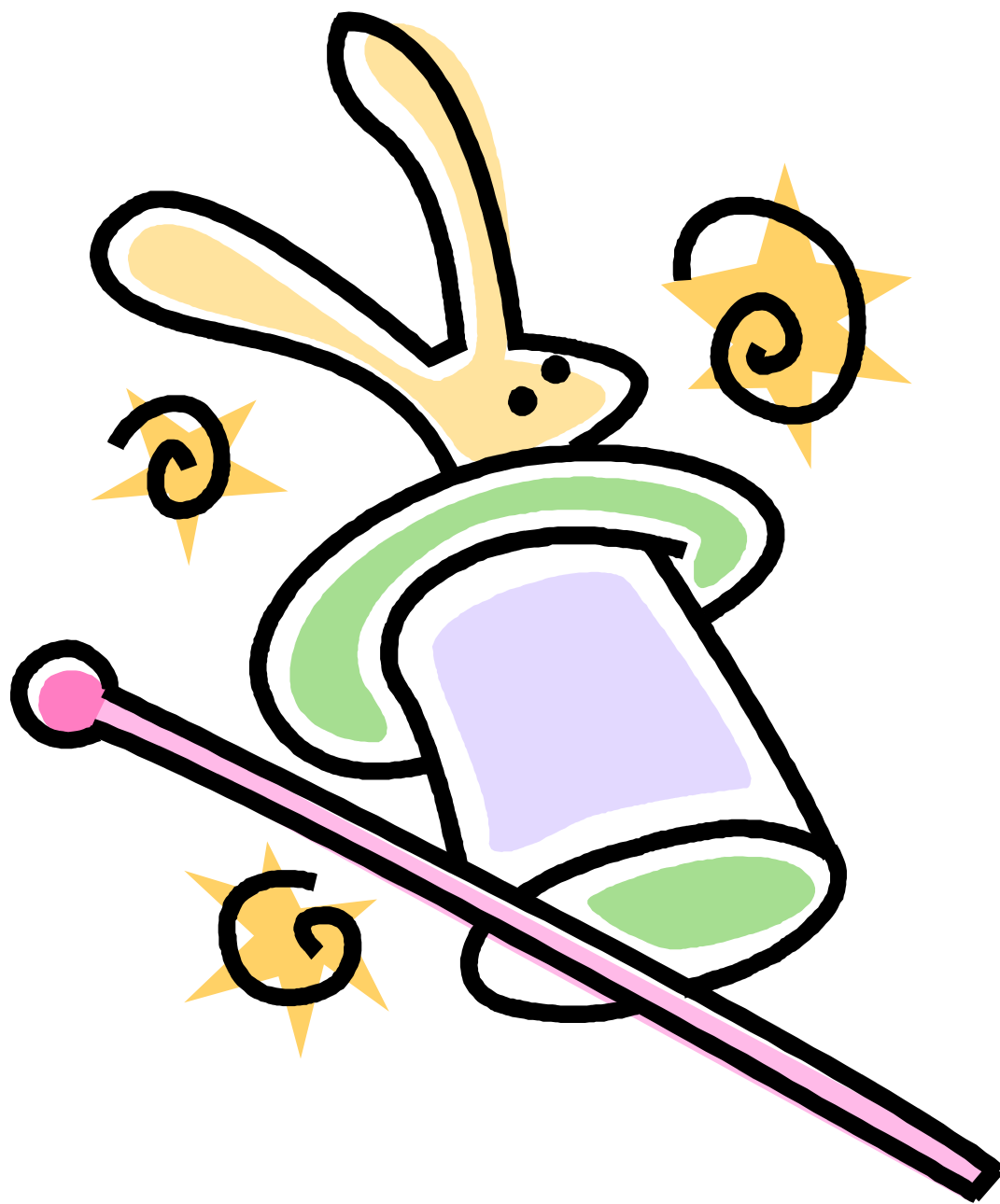


18 Fun & Easy Magic Tricks



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Cold as Ice

You pour some water into a cup. You utter some secret words and when you turn over the cup, all that comes out is a chunk of ice. This one is super easy with the secret and a little setup.

Secret:

The cup contains a sponge that absorbs the water and prevents the water from spilling out when the cup is turned over. The ice is already on top of the sponge and simply falls out.



You'll need an opaque cup, a mug works great, a sponge and a chunk of ice. You'll also need a container, such as a glass or pitcher, to hold and pour water into the cup. If you like, and if it's convenient, you can also use a nearby faucet.

Beforehand, stuff the sponge into the mug. Make sure that it rests on the bottom of the cup.



Place the ice on top of the mug and you're ready to go.

Pour some water into the mug. Before you perform the trick, you'll have to experiment with the amount, which will depend on your sponge. The more water that you pour in, the more impressive the trick. But pour in too much, and water will fall out of the cup with the ice.

Utter some magic words, or talk about how your conversation skills sometimes casts a chill over a date.

Turn over the cup and the ice will fall out. You'll want to take the mug away as soon as possible. If you're so inclined, you can have a duplicate mug in a bag. When the ice falls out, immediately put your mug into the bag. Later on, you can bring out the duplicate mug, which may be examined.



The “Impassable” Corks

In this effect, you hold two wine corks that are seemingly interlocked, and somehow pull the corks through each other. It’s a fast, visual trick that you can also perform with rolled coin bills and other objects of roughly the same size as wine corks.

Secret:

When you grab the corks with your fingers, it looks as if the corks are interlocked, but they aren’t. The secret lies in the way that you grab the corks.

Materials:

Two wine corks, rolled coin bills or other cylindrical objects of roughly the same size as wine corks. For the purposes of the explanation, we’ll assume that you are using corks.



To start, place a cork in the crook of each hand-the bottom point of the “V”-between the thumb and first finger, just as in the picture above.



With your left hand, grab the cork with your first finger and thumb. The first finger reaches naturally for the top of cork and the thumb reaches for the bottom.



Here's the tricky part. Instead of naturally grabbing the cork with the first finger of your right hand on the top of the cork and the thumb on the bottom, you turn your hands. Thus, the thumb of the right hand reaches under the first finger of the left hand to grab the top of the cork and the first finger reaches under the left thumb to grab the bottom of the cork.

