

# GRAMMY AWARDS CATEGORY RULES

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## Country Field

This field recognizes excellence in country music recordings that utilize a stylistic intention, song structure, lyrical content and/or musical presentation to create a sensibility that reflects the broad spectrum of country music style and culture. The intent is to recognize country music that remains reminiscent of its culture's legacy while also engaging contemporary forms that "push the boundaries" but still are relevant in the collective country music culture.

The field includes recordings and songs that are country in content as opposed to those that may have a "country flavor," but are aimed at the contemporary or pop audience.

### BEST COUNTRY SOLO PERFORMANCE

#### FOR SINGLES OR TRACKS

#### VOCAL OR INSTRUMENTAL

#### SOLO ARTISTS ONLY (WITH OR WITHOUT BAND ACCOMPANIMENT)

**SCREENING CRITERIA** This category recognizes excellence in recordings of country music performances by solo artists.

### BEST COUNTRY DUO/GROUP PERFORMANCE

#### FOR SINGLES OR TRACKS

#### VOCAL OR INSTRUMENTAL

#### DUO OR GROUP OR COLLABORATION

**SCREENING CRITERIA** This category recognizes excellence in recordings of country music performance by established duos or groups, or collaborations (with significant performance by both/all collaborative artist(s) beyond accompaniment).

Recordings on which a group receives artist billing are eligible here, even when the vocal features only one member of the group. The entire group or collaborative performance, rather than the presence of a lead vocal performance, determines category eligibility.

### BEST COUNTRY SONG

#### A SONGWRITER'S AWARD

#### FOR SINGLES OR TRACKS

**SCREENING CRITERIA** This category recognizes excellence in country music songwriting. Songs which contain samples or interpolations are eligible.

A song must comprise melody and lyrics to be eligible in a songwriting category and must have been released on a recording for the first time, or achieved prominence for the first time, during the current eligibility year.

### BEST COUNTRY ALBUM

#### FOR ALBUMS

#### VOCAL OR INSTRUMENTAL

**SCREENING CRITERIA** This category recognizes excellence for albums across the country music spectrum.