

Album Review Guidelines

These reviews should remain generally positive in tone – we want to review albums in order to gain listeners for us, as well as for the musicians we play. After all, that’s why musicians send us their stuff, to make it *heard*. Spend your review developing reasons why someone should spend time and money on this particular album. Extend your hand into realms other than just liking the sound or being a die-hard fan.

Header – Let’s make this uniform for aesthetic purposes. PLEASE DON’T forget to do this part! (Titles aren’t necessary so don’t worry about that part.) Follow the format below.

Artist:

Album:

Release Date:

Reviewer:

Review Date:

100-500 words – I know we agreed on writing paragraphs. If, for some reason, you find that you would like to write more, feel free to do so. *This format is structured to be applied to a paragraph (100-200 words) OR an essay (250-500 words)*. Bear in mind that essays emphasize how important an album is to our station and should be written for bigger names. Paragraphs are great for smaller names/albums, or ones you maybe didn’t love quite as much.

Paragraph 1/Sentence 1: Introduction

- Look at the artist’s official site for news about the album’s release. What did the artist themselves have to say about it?
- Do you agree with how it was advertised?

Paragraph 2/Sentence 2: Listener Perspective

- Spend a little time discussing the overall sound and tone of this new album.
- Is it different than ones by the same artist in the past? Is it different than what usually happens on an album from its genre? How?

Paragraph 3/Sentence 3: Movement

- How is the album laid out? What does its order do for its overall message/tone/goal?
- This is the space to make observations about the album’s format and overall functionality that you have made.
- What are some themes in the album? How does its order help develop and bring about these themes? Does the sound of the album help further add to the development of these noted themes?

Paragraph 4/Sentence 4: Conclusion

- What did the album do for you? Anything?
- Why should someone listen to it?