



LYRICFIND ▶

LYRIC FORMATTING GUIDELINES

JUNE 2020

Every lyric in our database must be formatted a specific way to ensure consistency. The guidelines below help guarantee that every lyric is structured the same way and that the end user's experience remains uninhibited.

- a. Lyrics should be written in the language intended by the writer, and using uses the applicable character.
No Transliterations. If the language is Mandarin, Mandarin characters must be used. Do not use English characters that mimic Mandarin.
- b. The beginning of each line should start with a capital letter.
- c. No more than one blank line between verses, choruses or stanzas.
- d. Do not label stanzas with chorus, verse, bridge or any other tags. For example, "**Verse**", "**Chorus**", "**Bridge**" and "**Hook**" should all be removed.
- e. Do not use repeat tags to signify if a line or stanza is repeated. Instead, write each line or stanza however many times it is said.
- f. Other song information should be deleted from inside the lyric text, such as artist, album or song name, or writer and publisher credits. Only the lyrics should be included.
- g. Do not write out any sounds that are heard in the song, like "**gunshot**", "**clap**", "**horn**", etc.
- h. Remove all labels such as [Talking], {Speaking}, or (Whispering).
- i. Any word cut short should have one apostrophe in place of the missing letters. For example: *givin', livin'*.
- j. No words should be misspelled unless the artist specifically pronounces the word that way or if the word is purposely misspelled in the title. For example: "*The Dells – Oh, What a Nite*".
- k. Slang is acceptable but the artist must pronounce it that way. Slang should only be used if the word sounds differently than the grammatically correct word. For example, "*for shizzle*" can be used but "*becuz*" should be spelled "*because*".
- l. Exaggerations should be cut down to the original word or punctuation. For example, "*ohhhh*" should be "*oh*" and "*bang!!!!*" should be "*bang!*".
- m. Background vocals should be placed on the same line they're said but in parentheses. For example, "*I'm a survivor (What, what)*".
- n. When translating lyrics, translate the context and meaning. When possible, do not translate literally.
- o. Translated lyrics must have the same number of lines as the original lyrics.
- p. Each translated line must translate the matched line from the original set of lyrics in its entirety.

SAMPLE LYRICS SUBMISSION

Grey skies, frownin' at me
Grey skies I watch

Redbirds yellin' a tune
Grey skies I watch all day long

Can't see the moon shining so dull
Can't see the moon shining so dull
Can't the days hurry by
Can't the days hurry by

Can't see the moon shining so dull
Can't see the moon shining so dull
Can't the days hurry by
Can't the days hurry by

French Translation Example:

Cieux gris, me fixant d'un regard noir
Cieux gris, que je contemple

Les cardinaux hurlent leur mélodie
Les cieux gris que je contemple à longueur de journée

Je ne vois plus briller la lune, si terne
Je ne vois plus briller la lune, si terne
Journées, pourquoi ne passez-vous pas plus vite
Journées, pourquoi ne passez-vous pas plus vite

Je ne vois plus briller la lune, si terne
Je ne vois plus briller la lune, si terne
Journées, pourquoi ne passez-vous pas plus vite
Journées, pourquoi ne passez-vous pas plus vite