



A PROFESSIONAL MAGIC SHOW YOU CAN DO

By

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Magic is fun! Fun to watch and even more fun to do. In this book, you are going to learn to put on your own show - just like a real magician. You will learn what to do and say. From the moment you first walk on stage, you will know how to entertain as well as mystify your audience. And, as professional magicians will tell you, entertaining your audience is the key to having a successful performance.

This book is written so that you will learn what a successful magic show looks and sounds like. After each trick and its accompanying patter (magician's talk) is introduced, the trick will be explained in a "How To Do It" section.

The tricks are inexpensive and easy to make. The most important thing, however, is not how much a trick costs, but how well you present it. Practice until you feel comfortable performing each one. Once you have done this, you will be ready to present your own magic show. And remember, you can combine the tricks taught in this book with the tricks you received in your *Ultimate Magic Kit* and have a really great show!

It makes no difference where you perform. It can just as easily be in your living room as on a stage. The important thing is that both you and your audience enjoy themselves. With practice, this will happen. And now, on with the show!

CHAPTER 1

THE MAGIC BOX

“Hi! I’m Mr. Magic!” you exclaim, as you come running on stage to greet your audience. “We’re going to have a great time today. Before we start the show, though, there are a couple of very important things we have to do. First, since we’re going to be doing magic today, we have to learn the magic words! Some of the tricks we’re going to do won’t work unless you help me by saying these special words at just the right time. We have some very special words today - Hocus Pocus! (If you are performing for a special occasion, use words such as ‘Happy Birthday’ or ‘Merry Christmas’ for your magic words). When I count to three, I want everybody to help me say ‘Hocus Pocus’. Be sure you say the words loud and all together - otherwise, the magic won’t work! Ready? One. . .two. . . THREE!”

“Hocus Pocus!”

“Oh, we can do better than that!” you say. “Let’s try it one more time. And this time, let’s make sure it’s loud and all together! One. . .two. . . THREE!”

“HOCUS POCUS!” shouts the audience.

“That’s great! Now that we know the magic words, the other thing we need to do is to find out how I pick my helpers. When I pick my assistants, I look for people who are sitting quietly raising their hand. That way I know they are paying attention and really want to help. If you remember that, I’ll try to pick you to help me do magic!” Pause, and then say, “Before I left home today, I put all of my tricks in to this box so they would be easier to carry. Let’s look inside and see what. . . Oh, no! It’s empty!” you exclaim as you show the inside of the box to the audience. “I’m afraid we’re in a lot of trouble.”

Hopefully, someone from the audience will suggest, “Use the magic words!” If they don’t, suggest it yourself.

“That’s a great idea,” you say. “Let’s try it. When I count to three, everyone shout the magic words. But remember - they have to be loud and all together. One. . . two. . . THREE!”

“HOCUS POCUS!” shouts the audience.

“Hey! It worked!” you state excitedly as you open the box and look in. “Here’s a piece of rope and a pair of scissors we can use for our first trick.”