Notice in the picture how the right thumb is reaching between the left first finger and thumb and the right first finger is reaching underneath the left thumb. You may have to turn both hands in the opposite directions to grab the second cork. The corks look as if they are interlocked, but they're not.



By simply separating your hands, you can free the corks without letting go of them. Your hands will naturally turn as you separate them. The corks appear to pass through each other.

Banana Buster



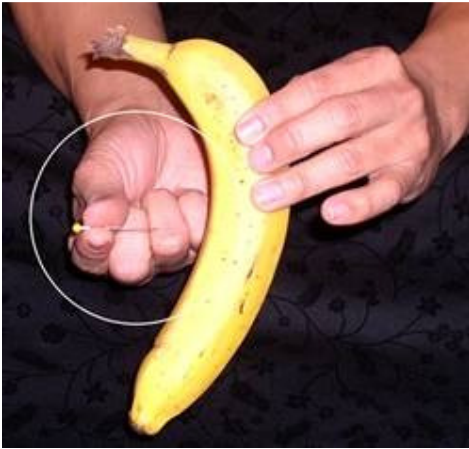
By executing an ultra-secret ninja move, you magically cause a banana to separate into pieces while it's still inside the peel. This trick is an easy one that only requires a little preparation. And be sure that you're hungry so you can eat the banana when you're done.

Secret:

Using a pin, you slice the banana while it's in its peel before you perform the trick.

Materials:

A banana and a straight pin, the kind used in sewing.



Stick the pin into the banana where you want the banana to break. Move the pin in a horizontal plane to effectively separate the banana into two pieces. Repeat the process if you want to cut the banana into more pieces. The trick is to use the pin to cut the banana without causing any damage to the banana peel.



Show the banana to your spectators. Execute any magical Karate moves to separate the banana, or simply stare at the banana to cause it to separate using the power of your mind. This is the show part. Don't be afraid to play it up and have some fun.



Slowly unpeel the banana to show that the banana is already cut inside of its peel.

Dark Magic

Here's a great easy magic trick to perform at a party. You ask someone to select an item while you're out of the room, tell everyone else which item was selected and leave it in place.

When you return, another person goes from object to object touching them in a random order. When the person touches the chosen object, you're able to tell everyone that this is the selected object.

The intriguing secret is in the name.

Effect: You ask someone to select an item while you're out of the room, tell everyone else which item was selected and leave it in place. When you return, another person goes from object to object touching them in a random order. When the person touches the chosen object, you're able to tell everyone that this is the selected object.

Preparation: A friend who is in on the secret and can help you. This is the person that touches each object when you come back in the room.

Secret: The person touches an object of a predetermined colour that you've agreed on, usually black. And the next object that the person touches will be the selected object.

You can gather objects on a table or just use the objects that are in a room.

Ask a spectator to select an object and tell everyone else when you're out of the room.



When you return, ask a "helper" to point to various objects in the room. If you've agreed on the colour black, the person will eventually touch an item that is black. And the next item that's touched will be the selected object.

In the example above, the assistant will touch the stapler at some point, which is black. The next object, say the pen, will be the selected object. By the way, it's best to have at least two objects of the chosen colour to ensure that you have the objects themselves covered.

This one is baffling to spectators. If you know the person who is doing the pointing, he or she will be suspected. And if you arrived at the party with this individual, spectators will be hot on your trail and suspect some kind of secret code or signal, and they're right.

If you can, it's best to use someone that you don't know as the "assistant." If your assistant was a stranger prior to the gathering, it will throw some spectators off.

The secret to this trick is hard to detect and can be repeated. Just be ready for a lot of scrutiny from spectators. But chances are, you will be successful.

Cut and Restore

Here's a classic trick for beginners, which involves shearing a string in half as it resides in a straw and then restoring the string so it's whole again. Even though the string is inside the straw and you've cut the straw in half, the string is somehow untouched. This one is easy and quite baffling.

Materials:

string that is slightly longer than the drinking straw (I'm using purple dental floss in the pictures for visibility)
A plastic drinking straw
scissors

Preparation

Repeatedly bend the straw in its middle until there's a crack in the centre of the straw. The opening in the centre of the straw is the secret to the trick.

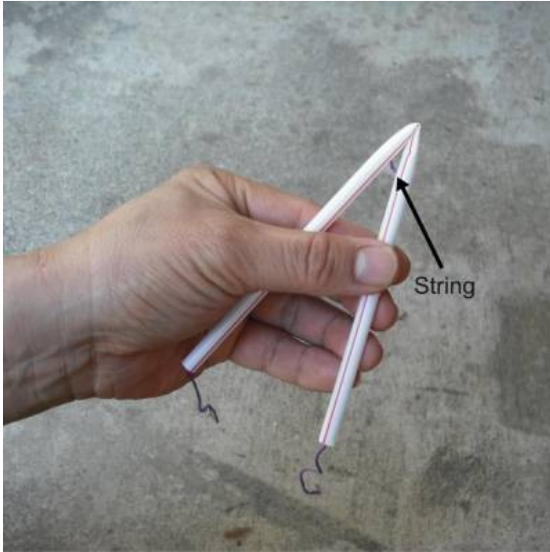


Show the drinking straw and string and run the string through the straw.



Bend the straw in half at the point where there's a break in the straw. Make sure that the break is on the inside elbow of the bend.

With the straw bent, pull down on the string a bit so part of it slips through the break. For more clarity, please see the next page.



As the arrow indicates, the centre of the string is actually not in the straw, at the inner bend, it's outside of the straw.



Using your scissors, cut the straw in half at the bend, but be careful that you place the scissors between the straw and the string. Unknown in the spectators, you are only cutting the straw.



After cutting, align and hold the two pieces of the straw as shown in the picture. Your spectators won't know that the string has remained intact in the process and this display proves that the straw has been cut into two pieces.



While holding the straw, pull the string and show that it's whole again. Give the string to spectators for examination.

Coin Dish

Here's a way to magically multiply money. And unlike those ads for questionable investment schemes and working from home scams, this one appears to work. At least, that is, to your spectators. In the trick, you have a spectator carefully count several coins into a dish, which you pour back into his hand. When he opens his hand later, he'll find more coins than he originally counted. The number of coins that you introduce will depend on how you construct your prop, which I'll teach you here.

