



Aldo Colombini

# THE BAND

13  
NEW EFFECTS  
WITH  
CARDS & RUBBER  
BANDS

## INTRODUCTION

Rubber band effects are now very popular in the field of magic. I wasn't very interested in this particular branch until I came across the Ken Simmons book, 'Riffling The Pasteboards, Again!' His effect, "A-Band-Ment", made me think and forced me to create new routines with cards and rubber bands.

In this booklet, you will find several effects with rubber bands and cards, mainly card revelations, which should give you enough input to work with, hoping that you **will** be able to create some new routines of your own.

All I can say is that besides two routines, everything that you will read here is the result of a couple of weeks work, showing you that if you are really willing to put forth the effort, you will find the joy and the pride of creating.

As a bonus you will also find my presentation of a Dan Harlan routine using two rubber bands and no cards.

And so, buy some rubber bands and go through these routines. I hope that you Will find at least one trick that will cause you to say, 'Wow! This was worth the price of the book!' And I hope that the only thing that snaps back at you are the rubber bands!

Aldo Colombini

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# WRAP-IT

*After studying the Ken Simmons' "A-Band-Ment" routine, I came up with a new way to wrap the elastic band around the deck. These first routines just show you how versatile*

## EFFECT

A card is selected and lost in the deck. A rubber band is wrapped around the deck and it vanishes and it is found around the selected card!

## REQUIREMENTS

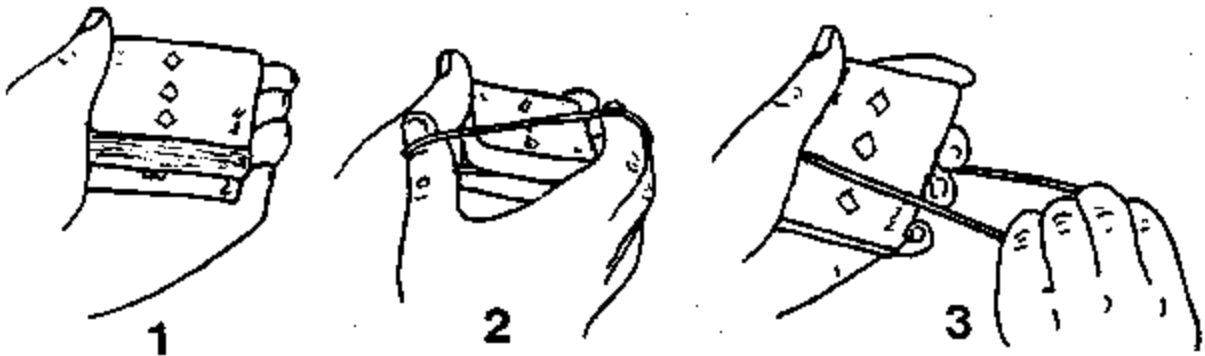
A deck and a rubber band (#16). The rubber band should be large enough to fit around the deck sideways.

## ROUTINE

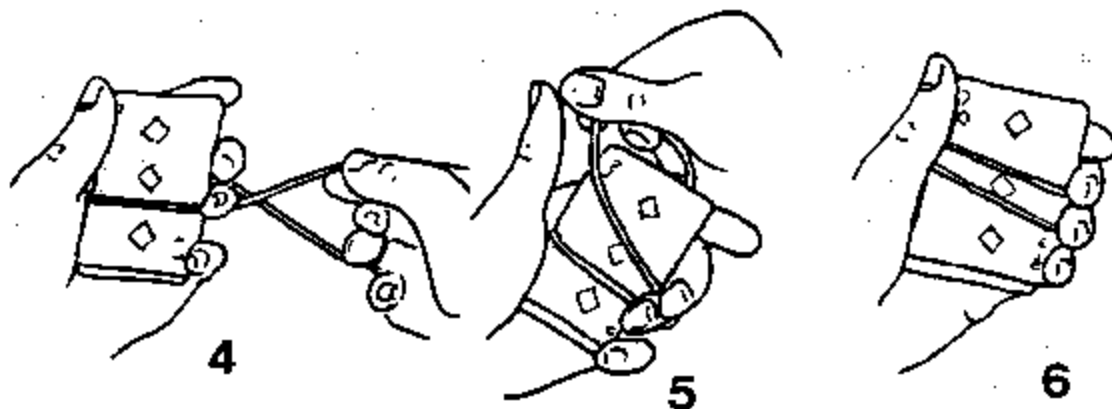
Have a spectator select a card. Control the card on the top of the face down deck. If you want, false shuffle and/or false cut the deck leaving the selected card on the top.

The deck is face up in your left hand. Set the top 51 cards in a sort of Tilt Position as in figure 1. Stretch the rubber band between your right thumb and the first three fingers of your right hand and move the band from behind the deck to apparently encircle it with the rubber band. Really, you only encircle the cards above the break, as in figure 2. Lower the deck onto the single bottom

With the right hand, pull the rubber band to the right, as in figure 3. Note the position of the ring finger between the strands of the rubber band.



Twist the right hand, palm up, crossing the rubber band near the ring finger, as in figure 4.



Bring the band around the front of the deck., wrapping it over the front short side, as in figure 5. The rubber band will look as if it is encircled twice from the top. The rubber band is kept in position by the third finger of your left hand. Note the position of the second finger which hides

Now for the vanish. Your right hand covers the deck, palm down. At the same time slip out your third finger from the rubber band which will snap to the left, under the deck, and the band will now only encircle the bottom card.

