

= Into the Groove =

" Into the Groove " is a song by American singer Madonna from the 1985 film *Desperately Seeking Susan* . It was featured on the re @-@ issue of her second studio album *Like a Virgin* (1984) , and released on July 23 , 1985 , by Sire Records as the album 's fourth single outside North America . The original song was included on her third greatest hits album , *Celebration* (2009) , while remixes of it appeared on the remix compilation *You Can Dance* (1987) , and her first greatest hits compilation *The Immaculate Collection* (1990) .

Madonna 's inspiration behind the song was the dance floor , and she wrote it while watching a handsome Puerto Rican man , across her balcony . Initially written for her friend Mark Kamins , Madonna later decided to use it as the soundtrack of her film *Desperately Seeking Susan* . " Into the Groove " was recorded at Sigma Sound Studios . A remixed version , titled " Into the Hollywood Groove " , was created by Madonna in 2003 for a Gap commercial and featured a rap by Missy Elliott . " Into the Groove " consists of instrumentation from synthesizers and drum machines . Madonna 's voice is double tracked in the chorus ; the song also consists of musical contrasts , overdubs , and Madonna 's voice in lower register during the bridge . The lyrics of the song are simple , written as an invitation to dance with the singer . However , it carries sexual innuendos and undertones in the meaning .

The song was appreciated by contemporary critics as well as authors , who frequently called it " Madonna 's first great single " . The song was a commercial success , reaching the top of the charts in Australia , Belgium , Ireland , Italy , Japan , Netherlands , New Zealand , Spain and the United Kingdom , where it was Madonna 's first number @-@ one single . In the United States , the song was only available as the B @-@ side of the 12 @-@ inch single of " Angel " , therefore it was ineligible to chart on the *Billboard Hot 100* according to the rules at the time . By the end of the 1980s , " Into the Groove " was honored by *Billboard* magazine as the Dance Single of the Decade .

A music video , consisting of clips from the film , was released to accompany the song . The song has been performed by Madonna in most of her concert tours , including the *Sticky & Sweet Tour* (2008 ? 09) , where she performed it while doing Double Dutch jump rope . " Into the Groove " has been covered by a number of artists , including Australian singer Dannii Minogue , who combined the song with her single " Don 't Wanna Lose This Feeling " .

= = Background = =

" Into the Groove " was written and produced by Madonna and her then @-@ boyfriend Stephen Bray . The singer had initially written the song for her friend Mark Kamins ' protégée , Chyne , and recorded a demo which Kamins intended to modify later . However , Madonna believed that the song would be more suitable for her film *Desperately Seeking Susan* , and recorded it with Bray for the film 's soundtrack . When Kamins found out he was furious that Madonna did not inform him that she would use the song for the film . The singer retorted : " I 'm tough , I 'm ambitious and I know exactly what I want . If that makes me a bitch , that 's okay . " " Into the Groove " ultimately did not appear on the soundtrack album of the film , but was released on the 1985 worldwide re @-@ issue of Madonna 's second studio album , *Like a Virgin* . During an interview with *Time* , Madonna said that she wrote the song while watching a Latin boy across her balcony . Describing the song as " dorky " , Madonna further explained :

" When I was writing it , I was sitting in a fourth @-@ floor walk @-@ up on Avenue @-@ B , and there was this gorgeous Puerto Rican boy sitting across me that I wanted to go out on a date with , and I just wanted to get the song over with . I ultimately did go out with him and the song was finished just before my last date with him , which I 'm kinda happy that it did not continue ... The dance floor was quite a magical place for me . I started off wanting to be a dancer , so that had a lot to do with the song . The freedom that I always feel when I 'm dancing , that feeling of inhabiting your body , letting yourself go , expressing yourself through music . I always thought of it as a magical place ? even if you 're not taking ecstasy . Hence that came to me as the primary inspiration for ' Into the Groove ' . "

" Into the Groove " had an accompanying music video , made up of clips from the film , with the lyrics often matching the images . Doug Dowdle of Parallax Productions , a company that pioneered in movie tie @-@ in music videos during the 1980s , created this video from edited footage of the movie , directed by Susan Seideman . This was done because there were five Madonna videos already on power rotation on MTV , and Warner Bros. did not want the audience to be saturated with any new video . Hence , they decided to use the shots from the film and made a music video . During a 2009 interview with Rolling Stone , Madonna commented : " ' Into the Groove ' is another song I feel retarded singing , but everybody seems to like it . "

