



III. The Finishing Touches:

10. The Ring Jumps Back to the Finger

The ring is on the finger of the RH. The audience knows that the routine is over, and they aren't expecting anything else. So, now they're set to be surprised.

Fig. 47. Say, "Sometimes when I'm done with the trick people like to examine the ring to see if it's real..." Start to remove the ring from the finger with the LH fingers pointed directly to the right and providing lots of cover over the right fingers.

Fig. 48. When the ring slides to the end of the finger, the right thumb bends to press the tip of the thumb against the tip of the finger. Continue sliding the ring all the way off of the finger and onto the thumb which is hidden by the right fingers. Close the LH into a fist as if it held the ring. The audience sees bare fingers on your RH. Extend the LH to a spectator and, as you open the LH to show that the ring isn't there, say, "It is real, it's REAL fast!"

As the attention is on the LH, the right hand transfers the ring from the thumb back to the finger it came off of. I use the middle finger for my ring, so the forefinger and ring finger of the RH work together to remove the ring from the thumb and slide it onto the middle finger. All it takes is a little practice. Show the ring back on the finger that has been in plain sight the whole time.

11. The Ring Completely Disappears

Finally, as your audience is recovering from one too many shocks, really remove the ring and hold it in the RH. Do a French Drop, appearing to take it in the LH and say apologetically, "Just kidding. Would you like to examine it?" As you gesture toward the LH with the RH, toss the ring into your topit, if you have one. Usually, spectators will not now want to examine it. Finish with "That's good, because it's not there anymore!" Open the LH to show the ring all gone.

So the routine ends just like it starts: with no ring in sight.

This routine reads long, but it takes less than five minutes to perform.

I've been doing this routine for over seven years. It is a winner. I'd recommend learning the complete routine before making any significant changes to it. Of course, all of the patter lines are just presented as suggestions. Say whatever feels comfortable to you. When you learn this ring and string routine, you won't need any others. I think that it is as complete as it can get. Best wishes!