Soft rock



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**.

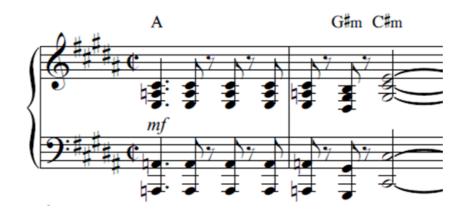
Released in **1982** and reached number one in America on 5 February **1983**.

Genre: soft rock.

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.

Instrumentation:

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

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**.