

= Green Light (Beyoncé song) =

" Green Light " is a song recorded by American singer Beyoncé . The song was written by Beyoncé , Sean Garrett , and Pharrell for Beyoncé 's second solo studio album , B 'Day (2006) . Produced by The Neptunes , it was released as the fifth UK and seventh overall single on July 30 , 2007 through Columbia Records . " Green Light " is an R & B @-@ funk song with lyrics detailing a break @-@ up song in which the female protagonist gives her love interest the permission to move out . The song also finds Beyoncé using fairly aggressive tone . Written in the key of A minor , " Green Light " samples the " uh @-@ oh @-@ oh @-@ oh @-@ oh " vocals which music critics noted to have a flagrant resemblance to Beyoncé 's own 2003 hit single , " Crazy in Love " . A remix of the song features American rapper Young Buck .

" Green Light " was generally well received by music critics who universally praised the beat , bass , groove , and angry tone used by Beyoncé in the song . The single performed moderately on charts , peaking at number 12 on the UK Singles Chart and at number 46 in Ireland . The Freemasons remix of the track peaked at number eighteen on the Dutch Top 40 chart . The single 's accompanying music video was directed by Melina Matsoukas and co @-@ directed by Beyoncé . It is inspired by Robert Palmer 's 1985 music video " Addicted to Love " . Beyoncé considered the video , which is her second to feature her all @-@ female tour band called the Suga Mama , her toughest shoot . The song was a part of the set list on her world tour The Beyoncé Experience (2007) .

= = Background and release = =

After filming Dreamgirls in which Beyoncé landed a major role , she went on a month @-@ long vacation . On the break she went to the studio to start working on her second solo album , B 'Day . She was inspired by her role and she " had so many things bottled up , so many emotions , so many ideas " . Beyoncé contacted American singer @-@ songwriter Sean Garrett , who had worked with her in Destiny 's Child and on her 2006 single " Check on It " . Together with Pharrell , who had also previously collaborated with Beyoncé , Garrett was booked to Sony Music Studios in New York City , each had studio to work in . The track was co @-@ produced by Beyoncé and The Neptunes , along with " Kitty Kat " , and was recorded by Jim Caruana and mixed by Jason Goldstein at the same studio .

In June 2006 , Beyoncé invited Tamara Coniff of Billboard magazine to a New York recording studio . There she premiered several songs from the album including " Ring the Alarm " (2006) and " Freakum Dress " (2006) , which both were cited as possible second singles , to be released in the United States only . At the same time , she revealed that " Green Light " and " Get Me Bodied " (2007) , were planned to be released as the next two international / third US singles from B 'Day , following the release of the lead single " Déjà Vu " (2006) . However , she ultimately opted for " Ring the Alarm " (2006) as the second single to be released in the United States only while " Irreplaceable " (2006) was officially serviced as the album 's second international / third US single . " Green Light " was released later in the United Kingdom on July 30 , 2007 as the seventh overall single , following the international release " Beautiful Liar " (2007) . Along with the release of the single , a Digital EP featuring remixes from the English production team Freemasons , was made available on July 27 , 2007 as an online digital download .

= = Composition = =

" Green Light " is an R & B @-@ funk song performed with " vivace " tempo . According to the sheet music published at Musicnotes.com by EMI Music Publishing , the song is written in the key of A minor with a moderate groove of 132 beats per minute . The chord follows the Fm @-@ G ? key series with an occasional shift to additional B ? m7 . Beyoncé 's vocals range from the note of C ? 4 to F5 . The song is built on a ripping bassline and features " a more organic " beat . Green Light " features " uh @-@ huh huh huh " vocals and uses brassy stabs which a reviewer from Guardian Unlimited found to be a " direct echo to ' Crazy in Love ' " . According to The London Paper , the " uh

@-@ oh @-@ oh @-@ oh @-@ oh " vocals in " Green Light " is an " imitation of Amerie 's performance " in her 2005 single " 1 Thing " . " Green Light " also displays Latin percussion as well as sampled soul horns , and uses a fairly aggressive tone . Conforming to Jon Pareles of The New York Times , " Green Light " is a break @-@ up song in which the female protagonist gives her love interest the permission to move out . This is shown in the lines of the hook : " Go ! Go ! " The lyrics are constructed in the traditional verse @-@ chorus form . The song starts with an intro in which Beyoncé sings , " Give it to mama " . Jaime Gill of Yahoo ! Music commented that " Green Light " seems to be all " slink and minimalism before a surging come @-@ on of a chorus . " It follows the verse @-@ chorus @-@ verse @-@ verse @-@ chorus pattern giving way to the bridge . Beyoncé repeats the chorus , ending the song .

