

= Radar ( song ) =

" Radar " is a song recorded by American singer Britney Spears for her fifth studio album , Blackout ( 2007 ) . It was written and produced by Bloodshy & Avant and The Clutch , with additional writing from Henrik Jonback , as a record that did not relate to any of her personal problems at the time . The recording sessions took place the day after Spears filed for divorce from Kevin Federline , and members of The Clutch claimed to be surprised by her work ethic . " Radar " was originally planned to be released as the third single from Blackout , but " Break the Ice " was chosen instead . The song was then planned as the fourth single , but the release was cancelled as Spears began recording her sixth studio album , Circus ( 2008 ) . " Radar " was later included as a bonus track on Circus , and released as the fourth and final single from the album on June 22 , 2009 by Jive Records .

Musically , " Radar " is an electropop and synthpop song , that runs through a midtempo dance groove . Spears ' vocals are auto tuned and accompanied by sonar pulses and a heavy usage of distorted synthesizers . The lyrics refer to an attraction between the protagonist and a man , while she wonders if he knows what she is feeling . " Radar " received mixed reviews from critics ; some called it one of the highlights of Blackout , while others felt that it was over @-@ produced and also criticized her vocals for being processed . In July 2008 , " Radar " charted in the top forty of Ireland and New Zealand , and inside the top @-@ ten in Sweden . After it was released as a single from Circus , the track performed poorly on the charts and did not manage to enter the top forty in most countries . However , it became her 21st hit on the US Billboard 's Pop Songs chart , the most for any artist of the decade .

The single 's accompanying music video was directed by Dave Meyers , and pays tribute to the music video of Madonna 's " Take a Bow " ( 1994 ) . In the video , Spears is an aristocratic woman involved in a love triangle with two men who are polo players . The video received mixed reviews from critics , who complimented the fashion but called the idea unoriginal . " Radar " was performed by Spears at The Circus Starring Britney Spears ( 2009 ) , with the accompanying dance routine featuring her pole dancing .

= = Background = =

The main instrumentation was recorded by Bloodshy & Avant at Bloodshy & Avant Studios in Stockholm , Sweden . In November 2006 , Spears recorded " Radar " with Ezekiel Lewis and Patrick M. Smith of The Clutch at Sony Music Studios in New York City . Lewis had wanted to work with her for a long time and was motivated to produce something for her that was going to " help her project become a great project to come back with " . Smith stated that the team tried to create a record " for the Britney Spears that we know and love " and that it did not " touch on anything that was really dealing with all the stuff that she was dealing with . " Both commented that although Spears arrived late to the recording sessions , she caught them off guard with her efficiency and professionalism , with Lewis adding , " It was absolutely nuts , and she took directions very well . [ ... ] I don ' t know what I was expecting because we went in to cut that record the day after she filed divorce from Kevin [ Federline ] . " The song was later mixed by Niklas Flyckt at Mandarine Studios in Stockholm , Sweden . " Radar " was originally planned to be released as the third single from Blackout , according to Lewis . " Break the Ice " was released instead and " Radar " was chosen as the fourth single . In July 2008 , a CD single was released in countries such as New Zealand and Sweden . However , a wider release was scrapped when Spears began recording new material for her sixth studio album , Circus . On May 7 , 2009 , the song was announced as the fourth single from Circus .

= = Music and lyrics = =

" Radar " is an electropop and synthpop song , that runs through a midtempo dance groove . The song is influenced by rave music and R & B. It has a bouncy and skipping beat , and a repetitive

melody reminiscent of a nursery rhyme . Spears ' vocals are auto tuned and kept " more in the foreground " , according to Jennifer Vineyard of MTV . Her voice is accompanied by sonar pulses and distorted synthesizers . The synthesizers have been compared by Kimberly Chou of The Michigan Daily to those of Soft Cell 's " Tainted Love " ( 1981 ) . During the outro , Spears repeats Vocodered da @-@ da @-@ das . Critics noted that " Radar " is influenced by the works of Rihanna ; Cameron Adams of the Herald Sun said the song sounds " like an inferior take " of Rihanna 's single ? SOS ? ( 2006 ) . According to Poppy Cossins of The Sun , Radar sounds " like the Pussycat Dolls at their most risqué " . Roger Friedman of Fox News said that along with " Break the Ice " , " Radar " was more " straight @-@ ahead electronic disco " than the rest of Blackout and added that it " sounds like Las Vegas goes Eurodisco . " In the lyrics , Spears lets the subject know he is on her radar , while she lists the qualities the man has . Kimberly Chou said Spears ' delivery " [ is ] so aggressive it 's almost threatening . " Spears sings lyrics such as " Confidence is a must / cockiness is a plus / edginess is a rush / edges I like ' em rough / A man with a Midas touch / Intoxicate me I 'm a lush . " During the bridge she sings " I got my eye on you / And I can 't let you get away " , making clear her attraction .

