

Additional photos, album cover art, music and videos at: <http://offspring.com/thehistory/>

1984-1991

Following a riot at a 1984 Social Distortion show, high school buddies Dexter Holland and Greg K decide to start a band of their own, later to become The Offspring, in Garden Grove, California. The band eventually release a few 7-inch singles and then their first full-length effort, THE OFFSPRING, in 1989.

1992-1993

In 1992, punk indie pacesetter Epitaph Records, home of NOFX, Pennywise and Rancid, sign The Offspring and release their second album, IGNITION. The band hit the road alongside their label-mates playing to packed bars, clubs and even Elks Lodges as a surging local punk scene grows into a national movement.

1994-1995

In 1994, The third wave of punk rock breaks in America. A quirky song with a Middle-Eastern guitar line seeps onto the airwaves. "Come Out And Play" from the album SMASH is that song, The Offspring have arrived.

While the band's video is a MTV buzz clip, guitarist Noodles still works as a school janitor for the great health coverage. After students start recognizing him at school and tour offers continue to pile up, he is soon finally convinced to leave the job. Also conceding to the developing momentum, Dexter puts his PHD studies at USC on hiatus.

Along with Green Day and Rancid, The Offspring see the attention of the nation swing to local punk bands with a knack for delivering a good hook with bruising energy. Epitaph can barely keep up with demand as SMASH becomes a phenomenon and goes on to sell 11 million copies - the most ever for a band on an indie.

Dexter and Greg K start Nitro Records. The Huntington Beach-based label forms a roster that includes such California stalwarts as the Vandals, AFI, Guttermouth and others. Nitro also reissues the band's self-titled debut on CD for the first time.

The Offspring head out on their first world tour including stops at the Glastonbury festival in England, the Big Day Out festival in Australia and headlining US tours. At home and to the rest of the world, The Offspring become a pillar of American rock.

1996

On the heels of SMASH's success, the band attempt to negotiate a long term deal with Epitaph. Negotiations break down and fearful their contract will be sold to a major label like Nine Inch Nails' was, The Offspring make the first move. The band sever ties with Epitaph and sign to Columbia Records. The indie community grumbles.

The Offspring headline the UK's Reading Festival.

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1997

Ixnay On The Hombre is released in 1997 spawning the hits "All I Want" and "Gone Away". The video for "I Choose" marks Dexter's directorial debut. Sales dip to "only" 3 MILLION.

1998-1999

The band soon follow up with AMERICANA.

Amid the wild west-like rise of mp3 downloads and file-sharing websites, major label heads are firmly planted in the sand while the band take a more progressive approach. First showing support and then striking deals with the early mp3 file sharing networks to promote the new album. The lead single, Pretty Fly (For A White Guy) is downloaded a record 22 million times earning the #1 spot on Rolling Stone's first ever Top Pirated Internet Songs Chart as AMERICANA goes on to sell 11 Million copies.

The band then file an amicus brief in support of file-sharing service Napster in their case vs. the RIAA. The record industry grumbles. The press raves: "Other bands and labels can wait, but the Offspring want to stake out territory on the Net while the opportunities seem richest."

Another world tour ensues with a return to headlining England's Reading Festival and the band's first ever arena/amphitheater tour.

2000-2002

Predating Radiohead by 7 years, The Offspring spawn more controversy when they decide to offer their 2000 album, CONSPIRACY OF ONE, free of charge in mp3 format via offspring.com prior to its initial release. Offspring fans downloading the record are automatically registered in a contest to be awarded \$1,000,000 of the band's own money live on MTV on the day of the album's release. Sony Music grumbles.

In a settlement reached on the courthouse steps with Sony Music, the free download is limited to just the single "Original Prankster."

After having single-handedly destroyed the music industry, the band sarcastically turn the tables and are hit with a cease-and-desist order after offering Napster logo T-shirts for sale on the band's own website. The band defend their actions, claiming they were simply "sharing" the Napster logo with fans. Napster grumbles.

The band returns to US arenas before heading to Europe and headlining slots at Japan's Summer Sonic Festival, UK's Reading and Leeds festivals and KROQ's Inland Invasion.

After years of supporting underground skate and surf videos, the band release their own entitled HUCK IT and join Tony Hawk on tour with his Boom Boom Huck Jam action sports show.

2003-2004

In 2003, the band jokingly steal Guns N' Roses' "Chinese Democracy" album title for their own upcoming album. Axl grumbles. The band release the album re-titled SPLINTER. The first single, "Hit That," tops the modern rock charts - 10 years after the band's first #1.

The Offspring embark on yet another world tour, once again headlining Reading and Leeds, returning to South America and playing their first shows in South Africa.

2005

The GREATEST HITS collection follows in 2005 along with the band's first ever Warped Tour appearance and a benefit show for the famed C.B.G.B.'s club in New York City.

2007-2008

The Offspring are in the studio with producer Bob Rock, putting finishing touches on a new record to be released in June 2008 with an accompanying world tour.