

Green Day - “American Idiot”

Written by Billie Joe Armstrong, recorded by Green Day and released by Reprise Records. Released in August of 2004, the single peaked at #61 on the *Billboard* Hot 100 and ranked the #13 Single of the Decade by *Rolling Stone* magazine in 2009.

Form: Verse Chorus form (ABAB), Rock & Roll

Time Signature: 4/4

Instrumentation: Electric Guitar, Bass, Drums, Lead Vocals

0.02	Instrumental Intro		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 bar Rock & Roll electric guitar intro • First bar is muted • The fast tempo (about 180-190) • Multiple guitars
0.13	Verse 1	“Don’t wanna be an American...”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lead vocals start • 8 bar verses (instruments switching with the kickdrum) • Same guitar riff throughout • Lyrics only on kickdrum verses, this helps pull focus to the lyrics • Kickdrum on every quarter note of every alternate bar
0.33	Chorus	“Welcome to a new kind of...”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 bar chorus • Every bar starts with one quarter note followed by 14 sixteenth notes • Only drums for the last bar
0.59	Verse 2	“Well maybe I’m the ...”	Same as Verse 1
1.20	Chorus	“Welcome to a new kind of...”	Same as Chorus
1.48	Instrumental Break		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Upbeat and fast paced guitar solo
2.14	Bridge	“Don’t wanna be an American...”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 bars of guitar followed by 1 bar of only vocals • The same guitar riff from the intro plays
2.24	Outro	“Welcome to a new kind of...”	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heavy distortion used in the last bar