Spread the deck between your hands, taking half of the deck into your right hand. Turn both hands palm down to show the cards. Your left second and third fingers conceal the rubber band.

Turn both hands palm up and place the fan of cards from your right hand face up **beneath** your left hand and square the deck. Spread the deck face down and show the card with the rubber band. Ask the name of the selected card and tam it face up.

## FLYING-IT

*This is a variation of the previous routine. You shouldn't have any problem if you know how to do the Colombini's Wrap.*

## EFFECT

A card is selected and replaced into the deck. The deck is encircled with a rubber band. Suddenly a card flies off with the rubber band around it. Obviously, it is the selected card!

## REQUIREMENTS

A deck and a rubber band (#16), as above.

## ROUTINE

Have a card selected and control it on the bottom of the face down deck. Shuffle the deck, leaving the selected card in place on the bottom.

With the deck face down do the Colombini's Wrap up to figure 6, then straighten your third finger and automatically the deck will rise up on the left long side and the selected card will snap around the deck and fly off to the right, encircled by the rubber band.

# RUBBER PENETRATION

*Well, another variation which comes out like a new effect, still using the same wrap.*

MW

## EFFECT

A card is selected and lost into the deck which is encircled by a rubber band. The right hand covers the deck for a moment, and when your hand is moved away, the selected card appears face up beneath the rubber band. The spectator pulls on the rubber band which appears to penetrate the deck, and remains around the selected card only!

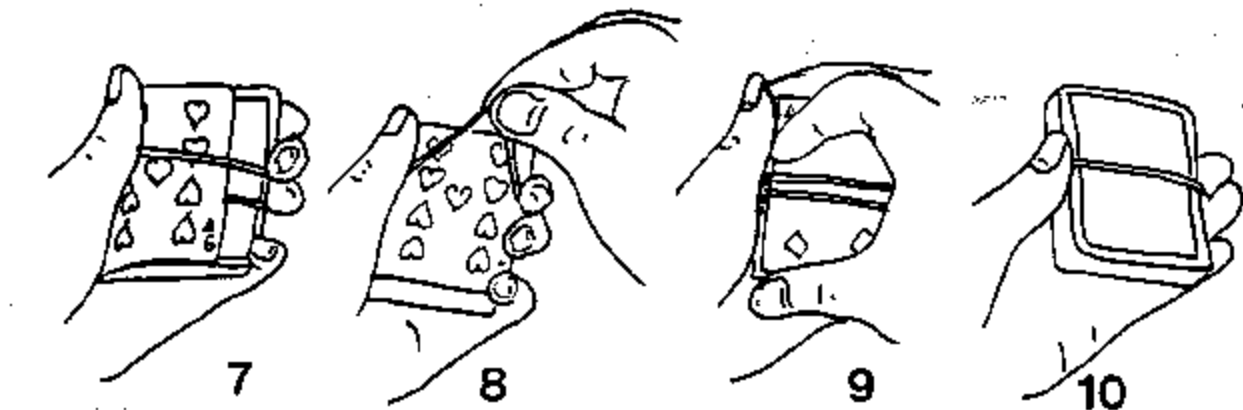
## REQUIREMENTS

See previous routines.

## ROUTINE

Have a card selected and controlled on the bottom of the face down deck. Do the wrap as explained previously (with the deck face down).

Place your right hand palm down on top of the deck. Under cover of your right hand, release the hold on the left side of the deck and the bottom card will automatically snap face up on the top, as a stop action, shown in figure 7. Move your right hand away, showing the selected card face up on the top of the deck. The deck looks as if it is still encircled by the rubber band.



Have a spectator pull on the rubber band, as in figure 8, keeping the selected card firmly gripped with your fingers. Ask him to let it snap back and then to pull up once again. This time, release your grip on the card which will cause the card to snap up encircled by the rubber band in the

## UP-AGAIN

*A variation of the previous effect. The Colombini's Wrap still plays an important part and by this time you should have mastered it.*

### EFFECT

See previous routine.

### REQUIREMENTS

Ditto.

### ROUTINE ,

Have a card selected and controlled on the top of the face down deck.

Turn the deck face up and do the Colombini's Wrap up to figure 6. Grip the deck from above with your right thumb at the inner left corner and your middle finger at the outer left corner (figure 9). Turn the deck face down sideways to the right as if you were closing a book, removing your third finger from the rubber band and grip the deck with your left thumb at the middle of the long left side and with your middle finger on the opposite side, as in figure 10. The thumb and middle finger pull down the rubber band, keeping it taut as if it was still encircling the deck.

As before, have a spectator pull on the rubber band (as in figure 8) twice, then release your grip on the card which will cause the card to snap up, encircled by the rubber band, into the hand of the spectator.

## TRANSPO-WRAP

*The following routine will probably be one of your favorites because it is relatively easy to do and features a subtle touch with a strong climax.*

### EFFECT

Two cards are selected and replaced, say QS and 4D. The QS is placed into the card case and the 4D is lost in the deck. A rubber band is placed around the deck and it vanishes. The rubber band is then found around one card only. This card is seen to be the QS and in the card case is the 4D!