Materials needed to build a coin dish:

a dish
cardboard (thick)
scissors
glue

Secret:

The dish secretly introduces a number of coins as you pour coins into a spectator's hand.



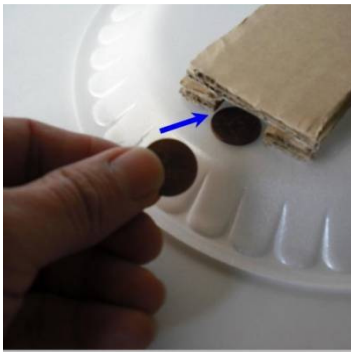
Cut out two pieces of card board: 1) a rectangular piece and 2) a similar-sized rectangular piece with a groove that will allow coins to fit inside of it.



Glue the rectangle of cardboard with the groove onto the underside of the plate. Note the placement of the groove's open end near the side of the dish.

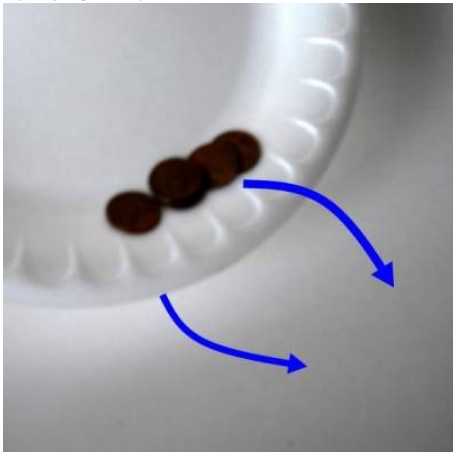


Glue the remaining rectangle of cardboard on top of the grooved cardboard. You have created a secret receptacle in the dish that can hold a number of coins.



Before you perform the trick, secretly load a number of coins into the groove.

To perform, bring out the plate and have the spectator count a number of coins into the dish. Be careful that you don't allow the spectator to see the cardboard underneath the dish. A performance tip, you can justify the presence of the dish by saying that you don't want to touch the coins.

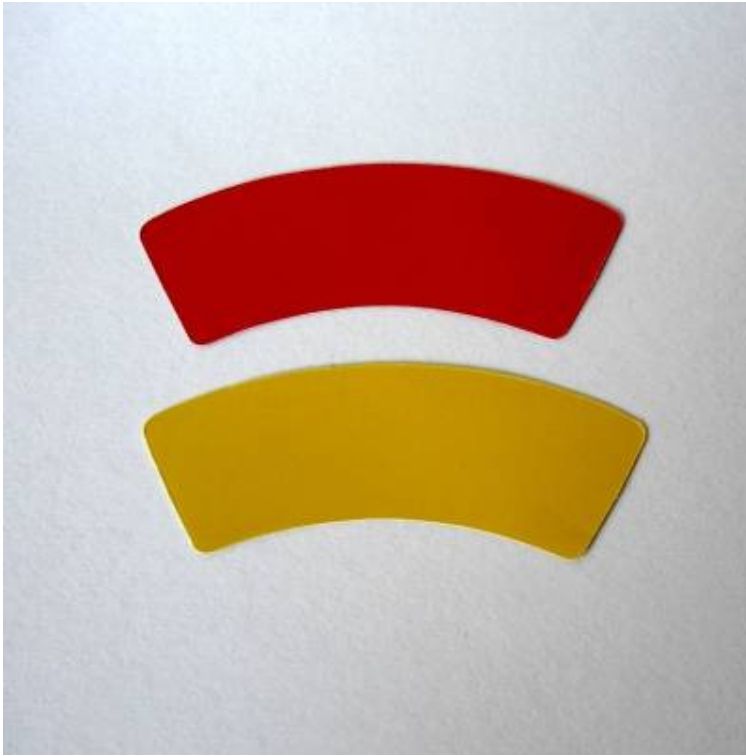


As you dump the coins from the dish into the spectator's hand, the coins will secretly fall out of the groove and add themselves to the other coins.

After pouring the coins into the spectator's hand, put the dish out of sight. When the spectator counts the coins in his hand, he'll discover additional coins.

Magic Boomerangs

This is an easy trick for beginners, that is often found in beginning magic sets. If you like, you can also make your own out of cardboard or heavy paper - I'll discuss how to do this.



Here's how the trick looks:

You show two different "boomerangs." In this case you have a boomerang that is red and a second that is yellow. Spectators can see that the yellow boomerang is longer than the red boomerang.

You cast a spell on the red boomerang and suddenly, it's larger than the yellow boomerang.

Amazing as it seems, the boomerangs are actually the exact same size. In many endings to this trick, the magician casts one more spell to make the boomerangs the identical size and overlays them on top of each other.

The secret is that whichever boomerang is on the bottom looks longer. This is because you are comparing the smaller inner diameter of the top boomerang against the larger outer diameter of the bottom boomerang.

So by simply holding one boomerang, or laying it down on a table or other surface, over the other one, it will appear to be smaller. To make the top boomerang look longer than the bottom boomerang, simply trade their positions. The "shorter" boomerang on the top goes to the lower position and will look longer.

You can easily make your own boomerangs out of cardboard or heavy paper. For a pattern, find two dinner plates of different sizes and trace around their edges to make two concentric arcs, one inside the other.

Using the picture as a guide, cut out the two arcs and decorate them so that they're different, either by colouring or painting them, or applying stickers. You'll find that whichever boomerang is on the top will always look smaller. Another theme for this trick is that you are "stretching" the boomerangs, which are made of cardboard and can't change their shapes.

Vanishing a Coin with Rings

Here's an easy magic trick that provides a great way to vanish a coin. You show two rings, a playing card and a coin that are sitting on a piece of paper. If you like, you can borrow the coin.

The rings and playing card are stacked on top of the coin.

When a ring and the card are removed, the coin has completely vanished. The rings and card are stacked back onto the coin and removed, and the coin returns. There's some preparation to perform this one, but it's visual and ultra-easy to do.



You stack the playing card on top of one ring.



Then stack the second ring on top of the playing card.



The entire ring and card assembly is moved on top of the coin.



When you remove the top ring and card, the coin is shown to have completely disappeared.