= = Reception = =

= = Critical reception = = =

" Green Light " received positive reception from critics . Eb Haynes of AllHipHop referred to " Green Light " as a " classic Pharrell @-@ Neptunes groove " . Andy Kellman of Allmusic described the track as an " ambitious , fleet @-@ footed number that continually switches tempos and sounds " . Spence D. of IGN music stated , " ' Green Light ' brings things back down to pseudo earthiness ; both with the slightly more organic sounding Neptunes beat . " He felt that the " rippling bassline sounds really familiar , like it 's been used in other Neptunes ' produced tracks before " Jaime Gill of Yahoo ! Music said that " Green Light " is " the best thing Pharrell and co have done in a long , long while . " Roger Friedman of Fox News Channel considered " Green Light " as his second choice as the song having the greatest potential to become a massive hit after " Irreplaceable " (2006) . Thomas Inskeep of Stylus Magazine gave a mixed review for the song commenting that it 's one of the " tired random @-@ percussion tracks [...] that goes nowhere . "

= = Chart performance = = =

With the album version of the song being available digitally as soon as the album was released , " Green Light " debuted on the UK Singles Chart at number 152 after the video aired in early July 2007 , and then rose to number seventy @-@ eight on July 28 , 2007 . Because of heavy radio airplay of the Freemasons remix , as soon as it was available , the song climbed sixty places from number seventy @-@ seven to number seventeen on August 11 , 2007 , and then to number twelve , giving Beyoncé her eleventh top twenty hit in the United Kingdom . " Green Light " became Beyoncé 's highest charting single on downloads alone on the UK Singles Chart without a prominent featured artist . The UK commercial CD single was cancelled at the last minute , which means it did not receive a physical release . This explains why the single failed to reach a higher position . " Green Light " stayed on the chart for nine weeks . In Ireland , the single debuted at number forty @-@ six on August 23 , 2007 , and dropped off the chart a week later . The Freemasons remix of the track debuted at number thirty on the Dutch Top 40 chart on September 8 , 2007 . It propelled to number nineteen , and peaked at number eighteen on September 29 , 2007 . It remained on the chart for six weeks . On the other hand , the album version of " Green Light " peaked at number twenty on the Dutch Mega Single Top 100 on September 22 , 2007 .

= = Music video = =

The music video for " Green Light " was directed by Melina Matsoukas and co @-@ directed by Beyoncé . Filmed in early 2007 , it was one of the videos shot in two weeks for the B 'Day Anthology Video Album (2007) and was one out of eight previously unseen clips . " Green Light " was the third video shot during the sessions . The clip was inspired mainly by Robert Palmer 's 1985 music video " Addicted to Love " with its " stone @-@ faced models pretending to play guitars " . " Green

Light " was considered by Beyoncé as a modern version of the video because they used the instruments as props , where she pretended as a rock star .

She also revealed that the scenes reminded her of Vanity 6 . A short " Kitty Kat " clip opens the " Green Light " video . Beyoncé considered " Green Light " the " toughest video " to shoot . Besides from dressing in latex rubber clothing , she and her back @-@ up dancers had to wear ballet @-@ pointe heels . The shoes blistered her feet and gave muscle spasms due to the 18 @-@ hour session . Beyoncé invited her all @-@ female tour band , Suga Mama , to make their second appearance in a video after their debut performance on the music video for " Irreplaceable " (2006) . The video was posted on the MTV Overdrive on March 28 , 2007 .

= = Live performances = =

On September 6 , 2006 , Beyoncé promoted the album B 'Day with a performance of " Green Light " on Good Morning America . On April 2 , 2007 she also appeared on the Today Show , to promote the deluxe edition of B 'Day , which was released the following day . Beyoncé sang the Spanglish version of " Irreplaceable " and " Green Light " . The song was included as a part of her set list on The Beyoncé Experience . On August 5 , 2007 , Beyoncé performed the song at the Madison Square Garden in Manhattan , wearing a sparkly silver dress with a long train . For the performance , Beyoncé also brought out her squad of six female dancers . According to Shaheem Reid of MTV News , all the women moved with the precision " of a Navy Seal strike force " , slaying the crowd with their synchronized dances . Jon Pareles of The New York Times praised the performance , stating : " Beyoncé needs no distractions from her singing , which can be airy or brassy , tearful or vicious , rapid @-@ fire with staccato syllables or sustained in curlicued melismas . But she was in constant motion , strutting in costumes [...] " . According to Tonya Turner of The Courier @-@ Mail , the performance of " Green Light " , " moved fans to screams of endearment . " In Los Angeles , Beyoncé gave a full @-@ length performance of the song , dressed in a sparkly silver dress with a long train . It was executed with several female backup dancers , and live instrumentation . " Green Light " was included as on her live album The Beyoncé Experience Live (2007) .

= = Track listings and formats = =

Digital download

" Green Light " ? 3 : 29

" Green Light " (Freemasons Remix) ? 3 : 19

" Green Light " (Remix featuring Young Buck) - 4 : 19

UK Freemasons Digital EP

" Green Light " (Freemasons Remix) ? 3 : 19

" Beautiful Liar " (Freemasons Club Remix) (featuring Shakira) ? 7 : 31

" Déjà Vu " (Freemasons Radio Mix) (featuring Jay @-@ Z) ? 3 : 15

" Ring the Alarm " (Freemasons Club Mix Radio Edit) ? 3 : 26

= = Credits and personnel = =

Credits are taken from B 'Day 's liner notes .

= = Charts = =