**Magic Tricks For The Beginning Magician**

**Trick #1**

**The Self-Tying Handkerchief**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One medium sized rubber band.

1. Bring the rubber band all the way down to the forefinger and middle finger as shown in Figure 1.
2. From your audience’s view, it looks like the rubber band is still around only two of your fingers. However, you have used your fingers to transfer the rubber band to the second two fingers.
3. To make the rubber band jump back to your fingers, hold your hand so its back is facing the audience.
   - At the same time, make the rubber band jump to your fingers by making a fist with the hand that has the band. If you twist a second rubber band over the first two fingers, follow the same moves again.
   - If you twist a second rubber band over the fingers above the first band, as in Figure 4, so that the rubber bands jump back to your fingers, the second rubber band will still be able to jump.
   - This is sometimes also called the Hopping Rubber Band. You loop a rubber band over your thumb and then to the second two fingers.

**Trick #2**

**Coin Through Elbow**

A coin mysteriously vanishes into thin air!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One coin.

1. Display the coin in your hand, and then borrow it on the spot.
2. Do something that can be carried, or done with something that can be carried, or borrowed on the spot.
3. Trick #1 A coin instantly ties itself at the end of a handkerchief!

**Trick #3**

**Cut & Restored String**

A string or rope is cut into two pieces, and then magically restored into one piece!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One piece of heavy string or thin rope.

1. The Cut-and-Restored rope effect is a classic of magic.
2. Pull the handkerchief out of your pocket, keeping the string in it. It’s a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.
3. Fold the tip of the handkerchief as shown in Figure 2. When you fold section C up over section A, use your thumb to catch the string as demonstrated in Figure 2. When you fold section C up over section A, use your thumb to catch the string as demonstrated in Figure 2. When you fold section C up over section A, use your thumb to catch the string as demonstrated in Figure 2. When you fold section C up over section A, use your thumb to catch the string as demonstrated in Figure 2.
4. Snap the handkerchief, releasing the end without the knot. Pick up the hanging end with the other hand, and grasp it as in Figure 2.
5. Pick the coin up and pretend to put it into the other hand. Then, pretend to rub it into your elbow, announcing you are going to make it disappear! After a few moments drop the coin onto the table and say it usually works better with the other hand.
6. Display the coin in your hand, and then borrow it on the spot!

**Trick #4**

**Headless Rubber Band Escape**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One medium sized rubber band.

1. Bring the rubber band all the way down to the forefinger and middle finger as shown in Figure 1.
2. From your audience’s view, it looks like the rubber band is still around only two of your fingers. However, you have used your fingers to transfer the rubber band to the second two fingers.
3. To make the rubber band jump back to your fingers, hold your hand so its back is facing the audience.
4. If you twist a second rubber band over the fingers above the first band, as in Figure 4, so that the rubber bands jump back to your fingers, the second rubber band will still be able to jump.
5. This is sometimes also called the Hopping Rubber Band. You loop a rubber band over your thumb and then to the second two fingers.

**Trick #5**

**The Vanishing Knot**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One pair of good scissors.

1. A string or rope is cut into two pieces, and then magically restored into one piece!
2. Cut through the paper, as shown in Figure 4. Cut through the paper, as shown in Figure 4. Cut through the paper, as shown in Figure 4. Cut through the paper, as shown in Figure 4.
3. The paper may be examined, and it will be seen to have been cleanly cut in half.
4. Presumably, the rope in half. In reality, only the paper is cut in half, the rope is still intact.
5. The knot instantly ties itself at the end of a handkerchief!

**Trick #6**

**The Vanishing String**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One handkerchief or woman’s scarf. A soft rope can also be used.

1. Hold a knot with your right thumb and forefinger, and grasp the paper in Figure 1. When it’s time to present the trick, pull out the paper and lay the string in it as shown.
2. A string or rope is cut into two pieces, and then magically restored into one piece!
3. Pull the handkerchief out of your pocket, keeping the string in it. It’s a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.
4. Hold the string and paper in your left hand. Then, pretend, "I’m going to make it disappear! After a few moments, let go of the knotted end as before and repeat, again releasing the end without the knot. Pick up the hanging end with the other hand, and grasp it as in Figure 2.
5. In Figure 2 you are still holding onto part of the handkerchief using only one hand! Tell your friends that you can tie a knot in a handkerchief using only one hand! Here’s another classic effect! To perform this trick you must twirl a handkerchief into a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.

**Trick #7**

**The Vanishing Coin**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One coin.

1. The Vanishing Coin makes this a very baffling effect.
2. Make a knot disappear from a rope or handkerchief, even a borrowed one!
3. If you twist a second rubber band over the fingers above the first band, as in Figure 4, so that the rubber bands jump back to your fingers, the second rubber band will still be able to jump.
4. This is sometimes also called the Hopping Rubber Band. You loop a rubber band over your thumb and then to the second two fingers.

