

THE DICK TWO TON BAKER DISCOGRAPHY

Two Ton's "home" label was Mercury, and the vast majority of the recordings shown here are on that label. This info was taken from *The Mercury Labels: A Discography (vol. 1: The 1945-1956 Era)*, by Michel Ruppli and Ed Novitsky. Typographical errors and bizarre typographical usages are not corrected, and even I haven't sorted out some of the quirky usages, but I have added some notes [in brackets] making corrections or additions. All records listed here are 78s unless otherwise indicated.

The leftmost number in the listings is the record company matrix number; if it is underlined, it means I have a copy of that recording. Likewise, an underscore under the record number (e.g., Merc 5066), means that I have that record (in a few cases, I have a copy of the recording but not the record itself).

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER) - NURSERY RHYME TIME:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with? [piano only]

April 1946

- 399 Pt.1:Boys and girls came out to play/
 Mary had a little lamb/
 One,two,buckle my shoe/
 Little boy blue/
 Ride a cockhorse/
 Oh where has my little dog gone
 Merc.7008(alb.MMP-3),MG30002
 [actually MMP-4 -DB]
- 400 Pt.2:Simple Simon
 One-two-three-four-five/
 I love Little Pussy/
 Sing a song of sixpence/
 Jack and Jill/
 Hickory dickory dock
 Merc.7008(alb.MMP-3),MG30002
 [actually MMP-4 -DB]
- 401 Pt.3:Baa baa black sheep/
 Just like me/
 Humpty dumpty/
 Little Bo Beep/
 Tom Tom/
 The piper's son
 Two birds on a stone/
 Bye bye bunting
 Merc.7009(alb.MMP-3)
 [actually MMP-4 -DB]
- 402 Pt.4:Hey diddle diddle/
 Peas porridge hot/
 Patty cake,Patty cake/

Mistress Mary/
 The queen of hearts/
 Little Jack Horner/
 Ding dong bell
 Boys and girls come out to play

Merc.7009(alb.MMP-3)
 [actually MMP-4 -DB]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER CHRISTMAS PARTY:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [sound effects on Night before Xmas]
 September 1946

515 The night before Christmas,pt.1 Merc.7010(alb.MMP-5)
516 The night before Christmas,p2.2:
 Santa's toy shop -
517 Up on the hose top/Deck the halls Merc.7011? [yes, and MMP-5]
 [house top -DB]
518 Jingle bells -

All titles also issued on [LP] Merc.MG30004.

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER, HIS PIANO & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Incl. Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo), Little Emmy(vo) & The Maple City Four-1
 (vocal quartet) [Actually, Baker on Rickety; Baker+Emma on Zip a dee;
 Baker+Maple City Four on Happy birthday & Auld lang Syne; also b & dr]
 WGN Studios,Chicago,November 6,1946

617 Zip a dee doo dah(voDB,LE) Merc.3047
618 Rickety rickshaw man(voDB) - 1359x45(alb.A-141x45),
 MG25135
619 Happy birthday to you[-1] Merc.3048,5039,5039x45
620 Auld Lang Syne-1 - - -
1359x45(alb.A-141x45),
 MG25135
 621 (Mercury Christmas number) unissued

DICK "TWO TON BAKER" & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr]
 WGN Studios,Chicago,January ,1947

686 Managua,Nicaragua Merc.5016
687 I gotta gal I love (in
 North and South Dakota) -
 688 Uncle Remus said Merc.5017
689* Everybody has a laughing face* - 7048(alb.MMP25-98),
 (voDB) 7048x45(alb.MMP25x45)

[*Actually, laughing "place." And note that the label on the disc itself
 shows the matrix number as 698 and the record number as 25-89; presumably, the
 typesetter transposed the 98 & 89 in the two numbers.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER) SING A SILLY SONG:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? ["Wabbit" label says "Dick Baker & His Music
 Makers," but I don't hear any other instruments]

1947
740 I like you, you're silly/
 Polly wolly doodle Merc.7018?*(alb.MMP-9)
741 The soup song/Eachy peachy pie - -
742 The tree in the woods Merc.7019?* =

743 I wuv a wabbit - -
Merc.7047(alb.MMP-24-98),5127,
 7047x45(alb.MMP-24x45)

All titles also issued on Merc.MG30002.
 [740-741 are indeed Mercury 7018; 742-743 are indeed Mercury 7019]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, gtr, b, dr, bass cl on Bloop Bleep] 1947