= = Recording = =

Madonna and Bray started on the re @-@ recording and changed some portion of the lyrics . Bray commented on the recording sessions as : " I 've always kind of made the rib cage and the skeleton [music] of the song already ? she 's there for the last things like the eyebrows and the haircut [lyrics] . She writes in a stream of mood really . " " Into the Groove " was recorded at Sigma Sound Studios . Madonna 's friend Erika Belle was present during the recording and watched the whole process . In Andrew Morton 's Madonna biography , she noted that at one point of the recording , Bray was facing difficulties with the bridge of the song , as the melody thought by him was not syncing with the rest of the composition . Undeterred by his obvious difficulties , Madonna stepped up to the microphone and sang the words " Live out your fantasy here with me " . Bray 's problem was solved ; Belle remembered the experience as : " [The song] seemed to come out of her , I was awestruck . "

Madonna re @-@ tailored the song in 2003 , and developed a remix called " Into the Hollywood Groove " , which replaced the first verse of " Into the Groove " with the first verse of Madonna 's single " Hollywood " (2003) . The lyrics of the chorus were also slightly altered and it featured a rap by Missy Elliott . This version of the song was used for a Gap commercial in the summer of 2003 , featuring Madonna and Elliot wearing Gap jeans . Another remix version was created by Josh Harris and Omar Galeano as " The Passengerz " , and was included in Madonna 's remix album , Remixed & Revisited (2003) .

= = Composition = =

" Into the Groove " begins with a spoken introduction by Madonna , and the sound of drums and synth bassline being heard . This is followed by the chorus , where Madonna 's voice is double tracked and the treble is increased by a notch . A synth line counterpoints the main tune , adding a contrast . The bridge , where Madonna sings the line " Live out your fantasy " , features her vocals in a lower register alongside the main ones . According to the sheet music published in Musicnotes.com by Alfred Publishing Co . Inc . , the song is set in the time signature of common time with a medium tempo of 116 beats per minute . The song is set in the key of C minor with Madonna 's voice spanning from the high @-@ tone of C4 to the low @-@ tone of D5 . It has a basic sequence of Cm7 ? B ? / C ? Cm7 ? A ? as its chord progression .

The song was remixed by Shep Pettibone for Madonna 's remix compilation You Can Dance (1987) . In the remixed version , overdubs are present with the continuous repetition of the phrase " c 'mon " . The first verse does not start until about ninety seconds into the remix . After the first " Now I know you 're mine " line is sung , there is a percussion break , and repetition of the phrases " step to the beat " and " c 'mon " . The last verse incorporates echoing on the vocals , causing overlap of the phrases . The remix ends with instrumentation from congas , whistles and timbales , giving it a Mexican ending . Pettibone also remixed the song alongside Goh Hotoda for The Immaculate Collection (1990) compilation .

The lyrics of the song are simple , written as an invitation to dance with the singer . Despite the simple lyrics , it carries sexual innuendos and undertones in the meaning . Similar to Madonna 's previous single " Like a Virgin " (1984) , a lyrical hook is also present in " Into the Groove " , directed at shy girls . The line " At night I lock the door so no @-@ one else can see " implied that

Madonna was not as brazen as her provocative image suggested . According to Barker , the nostalgic people would instantly recognize the song 's lyrics at night clubs . He added that the line , " Only when I 'm dancing can I feel this free , " expresses the freedom that a dance floor brings about , with the dancers happy to find freedom in the music . A neume is visible in the line " Live out your fantasy here with me " , which Barker believed , blurred the boundaries of reality and brought one closer to the world of fantasy .

= = Critical reception = =

Ever since its release , " Into the Groove " has received critical acclaim . J. Randy Taraborrelli , author of *Madonna : An Intimate Biography* , said that the song demonstrated Madonna 's ability to create infectious dance music . Rikky Rooksby , author of *Madonna : the complete guide to her music* , said that " ' Into the Groove ' will make you feel like you 're a winner either way . And that 's one of the best things pop music can do for ya . [It 's] Madonna 's first great single . " Clive Barker and Simon Trussler , authors of *New Theatre Quarterly* , felt that the song was the first disco @-@ anthem of the 1980s .

Toby Cresswell , author of *1001 Songs : The Great Songs of All Time and the Artists , Stories and Secrets* , said that the song is a " sweet , limited white tune on the top , and there 's Madonna ? all the right @-@ shop chic ? dragging the straight world into this subterranean paradise . All the magic of the eighties is right here . " Matthew Rettenmund , author of *Totally Awesome 80s : A Lexicon of the Music , Videos , Movies , TV Shows , Stars , and Trends of that Decadent Decade* , declared " Into the Groove " as the ultimate 1980s song and felt that it " cemented Madonna 's place as the dancing queen of the era " . Dawn Keetley and John Pettigrew , authors of *Public Women , Public Words : A Documentary History of American Feminism* , called it a " mesmerizing theme song " .

