

## TagAnalysis

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 Phone: 503-810-8818, E-mail: [DarwinScheel@comcast.net](mailto:DarwinScheel@comcast.net)

# Sunshine On My Shoulders

Lyrics by John Denver

Music by John Denver, Dick Kniss,  
 and Mike Taylor  
 Arranged by Unknown  
 \* Modified by Darwin Scheel

Sun - shine      al - most      al - ways      makes me      high.

\* I modified the chords on the word "al - most"; the small notes are the original notes as taught to me.

Just as music theorist throughout the years have analyzed great works by composers such as Mozart and Beethoven, this TagAnalysis template is used to analyze great Tags. If possible, what makes this Tag beautiful, interesting, and/or awesome?

Item	Category	Description
1.	TagAnalysis by – Name and Date	Darwin Scheel, 11/26/2011.
2.	Title, Abbreviated Title, and/or Nickname	Sunshine On My Shoulders Sunshine or John Denver Tag.
3.	The Words Are...	Sunshine almost always makes me high.
4.	Composer and/or Music & Lyricist, and Year	Lyrics by John Denver. Music by John Denver, Dick Kniss, and Mike Taylor.
5.	Arranger and Year	Unknown, this Tag was taught to me by Kenneth Potter.
6.	<b>TagAnalysis Summary</b>	"Sunshine On My Shoulders" is an awesome Tag because it has a familiar melody and words, the Tag is short, the individual parts are simple and easy to learn with cool progressions of awesome modern sounding chords, it is a key change Tag with a ringing last chord, and the Lead/Bass octave on the last chord is also the starting notes for singing the Tag again; totally awesome! This is a fun ringing Tag to sing.

### Detailed Analysis

Item	Category	Description
7.	Made Famous By (well-known quartet)	None.
8.	Intro, Middle, or Tag	Tag
9.	Tag Length – Short, Med, or Long	Med
10.	Difficulty – Easy, Med, or Hard	Med
11.	Key Written In	Db
12.	Primarily Tempo, Ballad, or both	Ballad
13.	Primarily Homophonic or Contrapuntal	Homophonic
14.	Starting Note, Octave, Duet, or Chord (with reference to the key)	Unison Octave starting on the 3 <sup>rd</sup> scale, F pitch, with the lower three parts on the lower octave.
15.	Teaching order of Parts and why	Start with the Lead part first as it is the melody. Once the Lead part has been learned, teach the Tenor part next with the Lead quietly singing along in the background. When the Tenor part has been learned, teach the Bari part next with the Lead and Tenor quietly singing along. Make sure the

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		upper three parts have thoroughly learned their parts and have sung through the Tag together at full volume before teaching the Bass part as we will now be introducing dissonant intervals. Finally, teach the Bass part with the other three parts quietly singing in the background. This teaching process allows singers to rehearse their part and not forget their part as others are learning their part. The upper three parts sung together are very consonant and pleasing until you add the Bass part. The Bass part is taught last because throughout this Tag, the Bass creates M7th intervals with/against each of the upper three parts.
16.	How Many Parts	Four
17.	Flavor – Barbershop/Modern	Modern
18.	Type – Barbershop, Sweet Adelines, SATB, Other Male, Other Female, or Other Mixed	Barbershop
19.	Tag Version – Compared to Original	Original – I have not heard a different arrangement of this Tag.
20.	Familiar Melody – Yes/No	Yes
21.	Familiar Words – Yes/No	Yes
22.	Melody – Primarily which Part	Lead
23.	Pick-up Notes – Yes/No	No
24.	The First Chord Identified	Major Seventh
25.	Major, Minor, or Both	Major
26.	Key Change – Yes/No	Yes
27.	Picardy Third – Yes/No	No
28.	Featured Chords	Major Seventh chords on the following words: “Sun – <b>shine</b> ”, “al – <b>most</b> ”, “al – <b>ways</b> ”, “ <b>makes</b> ”, and a minor minor seventh on the word “ <b>me</b> ”.
29.	Featured Chord Progressions	The starting note, unison octave, going to a Major Seventh chord. On the word “al –ways”, an Eb mirror chord going to a Gb major seventh chord. The penultimate chord into last chord – minor minor seventh into ten spread tonic chord
30.	Beautiful Melody – Yes/No	Yes
31.	Cool Rhythm – Yes/No	No
32.	Awesome Lyrics – Yes/No	Yes
33.	Other than the first chord, are there any unisons or unison octaves or octaves – Yes/No	The very first note is a unison octave on F with the lower three parts on the lower F and the Tenor an octave above. Bari/Bass octave on the word “ <b>all</b> –ways”.
34.	Any posting – which Part(s)	No
35.	Rangy – Yes/No	No
36.	Motive – Yes/No	No
37.	Any Suspensions – Yes/No	No
38.	Ending Note, Octave, Duet, Chord,	Ten spread tonic chord ending on the third scale of original key; from the Bass up, F, C, F, A natural.
39.	Optional Notes – Yes/No	Yes, you can sing the original notes of this Tag as taught to me; the small notes are the original notes.
40.	Optional Parts – Yes/No	No
41.	Solo, and/or Feature – Yes/No	No
42.	Bell Chord or Part Entrance – Yes/No	No
43.	Swipes – Yes/No	No
44.	Echo’s – Yes/No	No
45.	Comments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Very satisfying chord progression from the opening unison octave into the M7 chord.</li> <li>2. Out of the nine chords to this Tag, there are five cool chords, QTY: 4 Major seventh cords containing a perfect 4<sup>th</sup> and perfect 5<sup>th</sup> interval and QTY: 1 minor minor seventh chord containing two perfect 5<sup>th</sup> intervals to lock and ring.</li> <li>3. This Tag really rings; the penultimate minor minor seventh chord has two perfect 5<sup>th</sup> intervals to lock and ring and the bright ee</li> </ol>

Item	Category	Description
		vowel opens the throat and adjust/balances the lower and upper registers to freely ring the ah vowel on the ending tonic ten spread chord.