artist ever. Every year it is No 1 in the digital charts*, making Carey the official Queen of Christmas.



MERRY XMAS EVERYBODY - SLADE

Slade were a shouty* pub-rock band from the 1970s and the last group you'd expect* to write a Christmas song. But it's great fun and charts* every Christmas in Britain.

Four of the worst



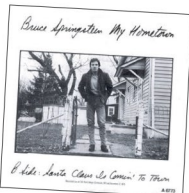
PEACE ON EARTH/LITTLE* DRUMMER BOY - DAVID BOWIE AND BING CROSBY

Rock icon Bowie only agreed* to appear on Crosby's TV show because his mum was a fan of the US singer. They sang this cheesy* song from the 40s and, to Bowie's horror, it became one of his biggest hits.



WONDERFUL CHRISTMASTIME - PAUL MCCARTNEY

The ex-Beatle is a songwriting genius. There is no doubt about it. But this song is so full* of Christmas joy and happiness you want to take it outside and shoot* it.



SANTA CLAUS IS COMIN' TO TOWN - BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN

The man musicians call The Boss takes a cheesy* children's song and gives it the full* stadium rock treatment. It's wrong*. But so wrong... that it's almost right*.



PLEASE, DADDY (DON'T GET DRUNK* THIS CHRISTMAS) - JOHN DENVER

We had to put this song in just because it has the worst title* of all time.

VOCABULARY

agree: être d'accord
broken (have one's heart...): avoir le cœur brisé
calm down: se calmer

chart (n., v.): hit-parade, figurer dans le hit-parade
cheesy: ringard
closest festive

music gets to being sexy: la musique de Noël devient presque sexy
drunk: ivre
expect: s'attendre

full: rempli
full stadium rock treatment: son rock digne d'être joué dans un stade

huge: énorme
little drummer boy: enfant au tambour
performed (as... by): interprété par

right: bon
shoot: tirer dessus
shouty: gueulard
title: titre
wrong: mauvais



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