

14 Easy Magic Tricks with Everyday Household Items

Taught by Magician Jaime Aponte

Trick # 1 - The Jumping Rubber Band Trick

Effect: A classic sleight of hand trick that can be performed anytime, anywhere. The magician places a rubber band over two of his fingers. With one snap of the fingers of the other hand, the rubber band jumps visibly off the fingers on to the next two fingers.

Secret: The illustrations below will help make this elastic band trick clear to follow. You start by placing the rubber band over the first and second fingers of the left hand. Turn the hand, palm upwards and lift the rubber band up with the right hand (Fig.1).

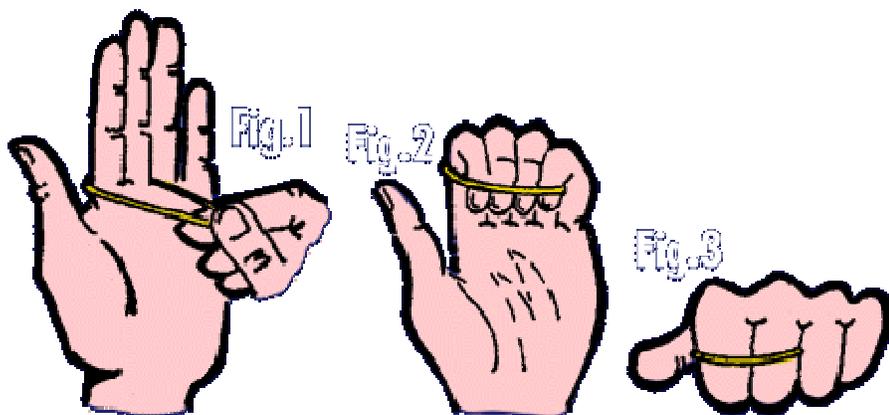
This lifting of the rubber band is prove that it really is on the two fingers. In fact this is where the magic secret move takes place. Three things happen almost at one and the same time.

As you close all four fingers of the left hand, you place those four fingers inside the loop of the outstretched rubber band.

You, the magician, allow the rubber band to snap back on to all four fingers. (Fig. 2)

You turn the left hand over. (Fig.3).

A look at Fig.1 will show you that the rubber band is pulled over to the right. This is to make it easy for you to get those four fingers in!. You should now be in the position shown in Fig.3 if you now straighten out all four fingers of the left hand, the rubber band will jump over on to the third and fourth fingers. You can repeat this cojuring trick by making it jump back again by lifting up the rubber band as before and inserting all four fingers into it again. Do not let anyone see you inserting your fingers into the loop at any time, try to time it so that as you turn your hand down the band snaps and your fingers go in all at the same time.



Trick # 2 - Cup Levitation Trick

This cool levitation magic trick looks like you are levitating a paper cup.

Effect: The magician announces that they are going to make an empty cup float. They release their grip on the cup and it appears to float in mid air.

Method: Take an empty large paper or styrofoam cup. Carefully make a hole in one side of the empty cup, big enough for your thumb to stick through. If the empty cup is made of styrofoam, you could even push your thumb straight through it.

Hold the empty cup with both your hands and facing the others in your party, announce that you are going to try and make the cup float in mid air. *Have one thumb pushed through the nearest side of the cup to you, out of view of your audience.*

Then, appear to be concentrating your mind on the cup and gradually open up both hands at the same time. While doing this, push your hands slightly forward as if you are following the floating cup and eventually grab the cup with both hands. Now, discreetly slip your thumb out from the side of the cup.

This is a simple illusion but it looks great when done at the right angle. Practice in front of a mirror to make sure that you get the angles and the timing right.



1) Magicians view with thumb through cup.

2) Spectators view, thumb not visible.

Trick # 3 - Chinese Finger Traps

Get somebody to push their fingers in both ends of the trap. Watch the fun as they try to get them out. The trick to escaping the finger trap is to relax, push the ends of the trap inward, toward the middle, thereby enlarging the openings

A second form of escape is to push one's fingers together and then grab the ends of the trap with one's middle fingers and thumbs. The fingers can then easily be pulled out.

Trick # 4 - Two Crayon ESP

A child picks a crayon and places the another in your behind your back. You guess the color you have with mind-reading powers!

Secret Steps

1. Stand with your back to your child. Put your hands behind your back and ask them to pick one of the crayon and place it into your hands.
2. Once you can feel it in your fingers, turn to face your child with your hands concealed behind you. While you're talking about the magic, scrape the crayon with your right thumbnail so some wax gets stuck between your finger and the nail.
3. Keeping the crayon behind your back in your left hand, transfer your child's thoughts to your own with your right hand. Wave your fingers in front of her face, repeating, "I'm reading your thoughts" and "I'm moving them into my mind."
4. As you're waving your hand in front of your eyes, sneak a glimpse of the color under your thumbnail.
5. Reveal the answer, adding a few dramatic *abracadabras* for effect.

Trick # 5 - Disappearing Straw

You push a straw up one nostril and it comes out your ear. At least, it looks that way. To perform this trick, hold the straw by the "top end" in your left hand. Position the "top end" under your nostril. Quickly bring your right hand up so that the straw is covered by your right wrist and arm. It will seem to disappear into your nose. Then move your hands to your ear and quickly pull your right hand back to its starting position. The straw will appear to come out of your ear.

Trick # 6 - Magic Moving Straw or Pencil

The effect: The magician uses mind power to move the straw or pencil along the table.

