

Form and structure:

The piece is in **strophic** or **verse-chorus** form.

| Intro | Verse 1 / Verse 2 | Chorus 1 / Chorus 2 | Link 1 / Link 2 | Instrumental | Chorus 3 | Outro |
|--------|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------|---------|
| 1 - 4 | 5 - 39 / 14 - 39 | 40 - 57 | 58 - 65 | 66 - 82 | 40 - 92 | 93 - 96 |
| 4 bars | 35 bars / 26 bars | 18 bars | 8 bars | 17 bars | 22 bars | 4 bars |

Metre and rhythm:

Simple duple time – 2/2 (split common time) – with two minim beats in every bar.

Uses distinctive **ostinato rhythms** for both riffs, consisting almost totally of **quavers**, with constant use of **syncopation**.

Vocal rhythm looks complex but follows the natural rhythm of the lyrics.

Background details:

Composed by band members **David Paich** and **Jeff Porcaro**.

Recorded by the American rock band Toto in **1981** for their fourth studio album entitled **Toto IV**.

Released in **1982** and reached number one in America on 5 February **1983**.

Genre: **soft rock**.

Instrumentation:

Rock band: drum kit with additional percussion, lead and bass guitars, synthesisers, male lead vocals and male backing vocals.

Harmony:

Diatonic; mixture of root position and inverted chords.

Riff a can be heard during the intro, verses, link sections, instrumental and outro. This riff uses a three-chord pattern: **A – G#m – C#m**.



Choruses use a standard chord pattern: **vi (F#m) – IV (D) – I (A) – V (E)**.

The **harmonic rhythm** (the rate of chord change) is mostly once per bar.

Dynamics:

Most of the song is **mezzo-forte** (moderately loud) whilst the choruses are **forte**.

Melody:

Mostly **conjunct** (moving in step) with a **wide vocal range**.

Riff b uses the **pentatonic scale** (interpreted through E major):



Vocal improvisations occur towards the end of the song.

Texture:

Homophonic: melody and accompaniment.

Tonality:

The majority of the song is in **B major** whilst the choruses are all in **A major**.

Tempo:

The tempo is **moderately fast**.