

= Change (Sugababes song) =

" Change " is a song by English girl group Sugababes from their fifth studio album , Change (2007) . It was written by the Sugababes , Niara Scarlett and its producers , the Danish production duo Deekay . The song was released as the album 's second international and third overall single on 17 December 2007 with an accompanying B @-@ side titled " I Can 't Take It No More " . " Change " is a midtempo pop ballad composed of anthemic harmonies , guitars , keys and sweeping effects .

The song received mixed reviews from critics , who were divided on the song 's composition and balladry . It was considered a contender for the UK Singles Chart Christmas number one but only managed to peak at number 13 . The single reached the top forty on the charts in Germany , Ireland , the Netherlands and Romania . Fatima Robinson directed the song 's music video , which depicts the Sugababes as the four seasons of the year . The band performed the single during an acoustic gig as part of Radio Clyde 's Up Close series , and on The Paul O 'Grady Show . " Change " was included in the set list for the group 's 2008 tour of the same name .

= = Development and composition = =

" Change " was co @-@ written and produced by the Danish production duo Deekay , composed of Lars Halvor Jensen and Martin Michael Larsson . Deekay wrote the song in collaboration with the Sugababes , consisting of Heidi Range , Keisha Buchanan and Amelle Berrabah . British singer and songwriter Niara Scarlett also co @-@ wrote the song . It is the title track of the group 's fifth studio album , which is the first to feature Berrabah , following the departure of Mutya Buena in December 2005 . The group 's vocals on " Change " were recorded at the Electric Lady Studios in New York City . Deekay arranged and programmed the song , and provided its instrumentation . It was mixed by Larsson at the duo 's studio in Copenhagen , Denmark . DJ Swivel engineered the song .

" Change " is a steady , midtempo pop ballad . Alex Fletcher from Digital Spy described the song as " a gentle , sweeping lament " . According to the digital sheet music published by Universal Music Publishing , " Change " was composed in the key of D minor using common time . The tempo of the song moves at 85 beats per minute . A soulful track , it follows the group 's conventional style of balladry , although is more uptempo than their other ballads . Group member Berrabah sings the lead vocals on the song . It contains anthemic melodies backed by a powerful 1980s guitar lick , and incorporates the group 's harmonies into keys and sweeping effects . The song 's lyrics are about the experiences of change and ultimately never being the same again , but the need to remain strong in the process . The song also contains a sample of " Time Lapse " from the Apple iLife for Mac royalty free samples .

= = Release and reception = =

" Change " serves as the second international single and third overall single from Change ; its release was confirmed in October 2007 . The song was made available in the United Kingdom as a CD single and digital download on 17 December 2007 . " Change " was released as a CD single in Germany on 8 February 2008 . The single 's accompanying B @-@ side is titled " I Can 't Take It No More " , and was composed by the Sugababes , Jeremy Shaw and Jony Rockstar .

= = = Critical response = = =

The song received mixed reviews from critics . James Cabooter from the Daily Star described it as " a magnificent supersonic ballad " and compared it to the group 's 2003 single " Too Lost in You " . Sunday Mail critic Mickey McMonagle called " Change " the album 's best track and " a definite chart topper " . Alex Fletcher from Digital Spy and the BBC Chart Blog 's Fraser McAlphine rated the song four out of five stars ; the former regarded it as a " sophisticated pop ballad " and highlighted the Sugababes ' vocal abilities , while the latter described the chorus as " anthemic " . According to Dave Kelly of the Birmingham Mail , " Change " allows the Sugababes " to show that they have

matured without surrendering their pop smarts " . In contrast , a writer from The Scotsman considered it " vapid " , while a critic for Manchester Evening News felt that the group 's vocals were average . Yahoo ! Music 's Emily Mackay criticised the song as " a limper retread " of the group 's 2002 single " Stronger " . Tom Young of BBC Music wrote that " Change " " only flirts with credibility " due to the group 's " irrepressible and watertight harmonies " . Writing for The Independent , Andy Gill regarded it as " colourless " .

= = = Commercial performance = = =

" Change " failed to duplicate the success of its predecessor " About You Now " . It entered the Irish Singles Chart in the issue dated 13 December 2007 at number 47 , and peaked at number 21 the following week . The single debuted on the UK Singles Chart on 1 December 2007 at number 85 , based on digital downloads from the album . It was considered a contender for the chart 's 2007 Christmas number one , but only managed reach number 13 in the issue dated 29 December 2007 . Consequently , it marked the first time since 2000 where the second single from their album failed to reach the top ten . " Change " spent 14 weeks on the chart , and had sold 95 @, @ 000 copies in the UK by April 2010 , making it their 15th highest @-@ selling single in the country . " Change " peaked at number 31 on the Netherlands ' Dutch Top 40 chart , number 32 on the German Singles Chart , and number 36 on the Romanian Top 100 chart . The song debuted on the Slovakian Singles Chart at number 69 , and reached number 15 nine weeks later . In total , it spent 16 weeks on the chart . The single appeared on the European Hot 100 Singles chart at number 45 .

= = Promotion = =

= = = Music video = = =

The music video for " Change " was directed by Fatima Robinson . Pictures from the set of the shoot were revealed in November 2007 , and the video made its premiere on 16 November 2007 on Channel 4 . The concept focusses on the Sugababes represented as the four seasons of the year , in which they are semi @-@ nude . It opens with a scene of Buchanan , who depicts the season of spring . She is featured with blue decoration in her hair and pink flowers around her eyes . It then cuts to Berrabah , who is shown with long eyelashes and large red and yellow blooms in her hair , to represent summer .

The Sugababes are shown standing together in the next scene , where they are presented in a dark environment and covered in glitter . Range is represented as the season of autumn , and is decorated with a leaf motif on her face , as well as hair that resembles tree branches . The subsequent clip depicts Berrabah in a winter environment . The group is shown together for a second time , although in a natural environment . The next scenes depict Buchanan in the centre of a large purple flower , and leaves blowing past Range . Towards the end of the video , the Sugababes are shown in the same dark environment and eventually in their solo settings . Mickey McMonagle from the Sunday Mail praised the group 's seasonal outfits in the video .

= = = Live performances = = =

To promote the release of " Change " , the Sugababes performed the single during an acoustic gig on 12 December 2007 in Scotland , as part of Radio Clyde 's Up Close series . They were supported by three musicians and played in front of 250 people . The group performed the song on The Paul O 'Grady Show the following day , and on BBC Switch 's entertainment programme Sound on 15 December 2007 . " Change " was included in the set list for the Sugababes ' 2008 tour of the same name . During the performances , they wore kimono @-@ like robes which were covered in petals and autumn leaves . The band also released petals into the crowd .

= = Track listings and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Recording

Vocals recorded at Electric Lady Studios , NY by Johannes Joergensen

Personnel

Songwriting ? Lars Halvor Jensen , Martin Michael Larsson , Niara Scarlett , Heidi Range , Keisha Buchanan , Amelle Berrabah

Production ? DEEKAY

Arrangement ? DEEKAY

Programming ? Martin M. Larsson

Instrumentation ? Martin M. Larsson , Lars H Jensen

Guitars ? Josh

Additional percussion ? Tim McEwan , Dicky Daniel Klein

Vocal production ? Lars H Jensen

Mixing ? Martin M. Larsson at DEEKAY Studios , Copenhagen , Denmark

Engineering ? Jordan * DJ Swivel * Young

Vocals ? Sugababes

Credits are taken from the liner notes of Change .

= = Charts = =