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among other topics. Many songs simply have a winter or seasonal theme, or have been adopted into the canon for other reasons. While most Christmas songs prior to 1930 were of a traditional religious character, the Great Depression era of the 1930s brought a stream of songs of American origin, most of which did not explicitly reference the
Christian nature of the holiday, but rather the more secular traditional Western themes and customs associated with Christmas. These included songs aimed at children such as "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" and "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", as well as sentimental ballad-type songs performed by famous crooners of the era, such as "Have
Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" and "White Christmas", the latter of which remains the best-selling single of all time, selling more than 20 million copies worldwide.[3] Performances of Christmas music at public concerts, in churches, at
shopping malls, on city streets, and in private gatherings is an integral staple of the Christmas holiday in many cultures across the world. Radio stations often convert to a 24-7 Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday, starting sometimes as early as the day after Halloween - as part of a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cultures are not a phenomenon known as "Christmas music format leading up to the holiday in many cu
also: Christmas Early music A Christmas minstrel playing pipe and tabor Music associated with Christmas is thought to have its origins in 4th-century, under the influence of Francis of Assisi, the tradition of popular Christmas songs in regional native languages
developed.[5] Christmas carols in the English language first appear in a 1426 work of John Awdlay, an English chaplain, who lists twenty five "caroles of Cristmas", probably sung by groups of wassailers who would travel from house to house.[6] In the 16th century, various Christmas carols still sung to this day, including "The 12 Days of Christmas"
 "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen", and "O Christmas Tree", first emerged.[7] Music was an early feature of the Christmas season and its celebrations. The earliest examples are hymnographic works (chants and litanies) intended for liturgical use in observance of both the Feast of the Nativity and Theophany, many of which are still in use by the
Eastern Orthodox Church. The 13th century saw the rise of the carol written in the vernacular, under the influence of Francis of Assisi. In the Middle Ages, the English combined circle dances with singing and called them carols. Later, the word carol came to mean a song in which a religious topic is treated in a style that is familiar or festive. From
Italy, it passed to France and Germany, and later to England. Christmas carols in English first appear in a 1426 work of John Audelay, a Shropshire priest and poet, who lists 25 "caroles of Cristemas", probably sung by groups of wassailers, who went from house to house.[8] Music in itself soon became one of the greatest tributes to Christmas, and
Christmas music includes some of the noblest compositions of the great musicians. Puritan prohibited the practice of singing Christmas carols as Pagan and sinful. Like other customs associated with popular Catholic Christianity, it earned the
disapproval of Protestant Puritans. Famously, Cromwell's interregnum prohibited all celebrations of the Christmas can also be seen in the early history of Father Christmas. The Westminster Assembly of Divines established Sunday as the only holy day in the calendar in 1644. The new
liturgy produced for the English church recognized this in 1645, and so legally abolished Christmas. Its celebration was declared an offense by Parliament in 1647.[9] There is some debate as to the effectiveness of this ban, and whether or not it was enforced in the country.[9] Puritans generally disapproved of the celebration of Christmas—a trend
which continually resurfaced in Europe and the USA through the eighteenth, nineteenth and twentieth centuries.[10] Royal restoration King's College Chapel, Cambridge (left) in the snow where the Nine Lessons and Carols are broadcast on the BBC and around the world on Christmas Eve When in May 1660 Charles II restored the Stuarts to the
throne, the people of England once again practiced the public singing of Christmas carols as part of the revival of Christmas customs, sanctioned by the king's own celebrations.[9] The Victorian Era saw a surge of Christmas customs, sanctioned by the king's own celebrations.
Night". The first Christmas songs associated with Saint Nicholas or other gift-bringers also came during 19th century, including "Up on the Housetop" and "Jolly Old St. Nicholas".[11] Many older Christmas hymns were also translated or had lyrics added to them during this period, particularly in 1871 when John Stainer published a widely influential
 collection entitled "Christmas Carols New & Old".[11] William Sandys's Christmas Carols Ancient and Modern (1833), contained the first appearance in print of many now-classic English carols, and contributed to the mid-Victorian revival of the holiday.[12] Singing carols in church was instituted on Christmas Eve 1880 (Nine Lessons and Carols) in
Truro Cathedral, Cornwall, England, which is now seen in churches all over the world.[13] According to one of the only observations in the 21st century, while the actual sources and meanings of even high-profile songs are
commonly misattributed, and the motivations for carol singing can in some settings be as much associated with family tradition and national cultural heritage as with religious beliefs.[14] Christmas festivities, including music, are also celebrated in a more secular fashion by such institutions as the Santa Claus Village, in Rovaniemi, Finland.[15] Alms
Child Christmas carolers in Bucharest, Romania 1929 The tradition of singing Christmas carols in return for alms or charity began in England in the seventeenth century after the Restoration. Town musicians or 'waits' were licensed to collect money in the streets in the weeks preceding Christmas, the custom spread throughout the population by the
 eighteenth and nineteenth centuries up to the present day. Also from the seventeenth century, there was the English custom, predominantly involving women, of taking a wassail bowl to their neighbors to solicit gifts, accompanied by carols. Despite this long history, many Christmas carols date only from the nineteenth century onwards, with the
exception of songs such as the "Wexford Carol", "God Rest You Merry Gentlemen", "As I Sat on a Sunny Bank", "The Holly and the Ivy", [16] the "Coventry Carol" and "I Saw Three Ships". Church feasts See also: Liturgical year The large repertoire of Advent and Christmas church music plays an important role in services The importance of Advent and
the feast of Christmastide within the church year means there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas story. Various composers from the Baroque era to the 21st century have written Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the Christmas there is a large repertoire of music specially composed for performance in church services celebrating the church services composed for performance in church services composed for performance in church services celebrating the church services composed for performance in church services celebrating the c
natus est nobis" (1554) Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina: O magnum mysterium (1569) Orlande de Lassus: Resonet in laudibus (1569) Heinrich Schütz: Weihnachtshistorie (1664) Johann Sebastian Bach: several cantatas for Christmas to Epiphany and Christmas Oratorio (1734) Jakub Jan Ryba: Czech Christmas Mass "Hey, Master!" (1796) Anton
Bruckner: Virga Jesse floruit (1885) Classical music classical
countries,[17] and although it was originally written for performance at Easter, it covers aspects of the Biblical Christmas narrative.[18][19] Informal Scratch Messiah performances involving public participation are very popular in the Christmas season.[20] Johann Sebastian Bach's Christmas Oratorio (Weihnachts-Oratorium, BWV 248), written for
Christmas 1734, describes the birth of Jesus, the adoration of the Magi, and the adoration of the Magi, and the adoration of the Magi. [21] Antonio Vivaldi composed the Violin Concerto RV270 "Il Riposo per il Santissimo Natale" ("For the Most Holy Christmas"). Arcangelo Corelli
composed the Christmas Concerto in 1690. Peter Cornelius composed a cycle of six songs related to Christmas themes he called Weihnachtslieder. Setting his own poems for solo voice and piano, he alluded to older Christmas include: Pastorale sur la
naissance de N.S. Jésus-Christ (c. 1670) by Marc-Antoine Charpentier Christus (1847) an unfinished oratorio by Felix Mendelssohn L'enfance du Christ (1853-54) by Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky[22] Fantasia on Christmas Carols (1912) and Hodie (1954), both by
Ralph Vaughan Williams A Ceremony of Carols (1942) by Benjamin Britten. Christmas carols Main article: Christmas carols Main article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (October 2021)
(Learn how and when to remove this template message) Museum staff singing Christmas carols in the Natural History Museum, London Songs which are traditional, even some dating back many centuries. Standards A popular set of traditional
carols that might be heard at any Christmas-related event include:[23] 'A collection of traditional Christmas music' performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 23, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, December 24, 2004. "Joy to the World" Performed by James D. Blodget on a Roland U-20 synthesizer, Decembe
transcribed by CambridgeBayWeather. "El Noi de la Mare" A traditional Catalan Christmas carol, arranged for guitar. Problems playing these files? See media help. "Angels We Have Heard on High" (in the UK the text of "Angels from the Realms of Glory" is sung to this tune) "Away in a Manger" "Deck the Halls" "Ding Dong Merrily on High" "The
First Noel" "Go Tell It on the Mountain" "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" "Good King Wenceslas" "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" "I Saw Three Ships" "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" "Joy to the World" "O Christmas Tree" (O Tannenbaum) "O Come, All Ye Faithful" (Adeste Fideles) "O come, O come, Emmanuel" "O Holy Night" (Cantique de Noël)
"O Little Town of Bethlehem" "Once in Royal David's City" "Silent Night" "The Twelve Days of Christmas" "We Three Kings of Orient Are" "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" "What Child Is This?" "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" Carol")
originating in the 12th century. The newest came together in the mid- to late-19th century. Many began in non-English speaking countries, often with non-Christmas themes, and were later converted into English speaking countries, often with non-Christmas themes, and were later converted into English speaking countries, often with non-Christmas themes, and were later converted into English speaking countries.