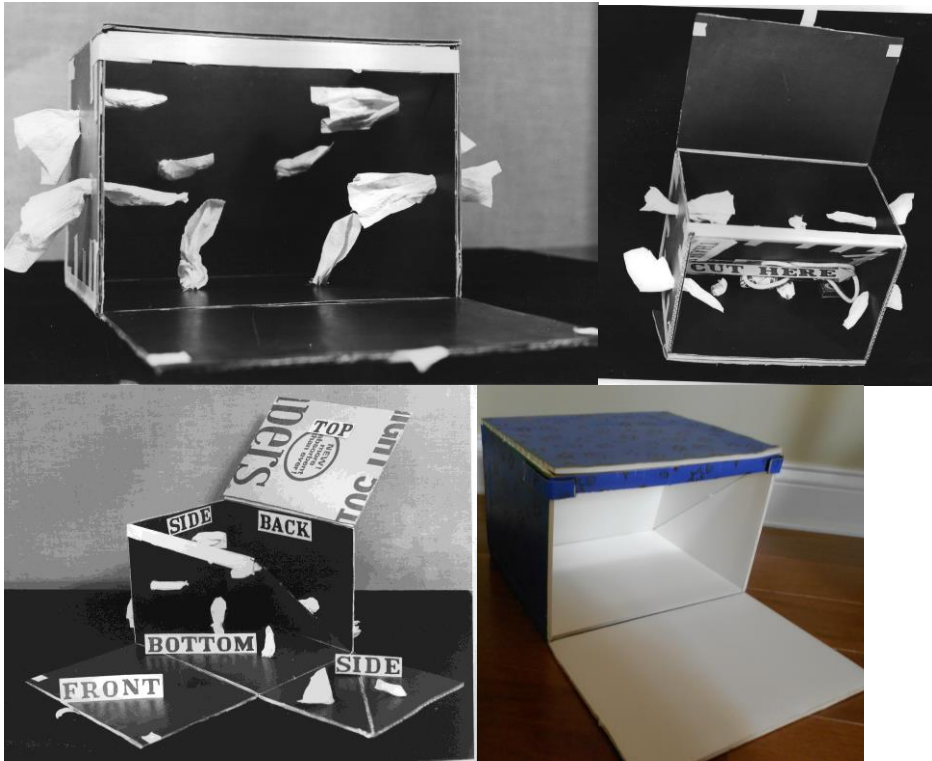
HOW TO DO IT

The Magic Box: The magic box is the most difficult piece of equipment to make in this book. It is well worth the effort, however, since you can carry your entire act in the box and yet show it empty at any time. To make the box, you will need the following materials;

- 1) one 12” x 12” clear mirror tile
- 2) cardboard or foam board which can be purchased in sheets at an office supply store
- 3) clear mailing tape
- 4) fancy contact paper to cover the box once you are done (optional)

Cut the cardboard out based on what is shown in the pictures. The side pieces are 8" x 9 1/2". The front door is 8 1/4" x 12". The top is 12" x 9 3/4", the back side 12" x 8", and the bottom is 12" x 9 1/2". Once the individual pieces are made, cut out the groove on each of the side pieces (you may want to get an adult to help you with the cutting). Be careful not to cut all the way through the cardboard or foam board when making the groove. Tape the pieces of cardboard together using plenty of tape. Slide the mirror into the grooves on the sides. Tape the mirror securely from the top. Cover the box with contact paper and you are ready to use the magic box. The photo on the bottom right below shows one made from foam board and contact paper. I used two small pieces of Velcro to enable me to keep the front door closed when the inside is not being shown.

To show the box empty, open the front door and let the audience peer in. When you want to remove something from the box, close the front door and open the top to remove the objects. The magic box can be used to either produce or vanish objects.



The photo on the left show the box with the front door open and tissues sticking through the holes that you need to make. The middle photo shows that there are really two compartments in the box separated by the mirror. A diagonal cut is made into each side piece which you can see better in the third photo. The photo below shows what a professional mirror box looks like. These cost around \$150. The one you are making will accomplish the same magic but for a cost of around \$10 - \$20 depending on what you cover it with and how you make it look. In the box below, they have used lines to create the illusion instead of using tissues as we did in the box above.



