

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ed Sheeran

ED SHEERAN SCORES BIGGEST DEBUT OF 2017

“÷” ENTERS BILLBOARD 200 AT #1 WITH LARGEST SALES WEEK OF THE YEAR EXCEEDING 451,000 UNITS

MULTIPLE GRAMMY WINNER’S THIRD STUDIO ALBUM HAS SOLD 4 MILLION UNITS WORLDWIDE WITH FIGURES STILL COMING IN

#1 ON iTUNES CHART IN 102 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD

LEAD SINGLE “SHAPE OF YOU” BREAKS THE ALL TIME RECORDS FOR MOST PLAYED SONG IN A SINGLE WEEK ON BOTH TOP 40 AND HOT AC RADIO

RIAA 2X PLATINUM CERTIFIED TRACK CONTINUES TO DOMINATE THE CHARTS, HOLDING AT #1 ON BILLBOARD’S “HOT 100,” TOP 40 AND HOT AC RADIO, iTUNES’ “TOP SONGS,” AND SPOTIFY’S “TOP 50”

PRESALE FOR THE NORTH AMERICAN ARENA TOUR BEGINS TODAY

“÷” AVAILABLE NOW



**DOWNLOAD/STREAM “÷” [HERE](#)
ALL PRESS ASSETS AVAILABLE [HERE](#)**

Global superstar Ed Sheeran has made history once again, scoring the biggest debut of the year with first week sales equivalents of his album “÷” (pronounced “divide”) exceeding 451,000 units. The multiple-GRAMMY winner enters the Billboard 200 at #1 for the second time, doubling the first week

sales of his previous album, 2014's "x" (pronounced "multiply"), which debuted at the top of the chart with 209,000 units. "÷" is also a global phenomenon, selling 4 million units worldwide even with first week figures still coming in. Likewise, the landmark album has gone to #1 on iTunes in 102 countries around the world, and shattered the record for the highest first week Spotify streams ever, logging more than 375 million streams over the full week. In Sheeran's native U.K., "÷" debuted at #1 on the Official Albums Chart with a staggering 672,000 units in its first week, the third highest week one sales of any album in the chart's history.

Ed Sheeran said: *"After being away for so long, I was hoping my fans would feel the new music was worth the wait, but the response has been beyond my wildest expectations. Heartfelt thanks to all who picked up ÷ this week. Its f—king bonkers. Absolutely chuffed."*

Craig Kallman, Chairman & CEO and Julie Greenwald, Chairman & COO, Atlantic Records said: *"Ed is that rarest of artists whose songs cut across boundaries of age, culture, and nationality. He writes music that is deeply personal and at the same time completely universal, and he has created a phenomenal album that is striking a chord with millions of people across the globe. In six short years, Ed has become a superstar by simply being himself – an amazing, down-to-earth human being who is an out-of-this-world musician, songwriter, and performer. All of us at Atlantic are immensely proud to have Ed in our family, and we congratulate him on this landmark achievement."*

["Shape Of You"](#) – the lead single off of "÷" – is also making history on its own, breaking the all-time record for the most played song in a single week at Top 40 - besting Taylor Swift's "Bad Blood" which held the record since 2015 - AND Hot AC radio. The RIAA 2x-Platinum certified smash holds the #1 spot at both formats for the fourth and third consecutive week respectively, and on [Billboard's](#) Hot 100 for the sixth week. "Shape of You" and fellow "÷" single "Castle On The Hill" debuted at #1 and #6 respectively on [Billboard's](#) "Hot 100" earlier this year, establishing Sheeran as the first artist to ever have two singles make simultaneous top 10 debuts in the chart's 58-year history. "Shape of You" and the RIAA-Gold certified ["Castle on the Hill"](#) were the first two songs released in 2017 to achieve certifications this year. Additionally, "Shape of You" tops iTunes' "Top Songs" chart and Spotify's "Top 50" (both Global and U.S.). The song's official companion video – directed by MTV Video Music Award winner Jason Koenig – is further achieving record-shattering numbers, with individual views in excess of 350 million at Sheeran's official [YouTube](#) while songs from "÷" alone have passed the 1 billion mark in YouTube views.

Sheeran recently announced details for his North American arena tour, which begins June 29th at Kansas City, Mo's Sprint Center and then continues through early October (see attached itinerary). Pre-sale tickets are available for purchase now through Thursday, March 16th at 10 PM (all times local); supplies are limited. All remaining tickets will then be released to the general public on Friday, March 17th at 10 AM (local) except the July 19th date at Montreal, QC's Bell Centre, on sale at 12 Noon (local). For complete details, please visit www.edsheeran.com/live.htm.

"÷" has received a raft of praise, with rave reviews in the [New York Times](#) and [Rolling Stone](#), where the British singer-songwriter graces the [cover](#) for the first time. Sheeran kicked off a high profile, national television blitz last month, performing on "Saturday Night Live" ("[Shape Of You](#)" / "[Castle on the Hill](#)"), then travelling cross-country overnight to take the stage at [The 59th GRAMMY Awards](#) less than 24 hours later. Subsequent appearances in support of the release of "÷" include stops at [The Ellen DeGeneres Show](#), [The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon](#), [CBS Sunday Morning](#), the [2017 iHeartRadio Music Awards](#), [The Howard Stern Show](#), and an outdoor concert in NYC's Rockefeller Plaza on [Today](#).