### REQUIREMENTS

You already know, a deck and a rubber band (#16).

### SET-UP

From the top down, QS, 4D, 5D.

### ROUTINE

If you want, you can force the top two cards. Anyway, show them in your right hand. Mix them a little as if you were playing with them (after all, they are playing cards) and replace them on top of the deck, face down, 4D on top of the QS. The spectators must not be aware of the real situation.

Do a Double Turnover and show the QS. Repeat the Double Turnover and place the top card (4D) into the card case and leave it on the table.

Do a Double Lift and insert the top two cards as one, without showing the face, into the center of the deck, leaving them protruding about one inch at the outer short side of the deck.

Place your left forefinger at the right outer corner to cover the index pip of the card and turn your left hand palm down to apparently point at the card case, saying something like, "Remember, the QS is in the case." The 5D will be taken for the 4D (figure 11).

Turn the deck face down again and square the cards obtaining a break above the QS and

cut it on the top. Turn the deck face up and perform the Colombini's Wrap, as you did in the first trick.

Spread the deck and show that the card in the rubber band is the QS and inside the card case is

## STAR WRAP

*We have now reached the end of our trip into the Colombini's Wrap. I'm offering you here, the final experience so you will have plenty of variations to play with.*

### EFTECT

A card is selected and lost in the deck. A rubber band is placed around the deck and the card which is at the face of the deck is seen to be an indifferent one. Your right hand covers the deck just for a moment and when it is removed, the rubber band is gone and the face card is the selected one. The card that was previously on the face is removed from your pocket with the

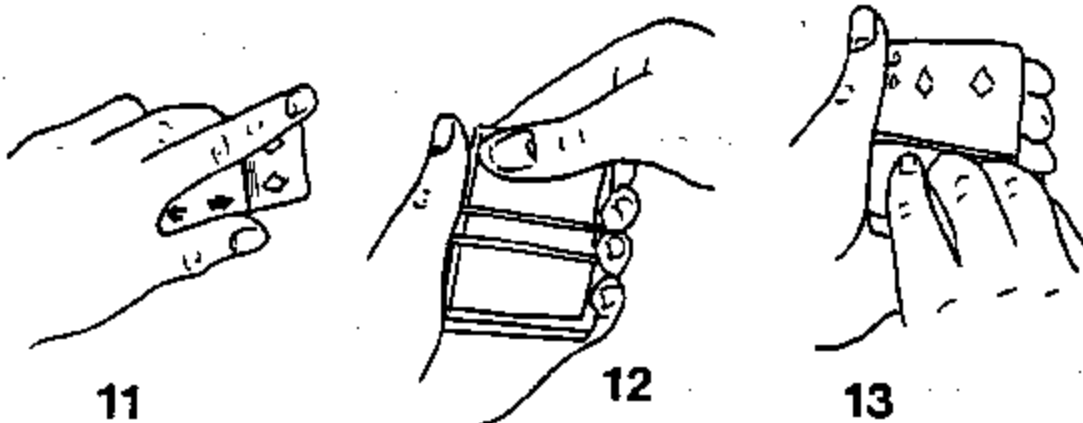
### REQUIREMENTS

**Same as previous**

### ROUTINE

Have a card selected and control it second from the bottom of the face down deck. With the deck face down, do the Colombini's Wrap up to figure 6.

Grip the deck as in figure 12 (thumb on top, fingers below). Turn the deck face up lengthwise, from the front to the back, towards you, ending up as shown in figure 13. Your left fingers keep

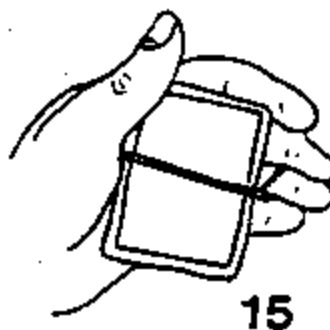
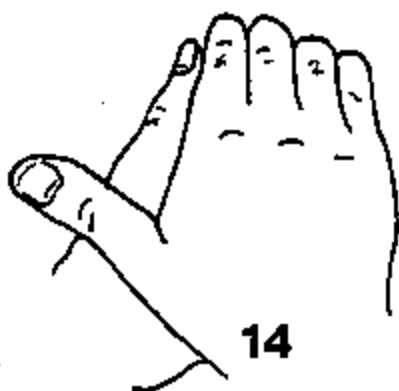




Place your right hand, palm down, on top, as in figure 14. Under cover of your right hand, let the top card "snap" to the left and under the deck. Remove your right hand and the selected card is the top card of the deck and the rubber band is gone.

Spread the deck face up between your hands, taking care not to show the bottom card which is reversed and rubber banded. (The rubber band is still around your third finger).

Your right hand takes the deck from above, leaving the bottom card in the Gambler Cop (figure 15). The card is produced from your pocket (slip off your left third finger from the rubber band before taking the card out of your pocket).



