

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

- | | | |
|------------|--|------------------------------------|
| <u>515</u> | The night before Christmas,pt.1 | <u>Merc.7010</u> (alb.MMP-5) |
| <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 & dr]
 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) | - 1359x45(alb.A-141x45),
MG25135 |
| <u>619</u> | Happy birthday to you[-1] | <u>Merc.3048</u> , <u>5039</u> , <u>5039x45</u> |
| <u>620</u> | 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

- | | | |
|------------|---|--|
| <u>686</u> | Managua,Nicaragua | <u>Merc.5016</u> |
| <u>687</u> | I gotta gal I love (in
North and South Dakota) | - |
| 688 | Uncle Remus said | <u>Merc.5017</u> |
| <u>689</u> | Everybody has a laughing face
(voDB)
[actually, laughing "place"] | - <u>7048</u> (alb.MMP25-98),
7048x45(alb.MMP25x45) |

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]

- | | | | |
|------------|---|---|------|
| <u>740</u> | I like you, you're silly/
Polly wolly doodle | <u>Merc.7018?*</u> (alb.MMP-9) | 1947 |
| <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> , | |

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.

1757 Red's back in town Merc.5151* 1948
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) + ?

2067 Deep freezer Dinah Merc.5281 1948?

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER & HIS MUSIC MAKERS:

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

2186 Roll the patrol Merc.5239 1949
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]

2519 Put your shoes on,Lucy Merc.5266 1949
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

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

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

2751 The beautiful blonde from
bashful bend Merc.5292 1949

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

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

2760 Ev'rybody kissed the bride Merc.5306 1949

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

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

2771 I like stinky cheese Merc.5306,MG25135 1949
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

<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
<u>3211</u>	The boy with the rip in his pants	- - MMP-63

DICK "TWO TON" BAKER:

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

1950

<u>3434</u>	Kansas City Kitty	<u>Merc.5445</u>
<u>3435</u>	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

<u>3762</u>	Frosty the snowman(voDB)	<u>Merc.MMP-76</u> ,MMP-76-45
<u>3763</u>	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

<u>3896</u>	Please say goodnight to the guy,Irene	<u>Merc.5527</u> ,5527x45
<u>3897</u>	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

<u>3918</u>	The thing	<u>Merc.5548</u> ,5548x45, 1361x45(alb.A-141x45),MG25135
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[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

<u>73119</u>	You Two Timed Me One Time Too Often	<u>Decca 18738</u>
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[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?

KS-5 The Froggy Song Moppet 7003

KS-6 Clink Clank (in My Piggy Bank) -

KS-7 I'm a Little Weenie Moppet 7004

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-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>	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.

CROSLY & 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.