Stack the ring and card back on top of the coin and remove the entire assembly, and the coin returns. The rings and playing card are then laid onto the paper as they were at the start of the trick.

Here's the secret which you'll have to prepare ahead of time. You'll notice that the rings, card and coin are sitting on a piece of paper. You obtain a second sheet of the same paper and cut a circle that is the same diameter as the second (gimmicked) ring. This is glued onto the bottom of the second ring.



This figure shows how the circular piece of paper is glued to the bottom of the ring. When you lay the ring on top of a coin, the matching paper that's glued to the ring covers the coin and makes it look as if the coin has vanished. It's actually sitting underneath the paper that's attached to the ring.

You can purchase the rings from any hardware store. I found these rings for a little more than a Rand apiece. If you like, you can perform this same trick using a clear drinking glass and cover the gimmicked glass with a napkin.

Once you have your prepared ring, you're ready to perform the trick. Set-up the rings and card as in the first figure. If you like you can borrow a coin. Notice that the playing card is inserted underneath the ungimmicked ring to subtly imply that both rings are alright and not altered. Simply follow the steps outlined earlier in the presentation of the effect.

The Spoon Bend

Here's an [easy magic trick](#) that every smart aleck needs to know. You grab any spoon, press down on it with your hands and appear to bend the spoon. As your stunned spectators register what you just did (the gall of you!), you lift up the spoon and show that it is unbent, just as you found it.

While it looks as if you bent the spoon with your bare hands, you actually haven't harmed the spoon in any way.

This is the first of two methods that we will teach you. To learn a second, more convincing method, please click [here](#).

Materials: A spoon

Secret: It's all in how you hold the spoon, which we'll explain.

Using both of your hands, grasp the spoon and press the bowl of the spoon, open side up, onto a table. Don't let the top of the handle peek out over your thumbs.

This image shows the location of the spoon's handle in your hands. We've removed one hand to show you the positioning, which is crucial.



As you appear to press down on the spoon's handle towards the table, the handle of the spoon slides through your hands until it's at the base of your hands, nearest the table.

This shot shows how the effect looks to spectators, the next image shows what is actually happening.



This image shows the position of the spoon's handle when it appears that you have bent the spoon. The arrow shows the circular path of the handle. Of course, this action is covered by your other hand that is gripping the spoon.

This trick will take some practice to be convincing.

When you're done, simply pick up the spoon off of the table with both hands and then show that the spoon is unbent.



Magnetic Pencil

Here's a great enhancement on a well known, easy magic trick. If you already know how to perform the "Magnetic Pencil," it's a powerful follow up. After showing that a pencil sticks to your hand as you grasp your wrist, you suddenly let go of your "grabbing" hand and the pencil mysteriously stays in place.

Materials:

Two pencils

A wristwatch



Preparation: Put on the wristwatch and then insert the end of one pencil under the watch band on the palm side of your hand. The pencil should extend to about the middle of your hand.

To perform the trick, instead of placing your finger underneath the pencil to hold it as you did in the easier version, you'll be slipping the end of the first pencil underneath the second pencil to support it. The first pencil that's under the watch is what keeps the first pencil in place underneath your hand.



With the new setup, perform the "Magnetic Pencil" according to the trick instructions.

Rest the second pencil on a table. Grab your wrist with one hand. Your other hand reaches from underneath to grasp your wrist.

Bring down your hand, palm down, to rest on top of the pencil. As you bring your hand down, extend the tip of first pencil that's connected to your wrist watch under the second pencil that's resting on the table.

You can now lift your hand and the second pencil will appear to stick to your hand. Notice that you still display the discrepancy of three fingers gripping your wrist. This will throw off those who know the trick.

Suddenly let go of your grabbing hand and the second pencil stays in place.

Bring your hand down onto the table and as you come down, slip the pencil out from under the other pencil to release it. Take your hand away as you display the pencil on the table.



Simple Monte 2



Here's a great [card magic trick](#) that is easy to make and perform and it's great for kids. It's actually something of a baffler that leaves spectators scratching their heads. You'll undoubtedly have fun with this one. The [routine](#) has a theme that's based on the classic street scam that's known as the [three card monte](#). This is among the best [easy magic tricks](#) that I can recommend to a beginner or kid to learn and perform.

Effect: In this trick, you display three cards and ask the spectator to remember the middle card. After turning the cards over, you remove the middle card and lay it face down onto a table. You ask the spectator if they can recall the removed card is. And when you show it to them, it's a different card. This is a variation on an easy card magic trick that I call the "Simple Monte." To learn this trick, please click [here](#). Furthermore, there's another version that's based on the monte that employs two cards that you can learn [here](#).



Secret: You use a trick card that has a half card that covers another card. This is what makes the change happen.

Preparation: You'll need four cards. It's usually best to use three cards that look somewhat alike and one that contrasts with the others. In this case, we'll use three black number cards and a red face card, the King of Diamonds.

Materials:
Clear adhesive tape
Scissors



Take the card that you will display in the middle and will cover the "changed card" and cut it in half. In this case, we'll use the four of clubs.



Using the clear adhesive tape, attach the half card to one of the other cards. In this case we're taping the half four of clubs to the five of clubs. Note the position of the half card on the full card. You'll want to mimic this position with your gimmick.

While you can simply tape the half card onto the full card from the top, you can hide the adhesive tape by taping the half card from underneath. This will remove the telltale adhesive tape that may give the trick away.

To perform the card magic trick, place the "different" card, in this case the King of Diamonds, under the half card that's taped onto the first card. You're essentially "tucking" half of the King of Diamonds under the half Four of Clubs.

The King of Diamonds is now neatly tucked under the half card and will not show when we apply the next step.



Position the last card so that it covers the "different" card, the King of Diamonds. When viewed this way, you can't see the King that's underneath the four of clubs. You're ready to begin the trick.

Remember that in the picture, the four of clubs in the middle is a half card that covers the top of the King of Diamonds. And the bottom of the King of Diamonds is covered by the four of spades.



Display the cards as positioned in the previous step. Ask the spectator to remember the middle card.

Turnover the packet of cards and remove the middle card by pulling it out and laying it on the table. Make sure that you don't show the face of the card as the card has already changed. Ask the spectator if they can name the card that you removed.