## VARIATION

Instead of producing the card from your pocket, simply cut the deck and then spread the cards between your hands showing the reversed card in the middle with the rubber band around it. Turn

## WRAP AGAIN

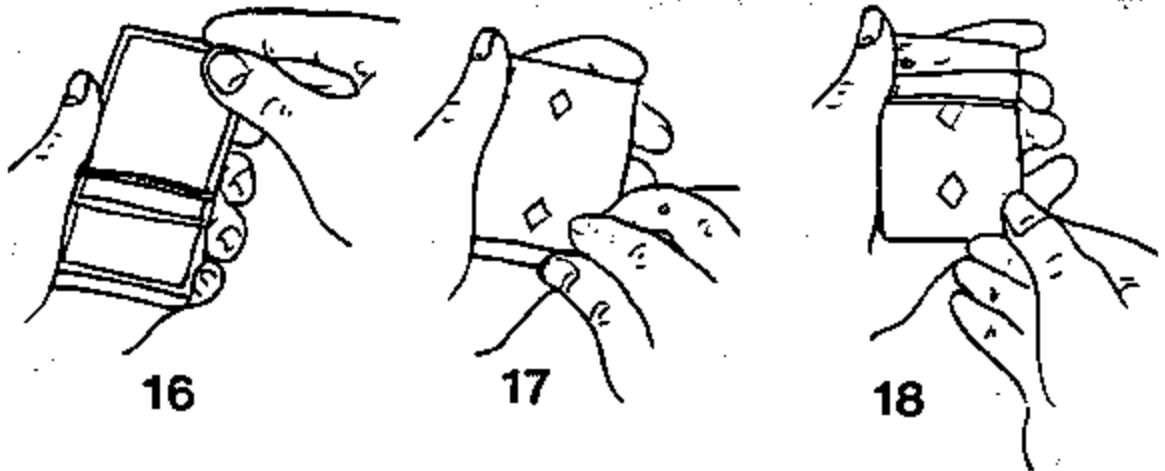
*What I'm offering here is not an effect, but a way to lead into the Colombini's Wrap. If you know the effect by J.C. Wagner called "Bandorama", you can use my idea on his trick.*

## PERFORMANCE

Have a card selected and controlled on the top of the face down deck. (I know it doesn't sound new!). Put the rubber band clearly around the deck without leaving the bottom card unencircled.

Show the deck clearly encircled on both sides, keeping it face down in your left hand. Do a Double Lift and push the top two cards forwards, as in figure 16, and turn the two cards face up on top of the deck (see figure 17). The two cards are no longer in the rubber band.

Turn the whole deck over (face up) and with your right hand, slide off the bottom card, show it and then replace it face up on top of the deck, under the rubber band. (See figure 18). Apparently you have shown the top and the bottom cards of the deck as indifferent cards and now you have the face up deck encircled by the rubber band and on the bottom you have, face down and separate, the selected card.



Do the Colombini's Wrap and perform the first effect but the card will appear face down in the middle of the face up spread.

## - A TRIO BAND

*Although this is not a show stopper, it may cause you to think about playing with the idea. It was published several years ago (too much to remember) in the English magazine, "Magigram".*

EFFECr

Three cards are selected. A rubber band is placed around the Joker. The Joker finds two cards. The third card is apparently reversed in the deck, but it turns out that this card is the Joker. The card with the rubber band is turned over and is seen to be the selected card!

## REQUIREMENTS

A deck of cards and a rubber band which should encircle one card lengthwise comfortably (a #16 will do).

## ROUTINE

You have to reach the position in which the top card is the third selected card, followed by the Joker, and then the other two selected cards. Any way will do, but I will briefly explain how I do it.

Have the Joker on the bottom. Spread the deck and have three spectators select one card each. Square the deck, kick cut the top half of the deck into the left hand and have the first two selected cards replaced on the top of the left hand portion. At the same time, your right thumb obtains a break at the bottom card of the right hand portion. Place the right hand cards on top of the left hand cards as you are squaring the deck, apparently forgetting about the third selection. Drop the bottom card of the right hand portion (Joker) on the left hand cards and then, as you apparently remember about the third selection, lift up all the cards above the Joker and have the third selection replaced on top of the left hand cards, directly on top of the Joker. Replace the right hand cards on top, keeping a break. Double undercut at the break and you have, from the top, third selection, Joker, second selection and first selection.

Do a Double Turnover, showing the Joker. Turn the cards face down again and place the rubber band around the top card lengthwise (apparently it is the Joker but really it is the third selected card).

Perform a Bra Reversal as follows: Your right thumb takes a break at the top card. Your left hand cuts one third from the bottom and turns the cards face up on top, your right thumb keeping the break. Now, your left hand cuts all the cards below the break and turns them face up, placing the portion on the bottom.

Turn the deck face down (the Joker is face up a third from the bottom and on the top you have the two selected cards). Double undercut the top card to the bottom (without showing the face up Joker during the cut, of course).

Cut the top third of the deck on the table and place the card with the rubber band on top of it, leaving this encircled card out-jogged approximately one inch. Place the bottom half of the deck on top, squared with the bottom half.

Have a spectator pull on the card with the rubber band and automatically, the two cards on either side will come out with the one with the rubber band, as in figure 19. Take all three cards out completely, showing that the cards on either side are the two selected cards. Do not show the face of the rubber banded card yet.

Spread the deck face up and one card is seen face down. Ask for the name of the third selected card and act as if the face down card in the spread could be that card. Turn it over and show the Joker. Turn the banded card over and show the third selected card.

#### NOTE

If you want, do not bother about the Joker, and just have any card second from the top. I use the Joker or the Ace of Spades because they are easily remembered cards and it helps with the climax.

