

# RIDER IN THE RAIN

Lyrics and music by Randy Newman (1977)

RT&DE09/23

**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 someone  
          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  
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 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 loudly

**F**                      **C**  
**Chorus: He's a rider in the rain** (*"I'm a rider in the rain!"* Solo repeat spoken loudly by someone)  
**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..."

→ Hum and strum/pluck 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↓ (arpeg)**  
**~~Just a rider in the rain~~**

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.