Santiago Fouz @-@ Hernández and Freya Jarman @-@ Ivens , authors of *Madonna 's drowned worlds : new approaches to her cultural transformations* , commented that the song " taunted playfully " . Sal Cinquemani from *Slant Magazine* ranked it at twenty @-@ nine on the list of " 100 Greatest Dance Songs " . He commented : " It 's hard to imagine the most famous woman in the world dancing alone in her bedroom at night , locking the doors so ' no one else can see ' (as she sings on ' Groove ') , even 20 years ago , but you can 't help but believe her . The song ? and Madonna 's performance ? are that good . " Alfred Soto from *Stylus* commented that " ' Into the Groove ' itself is as much wish @-@ fulfillment as ' Crazy For You ' . Austin Scaggs from *Rolling Stone* commented that the song had " an amazing bassline " .

By the end of the 1980s , " Into the Groove " was honored by *Billboard* magazine as the " Dance Single of the Decade " . In 2003 , Madonna fans were asked to vote for their top @-@ twenty Madonna singles of all @-@ time by *Q* magazine ; " Into the Groove " was allocated the number @-@ three spot . In 2009 , the song was ranked at ninety on *Blender* magazine 's " The 500 Greatest Songs Since You Were Born " . *Billboard* ranked the song number three on a 2015 list of Madonna 's top 15 best songs , calling it " the Madonna club track . " In 2015 the song was voted by the British public as the nation 's 19th favourite 1980s number one in a poll for ITV . Pitchfork Media named " Into the Groove " the 17th best song from the 1980s .

= = Chart performance = =

In the United States , due to similar problems with " Crazy for You " and " Material Girl " being released at the same time and competing with each other , it was decided against releasing " Into the Groove " as a 7 " single so it would not compete with " Angel " , the third single from the *Like a Virgin* . " Into the Groove " was eventually released as the B @-@ side to the maxi @-@ single of " Angel " , therefore it was ineligible to enter the *Billboard* Hot 100 or Hot Singles Sales charts . The song debuted at number 40 on Hot Dance Club Songs chart , as a double A @-@ side with " Angel " , on the issue dated June 1 , 1985 . After four weeks , it reached the top of the chart and also reached number 19 on the Hot R & B / Hip @-@ Hop Songs chart . " Into the Groove " is Madonna 's most played song on *Billboard* 's Recurrent Airplay Chart . On July 30 , 1985 , " Angel / Into the

"Groove" was certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) for shipment of one million copies across the US ? the requirement for a gold single prior to 1989 . It was the first 12 @-@ inch single to be certified gold since Frankie Smith 's " Double Dutch Bus " (1981) . The song placed at number 12 on the Dance year @-@ end charts and sold approximately 600 @,@ 000 copies of the 12 " ; it also reached number @-@ one on the Hot Dance Singles Sales chart .

" Into the Groove " debuted on the UK Singles Chart at number four , on the chart dated July 27 , 1985 . It reached the top of the chart and stayed there for four weeks , and was present for a total of 14 weeks on the chart . The song was Madonna 's first number @-@ one single in United Kingdom . During its stay at number @-@ one , Madonna 's first UK hit " Holiday " was at number @-@ two position . This made her the first female artist in UK chart history to hold the top @-@ two positions of the chart simultaneously . " Into the Groove " was certified gold by the British Phonographic Industry (BPI) for shipment of 500 @,@ 000 copies of the single . The song was the third biggest selling UK single of 1985 , behind Jennifer Rush 's " The Power of Love " and Elaine Paige 's and Barbara Dickson 's " I Know Him So Well " . According to the Official Charts Company , the song has sold 870 @,@ 000 copies there . In Australia , " Into the Groove " charted as a combined single with " Angel " and reached the top of the Kent Music Report chart . It was the second @-@ highest selling single of 1985 in Australia . Across Europe and Oceania , the song was able to reach the top of the charts in Belgium , Ireland , Italy , Japan , Netherlands , New Zealand and Spain , and inside the top five in France , Germany , Norway , Sweden , Switzerland and European Hot 100 Singles chart .

= = Live performances = =

Madonna has performed " Into the Groove " on The Virgin Tour and the Live Aid concert (1985) , the Who 's That Girl World Tour (1987) , the Blond Ambition World Tour (1990) , the Re @-@ Invention World Tour (2004) , the Sticky & Sweet Tour (2008 ? 09) , and the Rebel Heart Tour (2015 ? 16) .