## MINI-WRAP

*This effect is quite startling and I'm sure it will leave the spectators with a feeling of surprise. Although quite easy to do, you will need to go over it a few times before you feel really comfortable doing it.*

#### EFFECT

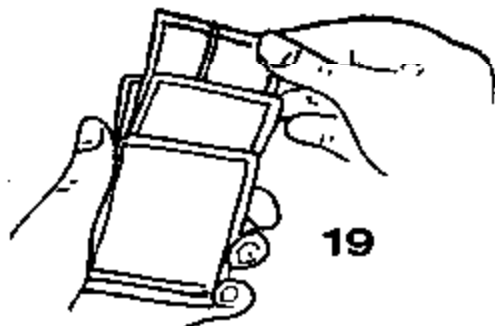
A card is selected from a miniature deck and a rubber band is placed around it. The card is placed into a normal deck by the spectator and suddenly, the rubber band is seen encircling the small selected card as well as the normal sized card below it. The small selected card is, for example, the Queen of Clubs and the regular sized card is the duplicate Queen of Clubs!

#### REQUIREMENTS

A regular deck, a miniature deck and **two very small rubber bands that will comfortably encircle** one miniature card.

#### SET-UP

Take the regular QC (or whichever card you want to use) and encircle it with the rubber band. Place the miniature QC below the rubber band (the two cards are back to back, as in figure 20).

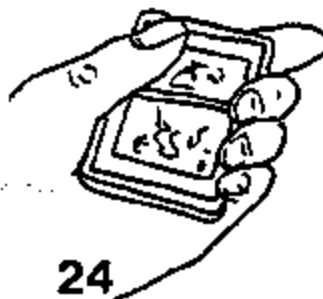
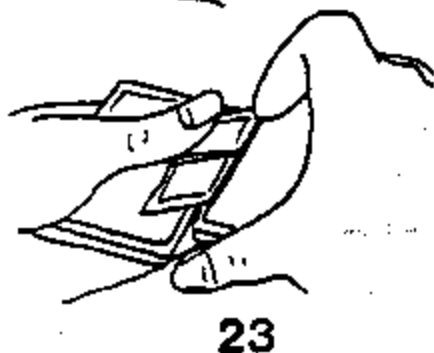
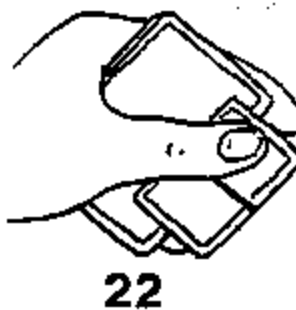
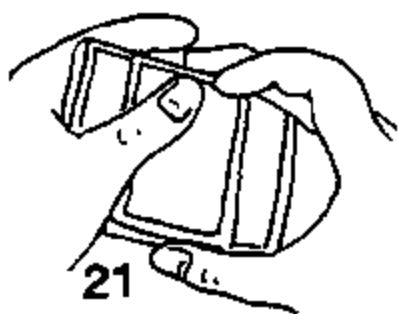


## ROUTINE

Spread the miniature deck face up and then face down on the table and have a spectator touch a card. Place the rubber band around the card, leaving it face down on the table. (The card must

Grip the regular deck from above with your right hand at the same time obtaining a break with the thumb above the bottom two cards (easy, because of the rubber band).

Your left thumb begins to take the cards from the *top of* the deck into your left hand, asking the spectator to say "stop" at any time (figure 21). When the spectator says "stop", pick up the small card with your *left* hand on top of the *left* hand cards, by placing your left thumb on top and fingers below, as in figure 22.



Now, apparently, turn over the small card by pushing it to the right with the left thumb and moving the right hand cards below to flip it over (figure 23). Flip the card over and automatically, the right hand cards will be directly over the left hand cards. From this position you drop the two bottom cards of the right hand portion on top of the small card and place your thumb and middle finger at each side of the small card, hiding the rubber band which encircles the regular sized card to apparently show that only the small card is still encircled (figure 24). At this point, move your right hand aside and place the cards in your right hand on the table.

With your right hand, snap the rubber band once or *twice*, and then show that it encircles both cards. The small QC is second from the top in the left hand portion. Place these cards on the table.

Slide the small QC off onto the table and then show the regular card as another QC. Apparently, the selected small card has been placed at the stopped regular card which results in the other QC.

#### **NOTE**

Dispose of the small card second from the top by lapping it or by putting the deck away to show a coin or a rope trick, or whatever you like.

## **STRANGER IN THE WRAP**

*Probably, after reading this trick, you will be able to come up with some variations of your own. Please don't be put off by the use of a duplicate card. As you may know, I prefer simple magic, and this is the simplest way to perform the routine while keeping the effect intact!*

#### **EFFECT**

A card is selected and lost in the deck. A rubber band is placed around the deck. The face card of the deck is seen to be an indifferent one, say the Ace of Diamonds. Just by placing your right hand on top, the selected card appears below the rubber band. The Ace of Diamonds is removed from your pocket.

