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Subject: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [Cole](#) on Wed, 12 Aug 2026 05:41:34 GMT

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It was like yesterday when I got my first Walkman. It was heavy, the battery ran down fast, and the headphones weren't that great.

However, I can remember that I enjoyed those moments. I truly enjoyed the freedom that I had.

Nowadays, everything is now on our mobile phone. I can't argue against such technological advancements, but there are times that I wish I could have that experience of playing those old cassette devices.

How has your path been right from then till now?

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Subject: Re: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [gofar99](#) on Fri, 14 Aug 2026 02:15:36 GMT

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Hi, I didn't get my first cassette player until I was about 40ish. I did always have something that would play LPs though. I still play them now (I will be 80 in a week). The early gear was a one tube record player. I upgraded it with a better speaker and cartridge. It served me well for a number of years. I also had a huge Firestone console radio. AM and shortwave bands. A real beast with a 10 inch field core speaker. Nice sound in its day. Somewhere along the way I figured I could design and build quality stuff and now all the electronics are my own designs. A number of them went commercial and all were available for diy. Stuff accumulates. 5 turntables, 3 tube phono preamps, 4 SS preamps (my design), numerous amplifiers, R-R tape, cassette tape, 3 Marantz units (1 console amp and 2 receivers --yes I know they are sand based) and numerous speakers (the daily drivers are Martin Logan ESLs with 206 L subs driven by 4 custom Oddblocks. My storage "barn" is full, a large 4 door closet is full and lots of gear is scattered around the house. I hope your electronic trip through life is as full as mine has been.

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Subject: Re: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Fri, 14 Aug 2026 17:01:54 GMT

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I never had a Walkman, or any other portable music player, for that matter. But I have always had good car stereos, even back when what the factory provided really sucks. I installed really good AM/FM cassette decks in my cars, starting with Concorde brand units. Those were incredible - response as good as the best three-head hifi or studio-recording cassette decks of the day. Car-audio was my only form of portable stereo. Still is.

So for me, not much has changed. I listen to a lot of vinyl. I record it on cassettes for my classic cars that still have decks. Put MP3 versions of music on flash drive "pucks" for my more

modern cars.

One thing that changed for me is back in the 1980s, I used to record some albums on reel-to-reel. That way I didn't have to wear out albums for background listening. My turntable and cartridge were very good, but still, I played my favorite music on reel-to-reel back then for background listening.

Now I do that same thing with DVDs. I always buy music on vinyl and DVD, and I use the DVD media for background music and the vinyl media when I want to really enjoy.

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Subject: Re: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [Cole](#) on Wed, 16 Sep 2026 05:31:46 GMT

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Wayne Parham wrote on Fri, 14 August 2026 12:01

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I truly enjoyed using my Walkman back in the 80s. It was my favourite portable music player even though the battery didn't always last as I would want. I cherish your approach with car stereos. I must admit that those Concorde decks that you had sounded like they were the real gems, and I can picture the experience being so great when you recorded vinyl onto cassettes.

Do you, by chance, still have any of those old Concorde units active?

Also, can you remember that one album that you always record each time you acquire a new vinyl?

Subject: Re: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Wed, 16 Sep 2026 13:07:49 GMT

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Sadly, no. I don't have Concordes anymore. They used a clutched reel, and when the clutch wore out, the deck started eating tapes. There are no sources for reels that I'm aware of, so once the clutch wears out, there is no repair path.

I still have two cars with cassette decks, but now I use Pioneer KE-1818 in-dash decks. They're indestructible. Not as good as Concordes, but they sound good and last forever.

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Subject: Re: How has your music journey been from the first Walkman to now?

Posted by [Rusty](#) on Wed, 16 Sep 2026 16:46:02 GMT

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The only portable unit I've ever used is in my head. Its operation anymore is kinda sketchy but it still plays music I like whenever I can cull it up.

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