**Trick #8**

**The Vanishing String**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One handkerchief or woman’s scarf. A soft rope can also be used.

1. Hold a knot with your right thumb and forefinger, and grasp the paper in Figure 1. When it’s time to present the trick, pull out the paper and lay the string in it as shown.
2. A string or rope is cut into two pieces, and then magically restored into one piece!
3. Pull the handkerchief out of your pocket, keeping the string in it. It’s a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.
4. Hold the string and paper in your left hand. Then, pretend, "I’m going to make it disappear! After a few moments, let go of the knotted end as before and repeat, again releasing the end without the knot. Pick up the hanging end with the other hand, and grasp it as in Figure 2.
5. In Figure 2 you are still holding onto part of the handkerchief using only one hand! Tell your friends that you can tie a knot in a handkerchief using only one hand! Here’s another classic effect! To perform this trick you must twirl a handkerchief into a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.

**Trick #9**

**The Vanishing Coin**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One coin.

1. The Vanishing Coin makes this a very baffling effect.
2. Make a knot disappear from a rope or handkerchief, even a borrowed one!
3. If you twist a second rubber band over the fingers above the first band, as in Figure 4, so that the rubber bands jump back to your fingers, the second rubber band will still be able to jump.
4. This is sometimes also called the Hopping Rubber Band. You loop a rubber band over your thumb and then to the second two fingers.

**Trick #10**

**The Vanishing String**

A miniature escape that demonstrates how solid can pass through solid!

**REQUIREMENTS:** One handkerchief or woman’s scarf. A soft rope can also be used.

1. Hold a knot with your right thumb and forefinger, and grasp the paper in Figure 1. When it’s time to present the trick, pull out the paper and lay the string in it as shown.
2. A string or rope is cut into two pieces, and then magically restored into one piece!
3. Pull the handkerchief out of your pocket, keeping the string in it. It’s a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.
4. Hold the string and paper in your left hand. Then, pretend, "I’m going to make it disappear! After a few moments, let go of the knotted end as before and repeat, again releasing the end without the knot. Pick up the hanging end with the other hand, and grasp it as in Figure 2.
5. In Figure 2 you are still holding onto part of the handkerchief using only one hand! Tell your friends that you can tie a knot in a handkerchief using only one hand! Here’s another classic effect! To perform this trick you must twirl a handkerchief into a ropelike shape, and then hold it between the index and middle fingers of each hand, palms facing the audience.
**Trick #6**  
**The Unbreakable Match**

- **Requirements:** A handkerchief with a hem, two wooden matches or toothpicks.

1. Take the handkerchief and show the toothpick, still in its center, and completely unharmed!
2. This toothpick concealed in the hem of the handkerchief, and hand this to the volunteer.
3. Next, sew the straw into the hem of a handkerchief.

**Trick #7**  
**The Mysterious Coin Balance**

- **Requirements:** A piece of rope 3 or 4 feet long.

1. Display the handkerchief, and show the toothpick, still in its center, and completely unharmed!
2. Take the handkerchief back and break the hidden toothpick again!
3. When he does, take the handkerchief back and break the hidden toothpick again! Invite him to break it in half!
4. Now, slowly unroll the handkerchief a few moments earlier. Now, slowly unroll the handkerchief, and show the toothpick, still in its center, and completely unharmed!

**Trick #8**  
**The Hypnotized Handkerchief**

- **Requirements:** One handkerchief with a hem, two wooden matches or toothpicks.

1. Holding one end of the handkerchief, take it in your hand and show the toothpick, still in its center, and completely unharmed.
2. To perform the trick, take the handkerchief and show the toothpick, still in its center, and completely unharmed.
3. The handkerchief hang in that corner and let it there as if held by unseen forces! You can talk about mind over matter, or wiggle the fingers, and as you do raise the straight standing position near the ends of your other hand. Now, raise the coin to a standing position near the ends of your other hand.
4. The volunteer point to one of the toothpicks. Pick up the toothpick they chose, place it in the center of the handkerchief, and roll the handkerchief up with the chosen toothpick in its center. As you do this, take hold of the handkerchief hang in that corner and let it there as if held by unseen forces! While you do this, take hold of the handkerchief hang in that corner and let it there as if held by unseen forces! When the volunteer returns the toothpick, you can break it in half and the volunteer is amazed to find that the toothpick is still unharmed!
**Trick #11**

**Magic Question-Answering Pendulum**

The pendulum answers questions “Yes” or “No” by how it swings, even when held by a volunteer!

**Requirements:**
- A pendulum, which is practically any kind of weight suspended from any kind of string.
- Whatever kind of weight you come up with to the end of a string. It’s a kind of bead, or a fishing weight, or even a hardware washer, and tie it hanging on a silver chain, this will do perfectly. You can also use any weight suspended from any kind of string. If you have a crystal ball, or a magic lantern or any other kind of divining tool, and nobody is really able to explain exactly how it works. Most likely, it is the subconscious effect of the thoughts of the person holding the pendulum’s string that influences the way it swings. Or not...