Note that the positions of the individual cards in the packet have been shifted - brought closer together - in the picture. This is the position of the cards that you will want if you intend to show the faces of the other cards, which you can.



Turnover the card that you laid onto the table and show that it has somehow changed. Quickly put your cards away.

The three card monte, which is also known as "monte," "three card trick," "follow the lady," "three way" and "find the lady," is a scam that is performed on the streets and uses three playing cards.

In the classic game, the practitioner, also known as the "thrower," displays three cards and one of the three, called the "money" card, contrasts with the others. For example, a black queen amongst two red number cards. The cards are "thrown" face-down onto a table where they're haphazardly mixed, and the victim, also known as the "mark," bets on which card is the money card. Despite looking fair, the gambling game is a scam that the practitioner completely controls. There is no way for the mark to win.

In the street game, the practitioner often works with a group of colleagues that work together to fleece the mark. The crowd attracts the attention of the mark and others seem to be winning easy money. But the game changes once the mark brings out his money and begins to bet.



Magic Tube

Here's a trick that's as much a craft project as it is a magic trick. This is a particularly good trick for kids.

You show an empty tube and then magically produce items such as ribbons or silk handkerchiefs.

Materials

Two sheets of paper - standard 8.5" by 11" is fine

Clear adhesive tape

Small objects to produce such as ribbons or silk handkerchiefs

Scissors

Secret:

As you'll see, it's all in the tube which I'll show you how to construct.



Roll one sheet of paper into a cylinder.

Roll the second sheet of paper into something of a cone, as shown in the picture. One end of the cone should be approximately the same diameter of the cylinder while the other end should be slightly smaller.



Insert the cone into cylinder and trim off the extra edges of the cone that stick out. From the outside, you'll have something that looks like a normal cylinder that's made of paper.

If you like, you can decorate the tube with stickers, markers and more.



Here's the secret. When your audience looks down one end of the tube, the one with the smaller end of the cone, they see what looks like a normal cylinder. The opening at the back of the cylinder is actually smaller than it should be - the perspective is slightly off - but spectators won't notice.

From your side, when you look down the cylinder, you'll see a small, secret compartment that can hide things and you can pull objects out of.



Before hand, load some objects into the secret compartment. Here, I've loaded it with ribbons.

To perform the trick, show the closed end of the tube to your audience and let them see that you have an empty tube. If you like, you can hold the tube up to your eye just as you would a telescope and allow the audience to see your eye and the "empty" tube.



After showing the tube empty, pull out the ribbons to the spectator's surprise.



Magic Necklace

In this easy magic trick, a necklace is shown with three beads strung on two strings. You take an end from each side and begin to tie a knot. You place the beads into someone's hand and then pull on the strings (you can also place the beads in your own hand and have spectators pull the ends), and the beads release themselves from the strings.

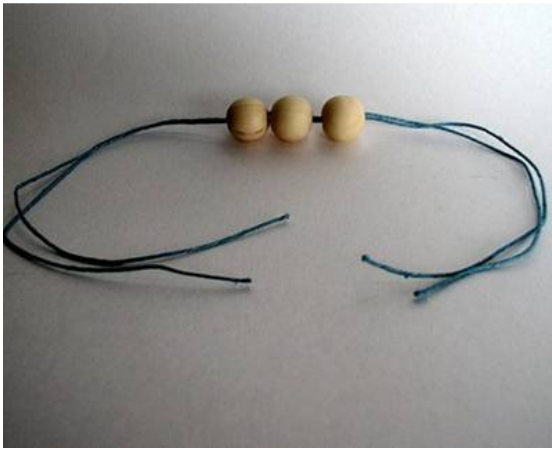
Everything can be examined by spectators.

Materials:

Three beads

Two strings

The beads must be able to accept four thicknesses of string and you don't want the fit to be too tight, otherwise, the trick will be difficult to perform. Also, you don't want the fit to be too loose because then you won't be able to create and display a "necklace." The steps for performing this trick will make this clear.

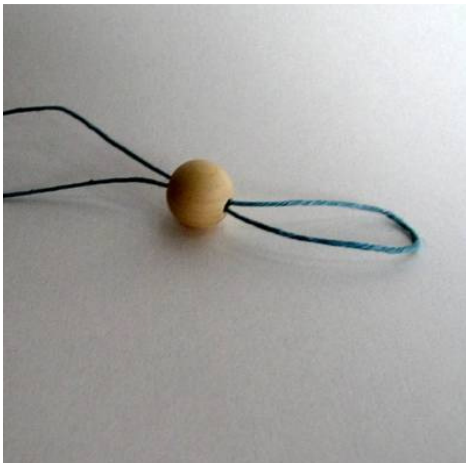


Secret:

The two strings are actually held together by the centre bead. When you pull the strings, you're actually pulling them apart from inside of the bead.

Preparation:

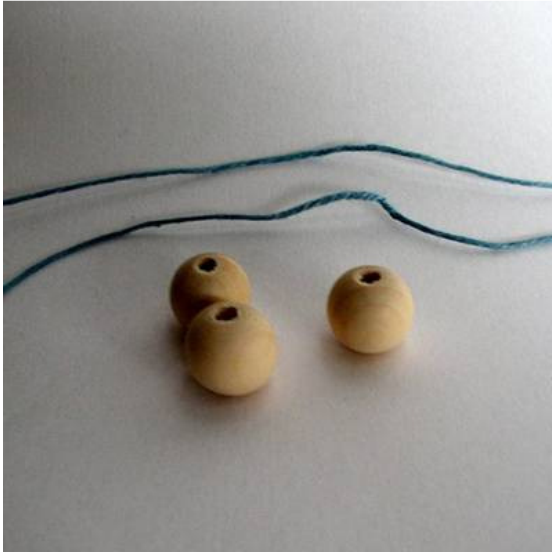
Before you perform the trick and with no one around, double-back one of the strings and thread it through a bead.



