

# Spinderella

## DJ Spinderella

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Deidra Muriel Roper (born August 3, 1970), known professionally as DJ Spinderella or simply Spinderella, is an American DJ, rapper and producer. She is best known as a member of the hip-hop group Salt-N-Pepa. Roper occasionally appeared in *The Salt-n-Pepa Show*, a reality TV series focusing on reforming the group, which aired on the VH1 network in 2008.

## Salt-N-Pepa

*1985, that comprised Salt (Cheryl James), Pepa (Sandra Denton), and DJ Spinderella (Deidra Roper). Their debut album, Hot, Cool & Vicious (1986), sold more*

Salt-N-Pepa (sometimes stylized as Salt 'N' Pepa) is an American hip hop group formed in New York City in 1985, that comprised Salt (Cheryl James), Pepa (Sandra Denton), and DJ Spinderella (Deidra Roper). Their debut album, *Hot, Cool & Vicious* (1986), sold more than 1 million copies in the US, making them the first female rap act to achieve gold and platinum status by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). The album included the single, "Push It", which was released in 1987 as the B-side to their single "Tramp", and peaked within the top 20 on the Billboard Hot 100.

Salt-N-Pepa's second album *A Salt with a Deadly Pepa* (1988), was certified gold by the RIAA. The Trio's third album, *Blacks' Magic* (1990), featured the singles "Expression" and "Let's Talk About Sex". In 1993, they released the album, *Very Necessary*, which sold more than 7 million copies worldwide (5 million of those in the U.S.), and was the highest-selling rap album by a female act (solo or group) in history at the time. The album included the hit singles "Shoop" and "Whatta Man" with *En Vogue*. They won the 1995 Grammy Award for Best Rap Performance by a Duo or Group for their song "None of Your Business", making them one of the first female rap acts to win a Grammy Award, along with Queen Latifah, who won later during the same ceremony. In 2021, they won a Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award. Salt-N-Pepa was selected for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2025 for Musical Influence.

Salt-N-Pepa have sold more than 15 million records worldwide, making them one of the best selling rap acts of all time. Their success in rap and hip hop culture has earned them the honorific title "The First Ladies of Rap".

## Salt (rapper)

*female rap trio Salt-N-Pepa, which also includes Pepa (Sandra Denton) and Spinderella (Deidra "Dee Dee" Roper). James starred in The Salt-N-Pepa Show, a reality*

Cheryl Renee James (born March 28, 1966), also known as Salt, is an American rapper. She is best known as a member of the female rap trio Salt-N-Pepa, which also includes Pepa (Sandra Denton) and Spinderella (Deidra "Dee Dee" Roper). James starred in *The Salt-N-Pepa Show*, a reality TV series focusing on reforming the group; which aired on the VH1 network in 2008.

## Very Special (song)

*this regard. "Very Special" was covered by Big Daddy Kane featuring DJ Spinderella in 1993. It was the second single released from his fifth studio album*

"Very Special" is a song by Debra Laws. Released as a single in 1981, it is the title track of her first album, and features her brother Ronnie with call and response backing vocals.

The song reached #90 on the US Billboard Hot 100 during the summer of the year. It peaked at number 11 on the R&B chart. On that chart, it ranks as the 64th biggest hit of 1981.

"Very Special" has been most notably covered and/or sampled by Big Daddy Kane and Jennifer Lopez, and has been the subject of lawsuits in this regard.

Chris Cornell

*Award for Musical Excellence Thom Bell Nicky Hopkins Carol Kaye Award for Musical Influence Salt-N-Pepa (Pepa, Salt and DJ Spinderella) Warren Zevon*

Christopher John Cornell (né Boyle; July 20, 1964 – May 18, 2017) was an American musician, best known as the lead vocalist, rhythm guitarist, and the primary lyricist for the rock bands Soundgarden and Audioslave. He also had a solo career and contributed to numerous movie soundtracks. Cornell was the founder and frontman of Temple of the Dog, a one-off tribute band dedicated to his late friend, musician Andrew Wood. Several music journalists, fan polls and fellow musicians have regarded Cornell as one of the greatest rock singers of all time.

