

## Beaver Magic

There are a lot of simple magic tricks that you can attempt at home for your friends and family. Here are a few suggestions and ideas.

There is a technique used by magicians called "sleight of hand" (*sleight* rhymes with *height*). Sleight of hand is used to hide what your hands are doing in order to perform the trick.

Another technique is simply "distraction" – keeping the other person distracted while you set up for the next stage of the magic.

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### Jumping piece of paper

#### Effect

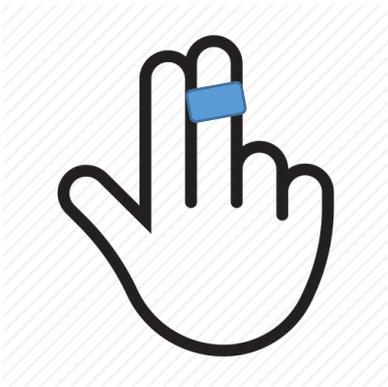
With a piece of paper (or tape, sticker etc.) placed on the middle finger of one hand (just below the nail), whilst sliding the index finger across the index and middle finger of the other hand, the paper appears to leap across your fingers.

#### Set up & equipment

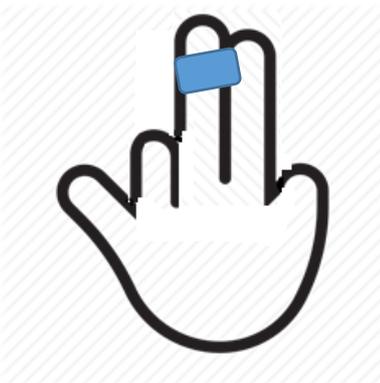
- A small piece of paper or tissue.

#### Process

- Start off with the piece of paper on your middle finger of your right hand (first image)



- Place the index finger (the one next to the thumb) and the middle finger across the same two fingers on your left hand.
- Slide the fingers away from the left hand and SWITCH from "index+middle finger" to "middle+ring finger" ((the ring finger is the one next to the little finger))
- Repeat, quite quickly and it looks like the paper has jumped from one finger to the next.



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## Upturned card trick

### Effect

From an ordinary deck of cards, another person selects at random a single card and memorises it. It is placed back in the deck. The magician then spreads the cards out and the chosen card is the only one turned face up.

### Set up & equipment

A deck of cards.

### Process

1. Fan out the cards for your friend and ask them to pick any card. Ask them to memorise it.
2. While they are doing so secretly turn over the BOTTOM card of your deck and then turn the whole deck over (without them seeing).
3. Ask your friend to insert the card (anywhere) into the deck.
4. Without them seeing turn the deck back over and flip the BOTTOM card back again.
5. Fan out the cards again – your friend's card will be facing up, while the other cards will all be facing down.

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## Disappearing coin: 1-2-3

This works best when the magician and the friend are at a similar same height. If the friend is taller, ask them to kneel down in front of you.

### Effect

A coin seemingly disappears from the magician's fingers after three taps.

### Set up & equipment

A coin

### Process

1. Ask your friend to hold out their hand
2. Say something like "I will tap this coin three times into your palm, on the third time you must grab it. If you do, you keep the coin"
3. Tap the coin once and lift your hand over your head.
4. Tap the coin for a second time – but this time place the coin on your head (don't wobble!)
5. Bring your fingers down for the third time – the coin has disappeared!
6. \*\*\* As an extra, scratch your head wondering where the coin went, grab it and then produce it from your friend's ear \*\*\*

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## Magic floating towel

### Effect

A tea towel seems to float in the air by itself

### Set up & equipment

Find a tea towel and (ideally) a wooden spoon.

### Process

1. Hold the tea towel with a finger and thumb in front of you.
2. In one of your finger and thumb, hold the end of the wooden spoon.
3. You can then move the spoon behind the tea towel, up and down and side to side.

