

old paint

solo piano

Larry Polansky
2010

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While playing the written piano part, mostly with the RH, sing three (of the four) verses and choruses of "I Ride an Old Paint," while playing simple I/V chords, generally with the LH. The LH may also be used, if available, in playing the written part. The song and the simple chords may be played in any key (but the same key) — the written piano part should always be as written.

Numbers above/below notes indicate small percussion instruments or sounds. Up to 5 instruments/sounds may be used, and may be played simultaneously with or instead of the notes. If fewer than 5 instruments are used, ignore the unused numbers.

Optionally, quietly sustaining instruments, or a bass, may double the I/V part, not necessarily in unison with the piano, but following the song.

Lyrics

I ride an old paint, I lead an old Dan,
I'm going to Montana, to throw the hoolihan,
They feed 'em in the coolies, they water in the draw,
Their tails are all matted, their backs are all raw:

Ride around little doggies, ride easy ride slow, for the fiery and snuffy,
are raring to go

Old Bill Jones, had a daughter and a son,
Son went to college, and the daughter went wrong,
Wife got killed in a poolroom fight,
But still he keeps singing from morning till night.

Ride around...

I worked in the city, I worked on the farm,
All I got to show is the muscle on my arm,
Blisters on my fingers and a callous on my hands,
I'm going to Montana to throw the hoolihan

Ride around...

When I die, take my saddle from the wall,
Put it on my pony, lead him out of his stall,
Tie me to the saddle, turn our faces to the west,
And we'll ride the prairie, that we love the best

Ride around...

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not fast, relaxed, as a folk song

Intro (no singing, chords)

piano

soffly, freely, not metrically, pedal liberally

tune, sing freely in each verse

1

Verse 1

ride an old paint, I lead an old Dan I'm going to Mon-

piano, "LH": fifths, or single notes, in any octave.
Freely, not necessarily on downbeats.

ta - na to throw the hoo - li - han, they feed 'em in the

(accidentals hold through the measure)

17

coo - lies they wat - er in the draw, their tails are all

21

Chorus 1

mat - ted their backs are all raw, ride a - round lit - tle

25

dog - gies ride eas - y ride - slow for the fier - y and

29

snuf - fy are rar - ing to go.

69

Chorus 3

72

77

coda (no singing or "LH" chords)

80

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