832 Bloop bleep Merc.5058
 833 A chocolate sundae on a
 Saturday night -
 834 Kokomo,Indiana Merc.5055
 835 Chick-a-biddy boogie -

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr] 1947
 957 Near You Merc.5066,1360x45(alb.A-141x45),
 MG25135
 958 Civilization Merc.5067,1361x45(alb.A-141x45),
 MG25135
 959 I'm a lonely little petunia
 (in an onion patch)(voDB) Merc.5066,5083,7048(alb.MMP25-98)
 7048x45(alb.MMP-25x45),MG30002
 960 Dancers in love(instr.)Merc.5067

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER):

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo,p) with ? [bass drum & sound effects] 1947
 977 Boomer the bass drum,pt.1 Merc.7022(alb.MMP-11)
 978 Boomer the bass drum,pt2 - -

Both parts also issued on Merc.7022x45(alb.MMP-11x45),MG30002.

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc b, dr] 1947
 1141 Too fat polka Merc.5079
 1142 With a hey and a hi and a
 ho ho ho -
 1143 The cocoanut song Merc.5083
 1144 I'm a little teapot Merc.5127,7047(alb.MMP-24-98),
 7047x45(alb.MMP-24-98x45)

BEN ARONIN & "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) & Ben Aronin(narr) with sound effects and music. 1947

1145 Sparkle plenty's birthday
 party,pt.1 Merc.7038(alb.MMP-19)
 1146 Sparkle plenty's birthday
 party,pt.2 - -

[This appears to be in error: I have the disk; Two Ton isn't mentioned on the cover, nor is he heard on the recording.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) with Ross [actually, Ros -DB] Metzger & Frank Worth's Orchestra.

1948

1757 Red's back in town Merc.5151*

1758 An old flame never dies -

[*These same two sides were issued as Metro Record Company No. 101-102 with notation "Not for Public Sale."]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ?

1948?

2067 Deep freezer Dinah* Merc.5281

[*actually, Deep Freeze Dinah; and credit on 5281 label is just "Two Ton" Baker; and backing sounds like the Mercury Studio Orchestra with vocal chorus]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr b, dr]

1949

2186 Roll the patrol Merc.5239

2187 Sunflower - 1360x45(alb.A-141x45),
Merc.25135

2188 Oogoo the worm Merc.5257,5346

2189 My little pup with the
patent leather nose and
the wiggly waggly tail - 5292,MMP-52,MMP-52x45

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS*:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [b on Lucy; b & dr on Drop the Gun; b & gtr on Engine]

1949

2519 Put your shoes on,Lucy Merc.5266**

2520 All right Louie,drop the gun Merc.5266(2)**
[actually, Louis]

2521 What the engine done Merc.5281

2522 Myrtle the turtle and Flip
the frog Merc.5266(1)**,MMP-52,MMP-52x45

[*Actually, credit just Two Ton Baker on the three sides I have.

**Something's screwy here: The Mercury discography has these three songs all on Mercury 5266, which is impossible. I have three copies of that record, and the two songs on them are "Put Your Shoes On, Lucy" and "All Right Louie." The "(1)" and "(2)" after 5266 on "Myrtle" and "Louie" seem to indicate that the compilers of the discography intended to explain this incongruity, but there are no such notes to be found.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr]

1949

2751 The beautiful blonde from
bashful bend Merc.5292

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [acc, b, dr]

1949

2760 Ev'rybody kissed the bride Merc.5306

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, b, dr on Stinky Cheese; acc, dr & vcl chorus on Ellie]

1949

2771 I like stinky cheese Merc.5306,MG25135
2772 Ellie the elegant elephant Merc.MMP-53*,MMP-53x45

[*actually, 78 is MMP 53-79]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc, gtr, b]

1949

2861 Gus the gopher Merc.5346,MMP-51-79
2862 Why fall in love with a
stranger Merc.5329

"TWO TON BAKER" & TINY HILL:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker,Tiny Hill(vo) with ? [p, b on Bigger Man; p, banjo, b, dr on Dixie; p not Baker?]

1949

2878-2 I'm a bigger man than you Merc.5324
2879 Nobody loves a fat man unissued
2880 Cryin' jag rag -
2881 Are you from Dixie? Merc.5324

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [acc only on Looey; acc, b, dr on Pansy; fem. vcl on Gus]¹

1949

2921 Looey the local locomotive Merc.MMP-53²,MMP-53x45
2922 I'm just a little pansy
in a flower pot Merc.5329
2923 Under the mistletoe unissued
2924 Our body is a little house,pt.1 Merc.MMP-54-79,MMP-54x45
2925 Our body is a little house,pt.2 - -
2986³ Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.1 Merc.MMP-59
2987³ Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.2 -
2988⁴ Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.1 Merc.MMP-60
2989⁴ Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.2 -

[*May 2006 email from Tim Gainer says that his mother, Elmira Roessler, was the uncredited voice of Gus the Gopher.