[citation needed] Early secular Christmas songs Among the earliest secular Christmas", which first appeared in 1780 in English West Country carol "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" has antecedents dating to the 1830s but was not published in its modern
form until Arthur Warrell introduced it to a wider audience in 1935. As the secular mythos of the holiday (such as Santa Claus in his modern form) emerged in the 19th century, so too did secular Christmas songs. Benjamin Hanby's "Up on the House Top" and Emily Huntington Miller's "Jolly Old Saint Nicholas" were among the first explicitly secular
Christmas songs in the United States, both dating to the 1860s; they were preceded by "Jingle Bells", written in 1857 but not explicitly about Christmas music Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), a British composer who helped to popularise many medieval and folk carols for the modern age[24] Christmas music has been
published as sheet music for centuries. One of the earliest collections of printed Christmas music was Piae Cantiones, a Finnish songbook first publication of Christmas music books in the 19th century, such as Christmas Carols, New
and Old (Bramley and Stainer, 1871), played an important role in widening the popular appeal of carols (Martin Shaw, Ralph Vaughan Williams and Percy Dearmer, 1928), which revived a number of
early folk songs and established them as modern standard carols, [24][26] This was followed by the bestselling Carols for Choirs series (David Willcocks, Reginald Jacques and John Rutter), first published in 1961 and now available in a five volumes. The popular books have proved to be a popular resource for choirs and church congregations in the
English-speaking world, and remain in print today.[27] Christmas Carols, New and Old (1871) Oxford Book of Carols (1992) A Shorter New Oxford Book of Carols (1992) Choirmasters poll In 2008, BBC Music Magazine published a poll of the "50 Greatest Carols", compiled from the views of
choral experts and choirmasters in the UK and the US. The resulting list of the top ten favored Christmas carols and motets was:[28][29][30] "In the Bleak Midwinter" - Harold Darke "In Dulci Jubilo" - traditional "A Spotless Rose" - Herbert Howells "Bethlehem Down" - Peter Warlock "Lully, Lulla" - traditional "Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day"
 "There Is No Rose" "O Come, All Ye Faithful" "Of the Father's Heart Begotten" "What Sweeter Music" - John Rutter Popular Christmas songs United States This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources. Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (December
2020) (Learn how and when to remove this template message) See also: List of Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-selling Christmas/holiday singles in the United States, and List of best-sellin
Claus Is Coming to Town", written by Fred Coots and Haven Gillespie in 1934, is the most played holiday song of the last 50 years. It was first performed live by Eddie Cantor on his radio show in November 1934. Tommy Dorsey and his orchestra recorded their version in 1935, followed later by a range of artists including Frank Sinatra in 1948, the
Supremes, the Jackson 5, the Beach Boys, and Glenn Campbell. Bruce Springsteen recorded a rock rendition in December 1975. Long-time Christmas classics from prior to the "rock era" [31] still dominate the holiday charts - such as "Let It Snow! Let It Snow! The Wonderland", "Sleigh Ride" and "Have Yourself a Merry Little
Christmas". Songs from the rock era to enter the top tier of the season's canon[citation needed] include "Wonderful Christmas Is You" by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff, and "Last Christmas" by George Michael. The most popular set of these titles—heard over airwaves, on the internet, in
shopping malls, in elevators and lobbies, even on the street during the Christmas season—have been composed and performed from the 1930s onward. (Songs published before 1925 are all out of copyright, are no longer subject to ASCAP royalties and thus do not appear on their list.) In addition to Bing Crosby, major acts that have popularized and
successfully covered a number of the titles in the top 30 most performed Christmas songs in 2015 include Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley, Andy Williams, and the Jackson 5. Since the mid-1950s, much of the Christmas music produced for popular audiences has explicitly romantic overtones, only using Christmas as a setting. The 1950s also featured the
introduction of novelty songs that used the holiday as a target for satire and source for comedy. Exceptions such as "The Christmas Shoes" (2000) have re-introduced Christian themes as complementary to the secular Western themes, and myriad traditional carol cover versions by various artists have explored virtually all music genres. Most-
performed Christmas songs "The world may have changed profoundly over the last 50 years, but these songs have been part of the holiday spirit for generations. Part of the wonder of music is how it helps us continue to create real memories and traditions. These treasured songs are very special to so many people and are a beloved part of ASCAP's
repertoire." Paul Williams, President and chairman, American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) The top thirty most-played holiday season are ranked here, all titles written or co-written by ASCAP songwriters and composers. [32] Most of these songs in some way describe or are reminiscent of
Christmas traditions, how Western Christian countries tend to celebrate the holiday, i.e., with caroling, mistletoe, exchanging of presents, a Christmas tree, feasting, jingle bells, etc. Celebratory or sentimental, and nostalgic in tone, they hearken back to simpler times with memorable holiday practices—expressing the desire either to be with someone
or at home for Christmas. The winter-related songs celebrate the climatic season, with all its snow, dressing up for the cold, sleighing, etc. Many titles help define the mythical aspects of modern Christmas celebration: Santa Claus bringing presents, coming down the chimney, being pulled by reindeer, etc. New mythical characters are created,
defined, and popularized by these songs; "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", adapted from a major retailer's promotional poem, was introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year later introduced to radio audiences by Gene Autry in 1949. His follow-up a year lat
many church hymns, no drumming child appears in any biblical account of the Christian nativity scene. This character was introduced to the tradition by Katherine K. Davis in her "The Little Drummer Boy" (written in 1941, with a popular version being released in 1958). Loretta Lynn introduced "Shadrack, the Black Reindeer" in 1974.[33] Most
performed Christmas songs in 2015 according to ASCAP Rank Song Composer(s) Year Type 1 "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" J. Fred Coots, Haven Gillespie 1934 Mythical 2 "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" Ralph Blane, Hugh Martin 1944 Celebratory/Sentimental 3 "Winter Wonderland" Felix Bernard, Richard B. Smith 1934 Seasonal 4 "Let
It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Sammy Cahn, Jule Styne 1945 Seasonal 5 "The Christmas Song" Mel Tormé, Robert Wells 1944 Traditions 6 "Jingle Bell Rock" Joseph Carleton Beal, James Ross Boothe 1957 Celebratory/Seasonal 7 "It's the Most Wonderful Time of the Year" Edward Pola, George Wyle 1963 Seasonal/Traditions 8 "Sleigh Ride" Leroy
Anderson, Mitchell Parish 1948 Seasonal/Birthday 9 "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer" Johnny Marks 1939/1949 Mythical 10 "It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas" Irving Berlin 1940 Seasonal/Sentimental 12 "A Holly Jolly Christmas" Johnny Marks 1964/65
Traditions/Celebratory 13 "Carol of the Bells" Peter J. Wilhousky 1936 Celebratory 14 "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" Johnny Marks 1958 Traditions 15 "All I Want for Christmas Is You" Mariah Carey, Walter Afanasieff 1994 Sentimental 16 "Frosty the Snowman" Steve Nelson, Walter E. Rollins 1950 Mythical 17 "Blue Christmas" Billy Hayes, Jay