#### **REQUIREMENTS**

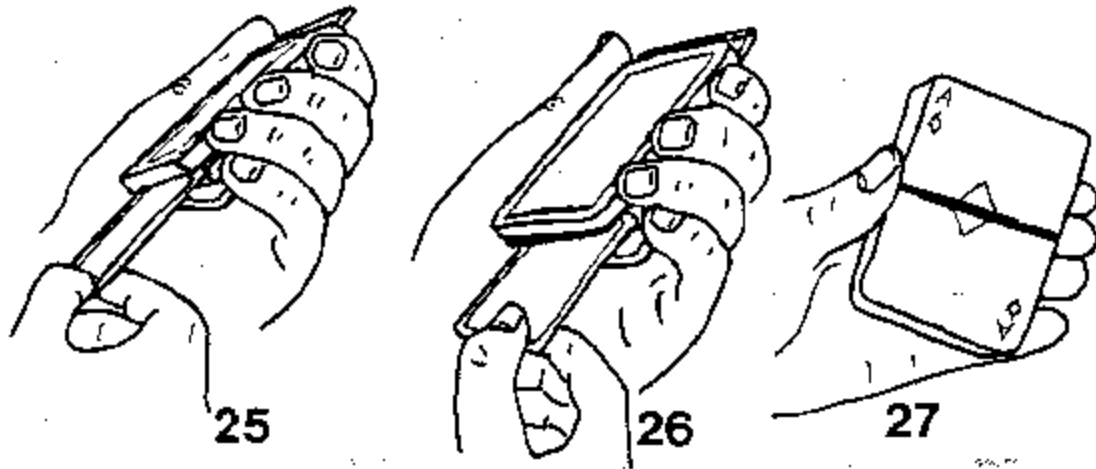
A deck of cards. A small rubber band and a bigger one (#10 and #16) of the SAME BRAND. A duplicate card, say the Ace of Diamonds.

#### **SET-UP**

Place the small rubber band sideways around one of the AD and keep this card facedown on the bottom of the face down deck. (You can add this card on the bottom at any time during a previous effect). Keep the other AD in the right inner pocket of your jacket

#### **ROUTINE**

Spread the deck face down between your hands and have a card selected. At the same time, set the top 51 cards in the tilt position, as in figure 1. Take the selected card back and apparently place it into the middle of the deck, but really, from behind, it goes directly on top of the bottom card. I usually push a few cards out from the middle giving the impression that I am placing the card in the center of the deck (figure 25). Then, simply move the card directly on the bottom of the main deck (figure 26). Square the deck, keeping the tilt position. During the above moves, do not expose the rubber band.



Show the big rubber band and encircle the deck as in figure 2 in the first effect. Turn the whole deck face up and grip the deck as in figure 27. You can show both sides and apparently the rubber band is around the entire deck.

Keep the deck face up in your left hand, dealing position. Ask if the AD is the selected card. (No) Place your right hand, palm down, over the deck, as in figure 14, and ask the name of the selected card. As they say the name, palm the AD and move your left hand toward the spectators showing the selected card below the rubber band.

Your right hand goes inside your inner left jacket pocket as if you are looking for something. Drop the palmed card into your pocket, remove your empty right hand, take the deck from above and with your left hand, go inside your right inner jacket pocket and remove the AD.

#### NOTE

Of course, you may keep the AD in your inner left jacket pocket. Drop the palmed AD with the rubber band and take out the other one. It works either way, but I prefer to do it the way I explained above.

## PYRAMID

*The original Pyramid concept was by Jay Sankey (Richard's Almanac, Vol 1) and my contributions make it easy to do and effective.*

#### EFFECT

A selected card is found by means of an elastic band!

## REQUIREMENTS

A deck of cards and a rubber band large enough to encircle the deck lengthwise comfortably.

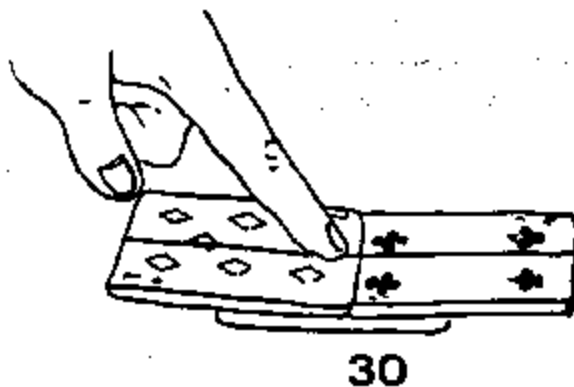
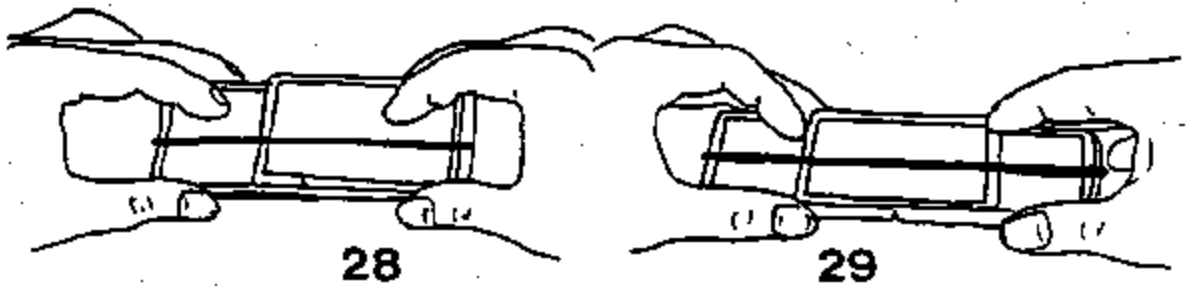
## PERFORMANCE

Have a card selected and returned. Control it to the bottom. Place the rubber band around the deck lengthwise and table the deck face down in riffle shuffle position.

