

= One Thing (One Direction song) =

" One Thing " is a song by English @-@ Irish boy band One Direction from their debut studio album , Up All Night (2011) . It was released in various countries by Syco Music on 6 January 2012 , as their second single , and as their third single in the UK on 13 February 2012 . Additionally , Columbia Records sent it to contemporary hit radio playlists on 22 May 2012 as their second single in the United States . Written by Savan Kotecha and its producers , Carl Falk and Rami Yacoub , initially , the upbeat pop rock number was written as two different songs . As both tracks had elusive attributes , the trio decided to merge the two into one song . The lyrical content regards the protagonist 's infatuation with a significant other .

" One Thing " garnered mostly positive reviews from music critics , who generally commended the track 's catchiness . The single reached the top ten in Australia , Ireland and the United Kingdom , while attaining top @-@ forty positions in Belgium (Flanders) , Canada , New Zealand , and the United States . The number has been certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for shipments of one million copies . Directed by Declan Whitebloom , the accompanying music video depicts One Direction performing in and around London . The group performed " One Thing " on televised programmes and four major concert tours : Up All Night Tour (2011 ? 12) , Take Me Home Tour (2013) , Where We Are Tour (2014) and On the Road Again Tour (2015) . This song is the eleventh track on Now 43 .

= = Background and release = =

After being formed and finishing third in the seventh series of The X Factor in 2010 , One Direction were signed to Syco Music . Recording for their debut studio album , Up All Night , began in January 2011 . In February 2011 , the boy band and other contestants from the series participated in the X Factor Live Tour . After the tour concluded in April 2011 , the group continued working on their debut album . Carl Falk and Rami Yacoub produced three songs on the album : " What Makes You Beautiful , " " One Thing " and " I Wish , " all of which were co @-@ written by Falk , Yacoub and Savan Kotecha . Initially , " One Thing " was written as two different songs : " One had a really , really good verse " and the other track " had a really , really good chorus " , as noted by Falk in a 2012 interview with Examiner.com. Falk quipped that when they merged the two songs , " everything fell into place " . Additionally , Falk deemed it the perfect accompaniment to " What Makes You Beautiful " and selected it as his favourite " out of the three tracks [that I have on the Up All Night album] " .

It premiered on BBC Radio 1 on 21 November 2011 . One Direction confirmed that " One Thing " would be released as the third single from their debut studio album , Up All Night , on 22 November 2011 . Syco Music described the song as an " epic pop smash @-@ in @-@ waiting , featuring soaring vocal harmonies , powerhouse guitar riffs and an anthemic chorus that refuses to leave your head . " The track was released digitally in various European countries on 6 January 2012 . " I Should Have Kissed You " , the B @-@ side to " One Thing " , was confirmed on 25 January 2012 . CD singles , containing " One Thing " and " I Should Have Kissed You " , were released on 13 February 2012 in the United Kingdom . In addition , " One Thing " was released as second US single from Up All Night ; Columbia Records sent it to contemporary hit radio (CHR) playlists on 22 May 2012 .

= = Composition = =

" One Thing " is an upbeat , uptempo pop rock number which runs for three minutes and ten seconds . Its instrumentation includes piano lines , vocals , and guitar strings . The lyrical content regards the protagonist 's infatuation with a significant other , while the lead vocals are predominantly sung by members Harry Styles and Liam Payne . According to the digital sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by Sony / ATV Music Publishing , One Direction 's vocal range in the span from the note of B3 to D5 . Written in the key of D major , the song set in the time signature of

common time at a fast @-@ paced tempo of 128 beats per minute . The track incorporates rock music influences and a simplistic guitar riff . The chorus of the song is predominantly featured alongside the bridge and is backed by wordless chants . The song has been noted as musically similar to the Backstreet Boys song " I Want It That Way " and to the group 's debut single , " What Makes You Beautiful " .

= = Critical reception = =

Due to its resemblance to the aforementioned Backstreet Boys number , PopMatters 's Zachary Houle suggested that there could occur " a pretty compelling case to launch a plagiarism lawsuit " , concluding : " Homage or theft ? You decide " . Brian Mansfield from USA Today felt the song 's Backstreet Boys @-@ references " may or may not be intentional , " but noted that the attribute " is the same . " Lewis Corner from Digital Spy awarded the song four out five stars , complimented the song 's guitar riff , its " forceful " chorus , and the melody as memorable , and summarised it as an " arena @-@ ready hit " . A Newsround reviewer gave the song four and half stars out five stars , praising the group 's vocal performance and its sonic palette . Billboard correspondent Jason Lipshutz hailed " One Thing " as " perfectly executed pop rock " and opined that it " could own radio for months " . Cosmopolitan 's Sophie Goddard lauded " One Thing " as an " upbeat , catchy , hit @-@ in @-@ waiting , " and Entertainment Weekly writer Adam Markovitz commended it as " irresistibly bouncy " .

