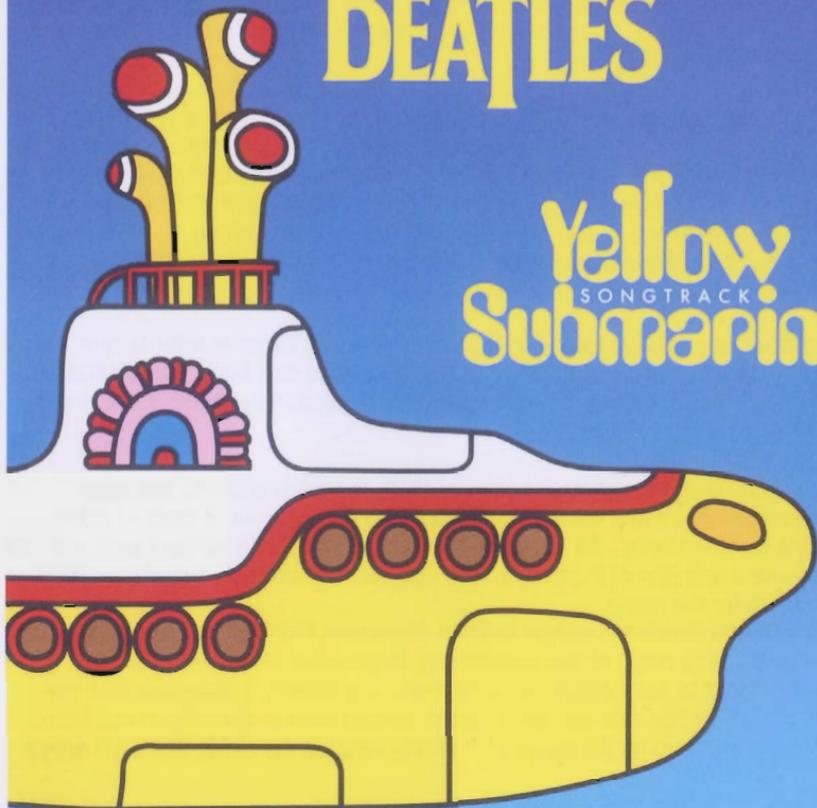


# THE BEATLES

## Yellow SONGTRACK Submarine



# YELLOW SUBMARINE SONGTRACK

**UK Release:** 13 September 1999

**US Release:** 14 September 1999

**Running Time:** 45.40

**Vinyl:** Apple 521 4811

**CD:** Apple 521 4812

**Producers:** George Martin/Peter Cobbin

**Vinyl: Side A:** Yellow Submarine; Hey Bulldog; Eleanor Rigby; Love You To; All Together Now; Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds; Think For Yourself; Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band; With A Little Help From My Friends

**Side B:** Baby, You're A Rich Man; Only A Northern Song; All You Need Is Love; When I'm Sixty-Four; Nowhere Man; It's All Too Much

**CD:** Yellow Submarine; Hey Bulldog; Eleanor Rigby; Love You To; All Together Now; Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds; Think For Yourself; Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band; With A Little Help From My Friends; Baby, You're A Rich Man; Only A Northern Song; All You Need Is Love; When I'm Sixty-Four; Nowhere Man; It's All Too Much

When *Yellow Submarine* was first released in January 1969, coinciding with the animated cartoon film, the only Beatles tracks were on side one. There were just six of them – 'Yellow Submarine', 'Only A Northern Song', 'All Together Now', 'Hey Bulldog', 'It's All Too Much' and 'All You Need Is Love' – and only four of them were new. Side two was devoted entirely to George Martin's musical score for the movie.

Thirty years later it was decided to restore the film, digitalising the soundtrack in the process, and the songtrack album is a result of that remastering. Released in 1999, it was the first collection of Beatles songs to get a digital remix, but more significantly it dispensed with the film score that had appeared on side two and included instead most of the other songs featured in the film that hadn't appeared on the earlier LP. The only songs in the movie that don't appear

here are 'Within You Without You' and 'A Day In The Life', the latter omitted because EMI didn't want to include too many songs from the Sgt. Pepper album.