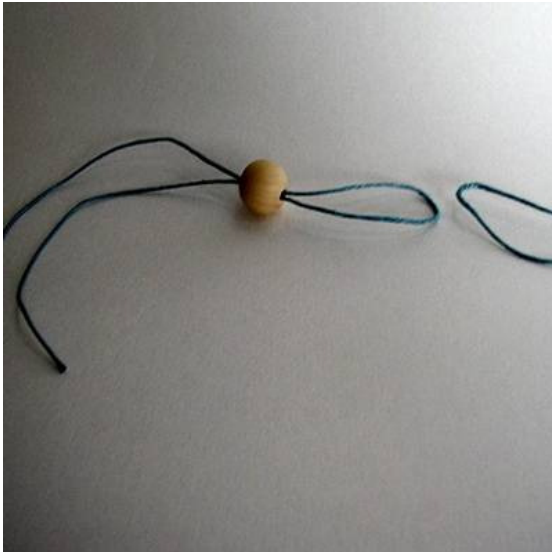
Hold the beads in your hand and give the ends of the strings to spectators. Or you can have a spectator hold the beads while you pull. Or you can simply hold the beads out in the open. Keep in mind that out in the open, the beads will have a tendency to fly off and scatter.

In any event, pull the strings or have spectators pull the strings, and the beads will fall off of the strings.

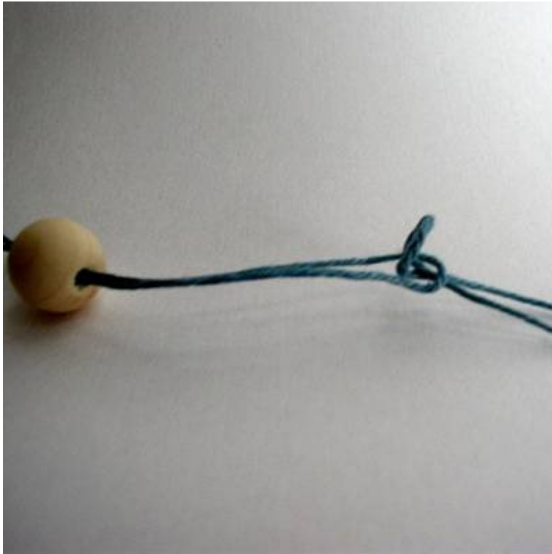
If you like, allow spectators to examine the props.



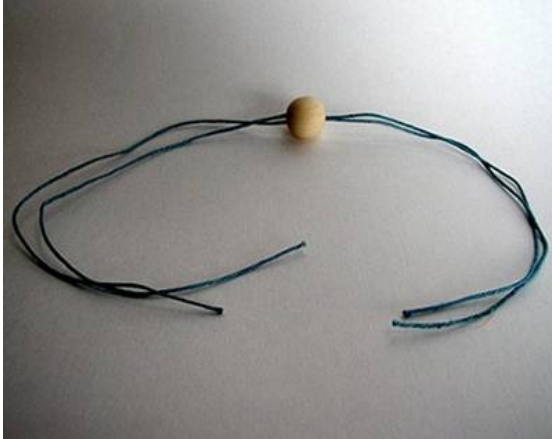
Double-back the second string.



Insert the centre of the second string through the centre of the first string and bend it back.

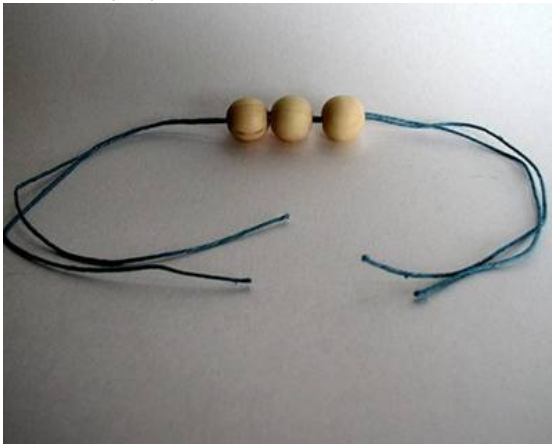


Thread the bead onto the two strings until it covers the join. The bead holds the strings together.



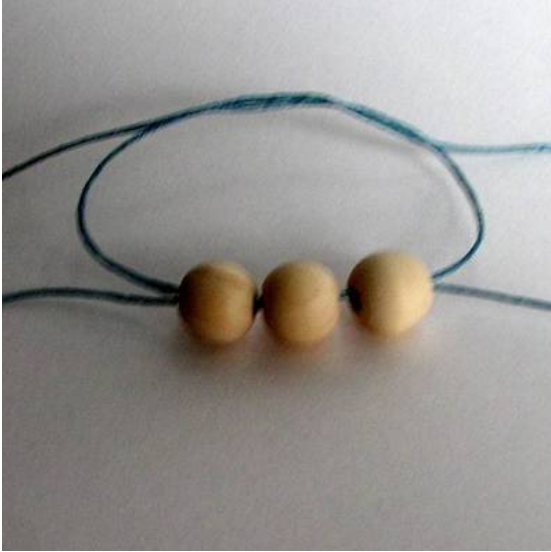
String the remaining beads onto the "necklace." Note that we show you how to perform the trick using three beads. You can use more if you like. And if you've got the right thickness string and width of bead, you can even wear the "necklace" and take it off to perform the trick.

You're ready to perform the trick.

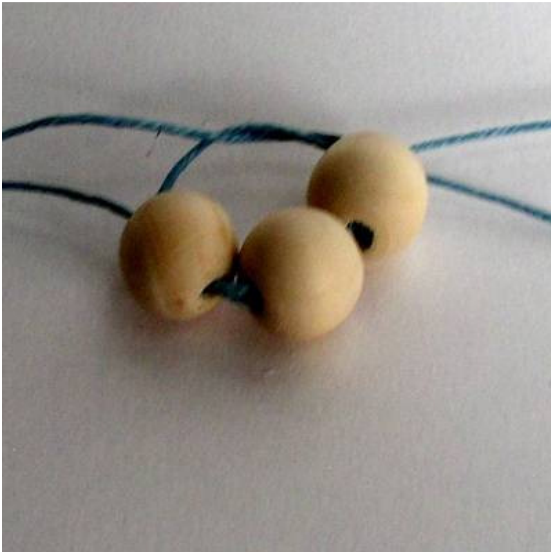


Performing the Trick:
Show the necklace.

Take an end from each side and tie a simple knot, just as if you were beginning to tie your shoe.



