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## Different Paraphernalia Used In Performing Magic

By Preston Houer

David Blaine and David Copperfield's popularity have inspired a lot of people to learn magic. And with that, there are also a number of stores that sell magic paraphernalia for those who would like to learn the art of magic. Below are some of the popular equipment used for magic:

Visible Sawing – the participant lays flat on a bench or table. Then, the magician places a wooden stock over the participants mid-section. The saw is turned on and is used to cut the individual in half. After the saw has been turned off and the stock is removed, the participant stands in front of the audience unharmed.

Victory Cubes – is a new stage inclusion that can be used to make tricks more well-executed. Perfect for blocking those angles that might reveal the trick's secret, or as a prop container. These instantly make a magic show show bigger and more valuable.

Magic Rose – the magician is holding a full sized white rose and sprinkles it with glitter dust. Then he approaches one of the female specatators and gives it to her. Suddenly, the white rose turns to red.

Vanishing milk pitcher – it looks like an ordinary pitcher. The magician present the pitcher to the audience to show that it does not have any holes. He places liquid (usually milk because it is more visible than water) on the pitcher and covers it with silk cloth. A few magics later and the liquid disappears from the pitcher. The magician even turns it upside down to prove that there is no liquid on the pitcher.

Giant Deck of Cards– there's a deck of cards available which falls perfectly in between the standard poker-size cards and the typical jumbo decks. The Anglo Giant cards measure 3.5" by 5" and their large indices make it easy for audiences to see the cards even from a distance.

Magnetic finger Tips – is used to perform routines with Coins, Silverware, Cling Rings other metallic objects. It can also be used in a trick to move objects.

Wand – it is a slim stick used by magicians to execute some magic tricks.

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Collapsible top hat – a black satin lined hat that folds flat when tapped by a wand and springs back to normal when touched again.

Chinese coins – can be used for enthralling type tricks and other magic coin techniques.

Coin bender – a specially made tool for magicians that bends coins during an act.

Feather Flower – this item can be compressed into a thin bundle than can fit on either your coat sleeve or into your hat. Then, they pop open when reached.

Threads – This is almost invisible to the naked eye. It allows you to perform tricks that make objects float.

Fire Wallet – this wallet fires up when opened.

Preston Houer has been involved with the art of illusion and sleight of hand for over 30 years. Let Preston show you how to Have Fun With Magic. Visit His Site Today!

<http://www.have-fun-with-magic.com>

### **Magic Cards**

#### **By Preston Houer**

Magic has been around for centuries. It has even been associated with medieval times in stories of Merlin and King Arthur, which has made religious people believe that this was evil. And people who knew it and practiced it were considered to be heretics and were burned at the stake.

Now who would ever imagine that magic has now gained a more favorable popularity? With more than a handful of famous magicians amusing innumerable audiences, magic has never been this much loved before. This popularity has made a lot of people yearn to learn some magic tricks. One of the most basic is the use of magic cards.

A deck of cards is one of the most common props used by magicians. There are many forms of magic tricks a person can do with a deck of cards. Here's what one aspiring magician has to learn in manipulating magic cards:

The first thing that a person must learn is how to shuffle. This is done using both hands and by having a certain amount of cards on each hand. Then alternately put one card over the other until all the cards are in one stack then putting them together to form a uniform pile.

After that, one can start performing certain tricks that will both fool and amaze the audience. Some well known magicians can make a cigarette go right through a deck of cards while others can make a card float in the air with no visible strings attached. The most basic trick that anyone can master however

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is letting someone pick a card and after shuffling it, picking that same card the person selected moments ago. There are so many other tricks one can do with a deck of cards and all it takes is some time to get to know these tricks, practice it then show off to friends.

Other than using magic cards, there are so many other tricks, which involve other props or paraphernalia such as a coin, a hanky, or even a small ball. The use of cards in performing a trick is merely an execution of various optical illusions and manipulation, which just goes to show that the hand is quicker than the eye.

Cards can be bought at the local specialty store or ordered online. Sometimes these come with other special packages that will make tricks more fun to perform and watch.

One secret that either a newbie or an expert can benefit on while using a magic card or just about any magic props is to not reveal the secret of how the tricks are done.

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