

## Tin Pan Alley Song Form (1920-1970)

This form provides a smooth transition between a dramatic scene and a musical number in a Broadway-style musical. In performance, the Verse is often left out and the remaining section (Chorus) performed alone.

Sometimes referred to as “32-bar song form.”

The B-section or “Bridge” usually features contrasting harmony and melody from the 3 A-sections, which all have the same or similar music.

Composers using this form included:

George Gershwin  
Hoagy Carmichael  
Cole Porter  
Irving Berlin  
Harold Arlen  
Richard Rogers  
Duke Ellington  
Johnny Marks

Sample Songs in this Form:

“Over the Rainbow” (Arlen-Yarburg)  
“My Blue Heaven” (Whiting-Donaldson)  
“Autumn Leaves” (Kosma-Prevert-Mercer)  
“Satin Doll” (Ellington)  
“I Got Rhythm” (Gershwin)  
“Don’t Fence Me In” (Porter)  
“Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer” (Marks)  
TV Themes such as *The Flintstones*

### “Chorus”

