

# I am the

# 80s



AC/DC  
Accept  
Aerosmith  
Armored Saint  
Autograph  
Bad English  
Black Sabbath  
Bon Jovi  
Boston  
Enuff Z-Nuff  
Europe  
Extreme  
Fleethouse  
Guns N' Roses  
Hanoi White  
KISS  
King Diamond  
Kingdom Come

MTV may have been the single most influential entity in music industry during the 1980s. Premiering in 1981, MTV gave bands and artists greater exposure for their music in a greater and more widely popular medium. The first video ever played on MTV was aptly titled "Video Killed the Radio Star" by the Buggles. Duran Duran is one of the more popular 80s bands that enjoyed the exposure that MTV gave them, too. Many experts have said that MTV is what made Duran Duran one of the most popular bands to come out of the 1980s era.

New Wave and Synthpop was another genre of music that came about during this era. This form held on to many of the attributes of the popular Punk Rock genre coming out of the 1970s, but it had different characteristics. While the Punk Rock of the 1970s was a retaliation against the government and the "establishment," the New Wave and Synthpop forms were meant to be anti-corporation in a more experimental sense, both melodically and lyrically. These genres were so closely tied that they are often just lumped into the category of New Wave, but it influenced an entire generation of music fans with its poppy sound and intricate lyrics. Bands like The Police, the B-52's, and Duran Duran are recognizable names that fit into this category of 1980s music.

The 1980s era also enjoyed a harder style of music. Good ol' Rock 'n Roll was a main staple of the 80s music. Popular rock bands like Van Halen, Def Leppard, and Aerosmith pumped out the decibels to the enjoyment of thousands, if not millions, of fans. It was also an era of a genre deemed Glam Rock. This included bands like Motley Crue, Poison, and other bands that were known for wild hair, tons of hairspray, and flashy stage outfits. Band members were also known for promiscuity and some bands, such as Twisted Sister, wore makeup as a form of shock and rebellion against the strict culture of the times. The 1980s also saw the formation of a harder type of rock and metal, called Thrash Metal. Bands like Metallica, Megadeth, and Slayer created electrifying guitar riffs and headbanging beats that could only be enjoyed at maximum volume.