

= Baby Don 't Cry (Namie Amuro song) =

" Baby Don 't Cry " is a song recorded by Japanese recording artist Namie Amuro for her eighth studio album , Play (2007) . It was written , composed , arranged , and produced by Japanese musician Naoaki Yamato , under the alias Nao 'ymt . The single also included the B @-@ side track " Nobody " , a re @-@ recorded version of her single " White Light " . It premiered on January 24 , 2007 as the third single from the album in Japan . It was also released worldwide on February 21 , 2007 through Avex Entertainment Inc . Musically , " Baby Don 't Cry " is a pop ballad , influenced by R & B music .

Upon its release , the track garnered generally favorable reviews from music critics , who highlighted the song as one of Amuro 's best singles , and commended the production and her vocals . It achieved success in Japan , peaking at number three on the Oricon Singles Chart . The single has been certified within three different categories by the Recording Industry Association of Japan (RIAJ) . An accompanying music video was shot by Masashi Muto ; it features Amuro walking around a city , singing in the winter time . With additional promotion through Japanese commercials and television shows , the song has been performed on several concert tours by Amuro , including her 2007 Play tour and 2008 Best Fiction tour .

= = Background and release = =

On December 28 , 2006 , Japanese magazine CD Journal confirmed the release of a new single , entitled " Baby Don 't Cry " . It was written , composed , arranged , and produced by Japanese musician Naoaki Yamato , under the alias Nao 'ymt . The song was recorded in 2006 at On Air Azabu Studio , Minato @-@ ku , Tokyo by Toshihiro Wako . The song contains backing vocals by Japanese vocalist Hiromi . The single also included the B @-@ side track " Nobody " , a re @-@ recorded version of her single " White Light " . It was intended to appear on Amuro 's eighth studio album , Play , as the original version was omitted . However , the re @-@ recorded version did not end up on the final track list . It premiered on January 24 , 2007 as the third single from the album in Japan . It was also released worldwide on February 21 , 2007 through Avex Entertainment Inc .

The CD single contains both " Baby Don 't Cry " and " Nobody " , plus shortened versions of the tracks . These versions were used for various Japanese television commercials . The CD artwork features a close @-@ up facial shot of Amuro , whilst the DVD single has a close up with her face and eyes closed . The DVD single includes the music video to " Baby Don 't Cry " . Both formats features an extra lyric booklet , printed on plain white paper . Musically , " Baby Don 't Cry " is a pop ballad , influenced by R & B and J @-@ pop music . Japanese music editor Random J compared the composition to the works of American recording artist , Janet Jackson . CD Journal staff member 's felt the song 's composition was " simplistic " , and described the lyrical content as " painful " .

= = Critical response = =

Upon its release , " Baby Don 't Cry " received positive reviews from most music critics . Random J , reporting from his own blogsite , highlighted it as one of the album 's best tracks ; he felt it was a " really nice song with a hot beat which is carried by a stellar vocal performance . " Staff members from Amazon were positive in their review , labeling the song and Amuro 's vocal delivery as " impressive " . They also complimented Nao 'ymt 's " perfect " collaboration with Amuro . An editor writing from CD Journal praised the song 's mixture of R & B and pop genres . They also felt it was a " classic representation " of Amuro 's music inside of the 21st century . AllMusic 's editor Adam Greenberg commended the song 's departure from the album 's electronic music , saying " ' Baby Don 't Cry ' finally gives a peek at Amuro 's vocals with less electronic additions ... " . AllMusic staff selected the single as one of Amuro 's best songs in her discography .

= = Commercial performance = =

Commercial , " Baby Don 't Cry " was successful in Japan . It debuted at number three on the Oricon Daily Singles Chart , and stayed there for four days . This resulted in a debut position of number three on the Oricon Singles Chart , two positions behind entries by Mr. Children and Masafumi Akikawa ; it sold 52 @,@ 168 units within its first week of sales . This became Amuro 's first single in six years to sell over 50 @,@ 000 units in its first week since " Say the Word " . The following week , it fell to number four with 24 @,@ 643 units sold within its second week of sales . It slipped again to number seven with 18 @,@ 663 units sold in its third week of sales , and had its last top ten appearance the following week at number nine ; it sold 13 @,@ 088 units . It lasted 15 weeks in the Top 200 chart , and sold over 144 @,@ 081 units by the end of 2007 ; it ranked at number 48 on Oricon 's Annual Singles Chart . This became Amuro 's highest selling single since " Say the Word " (with 184 @,@ 000 units sold) , and was her highest selling single until it was outsold by her 2011 single " Sit ! Stay ! Wait ! Down ! / Love Story " (with 162 @,@ 000 units sold) . " Baby Don 't Cry " was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of Japan (RIAJ) for shipments of 100 @,@ 000 units .

The single was certified million in May 2007 by the RIAJ for ringtone sales of one million units in Japan . This is her first single to be certified million by RIAJ since her 1997 single " How to Be a Girl " , and was her sixth overall . Although the song has not charted on any digital record charts in Japan , it was certified double platinum by the RIAJ for cellphone sales of 500 @,@ 000 units . It was certified gold in December 2012 by the RIAJ for digital sales of 100 @,@ 000 units .

= = Live performances and music video = =

The single has been performed on several tours conducted by Amuro , and has appeared on Japanese commercials and television series . " Baby Don 't Cry " made its debut live performance on her Play Tour (2008) , which was in support of the album with the same title . The live DVD was released on February 27 , 2008 . It was included on Amuro 's greatest hits concert tour , Best Fiction 2008 ? 2009 ; it was performed as the final song from the setlist . The live DVD was released on September 9 , 2009 . The track appeared on her Past < Future concert tour in 2010 , and was included on the live release on December 12 , 2010 . In celebration of Amuro 's 20th music career anniversary , the single was included on her 5 Major Dome concert tour in Japan ; the song was performed as an encore track . The live DVD was released on February 27 , 2013 . The song 's most recent appearance was her Live Style concert tour (2014) , where it was included on as the last track from the setlist . The live DVD was released on February 11 , 2015 .

" Baby Don 't Cry " was used as the theme song for the Japanese television drama series , Himitsu no Hanazono (2007) . Alongside this , it was included in three Japanese commercials : the Avex Trax " Myu @-@ Umo " music commercial , the Pokemero Joysound commercial , and for the Fuji TV television series , Secret Garden . An accompanying music video was shot in Japan by Masashi Muto . It opens with Amuro running on outdoor steps , and walking along a pavement bridge . As the chorus starts , intercut scenes of trees are shown , as she walks through the city . The second verse has her walking through a park , with yellow @-@ ish leaves on the ground . She witnessed two small children on a park bench , holding the chain to a dog . The third chorus then has her walking through a city square , and ends with her standing on a beach front at sunset . A short version of the video was uploaded on Amuro 's YouTube page on November 16 , 2011 , whilst a full version was uploaded one month later .

= = Track listings and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits adapted from the liner notes of the Play album .

Recording

Recorded at On Air Azabu Studio , Minato @-@ ku , Tokyo (2005) .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

= = Release history = =