

# Nowhere Man

Words and music by John Lennon and Paul McCartney



When the Beatles played "Nowhere Man," John Lennon strummed the basic chords while George Harrison added riffs and ringing solo lines on electric guitar. In this guitar-and-voice arrangement, one flatpicked guitar covers both rhythm and lead, thanks to my secret weapon: a three-string partial capo. I use a Shubb C7B; the Kyser Short-Cut does the same thing.

In this arrangement the partial capo holds down the third, fourth, and fifth strings at the second fret. That gives you a hands-free Esus chord (from low to high, E B E A B E)—the equivalent of D A D G A D tuning, a whole step higher. Fool your friends and baffle your enemies: your guitar sounds like it's in an alternate tuning, but it's not, and you can still play standard chord forms above the capo.

The song opens with a series of whole-note strums that fill in for the Beatles' thick vocal harmonies. (Note that the tab and chord diagrams are written relative to the capo for all strings—for example, a 2 in the tab means the second fret above the capo. But a 0 on the uncapped first, second, or sixth string means that the string ac-

tually rings open below the capo.) Check out how the partial capo allows you to add jazzy chord extensions without breaking a sweat, such as the three-finger F#m11/A. The biggest payoff of the partial capo comes at the end of each verse (see measures 8–9), where the song's signature guitar riff rings beautifully almost entirely on open strings.

In the guitar solo (measure 25), you can travel up the neck to follow the melody and mimic some of Harrison's licks while still hitting the bass notes. This is a slick and simple way to play chord melody, folk-rock style, and make the most of an acoustic guitar's luscious open-string tone.

—JEFFREY PEPPER RODGERS

## Partial Capo II, strings 3–5 Verse

Chord progression: E5, Badd4, A/B, E, F#m11/A

1. He's a real no-where man sit-ting in his no-where land mak-ing all his

## A<sub>m</sub>(add9)

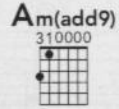
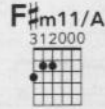
## E5

## Verse

6 no-where plans for no-bod-y

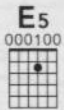
2. Does-n't have a  
3. See additional lyrics.

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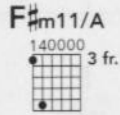


10 point of view — Knows not where he's go-ing to — Is - n't he — a bit — like you — and

**Bridge**



15 me — No-where man — please lis - ten you don't know — what — you're



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Guitar Solo

E5                      Badd4                      A                      E

25

s

0

2 7 6 5 0 4 0 2

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

0 0 0 0 3 3 3 3 0 0 0 0

F#m                      Am                      Eadd4                      D.S. al Coda

29

P

s

0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

2 2 0 0 0 0 0 0

3 3 3 3 3 3 1 3 3 1 0 0 0 4 0 4 0

3 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

⊕ Coda Verse

E5                      Badd4                      A/B                      E                      F#m11/A                      Am(add9)

000100                      x03200 6 fr.                      x03200                      003100                      312000                      310000

2 2 0 2 0 0 0 0

2 4 2 0 0 4 4 2 0 2 2 0 0 4 2 0 0 2

33 (1.) He's a real no where man sit ting in his no where land mak ing all his no-where plans for

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1, 2. E5

3. E5

39 no - bod - y no - bod - y

1. He's a real nowhere man, sitting in his nowhere land

F#m11/A Am(add9) E5  
Making all his nowhere plans for nobody

2. Doesn't have a point of view, knows not where he's going to

F#m11/A Am(add9) E5  
Isn't he a bit like you and me

Bridge

G#m Aadd9 G#m Aadd9  
Nowhere man, please listen, you don't know what you're missin'

G#m F#m11/A B11  
Nowhere man, the world is at your command

3. He's as blind as he can be, just sees what he wants to see

F#m11/A Am(add9) E5  
Nowhere man can you see me at all

Bridge

G#m Aadd9 G#m Aadd9  
Nowhere man, don't worry, take your time, don't hurry

G#m F#m11/A B11  
Leave it all till somebody else lends you a hand

Repeat Verse 1

F#m11/A Am(add9) E5  
Making all his nowhere plans for nobody

F#m11/A Am(add9) E5  
Making all his nowhere plans for nobody

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