



Dennis Deliberations ... Ring # 170, Assembly #99

“The Bev and Alouise Bergeron Ring”

Mary Kodel, of Jack Kodel and Company fame, celebrates her 99th birthday!





Enjoy a fun show.

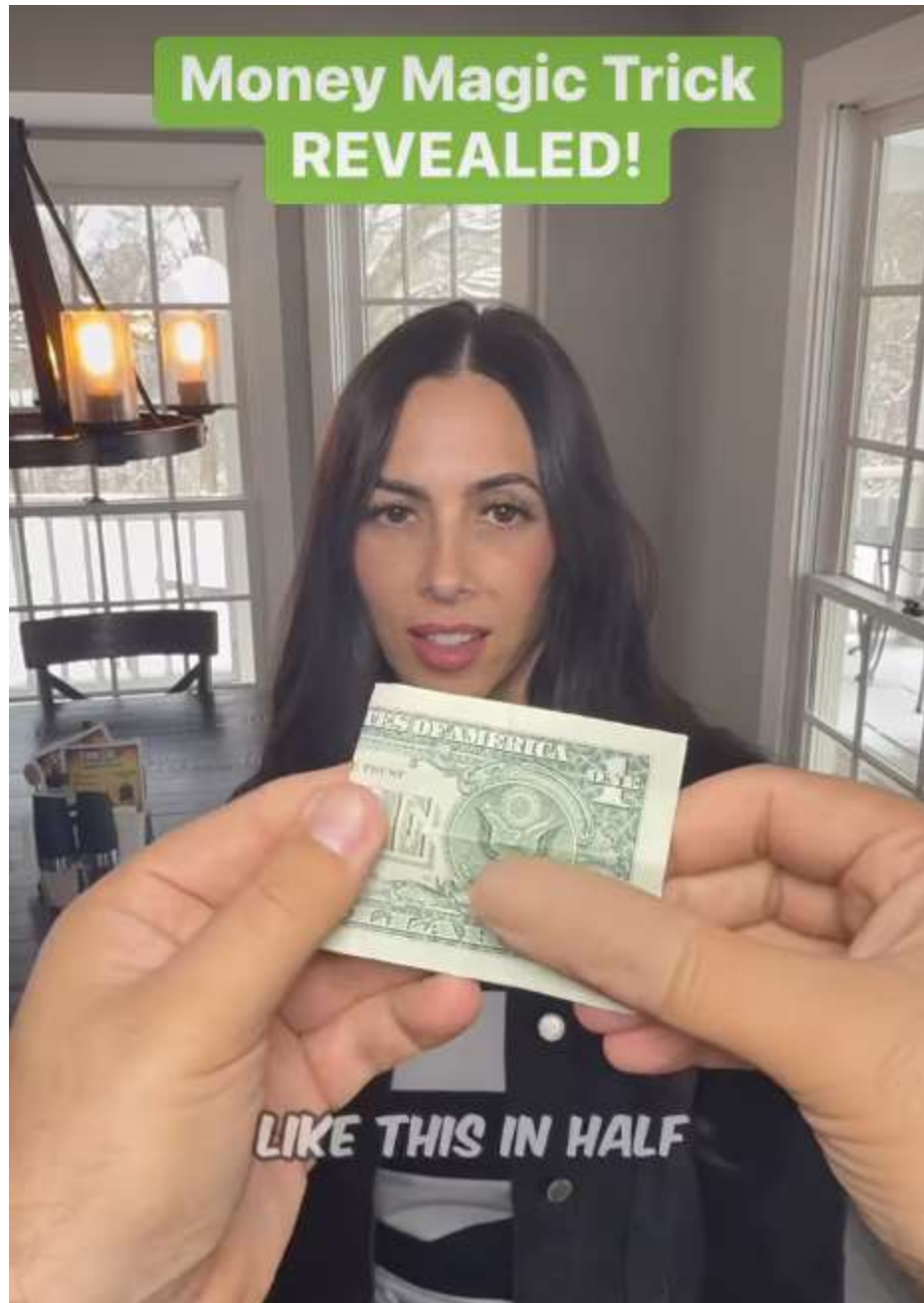
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kU3O6Oom1rE>



In honor of Mark Fitzgerald's excelling paper money bits at the last Ring meeting...

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1436594277303925>

It is a classic effect, and this is an excellent tutorial.



Here was what I performed at the last meeting.

