Subject: Re: The Death of the Cassette Tape
Posted by Adveser on Fri, 11 Mar 2011 02:32:47 GMT
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Magnetic Tape is wonderful, but not cassettes. They were made with such poor quality that dubbing your own tape from a CD is a much better quality recording.

Tapes are still very popular in some regions, for some reason.

Actually, thier worth is debatable because whichever version of the album the mastering engineer spent the most time with and was best at doing is going to sound superior. That is the reason, other than using the vinyl masters, early CD's sucked. The mastering engineers hadn't figured it out yet and were likely spending more time on the much more popular cassette format in mastering. The CDs were often just the cassette master thrown on a CD, which is why a lot of the CDs early were missing a lot of highs. A lot of Remastered CDs were released as a tape too in the early 90's and unfortunately I firmly believe they mastered for the tape and threw it on a CD. I think Aerosmith did this, or they hired the worst mastering engineer to do their disco in 1993.

A lot of bands only sold well through tape. There was NEVER a time where CD simply took over from Vinyl. Tapes outsold CDs I believe until the late 90's and were always more abundant than Vinyl in the 80's, not necessarily by amount, but you couldn't find a lot of albums on Vinyl but were everywhere on Tape. When I was heavily involved in a record store I always asked why certain albums he never seemed to have on vinyl were unavailable. He started in 1987 and told me that certain records just never came out that way. I wanted the first Skid Row album on Vinyl and was basically told it didn't exist as far as being obtainable in any real sense. That album in particular sold very well and his store was opened and established by the time it came out, so I'm inclined to believe that.