Classical Metadata Guidelines

Please review these formatting requirements for classical music releases

Classical releases must adhere to strict metadata guidelines to be accepted by online music platforms.

Incorrect metadata formatting will cause delays with ingesting and delivering classical releases.

Composer/Songwriter Requirement

There **MUST** be a songwriter/composer entered for every track. This field cannot be blank for classical releases.

Title Formatting Rules

1. Colon Separation

Use colons to separate the title of a work from the title of a movement:

Cello Suite No. 1 in G Major, BWV 1007: I. PreludeSuite Bergamasque, L.75: No. 3. Clair de Lune in D-Flat Major

2. Hyphen Usage

Use hyphens to indicate multiple movements/sections in the same track:

String Quartet No. 1 in G Major, K. 80: III. Minuet - Trio

3. Quotation Marks

Use quotation marks to indicate the common nickname of a work:

Piano Sonata No.8, Op 13 'Pathétique': 2nd Movement. Adagio Cantabile in A-Flat Major

4. Catalogue Numbers

Include catalogue numbers in track titles when available:

Symphony No. 9 in D Minor, Op. 125 (Choral)

Search for catalogue numbers on IMSLP.org

5. Arrangement Notation

Note arrangements at the end of track titles:

Orchestral Suite No. 3, BWV 1068: No. 2. Air 'On A G String' in D Major (Arr. for Piano)

6. Work Structure

If track is part of larger work, begin with the larger work title:

Suite Bergamasque, L.75: No. 3. Clair de Lune in D-Flat Major

Consistency

Ensure all track names are formatted consistently throughout if more than one track is released as an album or EP. (Refer above for full guidelines for Classical Titles).

Not Traditional Classical?

If your release is instrumental but not traditional Classical genre, please choose another genre such as **New Age**, **Ambient**, or **Classical Crossover**.

External Resources

Apple Music Style Guide for Classical Music

IMSLP.org - Find Catalogue Numbers