With the left hand, cut the top third of the deck towards the left and under the two-thirds portion about half way (figure 28). With your right hand, take the top third and bring it around to the right and beneath the other portion. If you have cut close to thirds, you may now leave the cards

Turn the whole deck over and have the spectator place his/her finger on the band at the point where the two packets join and hold it down until you say to let go (figure 30).

Finally, ask the spectator to name the selected card, then to lift his/her finger. The top two packets will spring up as in a pyramid with the selection staring at them from the base (figure 3





# SNAP TWICE

*Elastic band effects and penetrations are very popular now as I have told you. Try this one.*

## EFFECT

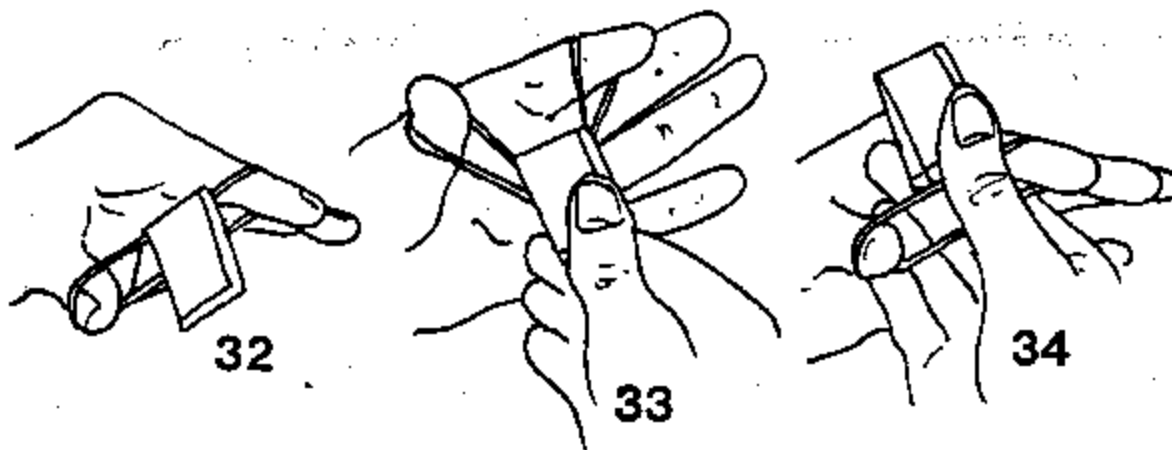
A rubber band penetrates a playing card!

## REQUIREMENTS

A playing card and a rubber band.

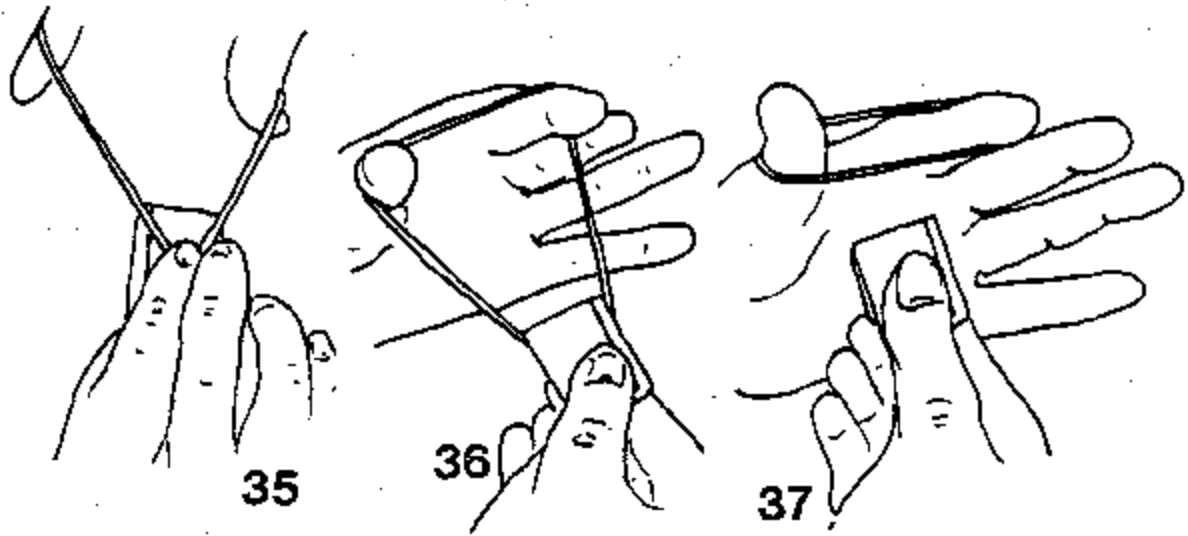
## PERFORMANCE

Fold the card lengthwise and then in half. Place the band between your left thumb and forefinger and place the card on top of it (figure 32).



Pull on the card with your right hand, thumb on top and forefinger on bottom. The fingers grip the card lightly. Pull and release it a couple of times moving the band as in figure 33, when you pull and as in figure 34, when you release. Note that the card is above the band.

