

The Partridge Family

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The Partridge Family catapulted David Cassidy to stardom

THE SHOW: Gee whiz, those Partridges sure have a fun life, don't they? I mean, traveling around in their psychedelic bus, playing rock'n'roll all the time, just bein' stars. I'd give anything if I could do that! And anyway, their mom is so-o-o hip. My Mom wouldn't ever do what theirs does. I mean, wow, my Mom doesn't even know *how* to drive a bus, let alone sing in a rock band. And she's really uptight — not like Mrs. Partridge, who never really gets mad at the kids. She just kinda digs whatever's happening. You know, those guys sure got lucky when they made that record in their garage. I

mean, to have a record company buy the song — and then to have it be a hit, too! I keep trying to get my brother to record us on his tape recorder, but he says he's too busy. Oh wow! Look, girls, like it's David Cassidy! He is too much! Isn't he dreamy? Far out! . . .

THE SONG: Sung by the Partridges while an animated egg cracked open and little birds paraded out.



Shirley Partridge: Shirley Jones
Keith Partridge: David Cassidy
Laurie Partridge: Susan Dey
Danny Partridge: Danny Bonaduce
Tracy Partridge: Suzanne Crough
Christopher Partridge: Jeremy Gelbwaks (1970-71), Brian Forster (1971-74)
Reuben Kinkaid (their manager): David Madden

Vital Statistics

Half-hour sitcom. ABC. 96 episodes.
First aired: Sept. 25, 1970
Most popular time slot: Friday, 8:30-9:00 (1970-73)
Last show: Aug. 31, 1974
Ranked in a year's Top 25: 1972 (16), 1973 (19)

INSIDE FACTS

THE PARTRIDGE CRAZE:

- They were described by a Screen Gems exec in 1972 as "the Partridge Family money machine."
- Their show, records, and licensed merchandise reportedly earned \$11 million a year.
- Merchandise included bubblegum cards, love beads, bumper stickers, astrological charts, lunch boxes, and lots more.
- A children's-wear manufacturer introduced a line of Partridge fashions.
- 200,000 people paid \$2 each for membership in their fan club.
- The Partridge Family Magazine sold 400,000 copies a month.
- They sold millions of albums and had 7 Top 40 singles, in spite of the fact that none of them played on the records, and only David Cassidy and Shirley Jones even sang on them.

TRIVIA QUIZ

1. What did Shirley Jones have to learn to do for her role on the show?
2. What was the Partridges' dog named?
3. What was the Partridges' hometown in California?
4. What was Shirley Partridge's marital status?
5. The Partridge Family had 2 Top 10 hits besides "I Think I Love You." Name one

ANSWERS

1. Drive with a stick shift (to drive the bus)
2. Simone
3. San Pueblo — address (for fanatics): 698 Sycamore Road.
4. Widowed
5. "Doesn't Somebody Want To Be Wanted," (#6, 1971), "I'll Meet You Halfway" (#9, 1971)

Hello world, hear the song that we're
singin',
Come on get happy.
A whole lot of lovin' is what we'll be
bringin'.
We'll make you happy.

We had a dream we'd go travelin'
together,
We'd spread a little lovin' then we'd
keep movin' on.
Somethin' always happens whenever
we're together,
We get a happy feelin when we're
singin' a song.

Trav'lin' along there's a song that we're
singin',
Come on get happy.
A whole lot of lovin' is what we'll be
bringin',
We'll make you happy.
We'll make you happy.
We'll make you happy.