But it's the re-mixing that makes this collection stand out. When The Beatles recorded the originals they had access only to four-track tape machines, so all the voices, instruments and other effects were compressed onto those four tracks. By the end of the 90s, digital technology and 24, 32 or even 48-track recording common in the industry, made it possible for The Beatles' material to be remastered, in many cases bringing out hidden depths. And the most obvious difference to the listener when comparing these tracks to the originals is the absence of the quirky left-right stereo panning that had some of the vocals on one side only. The new mixes presented the vocals squarely in the middle and the instruments spread out around the voices rather than in their individual positions in the sound picture.

When The Beatles' back catalogue was first remixed for release on CD in the 80s, producer George Martin supervised the whole project with a view to retaining the original sound so far as possible. But by the time of *Yellow Submarine* songtrack Martin had retired, and Peter Cobbin a young engineer, was brought in for the remix.

The album went into the UK LP charts on 25 September 1999, staying there for five weeks and peaking at No. 8. In the United States meanwhile, Capitol Records decided to limit the release to CDs and cassettes, so fans wanting vinyl had to buy copies imported from England. It hit the Billboard Top 20 at 15, staying in the chart for 15 weeks, and after less than two months had sold over half a million copies in America.

**Yellow Submarine** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.38

**Original Release:** Revolver, 1966

Ringo sounds centre stage, unlike on the original mix, and there's more depth to the many sound effects.

**Hey Bulldog** (Lennon-McCartney) 3.11

**Original Release:** Yellow Submarine, 1969

This newly mixed version of the rocker, one of the film's originals, reveals Paul McCartney's bass playing as sensational.

**Eleanor Rigby** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.04

**Original Release:** Revolver, 1966

The impact of the string quartet sound is even more stunning than previously.

**Love You To** (Harrison) 2.57

**Original Release:** Revolver, 1966

George's Indian-instrument backing is better defined in this mix, we can hear what individual players are doing for the first time.

**All Together Now** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.09

**Original Release:** Yellow Submarine, 1969

The hand clapping and percussion take on a whole new dynamic, while John and Paul's vocals coalesce where before they were separate.

**Lucy In The Sky With Diamonds** (Lennon-McCartney) 3.27

**Original Release:** Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967

The nearest to the sound of the original track on the whole album.

**Think For Yourself** (Harrison) 2.17

**Original Release:** Rubber Soul, 1965

The Beatles' basic line-up as it sounded for real, with vocals, rhythm section and guitars distinct in their own right, but marvellously integrated at the same time.

**Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.00

**Original Release:** Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967

The slightly awkward segue between the 'Sgt. Pepper' intro and 'A Little Help' is tightened up here with Paul and Ringo both positioned in the middle, making for an easier move from one song to the other.

**With A Little Help From My Friends** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.44

**Original Release:** Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967

Not that big a difference here, apart from Ringo singing from the centre.

**Baby, You're A Rich Man** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.59

**Original Release:** Single (B Side to 'All You Need Is Love'), 1967

Always considered one of the Beatles' minor efforts, this B side to the iconic 'All You Need Is Love' sounded a bit messy round the edges. But the rich stereo mix here puts it into a different league.

**Only A Northern Song** (Harrison) 3.23

**Original Release:** Yellow Submarine, 1969

Another song that previously sold short in the mono mix, here reveals hidden depths.

**All You Need Is Love** (Lennon-McCartney) 3.46

**Original Release:** Single, 1967

How to improve on a Beatles classic, the horns, the strings, everything sounds just that much better here.

**When I'm Sixty-Four** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.38

**Original Release:** Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, 1967

More from Sgt. Pepper, and another track that needed little improvement.

**Nowhere Man** (Lennon-McCartney) 2.41

**Original Release:** Rubber Soul, 1965

From the same album as 'Think For Yourself', again the simpler Beatles line up of earlier years makes for less to play with production-wise, but the sound is certainly crisper and the stereo effect less contrived.

**It's All Too Much** (Harrison) 6.24

**Original Release:** Yellow Submarine, 1969

A complex recording that benefits from more precise, sharper definition all round.