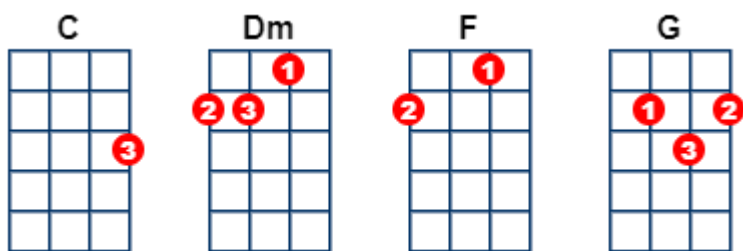


## THE GAMBLER by Kenny Rogers, Key of C



On a **[C]** warm summer's evenin' on a **[F]** train bound for **[C]** nowhere,  
I **[F]** met up with the **[C]** gambler; we were both too tired to **[G]** sleep.  
So **[C]** we took turns a starin' out the **[F]** window at the **[C]** darkness  
'til **[F]** boredom over **[C]** took us, and **[G]** he began to **[C]** speak.

He said, **[C]** "Son, I've made a life out of **[F]** readin' people's **[C]** faces,  
and **[F]** knowin' what their **[C]** cards were by the way they held their **[G]**  
eyes. And if **[C]** you don't mind my sayin', I can **[F]** see you're out of **[C]**  
aces. For a **[F]** taste of your **[C]** whiskey I'll **[G]** give you some **[C]**  
advice."

So I **[C]** handed him my bottle and he **[F]** drank down my last **[C]** swallow.  
Then he **[F]** bummed a **[C]** cigarette and asked me for a **[G]**  
light. And the **[C]** night got deathly quiet, and his **[F]** face lost  
all ex**[C]**pression. Said, "If you're **[F]** gonna play the **[C]**  
game, boy, ya gotta **[G]** learn to play it **[C]** right.

You got to **[C]** know when to hold 'em, **[F]** know when to **[C]** fold 'em,  
**[F]** know when to **[C]** walk away and know when to **[G]** run.  
You never **[C]** count **[Dm]** your **[C]** money when you're **[F]** sittin' at the **[C]** table.  
There'll be **[F]** time enough for **[C]** countin' **[G]** when the dealin's **[C]** done.

[D] [D] [D ] Ev'ry gambler knows that the [G] secret to surv [D] ivin'  
is [G] knowin' what to [D] throw away and knowing what to [A]  
keep. 'Cause [D] ev'ry hand's a winner and [G] ev'ry hand's a [D]  
loser, and the [G] best that you can [D] hope for is to [A] die in your  
[D] sleep."

And [D] when he'd finished speakin', he [G] turned back towards the [D] window,  
[G] crushed out his [D] cigarette and faded off to [A] sleep.

And [D] somewhere in the darkness the [G] gambler, he broke [D] even.

But [G] in his final [D] words I found an [A] ace that I could [D] keep.

You got to [D] know when to hold 'em, [G] know when to [D] fold 'em,

[G] know when to [D] walk away and know when to [A] run.

You never [D] count [Em] your [D] money when you're [G] sittin' at the [D] table.

There'll be [G] time enough for [D] countin' [A] when the dealin's [D] done.

[X2] [D/]