CHAPTER 2

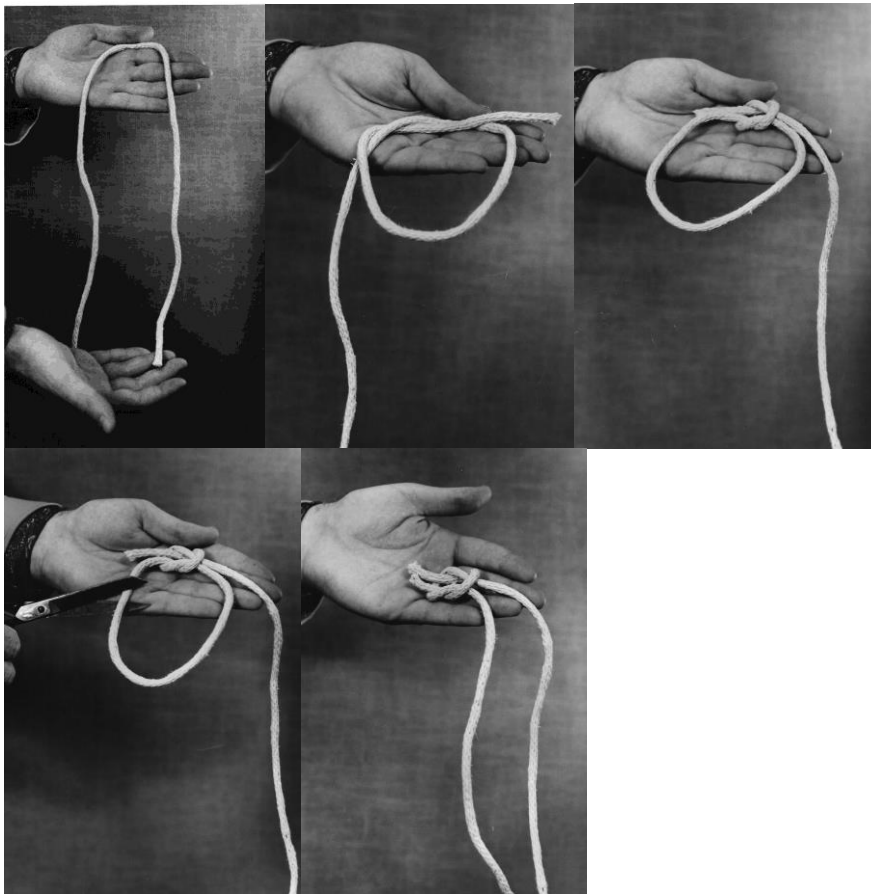
THE CUT AND RESTORED ROPE

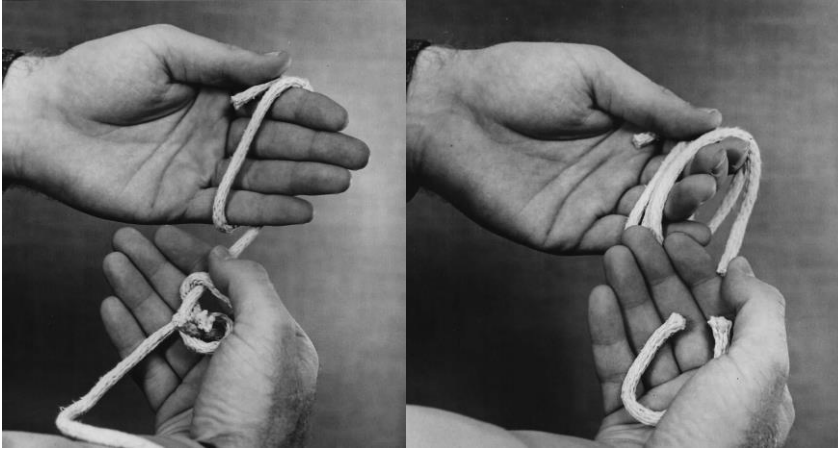
After you remove the rope and scissors from the magic box, continue by saying, “One of the first knots I learned to tie was a square knot.” As you say this, tie one end of the rope to the middle with a square knot. “Sometimes, though, I get the knot so tight I can’t get it loose without cutting it. . . like this.” Cut the rope as shown in the picture. “Of course, the rope is not longer any good since it is in two pieces.” Pause, and then say “But that’s where it comes in handy being a magician. Watch!” After wrapping the rope around your fist, reach into your pocket for some magic whiffle dust. “All we have to do is sprinkle the rope with magic whiffle dust. . . like this. . . and it’s fully restored into one piece!”

If the audience applauds, say “Thank you,” and then add, “I love thunderous applause.” If they do not applaud, say “There’s one thing you should always remember when you’re watching a magic show. When a trick works, magicians love to hear thunderous applause. So, on the count of three, let’s hear some thunderous applause. One. . . two. . . THREE! (Thunderous applause) Thank you!”

HOW TO DO IT:

The Cut and Restored Rope: First, tie a square knot as shown in the picture. When you cut the rope as shown, you are actually cutting a small piece off the end while leaving the middle intact. As you wrap the rope around your left fist, retain the cut off piece in your right hand. Leave it in your pocket when you reach in to get the whiffle dust. Then, all that remains is to uncoil the rope and show that it has been restored to one piece.





CHAPTER 3 ROPE FROM MATCHBOX

As you return the rope and scissors to the magic box, say “Look! There’s something else in here. It’s a matchbox!” Remove the matchbox and continue, “Maybe there’s something inside it we can do a trick with. Let’s look.” Peek inside and say, “It looks like another piece of rope. There seems to be something strange about this rope, though. Watch!”