= = Critical reception = =

Blender gave the song four and a half stars , named it the second potential hit from the album , and called it ? a bubblegum @-@ electro dance floor jam with a hook most pop stars would kill for ? . Eric R. Danton of The Hartford Courant deemed it as " crackling " and " club @-@ ready " , while calling it one of the " killer tracks " off the album along with " Break the Ice " and " Hot as Ice " . Denton Record @-@ Chronicle 's Mike Daniel said the best tracks of Blackout are " the unwaveringly catchy ' Radar ' and the neo @-@ wave curveball of ' Heaven and Earth ' " . Stephen Thomas Erlewine of Allmusic said some of the songs of Blackout , " really show off the skills of the producers " , exemplifying " Gimme More " , " Radar " , " Break the Ice " , " Heaven on Earth " and " Hot as Ice " . He also selected it as one of his ' track picks ' of the album . Jedd Rosche of The Maneater deemed it as one of the standout tracks of Blackout along with " Ooh Ooh Baby . "

Nekesa Mumbi Moody of USA Today called it " a sexy techno groove that you can 't help but bounce to . " Theon Weber of The Village Voice said that " Spears 's writers present her with the goofiest , most vivacious productions she 's ever had , filling ' Radar ' with pinging noises and polishing Madonna 's dance @-@ floor trash bright . " Nick Levine of Digital Spy called it " a rave @-@ tinged electro blipathon on which Spears is vocodered to the point of sounding extra @-@ terrestrial . " Alexis Petridis from The Guardian said that the song " seems to be bending over backwards to annoy the listener . Perhaps it 's a last desperate tactic to win back some privacy : she 's trying to get people to leave her alone by making as irritating a noise as possible . " A reviewer from the Ottawa Citizen said that " some tracks [ of the album ] just don 't work , such as Radar , in which Britney 's voice is tuned up so high she sounds like she 's 14 . "

Laura Herbert of BBC News said that many of the album 's songs , including " Radar " and " Toy Soldier " " are repetitive and over @-@ produced . " Jim Abbott of the Orlando Sentinel said that " Musically , songs such as ' Piece of Me , ' ' Radar ' and ' Break the Ice ' are one @-@ dimensional , robotic exercises . " Chris Wasser from the Irish Independent said the album had single potential , exemplifying that " There 's little doubting we 'll hear the bouncing and digitally affected vocals of Radar and the livelier Hot As Ice on the radio soon enough , but both tracks still seem a little under par . " After the release of " Radar " single from Circus , Nick Levine of Digital Spy said it " still sounds pretty ace , one of the best examples of the robopop sound Blackout essentially invented , but its fresh @-@ out @-@ the @-@ box sheen has long since faded " . On July 29 , 2009 , " Radar " was chosen as single of the week in FHM .

= = Commercial performance = =

On November 17 , 2007 , due to digital downloads for the Blackout release , " Radar " peaked at number fifty @-@ two on the U.S. Billboard Hot Digital Songs . The song also charted in several

countries based on strong digital sales and airplay alone , surprisingly reaching high chart positions . In Ireland , the song debuted at number forty @-@ seven on July 15 , 2008 . It peaked at number thirty @-@ two on August 5 , 2008 . In Sweden , " Radar " debuted at number forty @-@ six on July 24 , 2008 . The single peaked at number eight on July 28 , 2008 , becoming the second highest @-@ charting single from the album after " Gimme More " . It stayed on the position for two weeks , and for eight weeks on the chart overall . In New Zealand , the song debuted at number thirty @-@ seven on August 18 , 2008 , and peaked at number thirty @-@ two two weeks later . It stayed on the chart for five weeks .

After being confirmed as the fourth single from Circus , " Radar " re @-@ entered the charts in several countries . On August 29 , 2009 , the song peaked at number thirty on the U.S. Billboard Pop Songs . On September 5 , 2009 , " Radar " finally entered the Billboard Hot 100 at number ninety , and peaked at number eighty @-@ eight on the following week . It became her fifth song from Circus to chart on the Hot 100 , marking the first time five songs from one of her albums entered the chart . It was also her 22nd Hot 100 hit . " Radar " also became her 21st hit on the Pop Songs chart , the most for any artist of the decade . As of July 2010 , " Radar " has sold 481 @,@ 000 paid digital downloads in the United States . On the same week , the song peaked at number sixty @-@ five in Canada . The track re @-@ entered the ARIA Singles Chart at number forty @-@ six on July 20 , 2009 and stayed on the chart for just one week . In the UK , the song peaked at number forty @-@ six on August 2 , 2009 .

