

RIDER IN THE RAIN

Lyrics and music by Randy Newman (1977)

Key: C **Start Note:** E **Time:** 4/4 **BPM:** - 98

Intro: F /// C /// G7 /// C // **Count:** 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & “Got a ...”

Strum: ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ ↓ ↑ (Slow and relaxed, as if yer ridin’ a horse, sorta’, kinda’)
(See below for picking pattern)

C F C F C
Got a gun in my holster, got a horse between my knees,
F C G7 C
And I’m goin’ to Arizona, pardon me boys if ya please.
F C F C
I have been a desperado, robbed and pillaged ‘cross the plain.
F C G7 C
Now, I’m goin’ to Arizona, just a rider in the rain.

F C
Chorus He’s a rider in the rain
F C
He’s a rider in the rain
F C
And I’m goin’ to Arizona
G7 C
He’s a rider in the rain

F C F C
Oh, my mother’s in St. Louis, and my bride’s in Tennessee
F C G7 C
So, I’m goin’ to Arizona, with a banjo on my knee

F C
Chorus He’s a rider in the rain (“I’m a rider in the rain!” Solo repeat spoken loudly by
F C whoever is designated)
He’s a rider in the rain
F C
And I’m goin’ to Arizona
G7 C
He’s a rider in the rain

F C F C
Used to work in Uncle’s feed store, while he was fightin’ in the war
F C G7 C
Now I’m goin’ to Arizona, ain’t gonna work for him no more.
F C F C
I’m the son of the prairie, and the wind that sweeps the plain
F C G7 C
So, I’m goin’ to Arizona, just a rider in the rain.

→ Play/sing this chorus quietly...

F C

Chorus: I'm a rider in the rain

F C

I'm a rider in the rain

F C

And he's goin' to Arizona

G7 C

Just a rider in the rain

→ Now play/sing the chorus loudly

F C

Chorus: He's a rider in the rain (*"I'm a rider in the rain!"* Solo repeat spoken loudly by
whoever is designated)

F C

He's a rider in the rain (*"You know I'm a rider!"* " " " " " " ")

F C

And I'm goin' to Arizona

G7 C

Just a rider in the rain

Spoken: "Take it boys..." (Singers hum chorus and strum/pluck accompanying chords very lightly. Play final C as a broken chord.)

Picking Pattern (from Ray Perrault)

Count: 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 &

Count	1 &	2	& 3 &	4	& 1 &	2	& 3 &	4
Finger	t i	mr	i t i	mr	i t i	mr	i t l	mr
String	4 3	2 1	3 4 3	2 1	3 4 3	2 1	3 4 3	2 1

Index, thumb, index are played sequentially. Middle and ring are played together. Try to make it sound like the loping gait of a horse.