A rope is cut by a spectator, and the two pieces are held in each and when waved other the rope appears to join into own rope which can be given to the spectator. It is as clever use of a "Hold Out" (sleeve pull)

I improved on Neff's crude pull and made a pull with a cat's collar to go around my left wrist and the right end in my right sleeve had a torpedo lead fishing weight and a 26-gauge thin black wire loop that the rope goes through. Neff's instructions call for a "catgut loop and ribbon pull". It will work but I like the ability to do the effect without fumbling to get it set up.

It is a stunner!

I do not do the knot part, and my rope is longer, but you can see the amazing instant restoration.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnuKlshF8d4&t=10s>

Neff's Miracle Rope



**ABBOTT MAGIC MFG. COMPANY
COLON, MICHIGAN 49040**

"THE MAGIC CAPITOL OF THE WORLD"

NEFF'S

MIRACLE ROPE

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EFFECT

An ordinary piece of rope is freely shown stretched between the two hands, a few inches of the ends hanging down out of the hands. If desired the rope may be marked for future identification by an initialed piece of stickum paper or adhesive tape or store marking tag. You should mention that restored rope is same length at finish as the audience sees in the beginning. Rope is fairly cut in center between hands, either by your assistant or member of the audience. These cut ends are then gently swung toward each other as you count, "One - Two - Three." Unbelievable as it seems, the cut ends actually seem to melt together and to the amazement of the audience the cut ends join themselves between the hands as in the beginning. (See Fig. 10) Rope is tugged to prove its strength and tossed to audience for examination and identification as original marked rope. The audience effect is beyond comprehension. A practice session will convince you that it is not a trick but a miracle.

NOTE BY BILL NEFF

These detailed instructions can be read thoughtfully and understood in 15 minutes. Half an hour's practice will positively give you an outstanding show stopper that is the result of years of experiment and literally thousands of performances.

SECRET

Basically the key to the mystery is based on this principle: the hidden possession of a longer piece of rope than appears to the audience. Then after this visible length is cut fairly in half (7) the cut portion is visibly and instantly disposed of at the same split second the extra concealed length of original rope cut is stretched out to accomplish the restoration in the same length as at the start.



WORKING DETAILS OF ABOVE PRINCIPLE

Examination of the enclosed sample rope together with illustrations clearly explain this basic idea. If soft pliable rope is not available, ordinary rope may be used by removing the core. The ribbon pull with catgut loop is for the vanish of cut end. (Complete knowledge of its practical use will give you many other ideas for performance of effects such as visible hank vanish, bird cage, etc., during any part of your show.)

The rubber band on plaited rope would be too obvious for actual demonstration and therefore is on rope only for shipping purposes and I suggest you should take it to dates prepared that way where it is then removed before performance. A single loop of white cotton thread (tied on after rubber band is used to compress loops) is sufficient to hold plaited loops in place during performance and is a very desirable touch as only an experienced performer such as Bill Neff would develop.

WORKING OF TRICK

The plaited section of rope is held loosely in left hand. Right hand holds other part of rope (see Figure 9) with hands stretched about 22 inches apart, directly in front of you. Approximately a foot of rope will be hanging downward from each hand. (See TIPS on how to get ready at any time during program.) Rope is cut fairly in center (see Fig. 9.) This results in rope hanging as in Fig. 8 with



right hand piece already engaged in the pull as shown. Details of this move shown in Fig. 6 explained later in "TIPS". A gentle swinging of ends together with backs of hands to audience, (elbows at sides (Fig. 8) with arms held up so gimmicks are not seen, at the same time as you count slowly to three. End fastened to pull, at count of three, is simply dropped as you grab cut end of rope in right hand and pull out pleats lengthening rope to original length. Just before this move, small finger of left hand clamps tightly the rope below pleats against palm to anchor it. Therefore rope in left hand will not slip away and thanks to invisible pleated portion, rope will extend to original length and will appear to be same rope as at start, the section of which actually is the part marked—if desired—hanging below left hand. Not too much practice is really necessary to accomplish the effect to positively astound an audience of one, two feet away, or 3000 spectators in a large auditorium.

PERFORMING PROCEDURE

If performed as an opening number and with pull all set, this, of course is child's play that the rankest amateur could accomplish, but it is suggested that you try it this way first before a mirror, then perhaps for your family a few times to get the feel of how it works. The main problems are: FIRST, obtaining pull in right hand in a clean manner, and SECOND, getting rope in left hand concealing pleats.