In The Virgin Tour , " Into the Groove " was the third song of the setlist . Madonna wore a blue see @-@ through crop @-@ top , revealing her characteristic black bra . She had lacy leggings and crucifixes around her ear and her neck . Her hair was tied at the top and fell in unkempt manner around her ears . She had a tambourine in her hand like her two male dancers , and together they sang the song while standing in front of a microphone , in tandem . The performance was included on the video release titled Live ? The Virgin Tour , shot in Detroit . She also performed it on her Live Aid concert on July 13 , 1985 .

In the Who 's That Girl World Tour of 1987 , " Into the Groove " was the second @-@ last song before the encore . The outfit she wore during the performance was inspired by artist Andy Warhol . It consisted of a loose pant with a tin of Campbell 's soup on the side , the letter U in the front and the word DANCE in the back ; it was designed so that when she turned , audience were able to read ' U [Can] Dance] ' . In the middle of her singing , a young boy joined her on stage to dance alongside . Madonna then wore a pink bolero jacket . At the end she is joined by her backup singers and dancers . Together they take a bow to the audience and finish the performance . Two different performances of the song on this tour can be found on the videos : Who 's That Girl ? Live in Japan , filmed in Tokyo on June 22 , 1987 , and Ciao Italia : Live from Italy , filmed in Turin on September 4 , 1987 .

Three years later on the Blond Ambition World Tour , " Into the Groove " was again performed before the encore . Madonna , her backup singers Niki Haris and Donna De Lory were portrayed as being seduced by three macho guys in leather jackets . The girls asked the guys to " prove their love to them " and wondered if they would wear a condom when necessary . After that , they sing the Shep Pettibone extended remix of " Into The Groove " . Two different performances were taped and released on video , the Blond Ambition ? Japan Tour 90 , taped in Yokohama on April 27 , 1990 , and the Blond Ambition World Tour Live , taped in Nice , France , on August 5 , 1990 .

In the Re @-@ Invention World Tour of 2004 , Madonna included the song at the start of the final segment , which started with Scottish bagpiper players parading around the stage in kilts and

playing drums and pipes . Madonna appeared onstage in similar long kilts and a white sleeveless T @-@ shirt to perform " Into the Groove " with Scottish bagpiper group Lorne Cousin . Rapper Missy Elliott appeared on the video screen for a rap interlude . The song was again added to the setlist of 2008 ? 09 Sticky & Sweet Tour . Elements of Cassius 's " Toop Toop " , Frankie Smith 's " Double Dutch Bus " , The Sugarhill Gang 's " Apache (Jump On It) " and Madonna 's own " Jump " were added to the performance . " Into the Groove " marked the beginning of the second segment titled Old School . It began with Madonna appearing on the stage in shorts and T @-@ shirt , while skipping to a DJ station . She started singing the song while cartoon characters from late artist , and Madonna 's friend , Keith Haring dance on the backdrops . Near the end of the song , Madonna performed a Double Dutch dance interlude .

In 2015 , " Into the Groove " was included in the set list of the Rebel Heart Tour , performed in a flamenco @-@ style medley with " Dress You Up " , " Everybody " and " Lucky Star " . During the sequence the singer dressed by in a Latin and gypsy inspired dress , created by Alessandro Michele for Gucci consisting off a shawl , flamenco hat , lace , skirts and jacquard bodysuit .

= = Cover versions = =

The song was covered by alternative rock band Sonic Youth under the pseudonym Ciccone Youth for a 1986 single , and re @-@ titled " Into the Groove (y) " ; this recording also appears on the 1988 release The Whitey Album . Dale Bozzio , former lead singer of new wave band Missing Persons , covered the song for the Madonna tribute album Virgin Voices : A Tribute To Madonna , Vol . 2 from 2000 . French pop / rock group Superbus covered " Into the Groove " for their 2002 album , Aéromusical . It was the third and final single from the album .

In 2003 , the song was combined with the vocals of Dannii Minogue 's " Don 't Wanna Lose This Feeling " , the fourth and final single from her album Neon Nights . " Into the Groove " ' s instrumentation and a small Madonna vocal sample were added to Minogue 's vocals , though Minogue 's pitch was altered to fit the tempo of the song .

= = Track listing and formats = =

= = Credits and personnel = =

Madonna ? writer , vocals , producer

Steve Bray ? writer , producer

Shep Pettibone ? audio mixing , additional production , audio editing

Andy Wallace ? remix engineering

The Latin Rascals ? audio editing

Herb Ritts ? photography

Credits adapted from the Like a Virgin (1985 re @-@ issue) and You Can Dance album 's liner notes .

= = Charts = =

= = Certifications = =