

= Push the Button (Sugababes song) =

" Push the Button " is a song by English girl group the Sugababes , released as the lead single from their fourth studio album *Taller in More Ways* (2005) . Composed by Dallas Austin and the Sugababes , it was inspired by an infatuation that group member Keisha Buchanan developed with another artist . Musically , " Push the Button " is an electropop and R & B song with various computer effects .

The song received positive reviews from critics , who praised its conception and production . Some critics named it one of the best pop singles of the 2000s . " Push the Button " became one of the group 's most commercially successful releases . The single peaked at number one in Austria , Ireland , New Zealand , and the United Kingdom , and reached the top five across Europe and in Australia . It was nominated for Best British Single at the 2006 Brit Awards .

Matthew Rolston directed the song 's music video , which was filmed in Shepherd 's Bush , London . It features the Sugababes flirting with three men in a lift . The Sugababes performed the single at festivals and events such as Oxegen 2008 and the V Festival 2008 . " Push the Button " appears on the soundtrack to *It 's a Boy Girl Thing* (2006) .

= = Development and concept = =

Development of " Push the Button " began while the Sugababes travelled to the United States to work on their fourth studio album , *Taller in More Ways* (2005) . American producer and songwriter Dallas Austin collaborated with the group during the album 's initial stages of development . He visited London to work with them , although the group later travelled to the US and stayed with him at his mansion in Atlanta , Georgia . Austin wrote five tracks for the album , including " Push the Button " , which he composed in collaboration with the Sugababes . According to group member Heidi Range , the song was " the very last thing " completed for the album .

" Push the Button " was conceptualised after group member Keisha Buchanan developed an infatuation with another artist who was collaborating with Austin . Buchanan told Jess Cartner @-@ Morley of *The Guardian* that she made advances towards the man , but he was unaware of her intentions : " I really liked this guy , so I 'd be like , there 's this good movie coming out , you know , dropping hints . And he 'd be like , that movie sounds great , let me know what it 's like if you go see it . I knew he liked me too but he just wasn 't getting what I was trying to say . " Austin advised Buchanan to tell the man to " push that button " or she would eventually move on .

Mutya Buena , another member of the Sugababes , clarified Buchanan 's encounter with the artist to *Hot Press* magazine 's Jackie Hayden , saying : " We all knew there was something going on between them at the time , but we try to give each other space . " She described " Push the Button " as a song " with meaning and real life references " , and characterised it as having a " street vibe " . Austin produced the song , which was recorded at *DARP Studios* in Atlanta & *Home Recordings* , London . " Push the Button " was mixed by Jeremy Wheatley at *TwentyOne Studios* , London , in collaboration with Richard Edgeler . Rick Shepphard engineered the song .

= = Composition and lyrics = =

" Push the Button " is an uptempo electropop and R & B song . *AllMusic* 's K. Ross Hoffman called it an " electropop club ditty " , while Joe Muggs of *The Daily Telegraph* noted that Austin 's production combines " raucous " electropop with " slick " American R & B. According to the digital sheet music published by Hal Leonard Corporation , " Push the Button " was composed in the key of A @-@ flat major using common time , with a fast @-@ paced tempo of 126 beats per minute . The song 's instrumentation is composed of drums , keys , a guitar and a bass guitar .

The production consists of various computer beats and electronic effects . The song contains an ascending bridge incorporated into the chorus , which consists of the lines : " If you 're ready for me boy / You 'd better push the button and let me know / Before I get the wrong idea and go . " Lyrically , the song is about a woman 's sexual frustration of being unnoticed by a man . Joe Macare of *Stylus*

Magazine described Buena 's delivery of the lyric " my sexy ass " as " carefree " , and noted that the lyrics adapt an " idiosyncratic approach " to the English language . Musically , " Push the Button " received comparisons to the sound of pop group Abba .

= = Release and reception = =

" Push the Button " was announced as the lead single from Taller in More Ways in August 2005 . Island Records released it as a CD single and digital download on 26 September 2005 with an accompanying B @-@ side titled " Favourite Song " , composed by the Sugababes , Cameron McVey , and Jony Lipsey . An extended play was released , featuring a DJ Prom remix of the song , and the B @-@ side " Like the Weather " , which was written by the Sugababes , Cathy Dennis , and Guy Sigsworth . " Push the Button " is included on the Sugababes ' greatest hits album , Overloaded : The Singles Collection .

