Read this if you want to create the perfect custom vinyl record.

Vinyl has a nice full, warm sound and lets you experience music the way it's meant to be. In addition, it comes in a fun format that allows you to customize it however you want! That's why there are a few things, you should know before you start creating your own custom vinyl record. Read the 7 tips from our vinyl cutting specialist and graphic designer. It'll help you to create a vinyl record that rocks, just like you.

1   Use music that sounds great

The higher the quality of the music, the better it will sound on your vinyl record. Using mastered music is the best option, either mp3 (320kbps), flac or wav files (high bitrate). Remember to first level the audio or tracks, to ensure the best result. Naturally, our vinyl cutting specialist tests the quality of the music as well. For example, when a tone is too soft, it's possible to level the audio and boost it.

It's not always about music

You're not just restricted to music. Imagine the heartbeat of your expected baby to announce your pregnancy, farewell wishes for your retiring colleague or a happy birthday message for your best friend. Whatever the audio, we'd love to hand-cut it for you.

2   Size matters, talking about fonts and images

The higher the picture quality, the better the result. For images make sure you work with high-resolution in .jpeg or .png (minimum 2048x2048). And – in case you create your own design – for the love of fonts: pick a size, weight and style that make it easy to read.

3 Choose your colors and design wisely

Currently you can choose from three different colors: black, white or transparent colors. Why not combine it with a colorful label and cover. Ensure there's an obvious contrast between the white text color and background color. For reading purposes, find a high contrast pairing for the text on both your labels and cover. For example, don't use white text on a light or cream background or make sure the logo in your design should be within the safety zone, represented by the red lines. Everything outside of these lines fall on the fold and may be cut off.

Bad Example:

Good Example:

4 Enjoy creative freedom with a template

If you know what you like, but you don't know how to make it. Be easy on yourself and use one of the templates for the best result.

You can choose from 3 free templates on our website. Get inspired.
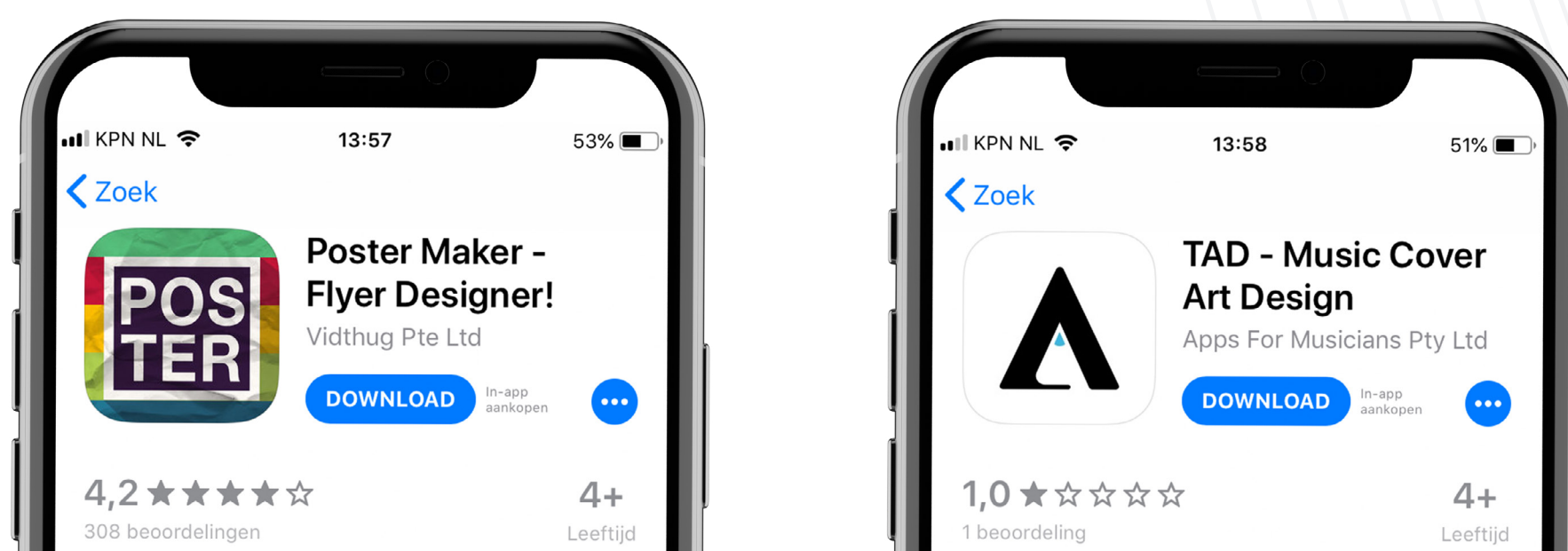

Do you have some slick design skills up your sleeve and want to make your design using a template? You can request our template and design brief via info@vinylify.com

5   Create your cover artwork with free online tools on your phone (iPhone & Android)

If you do have design and photoshop skills, just let your creativity run wild. But if not… you can use your phone to make a personal cover art and use templates, filters and brushes to make it stunning. Of course, you can use Instagram to spice it up, but there are some more extensive apps that can help you:

Free Apps: Poster Maker – Flyer Designer (3 day trial)
Paid Apps: TAD – Music Cover Art Design ($5,49)

Hungry for more?

Read these blog posts about the best editor apps for iPhone and Android.

Read iPhone blog post or read Android blog post.

6   Spice up your vinyl with a personal voice message

One of the cool things about a custom vinyl is that you can add a voice message as an introduction, or maybe even a hidden proposal… All you need is your phone, no professional equipment required.

How it works?

iPhone: Search for Dictaphone on your iPhone. This is pre-installed, no installation needed. Android: Download free apps like Hi-Q MP3 Voice Recorder or Easy Voice Recorder.

7   When in doubt, ask a question

Vinylify is an online service, but we cut your custom vinyl record and prepare it for the safe journey from our production studio/store, based in Amsterdam. So… if you have any questions (for example, about faster delivery options) or requests for your custom vinyl record, we'd love to help.