

Trove Competitor Analysis

Rival Solutions

Discogs

Android & iOS

<https://theringsofvinyl.com/best-apps-to-catalog-your-vinyl-collection>

- Online marketplace for buying and selling records and CDs
- Holds largest amount of discography info in every format
- Has a lot of granular detailed data
- Has pricing information

Features

- Catalog and manage your collection
- Searching millions of artists and albums
- Easy add to collection with barcode scan
- Gives suggestions based on collection
- Watchlist for albums you want
- Shareable collection
- Shows the value of your collection
- Preview songs in-line

Demo Notes

Summary:

Unclear sometimes on which kebab menu to use

Expected to be able to organize the collection item into a folder from the Collection Items Details page but had to create a folder structure first. Both were hidden behind ambiguous kebab menus.

Seems like Discogs is good at being a one-stop-shop but in doing so it has a lot to try and manage on screen. They hide a lot in kebab menus but I think some of those critical things should be in the open. It just wasn't clear on when to use which kebab menu and what I would expect it to show.

Search icon is a super search which is great. And Collection and Wishlist items have a "Search collection" or "search wantlist" form window to activate. There is no ambiguity there

Has something called simply "Lists" but I couldn't understand what it was.

Navigation

Hamburger menu opens sidebar for many functions

Search function with extensive sorting and filtering

Search results:

Kebab menu:

- Add to collection
- Add to wantlist
- View items for sale
- View all versions
- Explore genre
- Explore styles

Product page:

- Release date
- Format and versions info
- Label
- Genre & Style
- # users have in collection
- # users have on watchlist
- Sales history
- Ratings
- Add to collection & watchlist icons
- Tracklist
- Videos
- Notes
- Credits

Kebab Menu:

- All versions
- Release stats
- Find similar
- Recommendations
- User reviews
- Last.fm scrobble
- Share release
- View in browser

Vinyl Wall

Android & iOS

<https://theringsofvinyl.com/best-apps-to-catalog-your-vinyl-collection/>

- Less detailed info than Discogs
- Not the best interface but it works
- Allows quick additions and updates
- Browse collection with smart search interface
- Creations of wishlists
- Follow friends and other collectors

Demo Notes

Weird that the top right search icon is to search a collection and not for an album name

Add record button only shows on the collection and wishlist pages when completely empty and not persistently

You have to refresh the pages manually with the top icon.

Nice that it defaults to your collection and it's not hidden in a hamburger menu

Collection, Wishlist, and search for record are icons on bottom tab bar, but the icons are a bit ambiguous and inconsistent with wishlist being words and the others as icons. Also a + for search is a bit odd. They have 2 search icons essentially, which is confusing. The top right is to search a collection and the + is to search for an album in a database

Has a create a record icon in the menu following the + search for a complete blank slate, which is nice for people who want to do manual entry and use their own image.

Search doesn't show various versions, you just have to enter in that info manually on all entries.

Disco FM

iOS only (no demo)

<https://theringsofvinyl.com/best-apps-to-catalog-your-vinyl-collection/>

<https://djmag.com/news/disco-fm-must-have-app-all-crate-diggers-and-vinyl-record-collectors>

- Browse your collection in a “crate digging” fashion
- Catalog your collection manually or by scanning a barcode
- Preview songs from a record from iTunes or YouTube

Demo Notes

Cleanest and least cognitive load of all with the UI and interactions.

Also the least detailed and customizable.

Really nice that it has 2 main functions which really matter most: Search and collection

Searching has a barcode option as well as search field

Search results don't show if you have an album or version of it in your collection

They label your collection as “Saved Release”, which is odd

The icon for “saved release is a star, which to me seems more like adding to a wishlist

Only allows sorting by alphabetical either ascending or descending

Product page:

who have it

who want it

Avg. Rating

Ratings total

Could not find out *how* to rate an album or add to wishlist.

No search history

Absolutely no manual or custom entries

MilkCrate

<https://thevinylfactory.com/news/this-app-lets-you-search-the-discogs-database-scan-barcodes-on-records-and-manage-your-virtual-collection/>

App idea from 2015

Not available anymore since Discogs has an app

- Used Discogs data
- Scan barcodes -- mostly modern records
- Manage collection
- Listen on youtube
- Manage wantlist
- Find sellers in marketplace
- Look up collection while crate digging
- Not able to sort in collection or results

Cratedigger FM

<https://thevinylfactory.com/news/new-web-app-uses-the-discogs-database-to-try-to-emulate-the-experience-of-crate-digging/>

<https://www.digitaltrends.com/music/flip-through-youtube-record-collection-cratedigger-fm/>

Similar idea to MilkCrate

Doesn't exist anymore

- Used Discogs data and tries to emulate crate digging virtually
- Can look at the tracklist and listen if YouTube audio is available
- Offers an alternative way to explore Discogs database.