" Push the Button " received positive reviews from many critics . Linda McGee from RTÉ.ie commended the song 's beat and melody , and named it the album 's best track . The song received a similar response from K. Ross Hoffman of AllMusic , who noted it as one of the album 's highlights , and praised its simplicity and effectiveness . The Guardian 's Alexis Petridis considered the melody as " sweet and addictive as Smarties " , while Kitty Empire of the same publication wrote that the track 's " surface simplicity masks a hook that won 't let go " . Writing for Daily Record , reporter John Dingwall regarded the song as " enormously catchy and retro sounding " .

A journalist from the Liverpool Daily Post characterised " Push the Button " as " another edgy stomper " and said that it capitalises on the Sugababes ' " streetwise credentials and individual vocal strengths " . Observer Music Monthly described the song 's lyrics as " perfect pop " and recognised it as one of 2005 's best singles . The song is a " ray of melodic sunshine " according to Rafael Behr of The Observer , who lauded its catchiness . Jerusalem Post critic Harry Rubenstein described " Push the Button " as an " infectious Abba @-@ esque soundscape " . Paul Taylor from the Manchester Evening News called it one the album 's best moments and highlighted Austin 's contribution . A writer for Virgin Media praised his production of the song , in addition to its chorus , but criticised the Sugababes ' performance as " lacklustre " .

= = Commercial performance = =

" Push the Button " debuted on the Irish Singles Chart on 29 September 2005 at number two . The song topped the chart for the next three weeks , and was the group 's first number @-@ one single in Ireland . " Push the Button " entered the UK Singles Chart on 2 October 2005 at number one , a position it held for three consecutive weeks . It became the Sugababes ' fourth single to reach number one in the UK . During the song 's third week on the chart , the Sugababes were simultaneously number one on the UK 's singles , albums , and download chart . " Push the Button " has sold 471 @,@ 000 copies in the UK and is the Sugababes ' second highest @-@ selling single there , behind " About You Now " .

" Push the Button " entered the Austrian Singles Chart at number one , and remained in the position for five weeks . The song peaked at number two on the German Singles Chart , and was the third most @-@ played British track on German radio in 2005 . It was the country 's 86th most successful single of the 2000s . The single peaked at number two in Belgium (Flanders) , Hungary , Norway , and Romania , and reached number three in the Czech Republic , Denmark , and Switzerland . The song peaked at number three on the Dutch Top 40 chart for six consecutive weeks , and spent two weeks at number four on the Swedish Singles Chart .

" Push the Button " debuted at number 24 on the Australian Singles Chart in the issue dated 30 October 2005 . After weeks of fluctuating on the chart , the song peaked at number three on 15 January 2006 . It became the Sugababes ' most successful single in Australia . The single was certified platinum by the Australian Recording Industry Association (ARIA) , denoting shipments of 70 @,@ 000 copies . " Push the Button " entered the New Zealand Singles Chart on 14 November 2005 at number five , and peaked at number one on 23 January 2006 for three consecutive weeks .

It was the group 's first number @-@ one single on the chart , and was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of New Zealand , indicating sales of 7 @,@ 500 copies .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Push the Button " was directed by American director Matthew Rolston , who collaborated with the Sugababes on the videos for their singles " Hole in the Head " and " In the Middle " . It was filmed in Shepherd 's Bush , London , during July 2005 . The men who appear in the video are models and dancers , and were selected based on their dancing ability . Buena described the video as " really cheeky " and stated that it " turned out really great in the end " . Some clips were removed from the final product because of their sexual content , although Buchanan admitted that she wanted it to be more suggestive .

The video features Range , Buchanan and Buena emerging from a lift onto separate floors of a tall building , the lift having been called by unsuspecting men . Range arrives on the floor of the first man , described by Buena as ' Mr Shy Guy ' , and the two begin flirting with each other . Buchanan opens the lift door to see , the second man , ' Mr Too Cool ' and Buchanan is shown flirting and dancing with him . Buena emerges from the lift to find ' Mr Perfect ' , the third man . Buena takes his folded umbrella and throws it away , and soon begins flirting with him .

Towards the end of the video , Range bends over ' Mr Shy Guy ' in a seductive manner , Buchanan pushes ' Mr Too Cool ' to the floor , and Buena gives ' Mr Perfect ' a lap dance . The Sugababes are shown dancing in the lift throughout the video . Daily Mirror 's Gavin Martin wrote that they " throw caution aside and present themselves as voracious maneaters " in the video . He compared Buchanan 's dancing to that of American girl group Destiny 's Child in the video for their single " Bootylicious " . Madeline Crisp of the same publication described the Sugababes as having a " 60s look " . The video peaked at number one on the UK TV Airplay chart for two consecutive weeks . In Australia , the clip reached number three on Rage 's top 50 video countdown .