W. Johnson 1957 Traditions 18 "(There's No Place Like) Home for the Holidays" Bob Allen, Al Stillman 1954 Traditions/Sentimental 19 "The Little Drummer Boy" Katherine K. Davis, Henry V. Onorati, Harry Simeone 1941 Christian-based 20 "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Gloria Shayne Baker, Noël Regney 1962 Traditions 21 "Silver Bells" Jay
Livingston, Ray Evans 1950 Traditions 22 "Baby, It's Cold Outside" Frank Loesser 1948 Seasonal 23 "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" Tommie Connor 1952 Novelty 24 "Feliz Navidad" José Feliciano 1970 Celebratory 25 "Christmas" George
Michael 1984 Sentimental 27 "Here Comes Santa Claus (Right Down Santa Claus (Right Down Santa Claus Lane)" Gene Autry, Oakley Haldeman 1947 Mythical/Christian-based 28 "Santa Baby" Joan Ellen Javits, Philip Springer, and Fred Ebb 1953 Novelty 29 "Happy Holiday" Irving Berlin 1948 Celebratory 30 "Wonderful Christmastime" Paul McCartney 1979
Celebratory The above-ranking results from an aggregation of performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of all different artist versions of each cited holiday song, across all forms of media, from January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015.[32] Of the top 30 most performances of each cited holiday song, across all forms of each cit
1950s and 1960s; only five (17%) were written from the 1970s on, two (7%) were from after 1995. This phenomenon was noted in the webcomic xkcd and referred to as "a massive project to carefully recreate...baby boomers' childhoods".[34] The newest song in the top 30 most performed Christmas songs - "All I Want for
Christmas is You", co-written and performed by Mariah Carey in 1994 - entered the list for the first time in 2017,[35] and was named "the UK's favourite Christmas song" the same year by The Independent.[36] Troy Powers and Andy Stone wrote a song with the same title and theme
[37] which Vince Vance & the Valiants recorded in 1989 and independently became popular at the same time as Carey's song. The melody is similar to Bobby Vinton's "My Heart Belongs to Only You".[38] Johnny Marks wrote three songs that appear in these most-performed Christmas songs in 2015: "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer", "Holly Jolly
Christmas", and "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree". Irving Berlin wrote two: "White Christmas are the only songwriters to appear on the list of top 30 most performed Christmas songs in 2015 - "Rudolph the Red
Nosed Reindeer", "Frosty the Snowman", and "Here Comes Santa Claus (Right Down Santa Claus (Right Down
ASCAP royalties. The lyrics to "Carol of the Bells" are still under copyright on "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24" extends only to the arrangement. Christmas song surveys of United States radio listeners by two different research groups, [40] the most liked songs were standards such as Bing Crosby's "White Christmas"
(1942), Nat King Cole's "The Christmas Song" (1946), and Burl Ives' "A Holly Jolly Christmas" (1965). Other favorites like "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" (Brenda Lee, 1958), "Jingle Bell Rock" (Bobby Helms, 1957) and John Lennon and Yoko Ono's "Happy Xmas" (1971), scored well in one study. Also "loved" were Johnny Mathis' "Do You Hear
What I Hear?" and Harry Simeone Chorale's "Little Drummer Boy" (1958). Among the most-hated Christmas songs, according to Edison Media Research's 2007 survey, are Barbra Streisand's "Jingle Bells?", the Jackson 5's "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town", Elmo & Patsy's "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer", and "O Holy Night" as performed by
cartoon characters from Comedy Central's South Park. The "most-hated Christmastime recording" is a rendition of "Jingle Bells" by Carl Weissmann's Singing Dogs, a revolutionary novelty song originally released in 1955, and re-released as an edited version in 1970.[40] Rolling Stone magazine ranked Darlene Love's version of "Christmas (Baby
Please Come Home)" (1963) first on its list of The Greatest Rock and Roll Christmas Songs in December 2010.[41] Carey's "All I Want for Christmas Is You", co-written by Carey and Walter Afanasieff, was No. 1 on Billboard's Holiday Digital Songs chart in December 2013.[42] "Fairytale of New York" by The Pogues is cited as the best Christmas song
of all time in various television, radio and magazine related polls in the United Kingdom and Ireland.[43] Pinnacle Media Worldwide survey The Pinnacle Media Worldwide survey divided its listeners into music-type categories: "Adult contemporary" listeners rated Brenda Lee's "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" best. "Adult Top 40" fans liked
Bobby Helms' "Jingle Bell Rock". "Hip-hop/R&B" fans liked the Jackson 5's "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town". "Country" listeners ranked Burl Ives' "A Holly Jolly Christmas" No. 1. "Smooth jazz" fans liked the Jackson 5's "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town". "Country" listeners ranked Burl Ives' "A Holly Jolly Christmas" No. 1. "Smooth jazz" fans liked "The Christmas Song" as sung by Nat King Cole. ThoughtCo ranking In their "admittedly subjective" list of the top Christmas Song of all time,
ThoughtCo. ranked their top five favorites as:[44] "The Christmas Song" as sung by Nat King Cole in 1961. "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" as sung by John Lennon in 1971, the classic Christmas song that is also a plea for world peace
 "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" as sung by Brenda Lee in 1958. "Santa Claus Is Coming to Town" as sung by Bruce Springsteen and Bon Jovi in 2003. United Kingdom A collection of chart hits recorded in a bid to be crowned the UK Christmas No. 1
single during the 1970s and 1980s have become some of the most popular holiday tunes in the United Kingdom. Band Aid's 1984 song "Do They Know It's Christmas?" is the second-best selling single in UK Chart history. "Fairytale of New York", released by The Pogues in 1987, is regularly voted the British public's favourite-ever Christmas?" is the second-best selling single in UK Chart history.
 also the most-played Christmas song of the 21st century in the UK.[45][46][47] British glam rock bands had major hit singles with Christmas Everyday" by Wizzard, and "Lonely This Christmas" by Mud all remain hugely popular.[48] The top ten most played
Christmas Is You" Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff Mariah Carey 1994 3 "Do They Know It's Christmas?" Bob Geldof and Midge Ure Band Aid 1984 4 "Last Christmas" George Michael Wham! 1984 5 "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town" John Frederick Coots, Haven Gillespie Harry Reser 1934 6 "Do You Hear What I Hear?" Noel Regney, Gloria Shayn
 Bing Crosby 1962 7 "Happy Christmas (War Is Over)" John Lennon John Lennon 1971 8 "Wonderful Christmastime" Paul McCartney Paul McCartney Paul McCartney Paul McCartney 1979 9 "I Wish It Could Be Christmas Everyday" Roy Wood Wizzard 1973 10 "Merry Xmas Everybody" Noddy Holder, Jim Lea Slade 1974 Included in the 2009 and 2008 lists are such other titles as Jona
Lewie's "Stop the Cavalry", Bruce Springsteen's "Santa Claus is Coming to Town", Elton John's "Step into Christmas", Mud's "Lonely This Christmas" and "Mistletoe and Wine" and "Saviour's Day" by Cliff Richard. The best
Christmas number one benefits from broad publicity, so much so that the songs that attempt but fail to achieve the honor and finish second also get widespread attention. Social media campaigns have been used to try to encourage sales of specific songs so that they could reach number one. [52][53][54] These songs develop an association with
1989 and 2004), Slade's "Merry Xmas Everybody" (No. 1, 1973), and Wham!'s "Last Christmas" (No. 2, 1984). Last Christmas would go on to hold the UK record for highest-selling single not to reach No. 1, until it finally topped the chart on 1 January 2021, helped by extensive streaming in the final week of December 2020.[citation needed] The
 Beatles, Spice Girls, and LadBaby are the only artist to have achieved consecutive Christmas number-one hits on the UK Singles Chart, with LadBaby the only artist to have four consecutive Christmas number-one hits on the UK Singles Chart, with LadBaby between 1963 and 1965 (with a fourth in 1967), the Spice Girls between 1996 and 1998, and LadBaby between 1963 and 1965 (with a fourth in 1967).
