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Knack Magic Tricks: A Step-By-Step Guide To Illusions, Sleight Of Hand, And Amazing Feats (Knack: Make It Easy)



Synopsis

From simple to advanced, and using household and inexpensive props, Knack Magic Tricks includes tricks using cards, coins, handkerchiefs, and fruit, as well as mental tricks, anytime tricks, standup tricks, and tricks especially for kids (to be performed both for them and by them).

Book Information

Series: Knack: Make It Easy

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Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

Customer Reviews

As someone who has been doing magic for almost forty years and has been teaching magic for twenty of those forty years, I am always on the lookout for a book that I can recommend to my students. My students typically range in age from 10 to 15 years old. I was looking forward to reading KNACK MAGIC TRICKS because Richard Kaufman has been a moving force in the world of magic for the past 30 plus years. He has written some of the most influential books and in addition to devoting his time to the writing and publishing of books, he is also the editor and owner of Genii magazine. Genii is a monthly must read for magicians be they professionals or hobbyists. I have just finished my first pass through this book and I would like to share my impressions with you. If your intention is to introduce your youngster or your young teenager to magic, this is the book to buy. The instructions are clearly written and the pictures, which are charming, clearly illustrate what the instructions describe. With one or two exceptions, all of these tricks can be prepared with things that you probably have lying around your house. The selection of tricks is well thought out.

There are tricks with cards, with coins, with handkerchiefs, with bills, and with ropes. There are also several parlor type illusions that can be found within these pages, as well as several mentalism effects. Some of the tricks are easy to do - provided that performance is preceded by practice and an interesting way to present the effect has been decided upon. The book helps you with presentation ideas, but your student will have to put in the practice. Some of the tricks are more challenging and require limited sleight of hand. A goodly number of magic classics can be found within these pages.

This is a review of Knack Magic Tricks (2010) by Richard Kaufman. David Copperfield asks in the Foreward, "Does the world really need another book about how to do magic?" I was surprised to read his one-word answer: "Perhaps." But then Copperfield went on to describe Richard Kaufman, a personal friend since their high school days, as a "real writer and teacher," as someone who "has written or published many of the most famous books in the world of magic," and as someone whose "work is superb." When it came time to select a writer for the textbook of Copperfield's Project Magic, a hospital rehab program for kids and adults, Copperfield chose Kaufman. Even though Kaufman's Knack Magic Tricks was written for non-magicians, many of the tricks described in this book first appeared in print by magicians for magicians. Credits for the professional tricks described in this book read like a Who's Who in magic: Jim Steinmeyer, Larry Jennings, Paul Curry, Jack Miller, Edward Marlo, Martin Gardner, Harry Lorayne, Max Holden, Wayne Dobson, Dai Vernon, Frank Everhart, Frank Garcia, Shigeo Takagi, Mike Shelley, Al Schneider, Stanley Collins, Jack Kent Tillar, Edmund Balducci, Harry Kellar, Karl Germain, Stewart James, Joseph Kolar, Roy Baker, Howard Lyons, Max Maven, Theodore Annemann, John Northern Hilliard, Albert Spackman, Hiroshi Sawa, Bill Madden, Bernie Trueblood, Bob Carver, Bob Read, Nicholas Night, and Lubor Fiedler. Tricks by the professionals include card tricks (automatic, simple, intermediate, and advanced), coin tricks (simple and advanced), anytime tricks, string tricks, mental magic (simple, intermediate, and advanced), rope tricks, bill tricks, handkerchief and napkin tricks, fruit tricks, glass and cup tricks, and magic for kids.

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