
Ed Sheeran tops radio's most-played songs of 2018

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Ed Sheeran was the most-played artist in the UK last year, while Feel It Still by Portugal The Man was 2018's most-played song.

Sheeran topped the chart despite not releasing new music; and without an entry in the Top 10 most-played tracks, suggesting his entire catalogue of hits remains on rotation on the radio.

It's the third time in four years that he's been the UK's most-played artist.

Calvin Harris came second and Little Mix were third.

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The data was compiled by music royalty body PPL, which monitors the music played on TV and radio; and in pubs and clubs.

It illustrates how some songs achieve a long after-life on radio, months after they stop jostling for position in the official Top 40.

Portugal The Man's feel-good hit Feel It Still was originally released in 2017; but still garnered enough plays to become the biggest radio hit of the year.

Meanwhile Pink's What About Us made the top 10 for a second year in a row - a feat that has only ever been achieved once before, by Maroon 5's Moves Like Jagger in 2011 and 2012.

[P!nk - What About Us \(Official Music Video...](#)

George Ezra made his first appearance in the chart, with the singles Paradise and Shotgun both making an appearance; while Rita Ora, the year's most-played female artist, also had two songs in the top 10 - For You and Anywhere.

Jess Glynne maintained her run of airplay hits, with These Days named the year's second-biggest song.

The star, who's currently supporting the Spice Girls on tour, has appeared in the top 10 most-played tracks in four of the last five years.

Her success has also contributed to a new milestone for the charts: 2018 was the first time that the majority of most-played acts were, or featured, women.

The PPL said nine of the top 10 most-played artists were British, with Pink being the exception.

The charts were revealed ahead of at its AGM, where the society is due to announce that it collected £246.8 million on behalf of 105,192 performers and rights holders over the last year.

PPL's most-played charts 2018

Most-played artists

- 1) Ed Sheeran
- 2) Calvin Harris
- 3) Little Mix
- 4) Rita Ora
- 5) Coldplay
- 6) Pink
- 7) Clean Bandit
- 8) Dua Lipa
- 9) George Ezra
- 10) Jess Glynne

Most-played songs

- 1) Portugal The Man - Feel It Still
 - 2) Rudimental & Jess Glynne - These Days
 - 3) Liam Payne & Rita Ora - For You
 - 4) Calvin Harris & Dua Lipa - One Kiss
 - 5) George Ezra - Shotgun
 - 6) Paloma Faith & Sigala - Lullaby
 - 7) Rita Ora - Anywhere
 - 8) David Guetta & Sia - Flames
 - 9) George Ezra - Paradise
 - 10) Pink - What About Us?
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