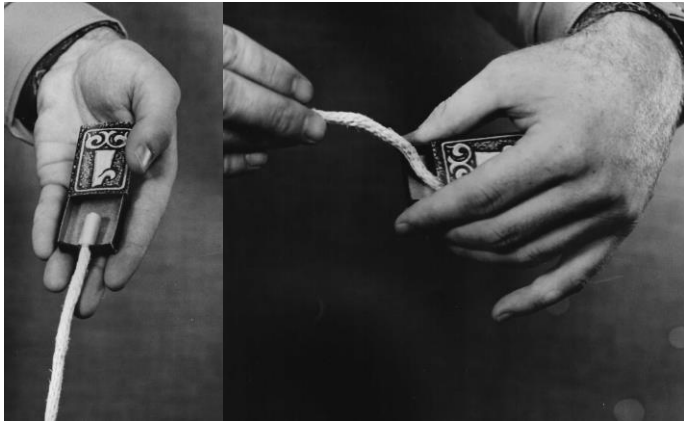
Begin pulling the rope from the matchbox. (To be really effective, the rope should be at least 25 feet long). As you pull out the rope, move around taking up as much space as possible. When you reach the end of the rope, put the matchbox in your pocket and say, “There’s something wrapped around the end of this rope. Let’s see what it is.” Uncoil the sign displaying the words, ‘THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE PLEASE’. When the applause subsides, say “Thank you very much.”

HOW TO DO IT

Rope from matchbox: Cut a hole in one end of the drawer of a small matchbox as shown in the picture. At the opposite end of the drawer, cut the end piece off You will

need a piece of rope that is at least 25 feet long. Tape around one end of the rope until it is too large to slip through the hole in the matchbox. This will prevent the rope from slipping out before you are ready to do the trick. On the opposite end of the rope, attach with rubber bands (or a safety pin) a piece of paper with the words ‘THUNDEROUS APPLAUSE PLEASE’ written on it.

Before beginning your show, place the coiled up rope in your inside coat pocket with the end opposite the sign running down your sleeve and into the matchbox. Keep the matchbox and rope inside your sleeve above your wrist until you are ready to do the trick. As you reach into the magic box to replace the scissors and rope from the previous trick, reach up into your sleeve and pull the matchbox into place. You are now ready to perform the miracle of the *rope from matchbox*.



CHAPTER 4

MENTAL PREDICTION

“That was fun. Let’s see what else is in the box.” Open the front to the magic box and say, “I’m afraid it’s empty. Maybe the magic words will work. Let’s try them. On the count of three, we’ll all say ‘Hocus Pocus.’ One.. . two. . . THREE!”

“HOCUS POCUS!”

“Oh, good! It worked!” you say, as you reach in the top of the box and remove an envelope, a small piece of newspaper, and the pair of scissors again. “For this trick, we

will need two volunteers from the audience. Let's see who remembers how we pick helpers." Select two volunteers who are sitting quietly with their hands raised and have them stand by their seats. Turn to the first volunteer and say, "And what is your name?"

"Joe." (or whatever his name is).

"Joe, I'm going to give you this sealed envelope to hold. Inside, there is a piece of paper with a prediction written on it. I want you to hold the envelope so that it can be seen at all times. Do you understand? (Pause for Joe's answer). Fine." Give the envelope to Joe and turn your attention to your other helper. "And what is your name?"

"Diane".

"Diane, you are going to be very important in this experiment. I'm going to send you a message using ESP, extra sensory perception. The success of this trick depends upon your receiving my message." Pause and then say, "I have a piece of newspaper which I'm going to hold in my left hand. With my right hand, I'm going to slowly move this pair of scissors up the column of newspaper. When you feel me sending you a message to stop, I want you to say 'STOP'. Wherever I'm at when you say stop, I'm going to cut the newspaper. After I do that, I want you to come and pick up the piece that falls to the floor. Read the top line where you told me to cut it off at. If you have received my ESP message, the line you read will match the prediction which I have already written and which is inside the sealed envelope. Do you understand?" If she is unsure, explain again what you want her to do. Then continue by saying, "I'll begin moving the scissors. When you want me to stop, say STOP." Move the scissors until you are told to stop.

"STOP!"

"Are you sure? If you want to change your mind, you can. You're sure you're satisfied and you want me to cut it here?"

"Yes."

"Okay." Cut the newspaper and then say, "Come and pick up the part that fell to the floor. Read the top line out loud where you told me to cut it off at."

Diane picks up the cut newspaper and reads the top line, "Observers said this was."

"Now, before we open the envelope, I want to re-emphasize that you could have said stop at any time. Correct?"

"Yes."

“And after you said stop, you could have changed your mind if you had wanted to. Right?”

“That’s right.”

“Fine,” you say. “Joe, would you now open the sealed envelope and read what is written on the piece of paper?”

After opening the envelope, Joe reads, “Observers said this was.”

“There you are, ladies and gentlemen, truly a mental miracle. How about a nice hand for Joe and Diane. . . Thank you.”

