

Ohio – Neil Young

Tuning: DADGBD (double drop d)

Tempo: NA

Strumming Pattern (Verse): DD, DUD, DD, DD (repeat)

Example:

Strums: DD, DUD, DD, DD

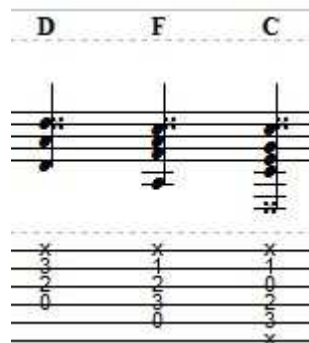
Chords: D.....F.....C

Strumming Pattern (Chorus): DD, DUDU

This song is a PAIN to play in double drop D because of ONE chord in the song, and it's absolutely accurate. You might recall a while back I played this song in standard tuning instead. You'll probably understand why after you try this version. It's so freaking troublesome. But, I thought you'd like to learn the "official" version so here it goes.

Chords Used:

Yet *another* note for you. The chords referenced here are played like this:



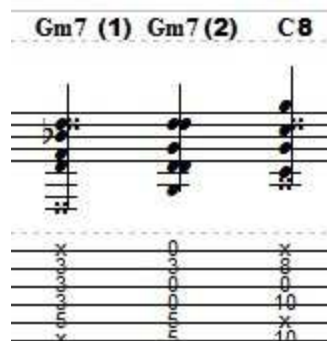
The D chord here just avoids the high E string (tuned to D).

The F chord here is NOT your barred F. This is the "Mel Bay" F, or the "little" F. Avoid the high E string (tuned to D) and play the A string open. This creates an F chord. (notes required are F, A, and C)

The C chord here is basically just a C, but don't play either of the E string notes (tuned to D) and it will sound fine. If you accidentally do it there's no big problem since the guitar is tuned to double drop D anyway, but technically you are to avoid them.

The cool thing about playing this progression as I've shown is that the F to C is very easy to play.

Now, about the chorus. Here are the chords for the chorus (and good luck with this – I kept bending my Low E – tuned to D – and it sounded pretty gross, but it's a chord I've NEVER played before. Never. Never ever. Never ever never ever. ;)



Alright, here we go. The Gm7(1) is familiar. Simply avoid the E strings (tuned to D) and it's still a Gm7. Gm7(2) is basically the same thing, but there are added notes to create an "official" Gm7. I didn't take the liberty on anything in this song. This is how Young played it on the version I watched. Yes – the SAME Gm7 chords with two variations. However, there is a reason he used the Gm7(2), which you will see when we approach the C8.

The C8 is really just a "term" I am using. Basically this chord consists of the notes: C and G – and that is IT.

The 10th fret is now a "C" note, not a "D" note. So, Low E tuned to D on the 10th fret = C

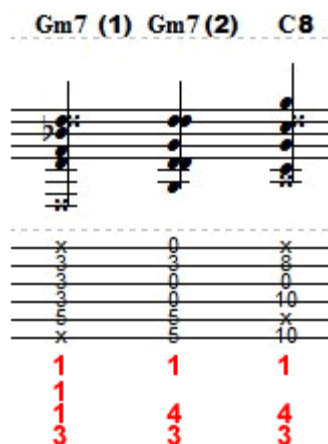
The A string isn't played. It is muted with your 3rd finger at a slight angle.

The 10th fret on the D string didn't change. It is a C note.

The G string is played open. We have a G note.

The 8th fret on the B string is tuned standard, so we have a.....G note.

What the heck? Is this a C5? Yes. Technically this chord is a C5. BUT....I chose the "8" instead of the "5" because in STANDARD tuning, the C note falls on the eighth fret of the Low E string. I did this to help you realize that this is not a C5 power chord, nor is it a C5 with the root on the A string. I know, you're probably cussing me for this, but I think once you start playing it (if you can even play it! I had a lot of trouble with it!) as you move the formation of Gm7(2) to the C8 you'll see why Young took that second option for the Gm7. Looking at the fingerings below should help:



I explain in the instructional part of the video that basically you just move your 4th finger as you go from the Gm7(2) to the C8 to the 10th fret with the C8 chord instead of leaving it on the A string. THIS is why Young used a different Gm7 chord – at least that is my opinion. It's actually pretty easy to make the move, but what is hard is getting accustomed to the 10th fret on the Low E string (tuned to D) NOT bending or sounding funny since it has been tuned down. Nothing felt right about the C8, but I watched three of his performances on YouTube and every time he did the same thing. Anyway, good luck with it and if you are in doubt, you can always repeat the same Gm7 (1) to C over and over. I did that in the standard tuning song if I recall.

Intro: D – F – C (repeat a few times)

D F C D F C
 Tin soldiers and Nixon coming, we're finally on our own.
 D F C D F C
 This summer I hear the drumming, four dead in O---h---io.

CHORUS (ready for the confusion?!):

Gm7(1) C
 Gotta get down to it, soldiers are cutting us down
 Gm7(2) C8
 Should have been done long ago
 Gm7(1) C
 What if you knew her and, found her dead on the ground
 Gm7(2) C8
 How can you run when you know?

D – F – C (repeat a few times)

D F C
 La la la la, la la, la la (x4)

CHORUS:

Gm7(1) C
Gotta get down to it, soldiers are cutting us down
Gm7(2) C8
Should have been done long ago
Gm7(1) C
What if you knew her and, found her dead on the ground
Gm7(2) C8
How can you run when you know?

D – F – C (repeat a few times)

D F C D F C
Tin soldiers and Nixon coming, we're finally on our own.
D F C D F C
This summer I hear the drumming, four dead in O---h---io.
D F C
Four dead in O---h---io. (x2)
D F C D
Four dead in O---h---io.