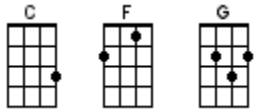
The Gambler v2 (shortened)

Don Schlitz 1976 (as recorded by Kenny Rogers 1978)



Intro: [C] [C]

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

Verse: He said **[C]** "Son I've made a **[C]** life, out of **[F]** readin' peoples' **[C]** faces
And **[C]** knowin' what their **[C]** cards were, by the **[C]** way they held their **[G]** eyes
So if **[C]** you don't mind my **[C]** 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"

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

Verse: **[C]** Every gambler knows, **[C]** that the **[F]** secret to sur**-[C]**vivin'
Is **[C]** knowin' what to **[C]** throw away, and **[C]** knowin' what to **[G]** keep
'Cause **[C]** every hand's a **[C]** winner, and **[F]** every hand's a **[C]** loser
And the **[F]** best that you can **[C]** hope for is to **[G]** die in your **[C]** sleep."

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

<A CAPPELLA>
You got to know when to hold 'em ***(when to hold 'em)***
Know when to fold 'em ***(when to fold 'em)***
Know when to walk away, and know when to run
You never count your money, when you're sittin' at the table
There'll be time enough for countin', when the dealin's done

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