[**actually, 78 is MMP 53-79]

[**Actually, titles are "You Got to Be a Hero Nowadays," parts 1 & 2; record number is MMP 59 on decorative sleeve, but 59-79M on record label.

***Titles are "It's a Merry Christmas After All," parts 1 & 2; record number MMP 60-79M on record label.

[The Mercury discography treats this batch as one recording session, but the gap in matrix numbers makes that unlikely. I suspect that the four "Gus the Gopher" sides were done in a separate session. And note that 2986 seems to be just a repeat of the 2861 Gus the Gopher song with an added "gopher palaver" introduction splice on.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [actually, "Two Ton Baker and the Temp Tones": accordion, clarinet, bass, drums]

1950

3138 The bicycle song Merc.5368
3139 I've got tears in my eyes -
[actually, "ears"]
3140 Music! Music! Music! Merc.5369
3141 Chattanooga shoe shine boy -
[actually, "Chattanooga" - and yes, that's the correct title
of the song; just check your old Red Foley records]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [flute, bass cl, tp, gtr, xy, Hammond organ, dr + others? Add vocal chorus for Cinderella & One little candle]

1950

3208 Peter Cottontail Merc.5397,MMP-77
3209 Cinderella work song - -
3210 One little candle on a two
layer cake Merc.5426,8-50,MG25135
3211 The boy with the rip in his
pants - - MMP-63

[also have 45 rpm copies of 5397 & 5426.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) with The Mercury Studio Orchestra.

1950

3434 Kansas City Kitty Merc.5445
3435 Let's do it again -

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & JERRY MURAD'S HARMONICATS:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) with Jerry Murad,Al Fiore,Don Les(hca) + ? [acoustic gtr, xy, bassoon on the oom-pah, *but no tuba!*]*

1950

3762 Frosty the snowman(voDB) Merc.MMP-76,MMP-76-45
3763 Tubby the tuba song(voDB) - -
[The uncredited "little girl" voice on Frosty sounds very much like Elmira
Roessler, the voice of Gus the Gopher.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) & Jerry Murad's Harmonicats:Jerry Murad,Al Fiore,Don Les(hca) + ? [p, gtr on Dingya; p, gtr, xy on Irene; p presumably Baker]

1951

3896 Please say goodnight to the
guy,Irene Merc.5527,5527x45
3897 Dingya d' dingya-1

-1:as by Jerry Murad's Harmonicats & "Two Ton" Baker.

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo) with David Le Winter Orchestra.

1951

3918 The thing Merc.5548,5548x45,
1361x45(alb.A-141x45),MG25135

[Note that all the Mercury listings above are from a published Mercury

discography; until proven otherwise, I presume it's complete. All the listings that follow, however, are here because I've stumbled across the recordings. There could be others on these and other labels. Please help me find them.]

ON THE DECCA LABEL (78)

HOOSIER HOT SHOTS AND TWO TON BAKER

Paul "Hezzie" Trietsch (whistle); Ken Trietsch (gtr), Charles "Gabe" Ward (cl); Gill Taylor (b); unknown, trombone; Dick "Two Ton" Baker (p/vo)

Prob. Chicago, Ill., Nov. 13, 1945

73119 You Two Timed Me One Time Too Often Decca 18738

[A side of Decca 18738 is "Someday (You'll Want Me to Want You" by the Hoosier Hot Shots and Sally Foster]

73120 Sioux City Sue Decca 18745

[B side of Decca 18745 is "There's a Tear in My Beer Tonight" by the Hoosier Hot Shots and Sally Foster.]

ON THE CORAL LABEL (78)

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER WITH ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY LEW DOUGLAS

July-Aug 1952?

83034 (I'm Afraid to Marry) Marietta Coral 60807*

83035 Give Me Back -

*Marked "Sample copy--not for sale."

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER VOCAL WITH MUSICAL EFFECTS

Baker (vo/p) plus violin, kettle drum, mandolin, saxophone, trombone, cl, flute, b.

1953?