Christmas?" have been number one in Christmas week. At the turn of the 21st century, songs associated with reality shows became a frequent source of Christmas number ones in the UK. In 2002, Popstars: The Rivals produced by the series—the girl group Girls Aloud
and the boy band One True Voice—finished first and second respectively on the charts. Failed contestants The Cheeky Girls charted with a novelty hit, "Cheeky Song (Touch My Bum)", at third. Briton Will Young, winner of the first Pop Idol, charted at the top of the Irish charts in 2003. The X Factor also typically concluded in December during its run
reaching number one. In 2009, as the result of a campaign intended to counter the phenomenon, Rage Against the Machine's 1992 single "Killing in the Name" reached number one in the UK instead of that year's X Factor winner, Joe McElderry.[56] In 2011, "Wherever You Are", the single from a choir of military wives assembled by the TV series The
Choir, earned the Christmas number-one single in Britain—upsetting X Factor winners Little Mix.[57] With the Military Wives Choir single not being released in Ireland, Little Mix won Christmas number-one in Ireland that year.[citation needed] Australia Situated in the southern hemisphere, where seasons are reversed from the northern, the heat of
 early summer in Australia affects the way Christmas is celebrated and how northern hemisphere Christmas traditions are followed. Australians generally spend Christmas to Sydney at Christmas time often go to Bondi Beach where tens of
thousands gather on Christmas Day. Blandfordia nobilis, or Christmas Bells, of eastern Australia The tradition of an Australia
throughout the country" or smaller "local community and church events." Carols in the Domain in Sydney is now a "popular platform for the stars of Australian Christmas Carols, with words by John Wheeler, include "The Three Drovers", "The
Silver Stars are in the Sky", "Christmas Day", "Carol of the Birds" and others. "Light-hearted Australian Christmas songs" have become "an essential part of the Australian Twelve Days of Christmas", [58] proudly proclaim the differing the differing the Australian Christmas songs" have become "an essential part of the Australian Christmas experience." Rolf Harris' "Six White Boomers", Colin Buchanan's "Aussie Jingle Bells", and the "Australian Twelve Days of Christmas", [58] proudly proclaim the differing the Australian Christmas experience."
traditions Down Under. A verse from "Aussie Jingle Bells" makes the point: Engine's getting hot Dodge the kangaroos Swaggie climbs aboard He is welcome too All the family is there Sitting by the pool Christmas Day, the Aussie way By the barbecue![59] "The Twelve Days of Christmas" has been revised to fit the Australian context, as an example:
 "On the twelfth day of Christmas, my true love sent to me: 12 parrots prattling, 11 numbats nagging, 10 lizards leaping, 9 wombats working, 8 dingoes digging, 7 possums playing, 6 brolgas dancing, 5 kangaroos, 4 koalas cuddling, 3 kookaburras laughing, 2 pink galahs, and an emu up a gum tree."[60] Other popular Australian Christmas songs
include: 'White Wine in the Sun" by Tim Minchin, "Aussie Jingle Bells" by Bucko & Champs, "Christmas Photo" by John Williamson, "Go Santa, Go" by The Wiggles, and "Six White Boomers" by Russel Coight.[61] The Australian carols that do exist are mostly novelty re-workings of existing songs with the holly and the ivy replaced by gum trees and
wattle. Santa swapping his fur hat for a corked Akubra and a token Aboriginal word is deemed sufficient to localise the celebration of the day a Middle Eastern tradesman wasn't actually born. [62]—Ben Anderson, Daily Review "My Little Christmas Belle" (1872-1928) to words by Ward McAlister (1872-1928) celebrates
 eastern Australian flora coming into bloom during the heat of Christmas. Blandfordia nobilis, also known as Christmas Bells, are the specific subject of the song—with the original sheet music bearing a depiction of the blossom.[63] Whereas "The Holly and The Ivy" (1937) by Australian Louis Lavater (1867-1953) mentions northern hemisphere foliage
[64] Australian singer-songwriter Paul Kelly first released "How to Make Gravy" as part of a four-track EP November 4, 1996 through White Label Records. The title track, written by Kelly, tells the story in a letter to his brother from a newly imprisoned man who laments how he will be missing the family Christmas. It received a Song of the Year
nomination at the 1998 Australasian Performing Right Association (APRA) Music Awards. Kelly's theme reflects a national experience with Christmas: A lot of the early imagery of Christmas in Australia is related to isolation and distance. You've got the Sydney Mail in 1879 saying 'The revels of Christmas tide cannot endure the ordeal of immigration's
It's that sense that it's alien here and we're so conscious of being away from family and that figures very prominently in the imagery of Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in that time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in the time.[62]—Nicholas Brown, Australian National University Other popular Christmas back in the time.[62]—Nicholas Brown of time.[62]
as "Lilly's Secret" in The Little Corporal Magazine December 1865. Lyrics have also been attributed to Benjamin Hanby, who wrote Up on the Housetop in 1864, but the words commonly heard today resemble Miller's 1865 poem. James R. Murray is attributed as composer in the first publication of the music in School Chimes, A New School Music
Book by S. Brainard's Sons in 1874. Early notable recordings were made by Ray Smith (1961), Eddy Arnold (1962), and Alvin and the Chipmunks (1963). "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm", introduced in the musical film On the Avenue by Dick Powell and Alice Faye in 1937, was written by Irving Berlin. "The Little Boy that Santa
Claus Forgot" - written by Michael Carr, Tommie Connor, and Jimmy Leach in 1937 - was notably performed by Vera Lynn and Nat King Cole. "I'll Be Home for Christmas", by lyricist Kim Gannon and composer Walter Kent, was recorded by Bing Crosby in 1943. "Merry Christmas Baby" is credited to Lou Baxter and Johnny Moore, whose group
originally recorded it in 1947, featuring singer and pianist Charles Brown. Kay Thompson introduced her "The Holiday Season" in 1945, which later became part of a medley by Andy Williams. "A Marshmallow World" (sometimes called "It's a Marshmallow World") was written in 1949 by Carl Sigman (lyrics) and Peter DeRose (music). More popular
songs which reference the Nativity include "I Wonder as I Wander" (1933), "Mary's Boy Child" (1956), "Carol of the Drum" ("Little Drummer Boy") (1941), and "Do You Hear What I Hear?" (1962). Other titles and recordings added to the popular Christmas song canon include: 1950s 1950: "(Everybody's Waitin' for) The Man with the Bag", written by
Irving Taylor and Dudley Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Dixieland Band from Santa Claus Land" by Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Kay Starr. 1950: "Mele Kalikimaka"; written in Exercise to Brooks; popularized by Brooks; popu
1949 by R. Alex Anderson; released by Bing Crosby and The Andrews Sisters as a single (with "Poppa Santa Claus" on the reverse side). The title is the closest approximation of the pronunciation of "Merry Christmas with Patti Page. 1951: "Suzy
Snowflake", written by Sid Tepper and Roy C. Bennett; released by Rosemary Clooney as a 78 RPM record through Columbia Records. 1953: "Up on the House Top", written by Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne; released by Frank Sinatra on the B-side of his
version of "White Christmas" and later A Jolly Christmas from Frank Sinatra (1957) and The Sinatra Family Wish You a Merry Christmas (1968). 1955: "The First Snowfall" written by Paul Francis Webster, Sonny Burke and recorded by Bing Crosby on November 22, 1955. 1956: "I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day", written by Johnny Marks from a
Christmas carol based on the 1863 poem "Christmas Bells" by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow; released by Bing Crosby as a single (with "Christmas Is A-Comin' (May God Bless You)" on B-side). 1956: "Mary's Boy Child", written by Jester Hairston; released by Harry Belafonte on An Evening with Belafonte. 1957: "Mistletoe and Holly" written by Frank
Sinatra, Dok Stanford, and Hank Sanicola; recorded by Sinatra with orchestra conducted by Gordon Jenkins, released as a Capitol 7" 45 single backed with "The Christmas Waltz". Included on A Jolly Christmas From Frank Sinatra. 1958: "Run Rudolph Run", written by Johnny Marks and Marvin Brodie; popularized by Chuck Berry when released as a
single on Chess Records. 1959: "Caroling, Caroling, Caroling, written by Alfred Burt in 1953; recorded by Fred Waring on The Sounds of Christmas.", written by Fred Waring on The Sounds of Christmas.", written by Fred Waring on The Sounds of Christmas.", written by Fred Waring on The Sounds of Christmas."
single that year released by Columbia Records. 1960: "Caroling", written by Alfred Burt in 1953; popularized by Nat King Cole on The Magic of Christmas. 1960: "Please Come Home for Christmas", written by Charles Brown and Gene Redd; released by Brown on Charles Brown Sings Christmas Songs (since becoming associated with
the Eagles' 1978 cover). 1960: "Must Be Santa", written by Hal Moore and Bill Fredericks; [65] first released by Mitch Miller; [66] Tommy Steele's cover of the song reaching No. 40 on the UK Singles Chart the same year. [67] 1960: "Dominick the Donkey" written by Ray Allen, Wandra Merrell, and Sam Saltzberg; recorded by Lou Monte on Roulette
Records. The song describes a donkey who helps Santa Claus bring presents ("made in Brooklyn") to children in Italy "because the reindeer cannot climb" Italy's hills. 1961: "The Merriest", "Ring a Merry Bell" and "Seven Shades of Snow", all written by Connie Pearce and Arnold Miller; released by June Christy on This Time of Year. 1961: "We Wish
You the Merriest", written and recorded by Les Brown; released by Frank Sinatra, Bing Crosby, and Fred Waring's Pennsylvanians on 12 Songs of Christmas in 1964. 1963: "Christmas Gift for You from Phil Spector. 1963: "Christmas in 1964. 1963: "Christmas in 1964. 1963: "Christmas Gift for You from Phil Spector."
