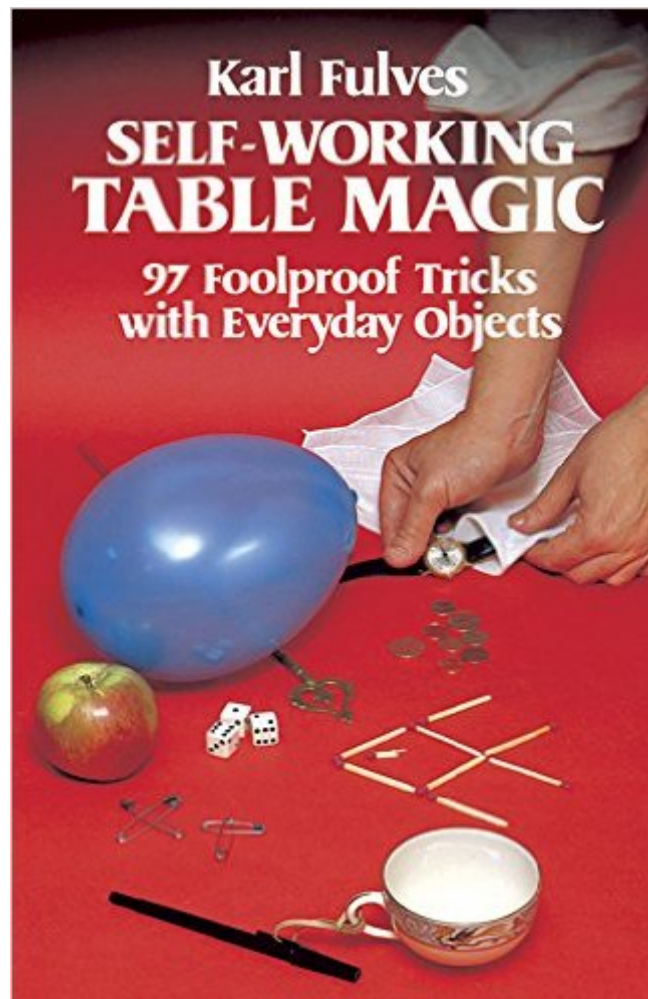


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# Self-Working Table Magic: 97 Foolproof Tricks With Everyday Objects (Dover Magic Books)



## Synopsis

The quickest, most certain path toward achieving a reputation as a magician is to be able to perform at a moment's notice with borrowed objects. If you are handed a coin, handkerchief, pencil, or rubber band, you should be able to do at least one amazing trick with that object. This book deals exclusively with just such tricks. It is a collection of some of the best tricks with ordinary objects. The approach throughout the book is simple. No unusual dexterity, gimmicks, or special sleights are required. The only props needed are simple, everyday objects — eggs, cards, dice, rubber bands, balloons, apples, whisk brooms, etc. Nor are long hours of practice necessary. Step-by-step instructions and over 180 helpful illustrations insure quick and effective mastery of each trick. Nearly 100 tricks in 10 categories include Money Magic, Elastic Illusions, Magic Show in a Matchbox, Hanky Panky, Dice Dexterity, Close-up Illusions, Conjuror's Collection, The Linking Pins, Psychic Tricks, and A Pen-Ultimate Magic. Some chapters have been designed to provide the reader with a complete act of close-up magic. For example, the chapter entitled "Magic Show in a Matchbox," gives you about 15 minutes of excellent tricks and stunts to amaze and amuse your audience. Master the tricks in this book and you will be ready to entertain anytime, anywhere, with some of the finest of all close-up mysteries. Karl Fulves, one of the most renowned modern writers in the field of magic, has selected these tricks from both old and new magic stunts. Some are classic feats of time-tested wizardry, while others are new and inventive techniques. All, however, are easy-to-learn, foolproof routines that will enable you to dazzle and delight your audience.

## Book Information

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Age Range: 10 and up

Grade Level: 5 and up

## Customer Reviews

If you're reading this, you've probably already experienced the dreadful feeling of opening your new tricks' book... and discovering that the most stupid move requires years of training, expensive props and monk-like dedication. Well... it appears that this book is in fact just the opposite. The tricks are very simple to perform (ok, you'll need some limited legerdemain nonetheless), require no props at all and, most of all, they aren't common or stupid at all. The approach is very down-to-earth and sincere in pointing out the good and the bad parts of each trick, and this book alone will allow you to spice a dinner with dozens of nice magic tricks within a week's practice. Be warned: this is NOT David Copperfield material. It's more "So, uncle Jim, can you do another magic?" type of stuff. But then again, you'll probably won't perform onstage as often as you'll be dining at a bored table. So...

Many beginners to magic (and others who should know better) are of the opinion that a magic effect has to be difficult in order to be worthwhile. While there are many killer effects that take months or years of practice, there are equally wonderful tricks that rely on psychology, subtlety, and/or advance preparation. The Self Working series of books are a treasure trove of great magic. This book is no exception. Many of the included tricks are used by successful professional magicians. Admittedly, these are best used in a program with other, more elaborate tricks, but for those moments in your act where you need a short, sweet effect, something in this book might just fill the bill. And as you get more proficient in magic you will find ways to further embellish these tricks and make them your own private miracles.

I purchased this book thinking that it would be a good beginning magic book for a group of middle schoolers interested in learning magic tricks. It seems that even though the objects are everyday, the tricks are not. This is a great book if you are willing to do the practice to master the tricks, but if you are looking for a quick trick, then keep looking.

Simple yet effective tricks that can be modified to seemingly more complex illusions (ex: Dean's Box). Anyone interested in magic will enjoy and learn a lot from this and any of the other Fulves books on magic published by Dover. With a little imagination and storytelling, simple thirty second tricks can become fifteen minute illusions. After all, magic is the secret AND the performance. The

magician is the magic.

Any reference, by the author, that learning these tricks is piece of cake must be taken with a grain of salt. You must Practice!, Practice!, Practice! It won't happen overnight.....or week....or month. Before you sit down to "wow," your friends, be sure you can fool yourself. Sit in front of a mirror. Do the trick over and over until it becomes second nature. A gift of gab comes in very handy. Diversion is the name of the game.

Some of the illustrations are just plain wrong. The depictions cannot be reproduced in reality. Impossible. Jumping rubber bands is one example. Making a simple twist in a rubber band, something's off here. Either the illustration or the description of the technique. Even-length fingers, no such thing. Flip your hand and catch the end of the handkerchief - you'd need a handkerchief weighing a pound. Quick and easy tricks with easily available things. Maybe a couple. For many, you'll need to be wearing a suit jacket. (Things go down your sleeve, of course.) Doing a lot of entertaining of the kids while wearing your suit? And ladies, who knows? I'm searching for a better introductory book.

This book has lots of great, fresh illusions, carefully explained. Many can be done totally cold. Wonderful ideas for up-and-coming, out-of-the pocket magicians.

This book is amusing but not spectacular, I would go for the street magic, Mindfreak and blaine books for something more spectacular. Decent for beginners.

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