83036 At the Music Shop, Pt. 1 Coral 69023

83037 At the Music Shop, Pt. 2 -

DICK TWO TON BAKER WITH ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY REMO BIONDI

1953

? Fuzzy Wuzzy Coral 69025

83673 Bert the Turtle (The Duck and Cover Song)* -

*Have this song as reissued on DVD/CD documentary *Atomic Platters: Cold War Music from the Golden Age of Homeland Security*; don't have the disc.

PRIVATE RECORDING (78)

DICK BAKER (piano, vocal)

Prob. late 1950s

Rock Roll and Jump

You're Hitting Me Right Where I Live

Privately recorded 78 made at Webb Recording Co, 55 W. Wacker Dr, Chicago 1, Ill.

ON THE MOPPET LABEL (45s)

TWO-TON BAKER
Baker plus gtr, dr, b.

1950s?

<u>KS-5</u>	The Froggy Song	<u>Moppet 7003</u>
<u>KS-6</u>	Clink Clank (in My Piggy Bank)	-
<u>KS-7</u>	I'm a Little Weenie	<u>Moppet 7004</u>
<u>KS-8</u>	Rub-a-Dub-Dub (in a Tub)	-

These four songs also issued as Side B of a 10" LP, Imperial DJ-ET 101, which, with DJ-ET 102, was a promotional set with a different children's performer on each side. Imperial was part of the same West Coast family of labels as Moppet.

ON THE HEARTBEAT LABEL (45s)

"TWO TON" BAKER, THE MUSIC MAKER

Baker p, vo plus HB-3 = acc/bjo/b/vo chorus; HB-9 = tp on Wonderful Mother, tp & bongos on Mother of Mine; HB-12 = dr or rhythm machine, Hammond organ on St. James; H-23, H-41, H-51 = same quartet as LP below; H-33 = Hammond organ; H-49 = gtr/tp/b/dr.

Late 1950s-1960s

<u>[no #]</u>	No Beer in Heaven!	<u>HB-3</u>
<u>[no #]</u>	Lawrence Welk Polka	-
<u>[no #]</u>	Big Daddy Piano	<u>HB-5</u>
<u>[no #]</u>	Ping Pong Banjo	-
<u>[no #]</u>	My Wonderful Mother	<u>HB-9</u>
<u>[no #]</u>	Mother of Mine	-
<u>[no #]</u>	Scotch and Soda	<u>HB-12</u>
<u>[no #]</u>	St. James Infirmary	-
<u>NO8W-1910</u>	Hot Lips	<u>H-23</u>
<u>NO8W-1911</u>	My Blue Heaven	-
<u>L8OW-8287</u>	You Must Have Been a Beautiful Baby	<u>H-33</u>
<u>L8OW-8288</u>	I'm a Lonely Little Petunia	-
<u>M8OW-5168</u>	I'm Forever Blowing Bubbles	<u>H-41</u>
<u>M8OW-5169</u>	Five Foot Two	-
<u>NO7W-7424</u>	Barking Dog	<u>H-49*</u>
<u>NO7W-7427</u>	The Music Goes 'Round and Around	-
<u>P3KM-4927</u>	Sunny Deb	<u>H-51</u>
<u>P3KM-4928</u>	Satin Doll	-
<u>P3KM-6913</u>	Big Daddy Piano	<u>H-56</u>
<u>P3KM-6914</u>	Ping Pong Banjo	-

[*I have tape copies of H-49, but no disk]

ON THE SUNNY LABEL

"TWO TON" BAKER, THE MUSIC MAKER (45s)

Two Ton Baker, p, vo; 504 = dixieland band; 513AB & 515-A = same quartet as LP below; 515-B = drums & various rhythm; 518 = quartet as LP + Hammond organ; 523 = trick (thumbtack) piano, tuba, bjo, dr

late 1960s-early '70s?

<u>*</u>	Las Vegas	<u>SR-504</u>
	When My Sugar Walks Down the Street	-

It's Al Jolson Time (medley)	<u>S-513</u>
It's George M. Cohan Time (medley)	-
Sentimental Journey	<u>S515</u>
Right On!	-
It's Eddy Howard Time	S516
It's Ted Lewis Time	-
The Party's Over	<u>S-518</u>
Silver Dollar/You're Nobody	-
'Till Somebody Loves You	-
China Town	<u>S-523</u>
Down Yonder	-
South	S-528
Makin' Whoopee	-

*No Sunny 45s have matrix numbers.

