

The Ghost Deck™



SECRET INSTRUCTIONS

MAGICIAN'S S·E·C·R·E·T

Always read the directions for your trick all the way through before practicing!

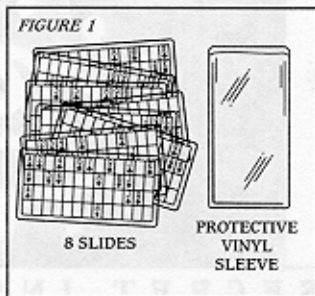
THE TRICK

You, the Magician, tell your spectator you have an invisible deck of playing cards. You shuffle these make-believe cards, fan them out and ask your spectator to pick one and take it. Your spectator thinks of a card but does not tell you what it is. You then give your spectator eight special plastic slides with groups of various playing cards on them. Ask your spectator to look at each slide and tell you if he or she sees his or her card among the cards pictured.

Suddenly, you correctly announce your spectator's card. How were you able to read your spectator's mind and identify a card that was never even there?

THE PROPS

Your trick includes the eight plastic slides and their vinyl sleeve for storage (see Figure 1). You'll need to supply the deck of invisible playing cards from your imagination!



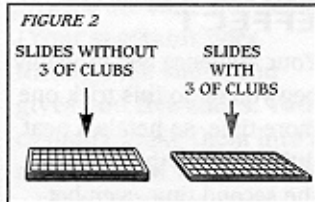
THE SECRET

The best way to learn the secret to this trick is to try it out on yourself! First, remove the plastic slides from their protective sleeve. Place the sleeve aside.

For now, you'll be playing the part of both the spectator and the magician. Your spectator mentally selects a card from your "invisible" deck. Let's pretend this "card" is the three of clubs.

Take any one of the plastic slides and examine it by itself, without any other slide behind it. You'll notice that certain playing cards are pictured on it. Look carefully at the cards pictured on the slide. Do you see the three of clubs on it? If you *do* see it, place that slide faceup to your *right* on your table. If the three

of clubs *isn't* on the slide, place that slide faceup to your *left* on your table. See Figure 2.

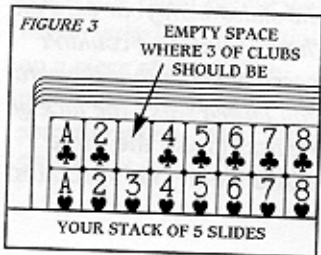


Do the same with the other seven slides. Place slides showing the three of clubs in the right-hand pile. Place slides *not* showing the three of clubs in the left-hand pile.

Now pick up the slides in the left-hand pile (you should have five) and arrange them in one neat stack. These are the slides that do *not* have a picture of your card (the three of clubs) on them. All the

slides should be facing the same direction. Make sure none of them are upside-down. Look carefully at your stack of slides (see *Figure 3*). Can you see the empty space where the three of clubs should be? That's how you know which card your spectator is thinking of! It's the card that's missing from your stack of slides!

Try practicing this again using a different card as the one your spectator picks. When you feel comfortable with the trick, it's time for a performance!



THE SECRET PREPARATION

Place the slides in the protective sleeve. You are ready to begin.

THE PERFORMANCE AND "PATTER"

Say the following to your spectator as you perform the trick. The script or "patter" will help you enhance the effect of the trick:

Guess what I have? It's a deck of playing cards and it's completely invisible! (Pretend to shuffle the cards.) Hey! Wanna see a trick? (Pretend to fan out the cards towards your spectator.) Pick a card, any card... (Have your friend pretend to take an invisible card from you.)

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Don't let me see it! Did you look at your card? Do you know what it is? Great. Okay, I want you to concentrate on the card. Now, I'm going to give you these slides (here you hand the eight slides to your spectator) and I want you to take the first slide, hold it up and take a good look at it. Do you see a picture of the card you picked on it? You do? Okay, you keep that slide. Now look at the next slide. Do you see your card there? No? Are you sure? Okay, give me that one. (Your spectator gives you the slide that doesn't have his or her card on it. Casually take the slide from your spectator and hold on to it.) Keep going through the rest of the

slides. Hold up each one and look at it carefully. You keep the ones that have your card on them, and give me the ones that don't. (Your spectator goes through the slides and gives you five slides. You casually make them into a neat stack in your hand and check to see where the missing card is. Make sure your spectator doesn't see what you see! For example, you notice there's an empty space where the Jack of Hearts should be.) Now, let's get this straight: You have all the slides with your card on them, right? So I couldn't possibly know that the card you picked was...the Jack of Hearts! (Take the three slides from your spectator

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and mix them into your stack of slides.) Do it again? Sure!

EXTRA-COOL EFFECT

Your audience will probably beg you to do this trick one more time, so here's a neat little addition that makes the second time even better! You already know that your spectator's card will always appear on only three slides. For your second performance, you'll make a prediction that your spectator's card will appear on three slides. And you'll always be right! Before you begin, write your prediction on a piece of paper. The prediction should say something like, "YOU WILL SEE YOUR CARD ON 3

SLIDES." Then, when you announce your spectator's chosen card, you can also show him or her you correctly predicted on how many slides it would appear!



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