

Listening Guide

Elvis Presley, “Heartbreak Hotel” RCA 47-6420

Words and music by Mae Boren, Tommy Durden, and Elvis Presley, produced by Steve Sholes. Reached #1 on the *Billboard* “Top 100” chart, #1 on all three *Billboard* country and western charts (sales, jukebox, and radio), and #3 on the *Billboard* rhythm and blues “Most Played in Juke Boxes” chart in 1956.

FORM: Simple verse.

TIME SIGNATURE: 12/8 (shuffle in four).

INSTRUMENTATION: Electric guitar, piano, acoustic bass, drums, and lead vocals.

0:00–0:22	Verse 1 , 8 mm.	“Well, since my baby left me . . .”
0:22–0:42	Verse 2 , 8 mm.	“Oh, though it’s always crowded . . .”
0:42–1:01	Verse 3 , 8 mm.	“Now, the bellhop’s tears . . .”
1:01–1:22	Verse 4 , 8 mm.	“Well, if your baby leaves you . . .”
1:21–1:42	Instrumental verse , 8 mm.	Guitar solo for first 4 mm., then piano solo.
1:42–2:05	Verse 5 , 8 mm.	“Oh, though it’s always crowded . . .”