TO GET PULL

Look at Fig. 1 showing rigging beforehand (ribbon is black to show up). Slip knot end is fastened around left wrist half way to elbow. An extra precaution is to stick a piece of adhesive tape over slip knot on inside flesh of arm. A red silk stocking is now pulled through cutgut loop, Fig. 3, and held in a doubled position in right hand which also has natural color rubber band around right arm just above wrist. Now put on your coat and vest. Pull runs between vest and shirt with silk stocking hanging down out of right sleeve. Stretch arm slightly until tip of silk stocking can be tucked under rubber band a few inches upward toward elbow (Fig. 2). Coat sleeve will hide everything if adjustments are properly made. When performing and kids see red silk, which has been disengaged from rubber band, hanging out of coat sleeve, (sucker gag) with arms bent pull stocking completely out of sleeve then display as in Fig. 3, pulling stocking clear of loop as in Fig. 3, first engaging right forefinger in loop. While stocking is being pulled from loop secretly engage first two fingers (forefinger and middle finger) and thumb.

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You are now all set. Pair of scissors handed to nearby spectator. Rope may be picked up from table from behind handkerchief in left hand which grasps it at pleated extra portion (Pleats tied by thread only). Or using assistant, she enters with rope hanging over arm, pleats hidden behind arm. She is carrying scissors. See Fig. 6 showing how an inch or two of right end is flipped up through loop on pull. Then both hands move together, left fingers rip end of rope already through loop. Hands again move apart bringing catgut loop to proper position along rope (Fig. 7). Left hand drops right end and everything appears as in Fig. 9. Fig. 7 shows how catgut loop slides along to exact position before rope is cut.

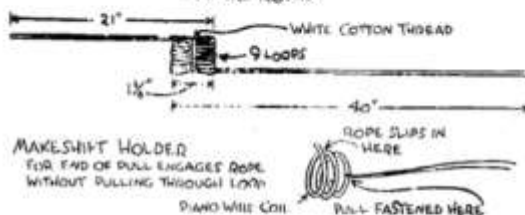
The rest is easy. Have rope cut fairly between hands. Ends will drop in a position shown roughly in Fig. 8 which of course, shows Magician's viewpoint only. Actually hands are held waist to breast high with backs of hands to audience concealing gimmicks in each hand. Now counting aloud to "Three" slowly, swing ends together in front of you at each count. At the count of "Three" merely drop end held in pull in right hand, grabbing section just cut in left hand and as you extend and spread arms forward and above head pulling out pleats concealed in left hand, rope is amazingly restored. (Don't forget to anchor lower end of rope in left hand with little finger, other fingers being loose, and your right hand actually grabs dangling end of right hand rope close to left thumb.) These de-

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APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS FOR PREPARING YOUR OWN FUTURE ROPES



tails are not noticed because the swinging loose ends are rather confusing to audience. As right hand jerks out pleated slack, thread holding pleats will be broken. **Do not** attempt to perform with rubber band around these folds which is only on the sample for carrying purposes.

TIPS — ADDITIONAL SUGGESTIONS

NEFF has usually worked a sucker color change silk just ahead of this rope miracle, as commended by Bruce Elliott's Phoenix illu-

trating the subtle use of one trick to prepare for another. NEFF prefers the color change using a standard concealed loaded hank ball loaded in right hand and using a large red silk. As this change progresses the red silk draped openly over right hand is used as cover to pull red stocking from sleeve a la sucker finish. Of course this is an excuse to get catgut end of pull into palm of right hand (See Fig. 3). This wrinkle in itself as a method to obtain pull for bird cage vanish, visible silk vanish and numerous other effects is worth the price of the entire rope trick.

If you do not care to use the hank ball type sleight substitute any handkerchief color change, even mechanical (See Abbott Catalog) done in the hands only without the use of outside apparatus.

A cheap substitute version is an elastic pull at the business end of which is a simple loose coil of piano wire shown in sketch which you can make yourself. This could likewise be used on any of the pulls suggested and has the advantage of not needing to pull the end of rope on right through loop. Above all do not try any complicated mechanical spring clips or other gadgets which require fumbling.

If pull supplied should be too long for you, shorten so that when finger is engaged in catgut loop, arms are drawn in a somewhat cramped position close to the body.

Dennis