"Happy Holidays/The Holiday Season" medley by Andy Williams of Irving Berlin's 1942 classic with Kay Thompson's "The Holiday Season" from 1945. 1963: "Little Saint Nick", written by Brian Wilson and Mike Love; released by the Beach Boys as a single and included on The Beach Boys' Christmas Album in 1964. 1963: "Pretty Paper" by Willie
Nelson; sung by Roy Orbison. Nelson had a hit with his own song in 1978. 1964: "Silver and Gold", written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks; sung by Burl Ives on the Rankin-Bass Christmas special Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by Johnny Marks Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer. 1964: "Toyland" written by J
released by Doris Day on The Doris Day on The Doris Day Christmas Album. 1964: "Snowfall", written by Claude Thornhill; covered by Doris Day on The Doris Day o
Paul's Episcopal Church in San Rafael, California. 1965: "My Favorite Things", written by Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein for the Supremes on Merry Christmas. 1965: "Santa Looked a Lot Like Daddy", written by Buck Owens and Don Rich; released by Owens as single with
"All I Want for Christmas, Dear, Is You" on the B-side. 1966: "We Need a Little Christmas Tree", written by Jerry Herman for the Broadway musical Mame, and first performed by Angela Lansbury in that 1966: "The Happiest Christmas Tree", written by Cathy
Lynn; recorded by Nat King Cole.[68][69] 1967: "Snoopy's Christmas", written by George David Weiss and Hugo & Luigi; released by the Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends. 1967: "What Christmas", written by George David Weiss and Hugo & Luigi; released by the Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends. 1970s 1970: "Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas", written by George David Weiss and Hugo & Luigi; released by the Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas", written by George David Weiss and Hugo & Luigi; released by the Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "What Christmas" "Royal Guardsmen on Snoopy and His Friends." "Royal Guardsmen
 "Give Love on Christmas Day", written by The Corporation (Berry Gordy, Alphonzo Mizell, Christine Perren, Freddie Perren, and Deke Richards); recorded by the Jackson 5 for The Jackson 5 for The Jackson 5 Christmas Album. 1970: "Merry Christmas Darling", written by Richard Carpenter with lyrics by Frank Pooler; released by The Carpenters as a single (re-
released 1974 & 1977); remixed on Christmas Portrait in 1978 with new vocal by Karen Carpenter. 1970: "This Christmas", written by Donny Hathaway and released by The Partridge Family Christmas", written by Donny Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway and released by The Partridge Family Christmas (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway and released by The Partridge Family Christmas (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "Donny Pitts") and Nadine Theresa McKinnor; recorded by Hathaway (as "D
on A Partridge Family Christmas Card. 1971: "River" written by Joni Mitchell; released by her on Blue. 1973: "Step into Christmas", written by Elton John and Bernie Taupin; released by Lake as a single (with "Humbug" on
B-side). Instrumental riff between verses interpolated from "Troika" portion of Sergei Prokofiev's Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film, Lieutenant Kijé Suite, written by Ciro Dammicco (alias "Zacar") and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 1973 (English language lyrics written by Fredom Virelean Soviet film) and Dario Baldan Bembo in 197
Jay); released by Johnny Mathis as single entitled "When A Child Is Born (Soleado)" with "Every Time You Touch Me (I Get High)" on the B-side. 1977: "Father Christmas", written by Ray Davies;
released by The Kinks as a single (with "Prince of the Punks" on B-side). 1977: "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy" written in 1941 by Katherine Kennicott Davis; "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy" written in 1941 by Katherine Kennicott Davis; "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy", "The Little Drummer Boy
Crosby's Merrie Olde Christmas. (Bowie single released 1982.) 1978: "Mary's Boy Child - Oh My Lord", written by Jester Hairston in 1956 with new song by Frank Farian, Fred Jay, and Hela Lorin; medley released by Boney M as a single. 1978: "Please Come Home for Christmas", written by Charles Brown and Gene Redd in 1960; cover released by
The Eagles as a single (with "Funky New Year" on B-side) 1979: "Grandma Got Run Over by a Reindeer"; written by Randy Brooks; released by Elmo & Patsy as a single (with "Christmas" on B-side). 1980s 1980: "It Must Have Been The Mistletoe (Our First Christmas)", written by Doug Konecky and Justin Wilde; released by Barbara Mandrell on
Christmas at Our House. 1980: "Same Old Lang Syne", written by Jona Lewie; released by Lewie as a single (with "Laughing Tonight" on B-side). 1981: "Christmas is
the Time to Say 'I Love You'" written by Billy Squier; released by him by as the B-side of his hit, "My Kinda Lover". 1981: "Christmas Fever" by Charlelie Couture on B-side). Also included in a Christmas compilation album. 1982: "Hard Candy Christmas";
written by Carol Hall for the musical, The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas; released by Queen as a single (with "Man on the Prowl" and "Keep Passing the Open Windows" on B-side). 1984: "Another Lonely
Christmas", written by Prince; released by Prince; released by Prince; released by Prince and the Revolution as a single (with "The World Is My Oyster" on B-side). 1985: "Merry Christmas Everyone"; written by Bob Heatlie; released by Shakin
Stevens as a single (with "With My Heart" and "Blue Christmas" on B-side). 1985: "There's a New Kid in Town", written by Joseph Simmons, Darryl McDaniels, and Jason Mizell; released by Run D.M.C. on two Christmas compilation albums: A Very Special Christmas
and Christmas Rap, and as a single (with "Peter Piper" on B-side). 1988: "Driving Home for Christmas"; written by Chris Rea; originally released as one of two new songs on Rea's first compilation album New Light Through Old Windows in October, then issued as the fourth single from the album in December. 1988: "Mistletoe and Wine", written by
Jeremy Paul, Leslie Stewart and Keith Strachan for the 1976 musical, Scraps (an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Match Girl"); released by Cliff Richard as a single (with "Marmaduke" on B-side), and on his album Private Collection: 1979-1988. 1989: "All I Want for Christmas Is You", written by Troy Powers and Andy Stone
released by Vince Vance & The Valiants as a single. 1989: "Merry Christmas (I Don't Want to Fight Tonight)" by The Ramones on their Brain Drain album. 1990s 1990: "Saviour's Day", written by Christmas List", written by David Foster, Linda
Thompson-Jenner, and Amy Grant; released by David Foster with Natalie Cole for his album River of Love (with a 1992 version by Amy Grant). 1991: "Mary, Did You Know?", with lyrics written by Mark Lowry (in 1984) and music by Buddy Greene; originally recorded by Michael English on a self-titled album (with a 1996 version by Kenny Rogers and
Playback 1993: "Hey Santa!", written by Adam Sandler, Lewis Morton, and Ian Maxtone-Graham; originally performed by Sandler on Saturday Night Live's Weekend Update segment on December 3, 1994.