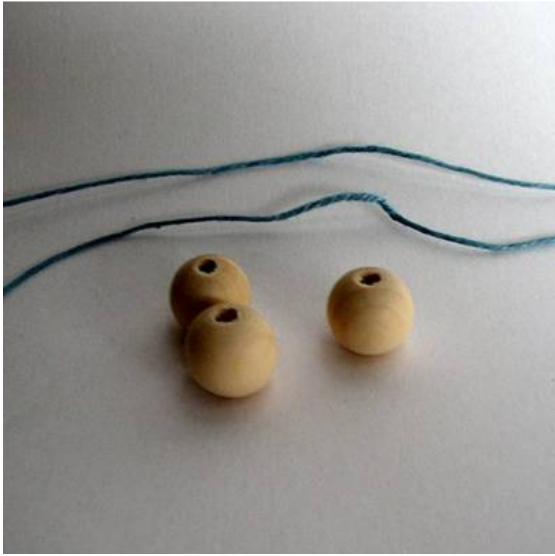
Tighten the strings. The beads appear to be completely trapped on the string.



Hold the beads in your hand and give the ends of the strings to spectators. Or you can have a spectator hold the beads while you pull. Or you can simply hold the beads out in the open. Keep in mind that out in the open, the beads will have a tendency to fly off and scatter.

In any event, pull the strings or have spectators pull the strings, and the beads will fall off of the strings.

If you like, allow spectators to examine the props.



The Rising Card

In this classic easy [card magic trick](#), you have a spectator select a card and then lose it in the deck. You rest your first finger on top of the deck and as you lift your finger, the spectator's card mysteriously rises with it. I highly recommend this [effect](#) as one of the best [easy magic tricks](#) for beginners and kids to learn and perform. (To learn another method to make a card to rise out of the card box, please click [here](#).)



Secret: It's all in the hands, which we'll demonstrate in a later step.

Preparation: None

Skills: The ability to locate a spectator's lost card.

Find the spectator's card and place it on top of the deck.

Hold the deck in your left hand and point the first finger of your right hand just above the deck. If you are left-handed and want to perform the trick with your other hand, simply reverse the instructions.



Bring the first finger of your right hand down until it's resting on top of the deck.



As you slowly lift your right first finger, the spectator's selected card mysteriously rises with it, out of the deck.



When you rest your right first finger on top of the deck, you secretly extend your right little finger until its tip is resting on the back of the top card, the spectator's selected card. You do this behind the deck so spectators can't see the move.

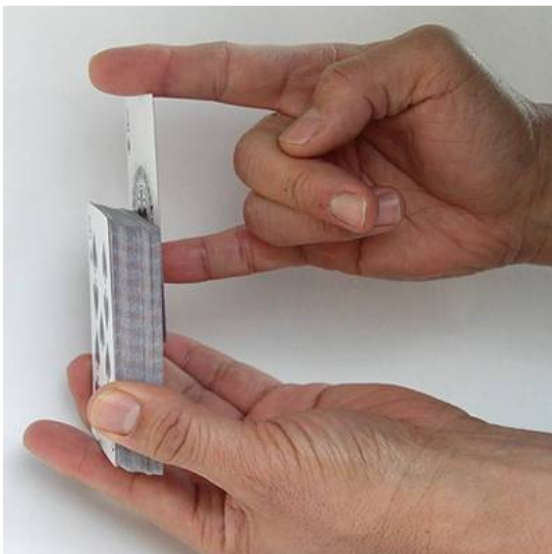
For a picture of this, please refer to the next step.



As you raise your right first finger, press your right little finger into the back of the top card so that the card rises up with your hand. To spectators, it will appear that the selected card is rising with your right first finger.

When the card is approximately half way out of the deck, simply grab the top edge of the card with your right first finger and thumb and quickly curl your right little finger in. You can freely show the card to spectators and even allow them to examine it. There's nothing to find.

Of course, you can only perform this effect when spectators are standing directly in front of you and can't see the cards from the sides. Be careful of spectators at your sides when performing this one.



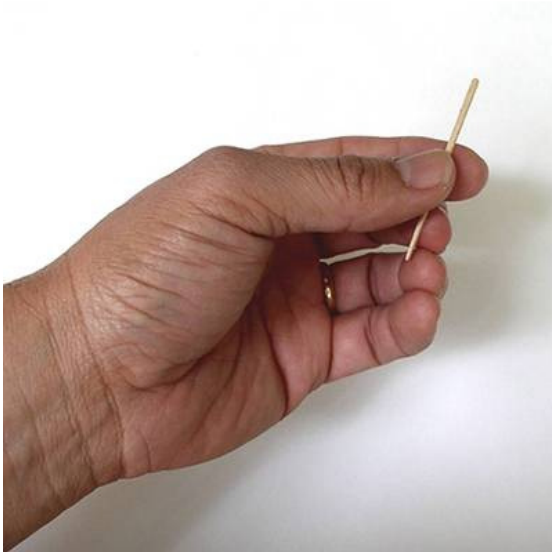
The Vanishing Toothpick

In this [easy magic trick](#), you cause a toothpick that you're holding in your hand to [vanish](#) in a flash. At the end, you're holding your fingers wide apart. If you would like to learn a second method to vanish a toothpick, please click [here](#).

Materials: A toothpick and a finger ring that's worn on your third (ring) finger.

Secret: The toothpick is secretly held by the finger ring behind your hand where it can't be seen.

Starting Position: Hold the toothpick in your hand as in the picture. Your thumb is holding the middle to upper portion of the toothpick. After reading all of the instructions, you will probably want to experiment with the placement of your thumb so it best suits you. Notice how the ring and little fingers are bent in.



Using your thumb, push the bottom end of the toothpick between your middle and ring fingers and into the finger ring.

It helps if you move your hand slowly up and down to help cover this action. Please view the next picture to see what is happening behind your hand.



This view from the back shows how your thumb feeds the toothpick into the finger ring.



With the entire tooth pick pushed through and behind your hand, briefly hold your thumb over the divide between your middle and ring finger. At this stage, make sure that the toothpick is completely behind your hand and securely held by the finger ring.



Open your hand and keep your fingers together.



Open your fingers so they are wide apart.



This shows the location of the toothpick behind your hand that your audience doesn't see. It's very important when performing this [close-up effect](#) to watch your [angle](#).



