

(I'm Not Your) Steppin' Stone

(The Monkees)

I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone
I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone

You're tryin' to make your mark in society
You're usin' all the tricks that you used on me
You're readin' all them high-fashion magazines
The clothes you're wearin', girl, are causin' public scenes

I said I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone
I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone
Not your steppin' stone
Not your steppin' stone

When I first met you girl you didn't have no shoes
But now you're walkin' 'round like you're front page news
You've been awful careful 'bout the friends you choose
But you won't find my name in your book of Who's Who

I said I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone (no girl, not me)
I, I, I, I, I'm not your steppin' stone
Not your steppin' stone
I'm not your steppin' stone
Not your steppin' stone
Not your steppin' stone...

"(I'm Not Your) Steppin' Stone" is a rock song written by Tommy Boyce and Bobby Hart. It was first recorded by Paul Revere & the Raiders and appeared on their album *Midnight Ride*, released in May 1966.

The song is simple musically, with a repeating verse chord progression of E major, G major, A major, and C major, and a repeating bridge in cut time of E major, G major, A major, and G major.

It is best known as a hit for The Monkees (*US #20*), released in November 1966, (making it the first Monkees B-side to chart). Musicians featured on the Monkees recording are: Micky Dolenz (lead vocal); Tommy Boyce (backing vocal); Wayne Erwin, Gerry McGee, and Louie Shelton (guitar); Bobby Hart (organ); Larry Taylor (bass); Billy Lewis (drums); and Henry Lewy (percussion).

The various Monkees' versions differ across the single, stereo album, and mono album versions. In the stereo version, the track's title is sung just before the second verse, whereas on the single and mono album versions, this segment is left instrumental. Additionally, the stereo version has an edit in the fade out. The mono album version does not have this edit and therefore has a longer coda. The single also does not have the edit, but it fades the song earlier than the mono album. All Monkees' hits compilations through the mid-1980s used the stereo version, and afterward typically used the single version.