 Released as a single by Sandler in 1995 from What the Hell Happened to Me?. 1996: "How to Make Gravy" written and performed by Paul Kelly in Australia. 1998: "Christmas, Happy Holidays" by NSYNC from the albums Home for Christmas and Theorem and Theorem and Theorem and Theorem and Incidence and 
Mottola, it could not be released, so it was re-recorded and released by Faith Hill. 2003: "Christmas Time (Don't Let the Bells End)" by MercyMe from the album The Christmas Sessions 2004: "Wizards in Winter", an instrumental
 written and composed by Paul O'Neill and Robert Kinkel, performed by the Trans-Siberian Orchestra 2007: "Mistletoe" written by Stacy Blue and Colbie Caillat, and performed by Caillat. 2008: "White Is in the Winter Night" by Enya on the album, And Winter Came... 2009: "It Doesn't Often Snow at Christmas" by Pet Shop Boys (UK No. 40 hit) 2010s (UK No. 
2010: "Oh Santa!" by Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey's Magical Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version, featuring Ariana Grande and Jennifer Hudson was released in 2020 for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Christmas II You. A new version for the Mariah Carey from her album Merry Ch
under the GOOD Music label. 2011: "Mistletoe" by Justin Bieber from his album Under the Mistletoe 2012: "Christmas in the Sand" by Colbie Caillat from her album of the same name; meant to conjure up (humorously) what Christmas in the Sand" by Colbie Caillat from her album of the same name; meant to conjure up (humorously) what Christmas might be like in Hawaii 2013: "Underneath the Tree" by Kelly Clarkson on her album, Wrapped in Red 2013: "One
More Sleep" by Leona Lewis on her album, Christmas, with Love 2013: "Wrapped in Red. 2014: "That's Christmas to Me" by a cappella group Pentatonix (No. 2 Billboard 200, double
platinum by RIAA). 2014: "Santa Tell Me" by Ariana Grande on her EP, Christmas Kisses 2015: "Every Day's Like Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Christmas 2017: "Santa Tell Me" by Ariana Grande on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Christmas Vylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Christmas Vylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Christmas Vylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Minogue on her EP, Christmas Vylie Minogue on her album, Kylie Minogue on her Album, Min
Sia on Everyday Is Christmas. 2020s 2020 "Holiday" by Lil Nas X 2020: "Christmas Saves the Year" a single written and recorded by Twenty One Pilots; released after a Twitch stream where lead singer Tyler Joseph played in a Fortnite tournament sponsored by Chipotle in hopes to raise money for Make-A-Wish Foundation. Christmas songs from
musicals "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm", written by Irving Berlin, was introduced in the musical film On the Avenue by Dick Powell and Alice Faye in 1937. "White Christmas" was introduced in the musical film On the Avenue by Dick Powell and Alice Faye in 1937. "White Christmas" was introduced in the musical film On the Avenue by Dick Powell and Alice Faye in 1937. "White Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas" was introduced in the film Holiday Inn (1942), while "Have 
Kid (1950). The operetta Babes in Toyland (1903) featured the song "Toyland". The 1934 film adaptation, a Laurel and Hardy musical film known by alternative titles, opened with the song. Introducing Christmas-themed songs that have yet to achieve popularity, Scrooge (1970) included "Father Christmas", "December the 25th", and the Academy
Award-nominated "Thank You Very Much". "Mistletoe and Wine" was written for a 1976 musical entitled Scraps, which was an adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's "The Little Whorehouse in Texas, and later released by Dolly Parton as a single
                                    nare Before Christmas (1993) features Christmas-themed songs like "Making Christmas", "What's This?", "Town Meeting Song", and "Jack's Obsession". Christmas novelty song See also: Novelty song Musical parodies of the season - comical or nonsensical songs performed principally for their comical effect - are often heard
around Christmas. Many novelty songs employ unusual lyrics, subjects, sounds, or instrumentation, and may not even be particularly musical. The term arose in the Tin Pan Alley world of popular songwriting, with novelty songs achieving great popularity during the 1920s and 1930s. The Christmas novelty song genre, which got its start with "I Yust
Go Nuts at Christmas" written by Yogi Yorgesson and sung by him with the Johnny Duffy Trio in 1949, includes such notable titles as: "Jingle Bells" by the Singing Dogs was recorded in 1955 by Don Charles from Copenhagen; considered the work of Carl Weismann, it was revolutionary in its use of the latest recording technology[70] "Green
Chri$tma$", a radio play parody by Stan Freberg that came out in 1958 and satirized commercial advertising "A Christmas Carol" by Tom Lehrer, a 1959 live-recording parody of Christmas, "refer[ring], of course, to money"[citation
needed] "I'm Gonna Spend My Christmas with a Dalek," a Doctor Who spin-off song, released in 1964 by The Go-Go's (the 1960s British band, not the later American band of the same name). Originally intended to help fuel Dalekmania, it tried to turn the sinister Daleks into another version of The Chipmunks.[71] "Santa Looked a Lot Like Daddy", co-
written and recorded by Buck Owens in 1965, has been covered by other country music stars, including Garth Brooks, Travis Tritt, and Brad Paisley. In the 1970s comedic singing duo Cheech & Chong's debut single in 1971 was "Santa Claus and His Old Lady". The Kinks did "Father Christmas" in 1977, and Elmo & Patsy came out with "Grandma Got
Run Over by a Reindeer" in 1979. More recent titles added to the canon include: "The Twelve Days of Christmas" parodies (including one by Bob and Doug McKenzie in 1982) "Christmas in Hollis", a rap single by Run-D.M.C.
(1987) A Rubber Band Christmas - an entire album featuring traditional and popular Christmas convoy", a southern rock song by Paul Brandt, a parody of the C.W. McCall song "Convoy" (2006) Seattle radio personality Bob Rivers became nationally famous for his
line of novelty Christmas songs and released five albums (collectively known as the Twisted Radio) consisting entirely of Christmas parodies from 1987 to 2002. "Don't Shoot Me Santa" was released by The Killers in 2007, benefiting various AIDS charities. Christmas novelty songs
can involve gallows humor and even morbid humor like that found in "Christmas at Ground Zero" and "The Night Santa Went Crazy", both by "Weird Al" Yankovic. The Dan Band Christmas which included "Ho, Ho, Ho, Ho" (ho being slang for a prostitute), "I Wanna Rock
You Hard This Christmas", "Please Don't Bomb Nobody This Holiday" and "Get Drunk & Make Out This Christmas". Kristen Bell and a cappella group Straight No Chaser "teamed up to poke fun at the modern seasons greeting" with "Text Me Merry Christmas": Text me Merry Christmas Let me know you care Just a word or two Of text from you Will
remind me you're still there Straight No Chaser singer Randy Stine said of the song: "We wanted a Christmas novelty songs include many sung by young teens, or performed largely for the enjoyment of a young audience. Kicking off with "I Saw Mommy Kissing
Santa Claus" sung by 13-year-old Jimmy Boyd in 1952, a few other notable novelty songs written to parody the Christmas season and sung by young singers include: "I Want a Hippopotamus for Christmas" sung by 10-year-old Gayla Peevey (1953) "Nuttin' for Christmas" by Art Mooney and Barry Gordon, who was seven years old when he sang it
(1955) "¿Dónde Está Santa Claus? (Where is Santa Claus?)" sung by 12-year-old Augie Rios, featuring the Mark Jeffrey Orchestra (1959) Christmas novelty songs aimed at a young audience include: "All I Want for Christmas novelty songs aimed at a young audience include: "All I Want for Christmas Is My Two Front Teeth", written by Donald Yetter Gardner in 1944 and introduced by Spike Jones and his City Slickers (1948) "I
Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus" with music and lyrics by British songwriter Tommie Connor was first recorded by 13-year-old Jimmy Boyd in 1952, reaching No. 1 on the Billboard pop singles chart in December of that year. The Jackson 5 recorded by 13-year-old Jimmy Boyd in 1952, reaching No. 1 on the Billboard pop singles chart in December of that year.
Ross Bagdasarian Sr./David Seville and performed by Alvin and the Chipmunks (1958) "You're a Mean One, Mr. Grinch" originally done for the 1966 cartoon special How the Grinch Stole Christmas!; lyrics written by Dr. Seuss, music by Albert Hague, and performed by Thurl Ravenscroft "Snoopy's Christmas" performed by The Royal Guardsmen in
1967; a follow-up to their earlier song "Snoopy Vs. The Red Baron" recorded in 1966 "Santa Claus Is a Black Man" by Akim and the Teddy Vann Production Company (1973) The number of Christmas novelty songs is so immense that radio host Dr. Demento devotes an entire month of weekly two-hour episodes to the format each year, and the novelty
songs receive frequent requests at radio stations across the country. Non-Christian writers Approximately half of the 30 best-selling Christmas songs by ASCAP members in 2015 were written by Jewish composers. Johnny Marks has three top Christmas songs by ASCAP members in 2015 were written by Jewish composers. Johnny Marks has three top Christmas songs by ASCAP members in 2015 were written by Jewish composers. Johnny Marks has three top Christmas songs by ASCAP members in 2015 were written by Jewish composers.
