

Listening Guide

Fats Domino, “Blueberry Hill” Imperial 5407

Words and music by Al Lewis, Larry Stock, and Vincent Rose, produced by Dave Bartholomew. Reached #1 on all three *Billboard* rhythm and blues charts (best sellers, jukeboxes, and radio) and #2 on the “Most Played in Jukeboxes,” pop chart in 1956.

FORM: AABA form, with only the bridge and last verse repeated (BA).

TIME SIGNATURE: 12/8, with a characteristic easy, loping New Orleans feel. Each measure contains four beats, with each beat divided into three parts (compound). Note how the piano chords play these three parts of each beat, creating a rolling one & uh, two & uh, three & uh, four & uh rhythmic undercurrent.

INSTRUMENTATION: Piano, electric guitar, acoustic bass, drums, horns, and lead vocal.

0:00–0:12	Introduction , 4 mm.	Piano featured as the New Orleans feel locks in.
0:12–0:33	A-Verse , 8 mm.	Vocal enters. Note the repeated chords high on the piano, and the rolling line in the bass and guitar below. Sustained horns support the vocal, “I found my thrill . . .”
0:33–0:53	A-Verse , 8 mm.	As before, “The moon stood still . . .”
0:53–1:14	B-Bridge , 8 mm.	New horn line enters to emphasize contrast, “The wind in the willow . . .”
1:14–1:35	A-Verse , 8 mm.	As before, “Though we’re apart . . .”
1:35–1:56	B-Bridge , 8 mm.	Supporting horn line returns, “The wind in the willow . . .”
1:56–2:18	A-Verse , 8 mm.	As before, “Though we’re apart . . .”