

История песни «Jingle Bells».

Jingle Bells was originally called One Horse Open Sleigh and was written by James Pierpont sometime between 1853 and 1857. At the time, Pierpont was working as an organist and music director in Savannah, Georgia. Pierpont was hired on by his brother, John Pierpont Jr. who was the Reverend there, after James' business in San Francisco burned down. It was here that he composed One Horse Open Sleigh, reportedly for a Thanksgiving program.

He later publicly released the song through Ditson and Co. of Boston in 1857, but it wasn't terribly popular. Pierpont tried again to release it in 1859 under the new title Jingle Bells, with it once again flopping. However, from there, it did slowly gain in popularity and became associated with Christmas, rather than just as a general sleigh-song, which were a popular type of song at the time among teenagers (think "fast cars / pretty girls" songs). By 1890, three years before Pierpont's death, the song had become a huge Christmas hit and from 1890 to 1954 it managed to maintain a spot on the top 25 most recorded songs in the world.

While most people are very familiar with the first verses of Jingle Bells directly before the chorus, there are actually three more verses to the song: