

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

- | | | |
|------------|---|--|
| <u>399</u> | 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. <u>7008</u> (alb.MMP-3),MG30002
[actually <u>MMP-4</u> -DB] |
| <u>400</u> | 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. <u>7008</u> (alb.MMP-3),MG30002
[actually <u>MMP-4</u> -DB] |
| <u>401</u> | 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. <u>7009</u> (alb.MMP-3)
[actually <u>MMP-4</u> -DB] |
| <u>402</u> | 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. <u>7009</u> (alb.MMP-3)
[actually <u>MMP-4</u> -DB] |

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER CHRISTMAS PARTY:

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

<u>515</u>	The night before Christmas,pt.1	<u>Merc.7010(alb.MMP-5)</u>
<u>516</u>	The night before Christmas,p2.2: Santa's toy shop	-
<u>517</u>	Up on the hose top/Deck the halls [house top -DB]	<u>Merc.7011?</u> [yes, and MMP-5]
<u>518</u>	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 & gtr on Zip
a dee & Happy birthday; gtr, b & dr on Rickety rickshaw]
WGN Studios, Chicago, November 6, 1946

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

<u>686</u>	Managua,Nicaragua	<u>Merc.5016</u>
<u>687</u>	I gotta gal I love (in North and South Dakota)	-
<u>688</u>	Uncle Remus said	<u>Merc.5017</u>
<u>689*</u>	Everybody has a laughing face* (voDB)	- <u>7048</u> (alb.MMP25-98), <u>7048x45</u> (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 7019 and 7047 say "Dick Baker &
His Music Makers," while 5027 is just Baker, which is obviously right, since I
don't hear any other instruments]

1947

<u>740</u>	I like you, you're silly/ Polly wolly doodle	<u>Merc.7018?*</u> (alb.MMP-9)
<u>741</u>	The soup song/Eachy peachy pie	- -
<u>742</u>	The tree in the woods	<u>Merc.7019?*</u> -
<u>743</u>	I wuv a wabbit	- -
		<u>Merc.7047</u> (alb.MMP-24-98), <u>5127</u> , <u>7047x45</u> (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

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

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:
Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) + ? [gtr, b, dr]

			1947
<u>957</u>	Near You	<u>Merc.5066</u> , 1360x45 (alb.A-141x45), MG25135	
<u>958</u>	Civilization	<u>Merc.5067</u> , <u>1361x45</u> (alb.A-141x45), MG25135	
<u>959</u>	I'm a lonely little petunia (in an onion patch) (voDB)	<u>Merc.5066</u> , <u>5083</u> , 7048 (alb. <u>MMP25-98</u>) 7048x45 (alb.MMP-25x45), MG30002	
<u>960</u>	Dancers in love(instr.)	<u>Merc.5067</u>	

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER (THE MUSIC MAKER):
Dick "Two Ton" Baker(vo,p) with ? [bass drum & sound effects]

			1947
<u>977</u>	Boomer the bass drum,pt.1	Merc.7022 (alb.MMP-11)	
<u>978</u>	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, + gtr on With a hey]

			1947
<u>1141</u>	Too fat polka	<u>Merc.5079</u>	
<u>1142</u>	With a hey and a hi and a ho ho ho	-	
<u>1143</u>	The cocoanut song	<u>Merc.5083</u>	
<u>1144</u>	I'm a little teapot	<u>Merc.5127</u> , 7047 (alb. <u>MMP-24-98</u>), 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
<u>1757</u>	Red's back in town	<u>Merc.5151*</u>	
<u>1758</u>	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) + ? [dr, acc, bass cl, gtr; female vocal group, whistler (could be Baker)]

			1948?
<u>2067</u>	Deep freezer Dinah*	<u>Merc.5281</u>	

[*actually, Deep Freeze Dinah; credit on 5281 label is just "Two Ton" Baker-no mention of Music Makers]

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

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

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

[*78 labels for all four credit "Richard (Two-Ton Baker," no mention of Music Makers.]

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
[actually, Louis]

Merc.5266(2)**

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, acc, 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, dr]

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, gtr, b, dr on Bigger Man; p, banjo, b, dr on Dixie]

1949

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

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

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

1949

<u>2921</u>	Looey the local locomotive	<u>Merc.MMP-53¹, MMP-53x45</u> [¹ actually, 78 is MMP 53-79]
<u>2922</u>	I'm just a little pansy in a flower pot	<u>Merc.5329</u>
<u>2923</u>	Under the mistletoe	unissued
<u>2924</u>	Our body is a little house,pt.1	Merc.MMP-54-79, MMP-54x45
<u>2925</u>	Our body is a little house,pt.2	-

[As of 4/8/17, when I finally found Myrtle the Turtle, "Our body" is the last known Two Ton recording that I've never found.]

"TWO TON" BAKER:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [fem. vcl¹ on all four Gus sides; gtr, dr, b, acc on the part of 2986 that's a repeat of 2861]

<u>2986²</u>	Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.1	Merc.MMP-59
<u>2987²</u>	Gus the gopher and his pal,pt.2	-
<u>2988³</u>	Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.1	<u>Merc.MMP-60</u>
<u>2989³</u>	Gus the gopher saves Christmas,pt.2	-

[¹May 2006 email from Tim Gainer says that his mother, Elmira Roessler, was the uncredited voice of Gus the Gopher.

²Actually, titles on discs 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. And note that 2986 seems to be just a repeat of the 2861 Gus the Gopher song with an added "gopher palaver" introduction spliced on.

³Actually, titles on discs are "It's a Merry Christmas After All," parts 1 & 2; record number MMP 60-79M on record label.]

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER [actually, "Two Ton Baker and the Temp Tones"]:

Dick "Two Ton" Baker(p,vo) with ? [accordion, guitar, clarinet, bass, drums]

1950

<u>3138</u>	The bicycle song	<u>Merc.5368</u>
<u>3139</u>	I've got tears in my eyes [actually, "ears"]	-
<u>3140</u>	Music! Music! Music!	<u>Merc.5369</u>
<u>3141</u>	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, muted tp, gtr, glockenspiel or xylophone, Hammond organ, dr + others? Add female vocal chorus for Cinderella & One little candle]

1950

<u>3208</u>	Peter Cottontail	<u>Merc.5397</u> , MMP-77
<u>3209</u>	Cinderella work song	-
<u>3210</u>	One little candle on a two layer cake	<u>Merc.5426</u> , 8-50, MG25135

- 6 -

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	<u>Coral 60807*</u>
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	<u>Coral 69023</u>
83037	At the Music Shop, Pt. 2	-

DICK TWO TON BAKER WITH ORCHESTRA DIRECTED BY REMO BIONDI

1953

?	Fuzzy Wuzzy	Coral 69025
83673	<u>Bert the Turtle (The Duck and Cover Song)*</u>	-

*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?

KS-5	The Froggy Song	<u>Moppet 7003</u>
KS-6	Clink Clank (in My Piggy Bank)	-
KS-7	I'm a Little Weenie	<u>Moppet 7004</u>
KS-8	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-6813</u>	Luck Be with You (Kenahora- Knock On Wood)	<u>H-56</u>
<u>P3KM-6814</u>	The Ducky Dance (Waddle, Waddle, Waddle)	-

[*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.

YOUR FAVORITE SONGS, 1955

Labeled "Your Favorite Songs by 'Two-Ton' Baker, The Music Maker." Record No. 6. Five two-minute tracks on each side of 16" disc. Etched in vinyl is "BAKER LIBRARY - REC. 6 - SIDE 1 - MODERN RECORDING STUDIO 8/15/55 EW."

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.