Cornell is considered a key figure of the 1990s grunge movement with an extensive songwriting history, a nearly four-octave vocal range and a powerful vocal belting technique. Cornell released four solo studio albums, *Euphoria Morning* (1999), *Carry On* (2007), *Scream* (2009), and *Higher Truth* (2015); the live album *Songbook* (2011); and two compilations, *The Roads We Choose* (2007) and *Chris Cornell* (2018), the latter released posthumously. He received a Golden Globe Award nomination for his song "The Keeper", which appeared in the 2011 film *Machine Gun Preacher*, and co-wrote and performed "You Know My Name", the theme song to the 2006 James Bond film *Casino Royale*. His last solo release before his death was the charity single "The Promise", written for the ending credits for the 2016 film of the same name.

Cornell struggled with depression for most of his life. He was found dead in his Detroit hotel room in the early hours of May 18, 2017, after performing at a Soundgarden concert an hour earlier at the Fox Theatre. His death was ruled a suicide by hanging.

Cornell sold 14.8 million albums, 8.8 million digital songs, and 300 million on-demand audio streams in the U.S. alone, as well as over 30 million records worldwide. Nominated for 18 Grammy Awards, he won three. Cornell was ranked No. 4 on the list of "Heavy Metal's All-Time Top 100 Vocalists" by *Hit Parader*, No. 9 on the list of "Best Lead Singers of All Time" by *Rolling Stone*, No. 80 on the list of the "200 Greatest Singers of All Time" by *Rolling Stone*, and No. 12 on MTV's "22 Greatest Voices in Music". He was voted "Rock's Greatest Singer" by readers of *Guitar World*. In 2025, Cornell was posthumously inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame as a member of Soundgarden.

Warren Zevon

*Award for Musical Excellence Thom Bell Nicky Hopkins Carol Kaye Award for Musical Influence Salt-N-Pepa (Pepa, Salt and DJ Spinderella) Warren Zevon*

Warren William Zevon (; January 24, 1947 – September 7, 2003) was an American rock singer and songwriter. His most famous compositions include "Werewolves of London", "Lawyers, Guns and Money" and "Roland the Headless Thompson Gunner". All three songs are featured on his third album, *Excitable Boy* (1978), the title track of which is also well-known. He also wrote major hits that were recorded by other artists, including "Poor Poor Pitiful Me", "Mohammed's Radio", "Carmelita" and "Hasten Down the Wind". Per *The New York Times*, "Mr. Zevon had a pulp-fiction imagination" which yielded "terse, action-packed, gallows-humored tales that could sketch an entire screenplay in four minutes and often had death as a

punchline. But there was also vulnerability and longing in Mr. Zevon's ballads, like 'Mutineer,' 'Accidentally Like a Martyr' and 'Hasten Down the Wind'."

Zevon had early music industry successes as a session musician, jingle composer, songwriter, touring musician, musical coordinator and bandleader. However, he struggled to break through with a solo career until Linda Ronstadt performed his music on her 1976 album *Hasten Down the Wind*. It launched a cult following that lasted 25 years, with Zevon making occasional returns to album and single charts until his death from mesothelioma in 2003. He briefly found a new audience by teaming up with members of R.E.M. in the blues rock outfit Hindu Love Gods for a 1990 album release, although no tour followed. In 2025, Zevon was selected for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in the Musical Influence Award category.

Known for his dry wit and acerbic lyrics, he was a frequent guest on *Late Night with David Letterman* and the *Late Show with David Letterman*. On Zevon's last appearance, Letterman asked him if he had learned anything about matters of life and death. Zevon said he'd learned "How much you're supposed to enjoy every sandwich."

Joe Cocker

*Award for Musical Excellence Thom Bell Nicky Hopkins Carol Kaye Award for Musical Influence Salt-N-Pepa (Pepa, Salt and DJ Spinderella) Warren Zevon*

John Robert "Joe" Cocker (20 May 1944 – 22 December 2014) was an English singer known for his gritty, bluesy voice and dynamic stage performances featuring expressive body movements. Most of his best-known singles, such as

"Feelin' Alright?" and "Unchain My Heart", were recordings of songs written by other songwriters, though he composed a number of songs for most of his albums as well, often in conjunction with songwriting partner Chris Stainton.