Levitating Ring

In this [easy magic trick](#), a finger ring that's resting on a pencil mysteriously levitates on its own. There's some preparation involved, but you should have fun with this one.

Materials:

A pencil
A finger ring
Clear Adhesive Tape
Black Thread



Preparation:

Using the clear adhesive tape, attach a bit of the thread to the top of the pencil, to the metal part that is just under the eraser. Hold the pencil in your hand, eraser side up. Run the other end of the thread to a button on your shirt or to a belt buckle. You'll need to anchor the other end of the thread on your body. If you choose to use a button, you can form a loop in the thread and wrap it around the button.

If you like, you can also tape the thread to your belt buckle. Of course, you're free to attach the end of thread in any manner that you wish. You'll have to experiment a bit with the length. Basically, you'll want the thread to be fairly taut when you partially extend your arm in front of your body.

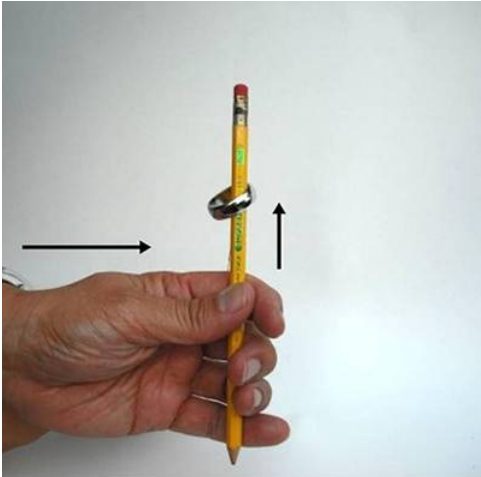
The next steps will make this more clear.



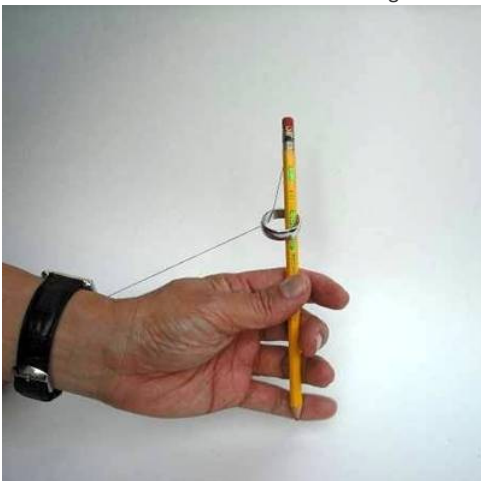
With your thread in place, hold the pencil in your hand, as shown in the picture. You'll want the eraser side up. Drop the finger ring onto the pencil until it's resting on your hand.



Slowly draw your hand away from your body, which slowly tightens the thread. You'll see the ring begin to rise up as it rests against the thread. The picture shows how your hand moves forward, which makes the ring rise.



This picture shows how the thread runs from the top of the pencil to a button or your belt buckle. The thread has been exaggerated for demonstration purposes. To make the ring descend, simply draw your hand toward your body and allow the thread to relax and drop the ring. Make sure that you practice this one so you get the length of thread correct, as well as the motion of the hand to cause the ring to rise.



Magnetic Hand

Effect:

In this mysterious [easy magic trick](#), you somehow cause several playing cards to adhere to your hand as if it were a magnet. Unlike most [card magic tricks](#), this one offers a visual effect that doesn't rely on spectators selecting and memorizing a card. This one takes some preparation ahead of time, but the results are well worth it.

Secret:

A gimmicked card.

Materials:

Ten playing cards

To make the gimmick: scissors and glue



Using the scissors, cut a flap into a playing card, as shown in the figure. You'll need to make sure that the flap can easily fold up and down.



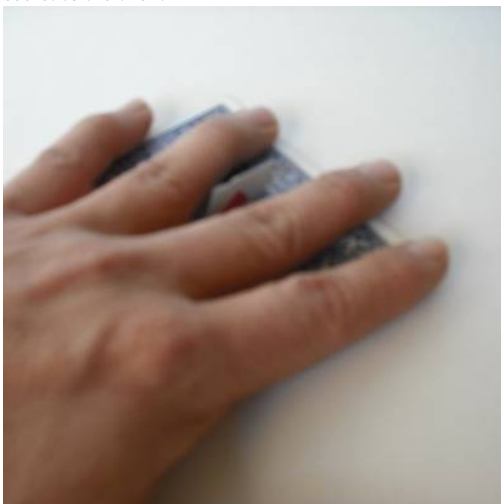
Glue the card with the flap onto the back of another card. Make sure that you don't glue the flap down onto the second card. The flap must remain free.



After the glue dries, you'll have a card with a flap in its back.



With the secret flap up, you can hold the flap between your middle and ring finger, and securely hold the card. This is the secret to the trick.



With your hand held palm up, show the cards and get the gimmicked card into your hand with the flap up. Grab the flap using your middle and ring fingers.

Insert the other cards underneath the gimmick but allow them to stick out around the sides. The other cards will be held between your hand and the gimmick. At this point, gravity is apparently holding the cards in your hand.



Slowly turn your hand over and show that even though it's upside down, the cards somehow stay adhered to your hand.

When you're done, turn over your hand and release the gimmicked card. If you can, secretly fold the flap down, which will allow you to display the cards both front and back. You can drop the cards onto a table and allow spectators to examine your hand.



The Jumping Rubberband

In this [easy magic trick](#), a rubber band mysteriously jumps from your pinkie and ring fingers to the first and middle fingers of the same hand and then back again.

Materials: A rubberband. If you like, you can also use a hair band.



Hold your hand naturally and wrap the rubberband around your pinkie and ring fingers. Let the rubber band rest at the base of your fingers. The back of your hand should be facing your audience (The picture shows your hand from your view).

With your other hand, stretch the rubber band and insert the tips of your pinky, ring, middle and first fingers into it.



Rest your fingers in the rubber band against the palm of your hand. Notice how all of the fingers are resting inside of the rubber band and how the band is held against the fingertips.



At this point, you should be able to simply open (straighten) all of your fingers to make the rubber band "jump" to your index and middle fingers. If the rubber band doesn't jump, please review the instructions. Note that by reversing the direction, you can make the rubber band jump back to the original fingers.