The pendulum will begin to swing! It will swing in a straight line for “Yes” and in a circle for “No” (Figure 1), and in a circle for “I don’t know” (Figure 2). If you arrange your hands from the other side! If you interweave your hands like in Figure 1, but don’t hold the pendulum, it will swing without you holding it. Hold the pendulum between three fingers, secretly leave the hand off the string when it’s swinging, and with your thumbs, it will continue to answer every question — yours or your volunteer’s! The pendulum answers questions “Yes” or “No” by how it swings, even when held by a volunteer! This is practically real magic! The pendulum historically has been used to foretell the future, and mirror ability to explain exactly how it works. Most likely, it is the subconscious effect of the thoughts of the person holding the pendulum’s string that influences the way it swings. Or not...

**Trick #12**

**Burning Sugar**

You can make sugar burn, but no one else can!

**Requirements:**
- Several lumps of sugar, some cigarette ashes, matches or a lighter.

If you have access to both items, you can perform a scientific magic trick that will convince your friends that you are a magician! Take a sugar lump and rub some cigarette ashes on it. Hold the sugar lump without touching it, and it will start burning! If you arrange your hands from the other side! If you interweave your hands like in Figure 1, but don’t hold the pendulum, it will swing without you holding it. Hold the pendulum between three fingers, secretly leave the hand off the string when it’s swinging, and with your thumbs, it will continue to answer every question — yours or your volunteer’s! The pendulum answers questions “Yes” or “No” by how it swings, even when held by a volunteer! This is practically real magic! The pendulum historically has been used to foretell the future, and mirror ability to explain exactly how it works. Most likely, it is the subconscious effect of the thoughts of the person holding the pendulum’s string that influences the way it swings. Or not...

**Trick #13**

**The ABRACADABRA Card Trick**

Here is a great card trick that has the advantage of being self-working!

**Requirements:**
- 21 random cards from any deck.

**Instructions:**
1. To perform the trick: Take 21 cards and deal them out into three columns of seven cards each, the bottom column of the three being dealt first. This way, you can deal out the cards and make them think you are dealing into three piles. When you reach the last card you can deal, hold it. Now, take the top card of the second column, and place it beneath the top card of the third. This is your chosen card! You have now done this three times, and it’s time to find his chosen card.
2. Repeat the process of dealing out the cards, having him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
3. Deal them out again the same as before, and have your volunteer tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
4. Repeat the process one more time, and now have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
5. Deal them out one more time, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
6. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
7. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
8. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
9. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
10. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
11. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
12. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
13. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
14. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
15. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
16. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
17. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
18. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
19. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
20. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.
21. Deal them out again the same as before, and have him tell you which column his chosen card is between the other two.

By this time your volunteer should be sure that you have eleven fingers, and so should your friends! With this stunt you can convince your friends that you have eleven fingers!

**Trick #14**

**The Magnetic Knife**

A common lab trick easily performed by any chemist...

**Requirements:**
- One table knife.

**Instructions:**
1. Examine. It’s magic!
2. After a few moments, drop the knife, and allow the knife and your hands to be your thumbs. It will seem as if the knife is magnetically attached to your palms! Slowly, with a look of great concentration, release your grip on the knife with your right thumb. If you arrange your hands from the other side! If you interweave your hands like in Figure 1, but don’t hold the pendulum, it will swing without you holding it. Hold the pendulum between three fingers, secretly leave the hand off the string when it’s swinging, and with your thumbs, it will continue to answer every question — yours or your volunteer’s! The pendulum answers questions “Yes” or “No” by how it swings, even when held by a volunteer! This is practically real magic! The pendulum historically has been used to foretell the future, and mirror ability to explain exactly how it works. Most likely, it is the subconscious effect of the thoughts of the person holding the pendulum’s string that influences the way it swings. Or not...

**Trick #15**

**Eleven Fingers**

A common lab trick easily performed by any chemist...

**Requirements:**
- One table knife.

**Instructions:**
1. Examine. It’s magic!
2. After a few moments, drop the knife, and allow the knife and your hands to be your thumbs. It will seem as if the knife is magnetically attached to your palms! Slowly, with a look of great concentration, release your grip on the knife with your right thumb. If you arrange your hands from the other side! If you interweave your hands like in Figure 1, but don’t hold the pendulum, it will swing without you holding it. Hold the pendulum between three fingers, secretly leave the hand off the string when it’s swinging, and with your thumbs, it will continue to answer every question — yours or your volunteer’s! The pendulum answers questions “Yes” or “No” by how it swings, even when held by a volunteer! This is practically real magic! The pendulum historically has been used to foretell the future, and mirror ability to explain exactly how it works. Most likely, it is the subconscious effect of the thoughts of the person holding the pendulum’s string that influences the way it swings. Or not...