



Getting Started Learning Magic

A Few terms

Patter = What the magician is saying during the magic time.

Misdirection = When you divert the spectator's attention away from a secret action.

Force = When your spectator thinks that they have a free choice of a selection but you are in control of what the outcome will be.

A Note about practicing and keeping the methods of magic a secret

It is very important that you practice the magic that you are going to perform until you are confident in performing the motions while you speak your patter.

With today's technology you can videotape yourself practicing the magic so that you can review your performance to get better.

Once you feel confident in performing the magic then you should show your close friends and family first and ask them to give you feedback on how you can improve your performance. Remember, you should always work to get a little better every day. And, most importantly you need to not stress when the magic doesn't work (because that will happen from time to time, I recently saw David Copperfield make a mistake in his show). When you go to practice again think about what didn't work and how you can fix it.

I am doing this constantly with my show.

When you amaze someone they will usually ask you how you did it. It is important to keep the methods of magic a secret. When they ask you, just say, "Can you keep a secret?" When they say "yes", reply with, "so can I!"

The Magic Words

The script or "patter" (as they say in the biz) is just about as important as the magic that you perform. It is the story that elevates your magic from a trick to a performance.

Jean Eugene Robert Houdin once said, "A magician is just an actor playing the roll of a magician". This means that you have infinite possibilities as to who your inner magician is.