HOW TO DO IT

Mental Prediction: This is one of the simplest, and yet most baffling, of all mental effects. From a piece of newspaper, find a column that is 5-10 inches long, and with no indentations for paragraphs. Cut this piece out. Copy the top line of the column onto a piece of paper and seal this in an envelope. This is your *secret prediction*.

The secret of the trick is very simple. When you do the trick, hold the piece of newspaper upside down. Then, no matter where you cut the newspaper off at, the piece that falls to the floor is really the top part of the column. When the volunteer picks up the piece to read, she naturally will turn it right side up. She will then read the top line which will match your prediction. To perform this trick, you should be at least 10 feet from your audience to prevent their seeing that you are holding the newspaper upside down.



CHAPTER 5

THE AFGHAN BANDS

“Well, here’s something strange,” you remark as you reach into your magic box and remove three newspaper loops. Lay two of the loops aside and continue with the demonstration loop. “It’s a piece of newspaper that’s been glued together at the ends. Say, I’ve got an idea that would be lots of fun. But first, we’ll need two volunteers.” Select the volunteers and have them join you on stage. When they arrive, shake hands and introduce yourself. “Hi, I’m Mr. Magic. And your name is. .

“Bill.”

“Nice to meet you, Bill.” Turn to your other helper and say, “And your name, young lady, is .

“Sally.”

“It’s nice to meet you, too. I selected you two because you both look like good, fast workers. And that’s important because you are about to be in a race. Also, I selected you because you look like you can follow directions. And that’s important, too, because if you don’t follow the directions, you will be disqualified. Here’s what we are going to do. Each of you will receive a pair of scissors and a loop of newspaper like this (display sample). When I say ‘Go’, I want each of you to cut your loop into separate loops by cutting down the middle, like this (demonstrate). The first person to finish with two separate loops will be the winner. Are there any questions? (Answer any questions they may have). Just to make this a little more exciting, let’s divide the audience into two teams. The people sitting on this side will cheer for Bill, and the people on this side will cheer for Sally. Here are scissors and a loop for each of you. I’m going to count to three. When I say three, I want Sally and Bill to start cutting, and the audience to start cheering. Get ready! One . . . two . . . THREE!”

At the completion of the race, turn to Bill and say, “I can see something must have gone wrong, Bill. Instead of cutting your loop into two loops, you’ve cut it into a loop that’s twice the size of the original one. I’m afraid we’re going to have to disqualify you.

Now turn to Sally and say, “Let’s see how Sally did. Oh, my goodness! You certainly

have two loops like we wanted, but they're linked together! We'll have to disqualify you, too." Pause and then add, "But, as a souvenir, you can both keep your ioops. How about a nice hand for Sally and Bill! Weren't they great!"

HOW TO DO IT

The Afghan Bands: This is a fun trick that will add lots of excitement to your act. To do it, first cut out three strips of newspaper, each approximately two inches wide and three feet long. For the demonstration loop, simply glue the ends together. For Bill's giant loop, give one end of the newspaper a half twist before gluing. For Sally's connected loops, give one end of the newspaper a full twist, and then glue. The trick is now ready to perform.



CHAPTER 6

WRONG AND WRONG AGAIN

Open the top of your magic box, look in, and say, "Look what we have here! A piece of newspaper and three cards." Remove the items and continue. "There's a red card, a green one, and a yellow one. I'm going to use these three cards to test your powers of observation. One at a time, I'm going to place these cards inside this folded newspaper. First the red. . . and then the green. . . and finally the yellow one. Now, to test your powers of observation. If I remove the green card (remove slowly showing both sides), what colors are left?"

“Red and yellow,” responds the audience.

“Okay. If I remove the red card (do so), what color is left?”

“Yellow!”

Slowly remove the remaining card which has the word ‘WRONG’ written on it. “You see, the yellow card has disappeared,” you say.

“Let’s see the other side of the card!” shouts the audience.

“What’s that?” you ask. “You want me to turn it around? How’s this?” Slowly turn the card end over end without showing the back side.

“No, no, no!” they shout.

“I’m beginning to get the idea you don’t trust me. How about if we let someone take a look!” Pause, and then say, “I’ll look - I’m honest!” Look at the back of the card and then say, “There’s nothing there.”

“Let’s see the other side,” they continue.