= = Commercial performance = =

" One Thing " peaked at number six on the Irish Singles Chart in the week ending 16 February 2012 , becoming the band 's third top ten appearance in Ireland . The single bowed at number 28 on the UK Singles Chart dated 22 January 2012 . Buoyed by weekly sales of 31 @, @ 602 copies in the week of 19 February 2012 , it peaked at number nine in the United Kingdom and marked the group 's third consecutive top ten hit . " One Thing " was One Direction 's second best @-@ selling song in the UK by August 2012 , denoting sales of 154 @, @ 000 copies . Due to strong digital downloads from its parent album , " One Thing " debuted on the US Billboard Hot 100 at number 90 on 21 March 2012 , and had sold 300 @, @ 000 copies in the US by 21 May 2012 . After being serviced to radio formats on 22 May 2012 , " One Thing " peaked at number 39 for the week ending 20 June 2012 . On 21 September 2012 , " One Thing " was certified platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) , and as of November 2013 , the song had sold 1 @, @ 486 @, @ 000 copies in the US .

It peaked at number 17 on the Canadian Hot 100 and was certified platinum by Music Canada on 10 July 2012 , denoting sales of 80 @, @ 000 copies . The song debuted at number 34 on the New Zealand Singles Chart on 23 January 2012 . After fifteen weeks of fluctuation around the top forty , " One Thing " rose from number 28 to 16 , signifying its peak position . " One Thing " was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand (RIANZ) for sales of 7 @, @ 500 units . The single bowed at number 32 on the Australian Singles Chart of 12 February 2012 . " One Thing " peaked at number three in its tenth charting week , becoming One Direction 's highest peaking single in the country at the time and their second top ten hit . One Direction became the second act of 2012 to have two singles simultaneously occupying the chart 's top ten when " One Thing " was at number six and " What Makes You Beautiful " at number ten for the chart week ending 22 April 2012 . The single has been certified quadruple platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) , indicating shipments of 280 @, @ 000 copies .

= = Music video = =

The accompanying music video was directed by Declan Whitebloom in London on 28 November 2011 . Whitebloom approached shooting the clip with a " what you get , is what you get " sentiment , which , as he noted , " can create some real magic . " In regard to its concept , Whitebloom

characterised the clip as " kind of Monkees or Beatles @-@ esque " , elaborating that it revolves around " five lads go [ing] crazy in London , it 's like a big day out in London . " In a December interview with Capital FM , member Harry Styles reflected that the shoot was a fun , careless romp . Premiering on YouTube on 13 January 2012 , the music video depicts the band performing in and around London . As of April 2016 , the music video has garnered more than 460 million YouTube views . One Direction surged 35 @-@ 10 from the previous week on Billboard 's Social 50 chart . Alex Hughes of The Huffington Post commented that the music video has an effortless element of happiness , proclaiming : " if you fail to crack a smile , there is a 100 percent chance that you are the devil . "

= = Live performances = =

One Direction performed " One Thing " live for the first time at Capital FM 's Jingle Bell Ball on 4 December 2011 , at the The O2 Arena . The group performed " One Thing " and " What Makes You Beautiful " on Dancing on Ice on 5 February 2012 . In the United States , One Direction performed the song along with " More than This " and " What Makes You Beautiful " for the first time on The Today Show at the Rockefeller Center on 12 March 2012 . An estimated 15 @,@ 000 fans descended on the plaza . On 7 April 2012 , One Direction performed " What Makes You Beautiful " and " One Thing " and appeared in a comedy sketch with Sofia Vergara on comedy television show Saturday Night Live . The group played " What Makes You Beautiful " and " One Thing " and presented an award for " Most Popular New Female Talent " at the 54th Logie Awards on 15 April 2012 . On 6 September 2012 , One Direction performed " One Thing " at the 2012 MTV Video Music Awards . It was included on the set list of the group 's headlining sold @-@ out show at Madison Square Garden on 3 December 2012 . Additionally , One Direction performed the song on two of their major concert tours : Up All Night Tour (2011 ? 12) and Take Me Home Tour (2013) .

= = Track listing = =

UK CD single

" One Thing " ? 3 : 19

" I Should Have Kissed You " ? 3 : 34

Digital download

" One Thing " ? 3 : 19

" I Should Have Kissed You " ? 3 : 34

" One Thing " (acoustic) ? 3 : 04

" One Thing " (acoustic ; music video) ? 3 : 08

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =