

# ALBUM OF THE MONTH REVIEW INSTRUCTIONS

## 1) ALBUM INFO

Provide the album information as formatted below.

**Artist/Group:** Miles Davis  
**Album Title:** Kind of Blue  
**Label:** Columbia  
**Release:** August 17, 1959  
**# of Tracks:** 6  
**Artists:** Miles Davis (trumpet), John Coltrane (tenor), Cannonball Adderley (alto), Bill Evans (piano), Paul Chambers (bass), Jimmy Cobb (drums)

## 2) OVERVIEW

In 200 words (about two short paragraphs), summarize your opinion of this month's album. This is your opinion so there are no wrong answers, but you will be graded on how effectively you can articulate your opinion. "I really liked this album because it was good" wouldn't be an effective way to describe your opinion. Don't be vague – explain what elements of the album make it "good" or "bad" and why you liked or disliked it. Use examples to support your argument. You can discuss the compositions, the musicians, solos, feel/groove, how the album flowed as a complete work, etc.

## 3) TRACK SUMMARY

Chose four (4) tracks from the album – your two favorite tracks and two tracks you didn't care for. For each track, write one or two sentences about why you liked/disliked it.

**Format as follows (examples):**

**Track 2:** "Freddie Freeloader"

The solos on this track spoke to me. You hear two distinct voices. Miles Davis' solo is harmonically simple but he is able to communicate his ideas effectively. By contrast, John Coltrane's solo takes more harmonic risks.

**Track 3:** "Blue In Green"

This track is a good contrast to the rest of the album, but it drags on a little too long. I think the rhythm section could have kept the momentum moving forward to contrast the lyrical melody/solos.

## 4) RATING & RECOMMENDATION

Rank the album using a 4-star rating system. Under your ranking, tell us if you'd recommend this album to a friend and why. Example below.

**Rating:**

I give "Kind of Blue" 3 out of 4 stars.

**Recommendation:**

I highly recommend this album to anyone that is new to listening to jazz. The music isn't too complicated to understand and solos are extremely musical.

## OTHER NOTES:

- Make sure to include your name, class, and date on the top right hand corner.
- Spelling and grammar counts!
- Keep your summary to one page.
- Use a 10pt or 12pt font (Arial or Times).
- Only hard copies will be accepted; no links to Google docs or emails with attachments.