

# The Gambler Official by Kenny Rogers



[Intro]

**D G D G D**

On a warm summer's eve

[Verse 1]

**G D**

On a train bound for nowhere  
I met up with the gambler

**A7**

We were both too tired to sleep

**D**

So we took turns astarin'

**G D**

Out the window at the darkness

**G D**

The boredom overtook us,

**A7 D**

And he began to speak

He said, "Son, I've made a life

**G D**

Out of readin' people's faces

Knowin' what the cards were

**A7**

By the way they held their eyes

**D**

So if you don't mind me sayin'

I can see you're out of aces

**G** **D**  
For a taste of your whiskey  
**A7** **D**  
I'll give you some advice"

[Verse 2]

**D**  
So I handed him my bottle  
**G** **D**  
And he drank down my last swallow  
Then he bummed a cigarette  
**A7**  
And asked me for a light  
**D**  
And the night got deathly quiet  
**G** **D**  
And his faced lost all expression  
**G** **D**  
Said "If you're gonna play the game, boy  
**A7** **D**  
You gotta learn to play it right

[Chorus]

**D**  
You've got know when to hold 'em  
**G** **D**  
Know when to fold 'em  
Know when to walk away

**A7**

And know when to run

**D G D**

You never count your money

**G D**

When you're sittin' at the table

**G D**

There'll be time enough for countin'

**A7 D**

When the dealin's done

[Verse 3]

**D#**

Every gambler knows

**G# D#**

That the secret to survivin'  
Is knowin' what to throw away

**A#7**

And knowin' what to keep

**D#**

'Cause every hand's a winner

**G# D#**

And every hand's a loser

**G# D# A#7**

And the best that you can hope for is to die in  
your sleep

**D#**

And when he finished speakin'

**G# D#**

He turned back toward the window

Crushed out his cigarette

**A#7**

Faded off to sleep

**D#**

And somewhere in the darkness

**G#**

**D#**

The gambler he broke even

**G#**

**D#**

But in his final words

**A#7**

I found an ace that I could keep

[Chorus]

**D#**

You've got know when to hold 'em

**G#**

**D#**

Know when to fold 'em

**G#**

**D#**

Know when to walk away

**A#7**

And know when to run

**D#**

**G#**

**D#**

You never count your money

**G#**

**D#**

When you're sittin' at the table

**D#**

**G#**

**D#**

**A#7**

There'll be time enough for countin' When the

**D#**

dealin's done

[Outro]

**D#**

You've got know when to hold 'em

**G#** **D#**

Know when to fold 'em

**G#** **D#**

Know when to walk away

**A#7**

And know when to run

**D#** **G#** **D#**

You never count your money

**G#** **D#**

When you're sittin' at the table

**D#** **G#** **D#** **A#7**

There'll be time enough for countin' When the

**D#**

dealin's done

**D#**

You've got know when to hold 'em

**G#** **D#**

Know when to fold 'em

**G#** **D#**

Know when to walk away

**A#7**

And know when to run

**D#** **G#** **D#**

You never count your money

**G#** **D#**

When you're sittin' at the table

**D#**                      **G#**                      **D#**    **A#7**  
There'll be time enough for countin'    When the  
                                 **D#**  
dealin's done