His first album featured a recording of the Beatles' "With a Little Help from My Friends", which brought him to near-instant stardom. The song reached number one in the UK in 1968, became a staple of his many live shows (Woodstock and the Isle of Wight in 1969, the Party at the Palace in 2002) and was also known as the theme song for the late 1980s American TV series *The Wonder Years*. He continued his success with his second album, which included a second Beatles song, "She Came In Through the Bathroom Window". A hastily thrown together 1970 US tour led to the live double-album *Mad Dogs & Englishmen*, which featured an all-star band organized by Leon Russell. His 1974 recording of "You Are So Beautiful" reached number five in the US, and became his signature song. Cocker's best-selling song was the US number one "Up Where We Belong", a duet with Jennifer Warnes that earned a 1983 Grammy Award. He released a total of 22 studio albums over a 43-year recording career.

In 1993, Cocker was nominated for the Brit Award for Best British Male Solo Artist. He was awarded a bronze Sheffield Legends plaque in his hometown in 2007, and received an OBE the following year for services to music. Cocker was ranked number 97 on Rolling Stone's 100 greatest singers list. Cocker was selected for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2025.

Bad Company

*Award for Musical Excellence Thom Bell Nicky Hopkins Carol Kaye Award for Musical Influence Salt-N-Pepa (Pepa, Salt and DJ Spinderella) Warren Zevon*

Bad Company were an English rock supergroup formed in London in 1973 by singer Paul Rodgers and drummer Simon Kirke (both ex-Free), guitarist Mick Ralphs (ex-Mott the Hoople) and bassist Boz Burrell (ex-King Crimson). Kirke was the only member to remain throughout the band's entire run, while he and

Ralphs were the only members to appear on every studio album. Peter Grant, who managed the rock band Led Zeppelin, also managed Bad Company until 1982. Burrell died in 2006, followed by Ralphs in 2025, leaving Kirke and Rodgers as the only surviving members of the original line-up.

Bad Company enjoyed great success throughout the 1970s. Their first three albums, *Bad Company* (1974), *Straight Shooter* (1975) and *Run with the Pack* (1976), reached the top five in the album charts in both the UK and the US. Many of their singles and songs, such as "Bad Company", "Can't Get Enough" (1974), "Feel Like Makin' Love" (1975), "Shooting Star" (1975), "Burnin' Sky" (1977) and "Rock 'n' Roll Fantasy" (1979), remain staples of classic rock radio. They have sold 20 million RIAA-certified albums in the US and 40 million worldwide. Though they initially disbanded in 1982, Bad Company reunited on many occasions to record and tour until 2019. In 2023, Kirke revealed that they would not continue as a band following the development of Rodgers' recent health issues.

Bad Company were selected for induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2025.

Pepa (rapper)

*who was the original DJ of the group. Shortly after in 1986, Deidra "Spinderella" Roper joined as the group's DJ as a full-length debut album, Hot, Cool*

Sandra Jacqueline Denton (born 9 November 1964 or 1969), better known by her stage name Pepa or Pep, is a Jamaican-American rapper, best known for her work as a member of the female rap trio Salt-N-Pepa. Denton starred in *The Salt-N-Pepa Show*, a reality TV series focusing on reforming the group which aired on the VH1 network in 2008. Since January 2016, Denton has appeared as a supporting cast member on the music reality television show *Growing Up Hip Hop* which airs on We TV.

All-4-One

*inaugural "I Love the 90's" Tour with their peers Salt-N-Pepa featuring Spinderella, Vanilla Ice, Coolio, Tone Loc, Color Me Badd, Rob Base, Kid N Play and*

All-4-One is an American male R&B and pop group best known for their hit singles "I Swear", "So Much in Love" and "I Can Love You Like That". The group is composed of band members Jamie Jones, Delious Kennedy, Alfred Nevarez, and Tony Borowiak, all from the Antelope Valley and Mojave, California areas.

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