

TOP TEN

Metallica songs

As the metal titans announce two huge gigs at The O2, *Tristan Parker* counts down their classics



10 **'Hardwired'**
The most recent song in the list, this 2016 single not only bangs harder than anything they've released for 25 years, it also crams all that fire and energy into three intense minutes. A proper headbanger.

9 **'St. Anger'**
After the – ahem – 'lukewarm' reception to 1997's 'Reload', Metallica came back with thrashy riffs, double-time beats and growling vocals, best demonstrated on this 2003 rack.

8 **'The Unforgiven'**
A salute to composer Ennio Morricone's spaghetti western soundtracks – thanks to its dramatic opening twangs – the song then slides into a gritty, groove-laden melody. It's unashamedly epic.

7 **'Damage, Inc.'**
Cards on the table: this one won't be for everyone. It's mostly just pummelled, precise chaos. And that's exactly the point.

6 **'For Whom the Bell Tolls'**
This anti-warfare song's steady stomp and wailing chords are impossible to resist, especially with yet another massive chorus that crowds delight in screaming back to the band: 'TIME MARCHES ON!'

5 **'The Four Horsemen'**
Metallica's don't-give-a-fuck arrogance was fully justified by their canny musical chops, flexed ferociously on this 1983 track. It's raw and messy, but full of smart, killer guitar parts bouncing into each other.

4 **'Enter Sandman'**
Sure, you've heard it at every cheesy rock night, and your dad probably likes it, but don't pretend it's not a belter. 'Enter Sandman' was a massive part of hoofing Metallica into biggest-baddest-band-in-the-world territory.

3 **'Creeping Death'**
It's not hard to see why this has become a Metallica live staple and a fan favourite – mainly due to the section that demands audiences obediently chant 'DIE, DIE, DIE, DIE'. Look, it's not like being in a cult, okay?

2 **'One'**
Telling the story of a war veteran left blinded, deaf and paraplegic is not an easy ride lyrically but 'One' became a signature tune for the band due to its mix of clever, catchy guitar work with dramatic, frenetic sections. Thought-provoking thrash metal? Hell yeah.

1 **'Master of Puppets'**
Let's be honest. Any Metallica live show is partly an exercise in waiting for this beast to erupt: that frenzied intro; those rushing, choppy riffs; that scream-along chorus. Crank this fucker up and remind yourself that Metallica have written some of the best metal songs of all time.
→ Metallica play The O2 on Oct 17 and Oct 22.

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