“Well, okay,” you answer, “but here’s something you should remember - when you play games with magicians, sometimes you’re wrong and sometimes you’re wrong again!” As you say ‘wrong again’, turn the card over revealing the words ‘WRONG AGAIN’. To show there’s nothing left inside the newspaper, rip it apart and throw it to the audience.

HOW TO DO IT

Wrong and Wrong Again: This type of trick is known as a sucker effect, since the audience believes it has discovered how the trick is done, only to be fooled at the last moment.

The trick actually consists of four cards - green, yellow, red and one that says ‘WRONG’ on one side and ‘WRONG AGAIN’ on the other side. The green and yellow cards are exactly what they appear to be - the same color on both sides. The red card, however, is actually two red cards glued together on three sides. Also, it is slightly larger than the other cards so that another card can fit into the pocket formed by these glued

together cards. The fourth card says ‘WRONG’ on one side, and ‘WRONG AGAIN’ on the other side.

To do the trick, begin by having the ‘WRONG’ card hidden inside the folded newspaper. Bring this out along with the three colored cards. Place the red card inside the newspaper first. As you place the yellow card inside, insert it into the opening in the glued together red card. Place the green card inside and you are ready to fool your audience.



CHAPTER 7

THE MYSTERIOUS COIN FLIGHT

“For my next trick, I’m going to need a helper from the audience. How about the boy in the striped shirt?” After your assistant arrives on stage, introduce yourself. “Hi, I’m Mr. Magic. And what is your name?”

“Ralph,” he answers.

“Well, Ralph, thanks for offering to help us. We’re going to do something that will seem impossible. I’ll explain it as we go along. Do you happen to have a dime that we can use?” If he does not have a dime, borrow one from the audience or have one ready yourself.

“Ralph, I want you to look closely at the coin. Remember the date. Also, take this magic marker and mark the coin so that you will recognize it when you see it again.” After he marks the coin, say “Fine. I’m going to take the dime and place it under this handkerchief. I want you to hold the coin, through the handkerchief, in your right hand.

In your other hand, I want you to hold this box.”

Reach into your pocket and bring out the box. Give the box to Ralph to hold. “Here is what’s going to happen. I’m going to count to three. When I say three, we are all going to say the magic words, Hocus Pocus. As we say these words, I want you to release the coin. I will pull the handkerchief away. As I do this, the coin will travel up your right arm, across your body, down your left arm, and into the box you’re holding in your left hand.” Pause and then add, “That would truly be a miracle, wouldn’t it, Ralph? Let’s try it! Ready. . . one.. .two... THREE!”

“Hocus Pocus!”

As the magic words are said, whisk away the handkerchief. Show both sides and place it in your pocket. “Now, Ralph, would you open the box, please. (Pause while Ralph opens the box). What is in the box?” you ask.

“Another box!” says Ralph.

“Another box! Open it and see if there is anything inside it. (Pause while Ralph opens the second box). What did you find?”

“A bag!”

“A bag! Open the bag and see what you find, Ralph.”

“It’s my coin!”

“Is it the same coin, Ralph?”

“Yes, it is!”

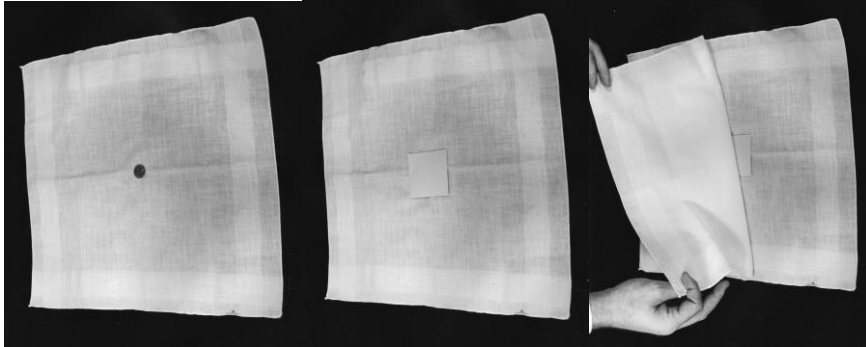
“Then we’ve truly seen a miracle! How about a nice hand for Ralph! Thank you.”

