

= One (Ed Sheeran song) =

" One " is a song recorded by English recording artist Ed Sheeran for his second studio album , x (2014) . Sheeran wrote the song immediately after releasing his debut album , + (2011) . It marked the last occasion wherein Sheeran wrote about his former girlfriend , who inspired all the romantic compositions on + . " One " was produced by frequent collaborator Jake Gosling and its music was based primarily on acoustic guitar . Critics were generally positive toward the song ; it was noted for its guitar @-@ driven sound and Sheeran 's use of falsetto . An accompanying video for " One " was shot in an empty Wembley Stadium and preceded the song 's release on 16 May 2014 . It was the first promotional single from x and its release was meant to counterbalance " Sing " , the album 's lead single issued to create hype although it was feared would alienate Sheeran 's fan base . In Europe , the song appeared in several charts ; it reached number 18 in the United Kingdom , where it was certified silver for sales of at least 200 @, @ 000 units on 30 June 2014 .

= = Background and release = =

Shortly after the release of his debut album , + , Sheeran wrote " One " in November 2011 while he was on tour in Perth , Australia . Inside his dressing room , he composed the song on a guitar made of a whiskey barrel . " One " was the first song Sheeran wrote for his second studio album , x . The song was produced by Jake Gosling , who contributed to the majority of tracks featured on Sheeran 's debut album . Gosling owned Sticky Studios , located in the small Surrey village of Windlesham , where Sheeran recorded " One " .

Sheeran wrote " One " as the last song about Alice , his former girlfriend who inspired all the romantic songs on + . It is the only song on x that refers to that particular relationship , while the rest was about " moving on and the [...] experiences [Sheeran] had since then " . According to Sheeran , the song " is a good way to end both that period and that relationship " . In " One " , Sheeran finds himself bidding farewell to a former love interest . Sheeran takes a minimal approach on this ballad , which is characterised with softly strummed acoustic guitar .

" One " was released on 16 May 2014 as the first promotional single from x . It was made available as an " instant great " download for those who pre @-@ ordered the album on iTunes Store . The promotional release of " One " was meant to counterbalance " Sing " , the album 's lead single . " Sing " was intended to create hype over the album release , but was feared would alienate Sheeran 's fan base . Preceding the song 's release , an official video premiered on Sheeran 's YouTube channel on 2 May 2014 . The black @-@ and @-@ white video was shot in an empty Wembley Stadium in London , England . It features Sheeran performing live an acoustic version of the song . Sheeran performed " One " on his x Tour , which ran from 2014 to 2015 .

= = Reception = =

Upon the release of x , " One " received positive reviews . Neil McCormick of The Daily Telegraph described Sheeran 's style in " One " alongside " Photograph " a " soulful balladry " . Luiza Lodder of No Ripcord believed that the " strumming and melodies " are " heartfelt " . On another note , The Guardian 's Alexis Petridis suggested that the " striking and beautiful " ballads in the album " evince a certain new @-@ found maturity " . Petridis felt that " One " is a " haunting , falsetto @-@ powered " ballad . Annie Zaleski of the The A.V. Club noted Sheeran 's " weak @-@ kneed " falsetto in the " fragile acoustic pop " . Sarah Rodman of The Boston Globe noted similarities between " One " and Sheeran 's 2011 single " The A Team " for their tunefulness ; she described the former as " burbling " . Dave Hanratty of Drowned in Sound had the same opinion : " ' One ' [was] cut from the exact same cloth as ' The A Team ' " , although he favored " One " as better . Jim Beviglia of American Songwriter stated that the song " [did] a nice job mixing drunken regret with romantic dedication " . In a cover interview with Sheeran for Billboard , Chris Willman opined that on " One " , Sheeran took his " minimalist live approach to its furthest degree " .

" One " , and the rest of the tracks from x , entered the UK Singles Chart due to high streaming

rates . It debuted at number 20 on the chart week ending 24 May 2014 , it peaked at number 18 on the following week , and has appeared on the chart for 20 weeks . On 30 June 2015 , the British Phonographic Industry certified the song silver , denoting sales of 200 @,@ 000 units . The song appeared once on the main US chart ; it debuted at number 87 on the Billboard Hot 100 .

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of x

= = Charts and certifications = =