Ed Sheeran – a multiple GRAMMY Award winner and 11-time GRAMMY nominee - has quickly established himself as one of the world’s biggest musical artists with over 22 million albums sold and 4.7 billion Spotify streams. “÷” follows the British singer-songwriter’s second full length album “x” (pronounced *multiply*) – released in 2014 – which proved to be both a critical and commercial phenomenon. After debuting at #1 on the Billboard 200 upon its release, the album has since been certified 4x-Platinum in the US and earned two GRAMMY nominations, including the prestigious “Album Of The Year.” Additionally, “x” spawned four consecutive multi-platinum singles in “Sing,” “Don’t,” “Photograph,” and his global smash and biggest single to date “Thinking Out Loud,” which marked his first #1 at Top 40 radio and won a pair of GRAMMY awards, including highly coveted “Song Of The Year.”

Furthermore, “x” was a global sensation reaching #1 on album charts in 14 countries including his native United Kingdom, and topping 95 iTunes charts across the globe. One of the planet’s most popular live performers, Ed has played sold out headline shows at some of the biggest venues around the world, including Gillette Stadium in Foxborough, MA, Suncorp Stadium in Sydney, and at London’s Wembley Stadium in front of 240,000 fans over 3 nights. Ed first broke through to the mainstream in 2012 with his debut album “+” (pronounced *plus*), which was a top 5 debut in the US and spent three weeks at #1 in the UK. The 2x-Platinum “+” features “The A Team”, an international smash which earned Ed his first GRAMMY nomination (“Song Of The Year”) and has been certified 3x-Platinum in the US.

Sheeran launched his own imprint, Gingerbread Man Records, in 2015, with the signing of fellow British singer songwriter Jamie Lawson – whose self-titled album debuted at #1 in the UK – and Irish troubadour Foy Vance.

FOR MORE ON ED SHEERAN:

[OFFICIAL WEBSITE](#) | [INSTAGRAM](#) | [FACEBOOK](#) | [TWITTER](#) | [YOUTUBE](#)

PRESS CONTACTS:

Glenn Fukushima – glenn.fukushima@atlanticrecords.com

Jason Davis – jason.davis@atlanticrecords.com

ED SHEERAN
2017 NORTH AMERICAN ARENA TOUR

JUNE

29	Kansas City, MO	Sprint Center
30	Des Moines, IA	Wells Fargo Arena

JULY

1	St. Paul, MN	Xcel Center
7	Toronto, ON	Air Canada Centre
9	Buffalo, NY	KeyBank Center
11	Philadelphia, PA	Wells Fargo Center
14	Uncasville, CT	Mohegan Sun Arena
15	Uncasville, CT	Mohegan Sun Arena
18	Quebec City, QC	Videotron Centre
19	Montreal, QC	Bell Centre
22	Winnipeg, MB	MTS Centre
23	Saskatoon, SK	SaskTel Centre
25	Edmonton, AB	Rogers Place
28	Vancouver, BC	Rogers Arena
29	Tacoma, WA	Tacoma Dome
30	Portland, OR	Moda Center

AUGUST

1	Sacramento, CA	Golden 1 Center
2	Oakland, CA	Oracle Arena
4	Las Vegas, NV	T-Mobile Arena
5	Glendale, AZ	Gila River Arena
6	San Diego, CA	Valley View Casino Center
10	Los Angeles, CA	Staples Center
15	Denver, CO	Pepsi Center
17	Tulsa, OK	BOK Center
18	Dallas, TX	American Airlines Center
19	Houston, TX	Toyota Center
22	San Antonio, TX	AT&T Center
25	Duluth, GA	Infinite Energy Center
29	Tampa, FL	Amalie Center
30	Miami, FL	American Airlines Arena
31	Orlando, FL	Amway Center

SEPTEMBER

2	Raleigh, NC	PNC Arena
3	Charlotte, NC	Spectrum Center
5	Charleston, SC	North Charleston Center
7	Louisville, KY	KFC YUM! Center

8	Indianapolis, IN	Bankers Life Fieldhouse
9	Cleveland, OH	Quicken Loans Arena
12	Omaha, NE	CenturyLink Center
15	Chicago, IL	Allstate Arena
17	St. Louis, MO	Scottrade Center
19	Washington, DC	Verizon Center
22	Boston, MA	TD Garden
26	Pittsburgh, PA	PPG Paints Arena
27	Detroit, MI	Little Caesars Arena
29	Brooklyn, NY	Barclays Center
30	Brooklyn, NY	Barclays Center

OCTOBER

3	Columbus, OH	Nationwide Arena
6	Nashville, TN	Bridgestone Arena

www.edsheeran.com/live.htm

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