HOW TO DO IT

The Mysterious Coin Flight: This trick consists of two parts. Part one is a handkerchief vanisher and the other is a magic coin box. The handkerchief vanisher is made as follows:

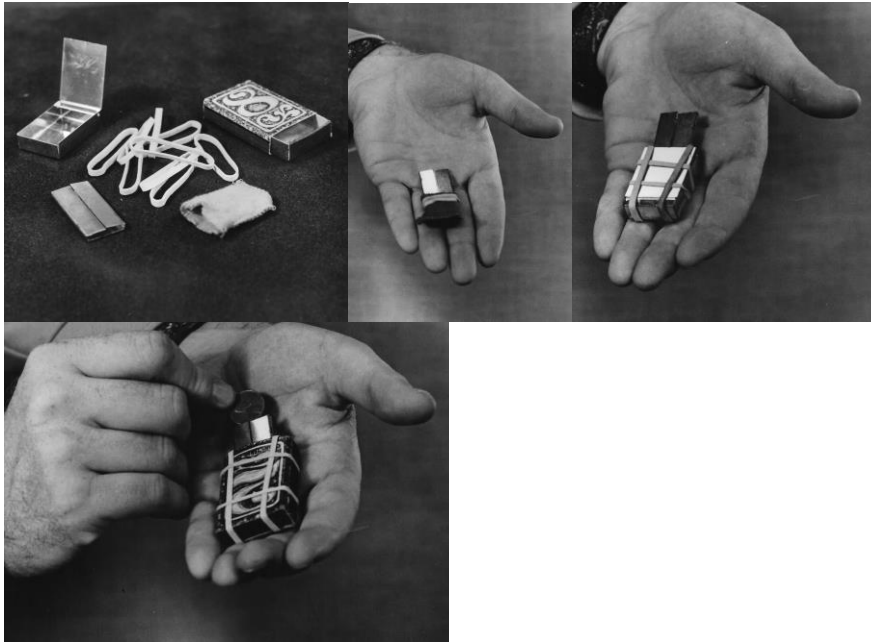
You will need two identical handkerchiefs. A coin will be placed in the center of the first handkerchief and then a piece of cloth (cardboard is used in the photo so that you can easily see it) is sewed over it. Use the same type of coin that you intend to borrow.

For example, if you are going to use a dime, sew a dime into the center of the first handkerchief. Once the secret coin is sewn inside, the two handkerchiefs will be sewn together around the outside edges. The handkerchief vanisher is now ready to use.



To make the coin box (which can also be purchased from any magic dealer), you will need a matchbox, a slightly smaller box, a cloth bag, and a metal slide which can be made by cutting *off* a piece of curtain rod as shown in the picture. To prepare the coin box, first place the slide into the mouth of the cloth bag. Secure this with a rubber band. Put the end of the slide with the bag attached to it into the smaller box. Secure the box with rubber bands. Put the box into the matchbox and place rubber bands around the outside to hold everything in place. Once the coin box is ready, place it into your outside coat pocket. You are now ready to perform.

After the coin is marked, place it under the prepared handkerchief. With your other hand grasp the prepared coin (which is sewn into the hem of the handkerchief) and hand this to your helper to hold. As he takes hold of the coin, reach into your pocket with the hand holding the actual coin. Let it slide down into the inner bag. Remove the slide and bring the box out. Give the box to your volunteer to hold. On the count of three, bring the handkerchief down with both hands. Quickly show both sides of the handkerchief and turn your attention to the coin box. Will the coin be there? Of course it will!



CHAPTER 8

ROPES THROUGH THE BODY

“Next, we are going to do a version of one of the world’s most famous tricks - sawing a woman in half! In our version, however, we are not going to use a box. And, instead of a saw, we’ll cut our volunteer in half using two ropes! We will need three volunteers - two gentlemen and one brave young lady. Okay! You. . . and you. . . and would you come up, also? Thank you. I’d like the young lady to stand here on the trap door. . . and one gentlemen to stand on each side. Now, your name is. . . (Pause for response) Jerry. Nice to meet you, Jerry. And our brave young lady’s name is. . . Paula. And our other gentleman’s name is. . . Bill. Great.”

