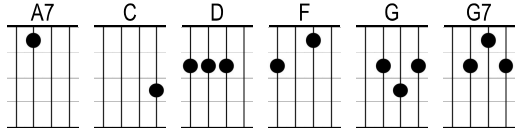# The Gambler

Kenny Rogers

Chord diagrams: A7 C D F G G7

C F C F

On a **C** warm summer's | evenin', on a **F** train bound for **C** nowhere
I | met up with the | gambler, we were | both too tired to **G7** sleep
So **C** we took turns a-| starin', out the **F** window at the **C** darkness
Till **F** boredom over**C**took us, **G** and he began to **C** speak

He said **C** "Son I've made my | life, out of **F** readin' peoples' **C** faces
And | knowin' what their | cards were, by the | way they held their **G7** eyes
So 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 ad**C**vice" |

So I **C** handed him my | bottle, and he **F** drank down my last **C** swallow
| Then he bummed a | cigarette, and | asked me for a **G7** 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, | know when to **G** run
You never **C** count your | 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 | | |

Now, **D** ev'ry gambler | knows, that the **G** secret to sur**D**vivin'
Is | knowin' what to | throw away, and | knowin' what to **A7** keep
'Cause **D** every hand's a | winner, and **G** every hand's a **D** loser
And the **G** best that you can **D** hope for is to **A7** die in your **D** sleep"

And **D** when he'd finished | speakin', he **G** turned back toward the **D** window
| Crushed out his | cigarette, and | faded off to **A7** sleep
And **D↓** somewhere in the darkness, the **G↓** gambler he broke **D↓** even
But **G↓** in his final **D↓** words I found an **A7↓** 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 **A7** run
You never **D** count your | money, when you're **G** sittin' at the **D** table
There'll be **G** time enough for **D** countin', **A7** when the dealin's **D↓** done

Clap Thru Chorus

You got to **nc** know when to | hold 'em, know when to | fold 'em
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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 **A7** run
You never **D** count your | money, when you're **G** sittin' at the **D** table
There'll be **G** time enough for **D** countin', **A7** when the dealin's **D↓** done