= = Music video = =

= = = Development = = =

In June 2008 , Spears ' manager Larry Rudolph told The Sun that a video for " Radar " directed by Spears was to be shot in Chelsea , London . The concept would have Spears and her friends chasing a man in different clubs . However , this was scrapped along with the single ' s release . The music video for " Radar " from Circus was filmed on May 27 and 28 , 2009 , at the Bacara Resort & Spa located in Santa Barbara , California . It was directed by Dave Meyers , who previously worked with Spears on her music videos for " Lucky " , " Boys " and " Outrageous " as well as the Curious commercials . Meyers claimed the video pays tribute to the music video of Madonna 's 1994 single " Take a Bow " . He added , " [ we were ] looking for a way to take her into a contemporary , classy environment . I felt empowered by referencing Madonna 's video . Britney hasn 't done anything like that " . He had a very clear idea of how he wanted the story line to work : " There is a narrative going on , a romantic triangle on a weekend at this polo mansion , " he said . " A soap @-@ opera romance . " Meyers commented that working with Spears again was " a great celebration of trusting one another " , explaining that both wanted " to do something fresh and new , seeking out an actual different technique and stylistic choices and trying to find a form to celebrate them in . " Since the song was not the first single from Circus , Meyers chose to experiment and not have dancing scenes , saying that " the videos are a chance for her to vocalize a sense of herself . The media tends to attack her , so I thought , ' Let 's show the classy side of Britney and focus on a classy experience , very European @-@ inspired ' . And she 's at the point in her career where I think this would be a nice step . " After the video was finished , Meyers said he was happy with the lack of dancing scenes , because the cuts and dissolves kept the pace of the song .

= = = Synopsis = = =

The video begins with Spears arriving at a polo mansion . She comes out from the car wearing a vest , jeans and showing her midriff . She starts singing while her boyfriend welcomes her . They walk past a barn , where a polo player is sitting . They look at each other briefly and she starts to sing in a balcony , watching the second man with a pair of binoculars . At the end of the first chorus , her boyfriend comes and puts a studded necklace around her neck , as a surprise gift . Until the end

of the second chorus , we see scenes of Spears singing and watching the polo player as he gets ready . When the bridge begins , Spears arrives at a match wearing a white dress and a large hat . She looks at the polo player over her shoulder and sings the lines " I got my eye on you / And I can ? t let you get away " . When the match ends , she leaves and the second man follows her . They flirt inside a hallway and leave . Her boyfriend notices her absence , walks into the hallway and sees her necklace on the floor . The video ends with Spears and the second man walking into the sunset .

= = = Release and reception = = =

The music video leaked online on July 1 , 2009 . Daniel Kreps of Rolling Stone said the music video was her weakest since " Gimme More " and highlighted the comparisons with " Take a Bow " , saying , " while Madonna dressed the role of a distressed aristocratic senorita in the stands , Spears ? wardrobe and giant hat mirror the elite at the Kentucky Derby " . He also said the idea was unoriginal and compared it to Spears ' fragrances commercials . Nadia Mendoza of The Sun said , " forget PVC catsuits and teeny weeny air hostess outfits . Britney Spears has gone all sophisticated on us " and positively commented on the fashion , saying " Britney dons a hat more suited to Ascot than a music video " . Peter Gicas of E ! commented that the video was a nice departure from her recent more choreographed videos , such as " Womanizer " and " If U Seek Amy " . He commended it for its " more straightforward approach in telling a so @-@ called story " , but felt it was " a bit too much like one of those overly dramatic fragrance commercials " . OK ! said the video was " posh " and also noted the difference from her recent videos .

= = Live performances = =

Spears performed the song during The Circus Starring Britney Spears ( 2009 ) . After the performance of " Piece of Me " , there was a brief interlude in which acrobats hanging from fabric simulated a thunderstorm . Spears took the stage again to perform " Radar " , which featured her pole dancing . She wore a black bra encrusted with Swarovski crystals , fishnet stockings and high @-@ heeled laced up boots , designed by Dean and Dan Caten . Spears ended the performance with her and her dancers posing in the middle of the three @-@ ring stage as a red curtain slowly descended in the closing . A contest in DanceJam.com was announced to promote the song . The contestants had to upload a video of them dancing to " Radar " , and Spears and Jive Records picked the winner . In the revamped Britney : Piece Of Me concert ( 2016 ) , " Radar " plays during an interlude that features multiple excerpts of Britney 's music videos . A cover version of the song by American singer @-@ songwriter Christopher Dallman was included in an EP titled Sad Britney , released on November 9 , 2009 , along with covers of " ... Baby One More Time " , " Toxic " and " Gimme More " .

= = Track listings = =

= = Credits and Personnel = =

Backing vocals , Lead vocals ? Britney Spears

Writers , drums ? Christian Karlsson , Pontus Winnberg , Henrik Jonback , Balewa Muhammad , Candice Nelson , Ezekiel " Zeke " Lewis , Patrick " J. Que " Smith

Producers , drums ? Bloodshy & Avant , The Clutch

Mixing ? Niklas Flyckt

Assistant engineer ? Jim Carauna

Guitars ? Henrik Jonback

Keyboard , bass ? Bloodshy & Avant

Background vocals ? Candice Nelson , Michaela Breen

== Charts ==

== Release history ==