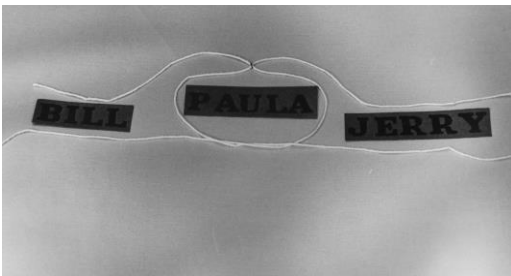
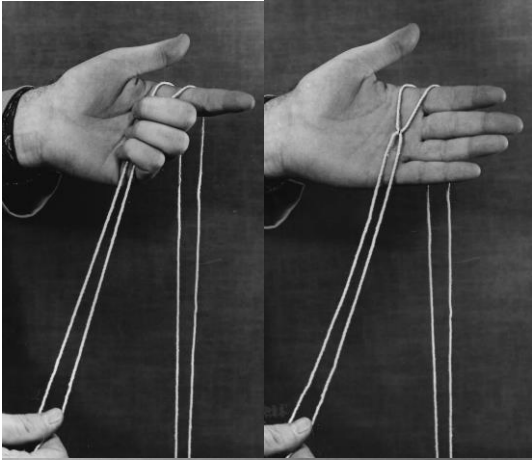
Turn your attention to Paula and continue. “Tell me, Paula, have you ever been cut in half before? No? Well, I’m sure you’ll enjoy it! Here we have two ropes which will represent our saw. We’ll put these behind Paula. Would each gentleman hold on to the ends of the ropes, please. Now, it would be an easy matter to simply say the magic words and pull the ropes through Paula. But that would be too easy. And besides, Paula might try to escape. To make sure that doesn’t happen, we’ll tie her in so escape will be

impossible! If each gentleman will give me one of his rope ends, we will tie a knot around Paula's waist. Now, there is no escape. except magic! On the count of three, I want everyone to shout 'Hocus Pocus'. At the same instant, I want both gentlemen to pull the ropes as hard as possible. Remember - pull hard! We don't want the ropes stuck halfway through! Are you ready? One.. . you know, I just thought of something. I've never tried this before! TWO. . . I just remembered something else - the magician who taught me this trick had some really unfortunate luck. But I don't think anything like that could happen to us. It was probably one of those once in a lifetime accidents. Is everybody ready! . . . THREE!"

As the audience shouts 'THREE' and the ropes pass through Paula's body, step back and give a hearty, "Hey! How about that! Didn't our assistants do a great job? How about a nice round of applause to show our thanks!"

HOW TO DO IT

Ropes Through the Body: Before doing this trick, tie two ropes together at their centers using a small piece of thread. To present the trick, hold the ropes as shown in the picture. The girl should be standing slightly behind the other two helpers, so they cannot see that the ropes are tied. Hand two rope ends to the first assistant. Walk behind the girl placing the tied centers in back of her. Give the remaining rope ends to the other assistant to hold. Have each gentleman give you one of his ropes. Using these, tie a single overhand knot in front of Paula. Give each helper back the opposite end to hold. All that remains is to give the ropes a good tug breaking the thread. This releases the ropes, and they apparently pass through the girl's body as she is sawn in half!



CHAPTER 9

THANK YOU

“Let’s see if there is anything left in our magic box. Yes,” you say, “there seems to be one more thing ... a piece of paper. Maybe we can do some magic with it. First, we’ll tear it a few times, like this. . . and now, when I count to three, I want everyone who’s had a good time today to shout ‘Hocus Pocus’. Ready! One. . . two. . . THREE!”

“Hocus Pocus!”

As the audience shouts out the magic words, unfold the paper revealing the words ‘THANK YOU’ and say, “Thank you for being such a wonderful audience today. I had a great time and I hope you did, too! Thank you!”

HOW TO DO IT

Thank You: Cut out two strips of paper that are the same size. On one strip, write the words ‘THANK YOU’. Wad this up into a small ball. When performing the trick, remove this packet from the box along with the strip of paper. Hold this packet hidden in your left hand, as shown in the picture. Tear the other strip into several pieces and wad this into a ball. Exchange this packet for the one hidden in your left hand. As the audience shouts ‘Hocus Pocus’, unfold the strip revealing the words ‘THANK YOU’.



CHAPTER 10

WHERE DO I GO FROM HERE?

Now that you have read, “A Professional magic Show You Can Do”, it is natural to want to make and show the tricks as soon as possible. It is important to remember, though, that in order to have a good magic show, you must first practice. When you have finished making all the props, practice doing the tricks as you refer back to the book to see what to say. Also, remember that you can now add or substitute tricks from your 'Ultimate Magic Kit' into the *Magic Box* and have an even bigger and better show!

Once you feel you are ready, present your show as many times as you can. If you have to repeat a show for the same audience, try to have other tricks you can substitute for the ones described. Be sure and watch all the videos that are listed on the 'Welcome' letter that came with your kit and read the instructional booklet that's in your kit as well. Thanks for letting me be a part of your magical experience and best wishes for much success!