Tree", and "A Holly Jolly Christmas". By far the most recorded Christmas song is "White Christmas song is "White Christmas" by Irving Berlin (born Israel Isidore Beilin in Russia)—who also wrote "Happy Holiday"—with well over 500 versions in dozens of languages. Others include:[73][74][75][76] "Let It Snow! Let It S
Styne (who also wrote "The Christmas Waltz" together) "Winter Wonderland" (composer Felix Bernard was born Felix William Bernhardt) "The Christmas Song (Chestnuts Roasting on an Open Fire)" by Robert Wells (born Levinson) and Mel Tormé "Sleigh Ride" (lyricist Mitchell Parish was born Michael Hyman Pashelinsky in Lithuania) "It's the Most
Wonderful Time of the Year" (composer George Wyle was born Bernard Weissman) "Silver Bells" by Jay Livingston (born Albert Allen Deitcher) and Al Stillman (born Albert Silverman) "I'll Be Home for Christmas" by Walter Kent (born Walter
Kauffman) and Buck Ram (born Samuel). "Santa Baby" by Joan Ellen Javits (Zeeman), niece of Senator Jacob Javits, and Philip Springer. [77] "Baby, It's Cold Outside" by Frank Loesser Lyricist Jerome "Jerry" Leiber and composer Mike Stoller wrote "Santa Claus Is Back in Town", which Elvis Presley debuted on his first Christmas album in 1957.
"Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" was written by Ellie Greenwich and Jeff Barry (with Phil Spector), originally for Ronnie Spector of The Ronettes. It was made into a hit by Darlene Love in 1963. "Peace on Earth" was written by Ian Fraser, Larry Grossman, and Alan Kohan as a counterpoint to "The Little Drummer Boy" (1941) to make David
Bowie comfortable recording "Peace on Earth/Little Drummer Boy" with Bing Crosby's then-upcoming television special, Bing Crosby's Merrie Olde Christmas. [78] Adopted Christmas music This section needs additional citations for verification. Please help improve this article by adding citations to reliable sources.
Unsourced material may be challenged and removed. (October 2021) (Learn how and when to remove this template message) What is known as Christmas music today, coming to be associated with the holiday season in some way, has often been adopted from works initially composed for other purposes. Many tunes adopted into the Christmas canon
carry no Christmas connotation at all. Some were written to celebrate other holidays and gradually came to cover the Christmas season. "Tempus Adest Floridum", a romantic spring carol with Latin words dating to the 13th-century Carmina Burana and a melody attested no later than 1584, became associated with Christmas after John Mason Neale
set his epic ballad "Good King Wenceslas" to its melody in 1853. Neale's poem does not directly mention Christmas or the nativity but describes Bohemian Duke Wenceslas I's journey to aid a poor traveler on a cold St. Stephen's Day; that day falls on the day after Christmas and within the traditional Twelve Days of Christmas. "Joy to the World", with
words written by Isaac Watts in 1719 and music by Lowell Mason (who in turn borrowed liberally from Handel) in 1839, was originally written anticipating the Second Coming.[79] "Jingle Bells", first published under the title "One Horse Open Sleigh" in 1857, was originally associated with Thanksgiving rather than Christmas.[80] With a Welsh melody
dating back to the sixteenth century, and English lyrics from 1862, "Deck the Halls" celebrates the pagan holiday of Yule and the New Year, but not explicitly Christmas ("Troll the ancient Yuletide carol/See the blazing Yule before us/While I tell of Yuletide treasure"). "Shchedryk", a Ukrainian tune celebrating the arrival of springtime, was adapted in
1936 with English lyrics to become the Christmas carol "Carol of the Bells" and in 1995 as the heavy-metal instrumental "Christmas Eve/Sarajevo 12/24." "When You Wish Upon a Star", an Academy Award-winning song about dreams, hope, and magic featured in Walt Disney's Pinocchio (1940). What later became the main theme for Disney studios
was sung by Cliff Edwards, who voiced Jiminy Cricket in the film. In Scandinavian countries and Japan, the song is used in reference to the Blue Fairy. Many popular Christmas tunes of the 20th-century mention winter imagery,
leading to their being adopted into the Christmas and holiday season. These include: "Winter Wonderland" (1934) "I've Got My Love to Keep Me Warm" (1937) "Baby, It's Cold Outside" (1949) "Jingle Bell Rock" (1957) "My Favorite Things" (1959) "Do You Want to Build a Snowman?" (2013), from the movie Frozen,
features lyrics that are more of an illustration of the relationship between the two main characters than a general description of winter or the holidays, but its title rhetoric and the winter imagery used throughout the film have led it to be considered a holiday song. Quite the contrary, "Sleigh Ride", composed originally in 1948 as an instrumental by
Leroy Anderson, was inspired by a heatwave in Connecticut. The song premiered with the Boston Pops Orchestra in May 1948 with no association with Christmas. The lyrics added in 1950 have "nothing to do with Santa, Jesus, presents or reindeer," but the jingling bells and "sleigh" in the title made it a natural Christmas song. Lyricist Sammy Cahn
and composer Jule Styne also found themselves in a heatwave in July 1945 when they wrote "Let It Snow!", inserting no reference to Christmas and campaigns. Perry Como famously sang Franz Schubert's setting of "Ave
Maria" in his televised Christmas special each year, including the song on The Perry Como Christmas Album (1968). The song, a prayer to the Virgin Mary sung in Latin, would become a "staple of family holiday record collections." [82] American a capella group Pentatonix released their version of "Hallelujah", the 1984 song written by Leonard Cohen
and covered famously by a number of acts, on their Christmas album shortly before the songwriter's death in 2016. Besides the title, and several biblical references, the song contains no connection to Christmas or the holidays per se. Various versions have been added to Christmas music playlists on radio stations in the United States and Canada. In
the United Kingdom, songs not explicitly tied to Christmas are popularly played during the year-end holidays. "Stop the Cavalry", written and performed by English musician Jona Lewie in 1980, was intended as a war protest. The line "Wish I was at home for Christmas" with brass band arrangements styled it as an appropriate song to play in the
Christmas season. Children's songs such as "Mr Blobby" (No. 1, 1993) and the theme from Bob the Builder (No. 1, 1998), and "He Ain't Heavy, He's My Brother" from an ensemble of Liverpudlian celebrities in commemoration of the 1989
Hillsborough Disaster (No. 1, 2012) are often heard around Christmas music "There's no other programming tactic in radio history that consistently delivers ratings increases better than Christmas music is all about having a larger audience after Christmas than you did before. People who
find the station often stick around after the holidays and discover a new favorite station."[83] Darren Davis, Senior V.P., Clear Channel In the United States, it is common for local radio stations to gradually begin adding Christmas music to their regular playlists in late-November, typically after Thanksgiving (which is generally considered the official
start of the holiday season), and sometimes culminating with all-Christmas music by Christmas music for the holiday season.[84][85] The latter practice became more widespread in 2001 after the September 11 attacks,
as a means of helping improve the morale of listeners, [86] Although there is a chance that a station's normal audience may be alienated by a switch to all-Christmas music (adult contemporary, country music, and oldies audiences are generally the most accepting), these risks are outweighed by the increase in ratings that such a shift can attract. [83]
There is also a chance that after they return to regular programming, a station may be able to retain some of this expanded audience as new, regular listeners. [83] Arbitron (now Nielsen Audio) reported in 2011 that it was not uncommon for a station's average audience to double after switching to Christmas music, citing several large-market stations
in 2010 such as Boston's WODS, Los Angeles's KOST, New York's WLTW, and San Diego's KYXY.[83] In 2017, Chicago's WLIT-FM roughly quadrupled its audience share between November (2.8) and December (12.4) after making the switch.[87][88] The practice may not always transition well into financial success, since advertisers do not universally
recognize Nielsen's holiday ratings book. [89] In some markets, there may be one dominant broadcaster of Christmas music, but this is not always the case. [87] Perceiving a competitive advantage in being the first in a market to begin playing. Or even as
early as late-October. The practice has been considered an example of Christmas creep, [90][85][84] In an extreme example of Christmas creep, at least one station in 2020 (WWIZ in the Mahoning Valley) flipped to Christmas creep, at least one station in 2019,
but had begun two months before Christmas that year, on October 25.[91] WWIZ was the first of many stations in the United States that had flipped to Christmas especially early in 2020, in part to alleviate stress caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.[92][93] As many Christmas songs contain themes strongly associated with Christmas Day (such as