Hold up the straw or pencil for your audience. Tell them you can move the straw or pencil without even touching it.

Put the pencil on the table in front of you. Have your hands hovering about 20in above the *straw or pencil*. Make a big show of using your 'mind power' to move the pencil, make it seem difficult at first.

Then softly blow on the *straw or pencil* (so softly and without making a 'blowing face' - do it very, very secretly so no one can tell you are blowing.) The *straw or pencil* will roll along as if by itself.

Trick # 7- Make a Coin Magically Appear

Preparation: This is a trick any magician should have up his sleeve (pardon the pun). At Magic by Post we have been performing this for years. It's easy to perform, can be done anywhere (even fully surrounded) and with a tiny amount of practice will fool anyone. Best of all you do not even need any special props!

Prior to performance hide a coin in the inside fold of your elbow. You will find that you will be able to relax your arms and move relatively freely with the coin remaining in place but you will need to keep your arms bent.

The Performance: Explain to your audience that you are about to perform a magic trick that requires years of practice and special skill. Invite people to take a look at your hands to prove they are empty and you are not concealing anything. As you talk, make sure the coin remains in place but move freely and naturally and do not worry about the coin being revealed. People will focus on either your face as you talk or your hands.

The Reveal: There are many ways to reveal the coin, after all your hands have already been checked. A simple approach would be to quickly raise your arm as if you are grasping a coin from the air as it pops out from your elbow and reveal the coin.

Trick # 8 - The Linking Paper Clips

The Big Reveal

Two plain old paper clips spring into the air and mystifyingly link themselves together!

Props: A piece of paper and two paper clips.

Secret Steps

1. Take piece of paper and accordion-fold it into thirds so it's shaped like an S.
2. Attach one of the paper clips to the front of a piece of paper from the top, with the shorter side of the clip facing you. The clip should go over the outer layer of the folded piece of paper as well as the middle layer, and it should be clipped near the edge of the piece of paper, not the fold.
3. Attach the other paper clip to the back of the piece of paper from the top, with the shorter side facing away from you. Again, the clip should go over the outer layer of the folded piece of paper as well as the middle layer.
4. Take one end of the piece of paper in each hand and give it a quick snap. The clips will fly into the air, and when you pick them up, they'll be attached. How? Magic of course.

Trick # 9 - Fortune Teller Miracle Fish

The fish is actually made of a space-age polymer plastic that is heat sensitive. When placed flat in a person's hand, their own body heat will cause the fish to wiggle and move like magic! DON'T TELL THEM THIS! Place the fish in another person's hand and explain that the fish has special powers and that the way that it twitches will predict their future.

Trick # 10 - Paper Ball Magic Trick

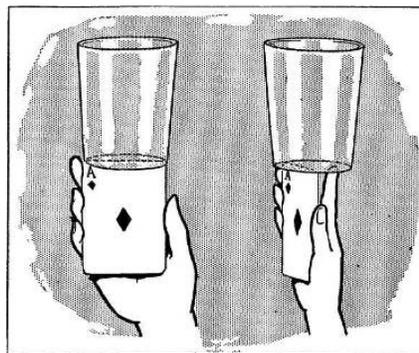
By pretending to place one of the two paper balls into your right hand and closing the hand quickly. You will actually palm one of the balls and hold the remaining ball between your index finger and thumb. You will not have placed anything in your right hand at all.

Pull the visible ball into your left hand and make a fist. Both hands are now closed. Make a gesture with your right hand toward your left as though you are magically transporting it to the other hand. Open your right hand to reveal it is empty, and then open your left hand to reveal both balls.

Trick # 11 - The Balancing Tumbler

Effect: You balance a cup (use plastic cup!) on the thin edge of a playing card!

Method: The card is really balancing on the edge of the card AND the tip of your index finger as shown to the right. Be sure to use a plastic cup for this and with a little practice it'll look like you have an incredible sense of balance and dexterity!



Trick # 12 - Magnetic Hand

Effect: A Ruler, Pencil, Straw or Magic Wand appears to be magnetized to your hand or held there by static electricity.

Secret: Your index finger is extended against the palm of your hand and is holding the object in place. The rest is acting on your part.



Trick # 13 - Disappearing Rock

Announce that you will make a rock disappear from your hand. Hold your left hand out with the palm facing upward with rock. Hold the straw in your right hand. Saying "one" while exaggerating your movement so that your right hand travels all the way back to your ear and then to your palm. Repeat, this movement again as you say "two," but when you say "three," quickly park the straw behind your ear. Let your right hand continue to your left palm and look surprised because the straw has disappeared – show them the straw on your ear as you quickly hide the rock in your back pocket – pretend to have the rock in your right hand and wave the straw and make it disappear.

Trick # 14 - Magic Rope Trick Knot

The effect: You place the ends of the rope into your hands and close the fingers around the ends. Then you shake the rope slightly, say HOCUS-POCUS PHOO, blow on your hands and drop one end of the rope. Magic! The end has a knot in it!

The secret: Tie a knot in one end of the rope from beforehand. While you take the rope, hide the end-with-the-knot in your hand and bring the other end of the rope up next to it. This requires a bit of practice. Shake your hand as if you're trying to bind a knot at it. Drop the end with the knot to make it appear that you have tied a knot in the rope using one hand.

Please visit my website at www.JMagicShows.com for any future events and more detail.

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