= = Live performances = =

The Sugababes travelled to Turin , Italy , in February 2006 and performed " Push the Button " for Top of the Pops at the Winter Olympics . The song was included in the set list of the group 's 2006 tour in support of Taller in More Ways . The single was performed on 3 October 2006 at the 100 Club on Oxford Street , London , as part of the album launch for Overloaded : The Singles Collection . It was the gig 's closing performance , and , according to a critic from MTV UK , " got everyone bopping to its bonkers , techno beat " . The group performed " Push the Button " at London 's G @-@ A @-@ Y nightclub in November 2006 , wearing PVC clothing and rubber gear . The single appeared in the set list of the group 's 2008 Change Tour . They performed the song on 1 June 2008 at Princes Street Gardens , Edinburgh as part of the Vodafone Live Music tour ; David Pollock of The Scotsman suggested that it was one of the show 's standouts .

The Sugababes performed " Push the Button " on 27 June 2008 in Hyde Park , London as part of Nelson Mandela 's 90th birthday concert . They performed the single in July 2008 at the Oxegen Festival . A journalist from NME magazine wrote that it drew " one of the biggest crowds " at the event . A rock version was performed at the 2008 V Festival in Essex , England . The group played the song on 28 August 2008 at the Bridlington Spa as part of a gig , and in November 2008 to promote the release of the New Xbox Experience . The Sugababes performed the song at the 2008 Q Awards at The Forum , London , incorporating the synthesizer from " Won 't Get Fooled Again " by English band The Who . " Push the Button " was one of the singles they performed at St Osyth 's entertainment centre , The Venue , on 7 March 2009 . The group performed it on 10 July 2009 at the Riverside Ground in County Durham , England , as part of a set list . Buchanan performed the song on 19 July 2011 at the Jacques Townhouse , as part of a set list that included the group 's debut single " Overload " , in addition to her solo tracks . Range and her dancing partner Andrei Lipanov skated to " Push the Button " during their appearance on the seventh series of Dancing on Ice .

= = Recognition and popular culture = =

Andy Kellman of AllMusic described " Push the Button " as one of the most " clever and suggestive " pop singles of the 2000s , while Cameron Adams of the Herald Sun similarly highlighted it as one of the decade 's best pop releases . In October 2008 Nick Levine of Digital Spy called the song one of the best pop singles of the 21st century . Buchanan named it among her favourites from the group 's career , citing its representation of pop music " in a different light " . " Push the Button " ranked 42nd on Stylus Magazine 's list of ' Top 50 Singles of 2005 ' , and 70th on The Daily Telegraph 's list of ' 100 songs that defined the Noughties ' . The song earned the Sugababes a BRIT Award nomination at the 2006 BRIT Awards for Best British Single , but lost to Coldplay 's " Speed of Sound " . It was one of the most played songs on British radio in 2005 , and became the UK 's 68th most popular song on radio of the 2000s .

" Push the Button " has been referenced several times in popular culture . The song serves as the opening track to the soundtrack of the 2006 film It 's a Boy Girl Thing . It was featured in a commercial for Tassimo coffee machines , which led to an increase in the product 's sales , as well as airings of the commercial across Europe and in the United States . English band Starsailor performed a live cover version of the song as the B @-@ side to their 2006 single " This Time " . It was also covered by English hip hop duo Dan le sac vs Scroobius Pip , who performed it at the 2008 Bestival . Lynsey Haire of eFestivals wrote that the performance " went down especially well with the audience " . " Push the Button " was included in the playlist for the opening ceremony of the London 2012 Summer Olympics . Firefighters in Staffordshire , England , performed a cover version , although the lyrics were modified to encourage the public to regularly test the alarms in their homes . The video was promoted through YouTube , and was viewed more than 44 @,@ 000 times . Peter Dartford , the chief fire officer for Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service said :

We 're continually trying new and innovative ways to get the message out there , about the importance of having smoke alarms and checking them on a regular basis , but a lot of people still aren 't listening . Hopefully they will now after hearing this song and watching the video ? you just can 't help but listen to the words and laugh at the video .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Recorded at DARP Studios , Atlanta & Home Recordings , London

Personnel

Songwriting ? Dallas Austin , Mutya Buena , Keisha Buchanan , Heidi Range

Production ? Dallas Austin

Engineering ? Rick Sheppard

Recording engineering (assistant) ? Graham Marsh , Ian Rossiter , Owen Clark

Mixing ? Jeremy Wheatley

Mixing (assistant) ? Richard Edgeler

Drums ? Dallas Austin

Keys ? Dallas Austin

Guitar ? Tony Reyes

Bass guitar ? Tony Reyes

Credits adapted from the liner notes of Taller in More Ways , Universal Island Records .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =

