

Dating Fender Amps - Using the Fender Tube Chart

Look inside the amp (but don't stick your hand in there, even after being unplugged the amp may retain a dangerous electrical charge), there should be a tube chart on amps manufactured between 1953 and 1967, plus reissues. On this chart there is a hand stamped date code consisting of 2 letters. For example AD would be April 1990 and DG would be July 1954.

Fender Amp Date Codes

Letter Code	Vintage Year	Reissue Year	Month
A	-	1990	January
B	-	1991	February
C	1953	1992	March
D	1954	1993	April
E	1955	1994	May
F	1956	1995	June
G	1957	1996	July
H	1958	1997	August
I	1959	1998	September
J	1960	1999	October
K	1961	-	November
L	1962	-	December
M	1963	-	-
N	1964	-	-
O	1965	-	-
P	1966	-	-
Q	1967	-	-

Dating Marshall Amps

In 1969 Marshall introduced a date coding system. Some of the older Marshall amps have an inspection sticker on the top of the chassis, which usually has the day, month, and year the amp was actually made or inspected. Here's a chart with date codes for Marshall amps. Note, "A" Date Code ran for 18 months (July 1969 to December 1970) so the "B" date Code was never used and has been omitted. Use the serial number to determine the date code. The serial number is generally located on the back of the chassis but from 79 to 80 it was on the front panel. From 1969 to 1983 the date code was after the serial number. From 1984 to 1992 the model number was first, then the date code, then the serial number.

A=1969	A=1970	C=1971	D=1972	E=1973	F=1974
G=1975	H=1976	J=1977	K=1978	L=1979	M=1980
N=1981	P=1982	R=1983	S=1984	T=1985	U=1986
V=1987	W=1988	X=1989	Y=1990	Z=1991	Z=1992

Early Marshall Model Codes (approx. Mid 69 to Late 83)

/A = 200 Watt
SL/ = 100 Watt Super Lead
SB/ = 100 Watt Super Bass
SP/ = Super PA
ST/ = 100 Watt Tremolo
S/ = 50 Watt
T/ = 50 Watt Tremolo

Later Marshall Model Codes (approx. Early 84 to Late 92)

A/ = 200 Watt
SL/A = 100 Watt Super Lead
SB/A = 100 Watt Super Bass
SP/ = Super PA
ST/A = 100 Watt Tremolo
S/A = 50 Watt
T/A = 50 Watt Tremolo
RI = Reissue

Early Marshall Date Code Example

EXAMPLE: SL/A 25353 E
SL/A = Model Code
24523 = Serial Number
E = Date Code
This amp would be a 100 Watt Super Lead 1973

Later Marshall Date Code Example

EXAMPLE: S/A S 24523
S/A = Model Code
S = Date Code
24523 = Serial Number
This amp would be a 50 Watt 1984

Dating Vintage Guitars and Amps by Source-Date Code

<http://www.provide.net/%7Ecfh/pots.html>