references to figures such as Santa Claus), and popular observance of the Christmas season often ends after December 25 (in contrast to the traditional Twelve Days of Christmas, which by definition runs until Epiphany on January 6), most stations typically end their all-Christmas programming at some point on December 25 or 26. However, it is not
uncommon for stations to continue to play at least some Christmas music through the weekend following Christmas, or even through out the Christmas season; songs that are less readily tolerated for repeated listenings,
such as novelty songs, are seldom played in November and only get mixed into the playlist closer to Christmas as a change of pace. [94] As a stunt format for radio stations, either as a "Christmas in July" promotion, or as a buffer period for transitioning from one format to another. The end of a calendar year is
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a common time period for format switches, often following an all-Christmas format (either immediately, or with a second stunt occurring directly afterward).[95] However, the transition itself can still occur before the end of the holiday season, such as the sudden transition of country station KMPS in Seattle to soft adult contemporary KSWD, after

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briefly playing an all-Christmas format following the merger of CBS Radio and Entercom (due to redundancy with sister station KKWF).[96][97] Playing Christmas music outside of the holiday season, or otherwise implying that the format is permanent, is a more obvious stunt. In April 2008, the new radio station CFWD-FM in Saskatoon soft launched
with an all-Christmas format in preparation for the station's official launch as a top 40 station. [98][99] In an extreme case, adult hits station WJSR in Lakeside/Richmond, Virginia maintained a Christmas music format from October 13, 2020 all the way through March 4, 2021, after which it flipped to classic hits; the station had stunted from the
beginning of October as "Short Attention Span Radio" before switching to Christmas music.[100][101] Outside the United States With the growth in digital broadcasting platforms around the world, the opportunity to offer thematic radio formats on a pop-up basis has increased. In Ireland, a temporary radio station named Christmas FM broadcasts on
a temporary license in Dublin and Cork from November 28 to December 26, solely playing Christmas music. In the UK, the Festive Fifty list of songs as voted for by listeners is broadcast starting on Christmas music.
stations have broadcast on national and local digital platforms in the United Kingdom, with some also being carried on the FM band. These have included: Smooth Christmas, launched by the then-owner of Smooth Radio, Guardian Media Group, on national Digital One DAB in November/December 2011, with the slot used after Christmas by Smooth
70s.[102] The Christmas station returned around the same timeframe of 2012[103] with this space taken over after Christmas by Bauer Radio station of Smooth by Global and the addition of Smooth by 
service was revived by Global to run in 2014[104] and 2015[105] before being superseded by Heart extra Christmas on DAB in subsequent years; the name Smooth Christmas has since been revived as a seasonal pop-up stream within the online Global Player service, playing melodic Christmas hits. Several other streams, such as 'Classic FM
Christmas' playing thematically-appropriate classical music, have also appeared on Global Player at the relevant time of year. Heart extra in February 2016, Global would annually flip that service to playing continuous Christmas music during November and
December of each year. The service broadcast in mono using the DAB+format earlier in 2016,[108] following the transition of Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the transition of Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo using the DAB+format earlier in 2019, Heart extra to broadcast in stereo usi
national DAB+ in 2020, Heart Christmas / Signal Christmas / Signal Christmas / Signal Christmas / The Wave Christmas - in 2014, Wireless Group (then under the control
of UTV Radio) made use of available DAB capacity in three of its FM broadcast areas to launch temporary Christmas in Stoke-on-Trent, and The Wave Christmas in Swansea/southwest Wales. The stations ran annually, appearing each
Christmas music station, Scottish Sun Christmas, on regional DAB in central Scotland. Nation Broadcasting ran a Christmas station on DAB in several areas of Wales in November/December 2015,[105] and following the festive pop-up these slots were taken by Nation Gold (now Dragon Radio Wales). Magic Christmas / Magic 100%
Christmas - Bauer Radio launched this station, a subsidiary of its main Magic station, on national Digital One DAB in late 2017,[107] taking over a slot Bauer had been holding since the summer with Kiss Fresh. (After Christmas this slot was taken up by Absolute Radio 90s, with Kisstory occupying the slot since February 2019.) During December 2018
and 2019, rather than launching a standalone Christmas music stream, as Magic 100% Christmas, through its websites and apps in
August,[111] before flipping the main Magic service to play principally Christmas music from 25 November. In addition, in December 2018, Bauer launched a temporary Christmas music service, Greatest Hits Christmas, broadcast on 105.2 FM in Birmingham and The Black Country during the period leading up to the relaunch of the frequency as
Greatest Hits Radio in January 2019; GHC played Christmas music with announcements regarding the impending new station launch, and information for listeners to the service previously carried on 105.2 FM - Absolute Radio - as to how they could regain access to Absolute by retuning to a digital platform. GHC was not itself broadcast on digital
services. MincePie NonStop - run by UKRD as a sibling service to York FM/DAB station Minster FM, this station was initially an online-only service, being made available on DAB in 2017,[107] 2018[108] and 2019[109] but did not return in 2020 due to the acquisition of UKRD's stations by Bauer Radio, with the conversion of Minster FM to Greatest
Hits Radio York and North Yorkshire. UKRD also ran a pop-up Christmas station in Cornwall, Pirate FM - on DAB in 2018[108] and 2019,[109] freeing space for this with a reduction in the broadcast bitrate of Pirate FM and its sibling services. Although MincePie NonStop no longer broadcasts, listeners in North
Yorkshire were able to access a locally programmed Christmas station on DAB in 2020 with community services have appeared on individual local DAB platforms in recent times, either popping up as self-contained stations (such as Radio Marsden Christmas
which ran in Surrey in 2015[105] and 2017[107]) or as a temporary rebranding of an existing regular station (such as Sandgrounder Radio temporarily renaming as 'Santagrounder' on DAB in 2016[106] and 2017[107]). Christmas music on satellite and internet radio Outside of traditional AM/FM radio, satellite radio provider SiriusXM typically
devotes multiple channels to different genres of Christmas music during the holiday season. [112] Numerous Internet radio services also offer Christmas music channels, some of them available year-round. Citadel Media produced The Christmas music channels, some of them available year-round. Citadel Media produced The Christmas music channels, some of them available year-round.
Citadel instead included Christmas music on its regular Classic Hits network). Music Choice offers nonstop holiday music to its digital cable, cable modem, and mobile phone subscribers between November 1 and New Year's Day on its "Sounds of the Seasons" (traditional), "R&B" (soul), "Tropicales" (Latin), and "Soft Rock" (contemporary) channels,
as well as a year-round "All Christmas" channel. DMX provides holiday music as part of its SonicTap music service for digital cable and DirecTV subscribers, as does Dish Network via its in-house Dish Network via its 
The growing popularity of Internet radio has inspired other media outlets to begin offering Christmas music. In 2009 Phoenix television stations including Ho Ho Radio, which streams Christmas music throughout the month of December. iHeartRadio also has two-year-round stations that are
dedicated to Christmas music. One station, iHeart Christmas, focuses on more contemporary holiday music, while the other, iHeart Christmas Classics, offers seasonal music, offers seasonal music, while the other, iHeart Christmas Classics, offers seasonal music, offers seasonal music, and it is not contemporary holiday music, while the other, iHeart Christmas Classics, offers seasonal music, offers seasonal music, and it is not contemporary holiday music, while the other, iHeart Christmas Classics, offers seasonal music from past decades, seasonal music, and it is not contemporary holiday music. The contemporary holiday music from past decades, seasonal music from past decades and seasonal musi
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