A SENTIMENTAL JOURNEY WITH TWO TON BAKER (LP)

Sentimental Journey

Love Medley:

I Can't Give You Anything but Love

My Blue Heaven

Sweet Georgia Brown

It's Only a Shanty in Old Shanty Town

Alexander's Rag Time Band

I'm a Lonely Little Petunia

Too Fat Polka

If I Could Be with You / Lazy River

Medley:

Red Roses for a Blue Lady

One Dozen Roses

Anytime

Medley:

For Me and My Gal

Carolina in the Morning

Oh You Beautiful Doll

Medley:

Pretty Baby

I Don't Know Why

Honey

You Made Me Love You

Medley:

Silver Dollar

You're Nobody Till Somebody Loves You

Eddy Howard Time:

If I Knew Then

Careless

Ted Lewis Time:

Me and My Shadow

When My Baby Smiles at Me

Satin Doll

Two Ton Baker, p/vo; Seymour Schwartz, cornet; Paul Friedman, b; Phil Stanger, dr. Sunny S-5001, 1972. LP evidently compiled from 45s made at previous sessions for the Heartbeat label.

Instrument abbreviations above: p = piano; vo = vocal; b = string bass; gtr = electric guitar, acc = accordion; dr = drums; cl = clarinet; xy = xylophone;

tp = trumpet; bjo = banjo

TRANSCRIPTION DISCS

Transcription discs were specially recorded and sent through the mail to subscribing radio stations for later playback. There were transcription discs in the 78 era, but Two Ton's were all 33 1/3 rpm discs, some of which were 16" in diameter, a size that radio station turntables could handle but that never caught on with home machines. Also, transcription discs typically didn't have grooves leading from one track to the next. It was felt—rightly, I'm sure—that if an engineer's attention lapsed, it was better to have a few extra seconds of dead air than to have the next show start unexpectedly.

CROSLEY & BENDIX FIVE-MINUTE RADIO SHOWS, 1955

Labeled "Two Ton" Baker the Crosley Music Maker or "Two Ton" Baker the Bendix-Washer Music Maker, 5-Minute Radio Shows, Pressed by RCA Victor Division of Radio Corporation of America, Frederick Jack Productions, 520 North Michigan, Chicago, Ill.

Each disc has five shows plus a "closing theme" track. I have five of them:

Show Record No. 1 — for Crosley

Show Record No. 2 "

Show Record No. 15 — for Bendix

Show Record No. 20 "

Commercial Record No. 22 — for Bendix (12" disc; others are 16")

THE "76" SPOTS, 1957

Labeled "76" Spot Announcements featuring Two-Ton Baker, Modern Recording Studio, 55 Wacker Dr., Chicago 1, Ill., Produced by American "76" Company, Skokie, Ill. Each side of each disc has six 60-second jingles for the beverage, which seems to have been a lemon-lime 7-Up clone. All are 12" discs.

MR-1096/1097 [no series label]

MR-7661B/7662B - Series B

MR-11831/11832 - Series C

TUNE FOR TODAY, Early 1950s?

I never had the actual discs in hand for this set, just 48 of the shows. Each ran 4 1/2 minutes: one minute intro, one minute piano interlude for local announcements or commercials, then the tune for the day.

WEATHER FORECASTS WITH TWO TON BAKER, date unknown

Labeled Standard Program Library, Themes 12, Weather Forecasts with Two Ton Baker, SRR-2246/2247, Property of Standard Radio Hollywood, Calif., 16" disc.

RADIO SHOWS

Not strictly "discographical" material, but some of Two Ton's radio shows have survived, so I'll document them here. As with everything else, I'm eager to acquire more.

Mutual Network Show

Two Ton Baker did a 15-minute show from Studio 2 in his "home" station of WGN that was fed to subscribing stations all over the country on the Mutual

Broadcasting System. I have three shows, all of which came from nostalgia radio host Chuck Schaden in Chicago. (The dates are from Schaden, but the second one is suspect, as Baker refers to something happening on Aug. 8 as if it were a few days in the past.)

August 1, 1947 – songs are

Smile Right Back at the Sun
My Blue Heaven
Dancers in Love (Stomp for Beginners)
Red Sails in the Sunset

August 5, 1947

Ragtime Cowboy Joe
You're the Only Star in My Blue Heaven
Bloop Bleep
Gimme a Little Kiss

August 18, 1947

Mazel
Dream
I Do Do Do Like You
Let the Rest of the World Go By

Interview by Chuck Schaden

On his "Those Were the Days" show on May 2, 1972 (WLTD, Evanston), Schaden did a 15-minute telephone interview with Two Ton.