From the position shown in figure 34, the band is slipped BETWEEN your right forefinger and the card (keep the band and the card facing the audience, right side of the body to the spectators). If you grip the card loosely, the band will slip very easily. As soon as the first strand (the above one) penetrates the card, continue going downwards and stop the band behind the card and immediately bring the card downwards by pulling on the band and bringing the band as in figure 35 back view, and figure 36 front view, as if it is still between the card. Spread or close your left



After a pause, pull downwards sharply and release the band which will snap, leaving the card free in your right hand (figure 37).

## SUPER LINK

*This is my presentation of a classic band effect by Dan Harlan. I came across this while traveling by bus during March 1991 on my first visit to the United States of America. Tom Craven showed me the original moves.*

### EFFECT

Two rubber bands link and then unlink in the hands of a spectator!

### REQUIREMENTS

Two rubber bands, either the same color or contrasting (#19).

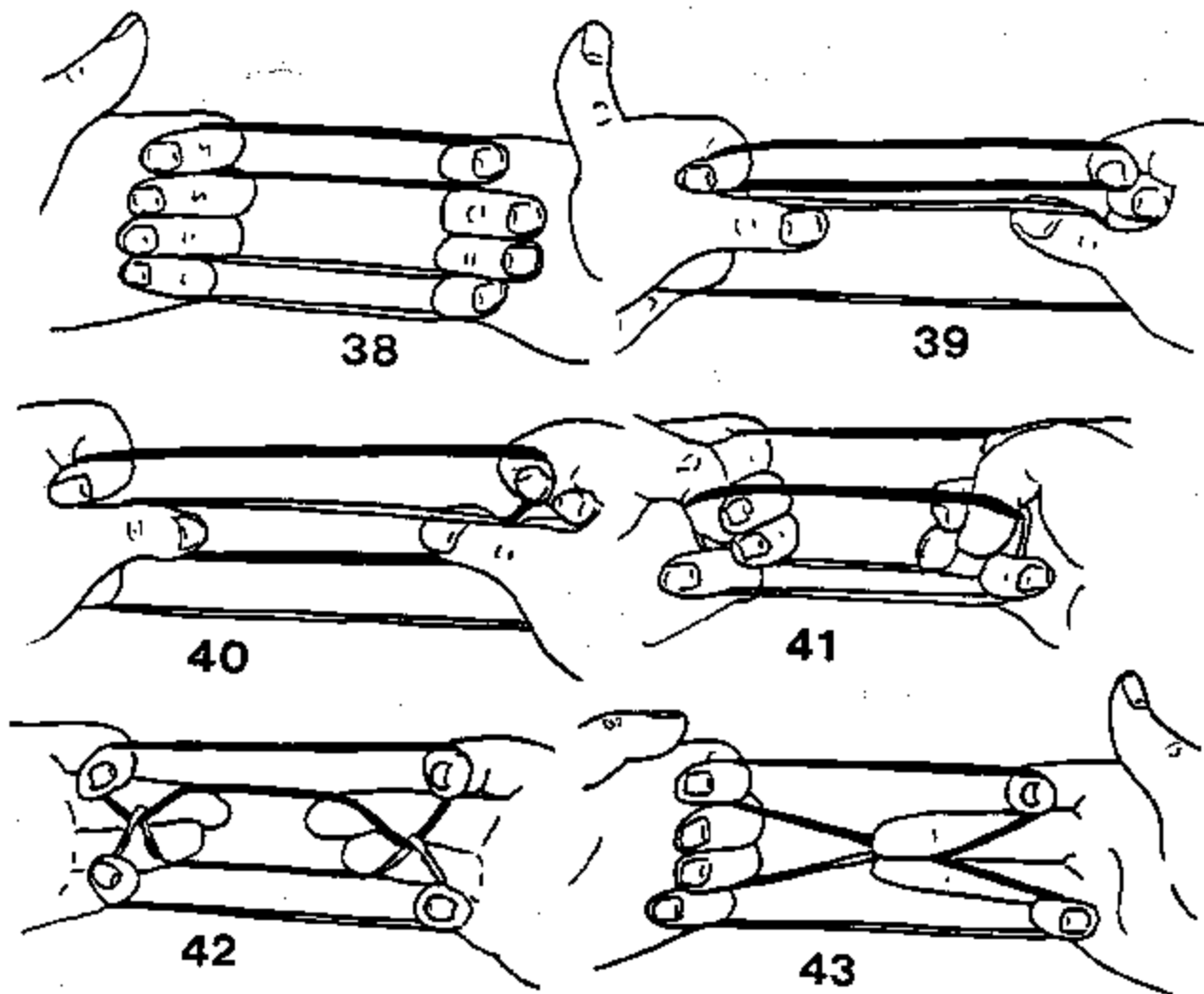
### ROUTINE

Show the two bands by having them stretched between the forefingers and little fingers of each hand (figure 38).

While you are talking to the audience, do the following moves. Move your thumbs beneath the top strand of the bottom band (figure 39).

Bring your thumbs onto the lower strand of the top band (figure 40). Quickly move your thumbs inwards thus obtaining the cross shown in figure 41.

Bring your middle and ring fingers of both hands close to your thumbs, inserting them as in figure 41. Pull the link to the right and to the left freeing your thumbs to obtain the

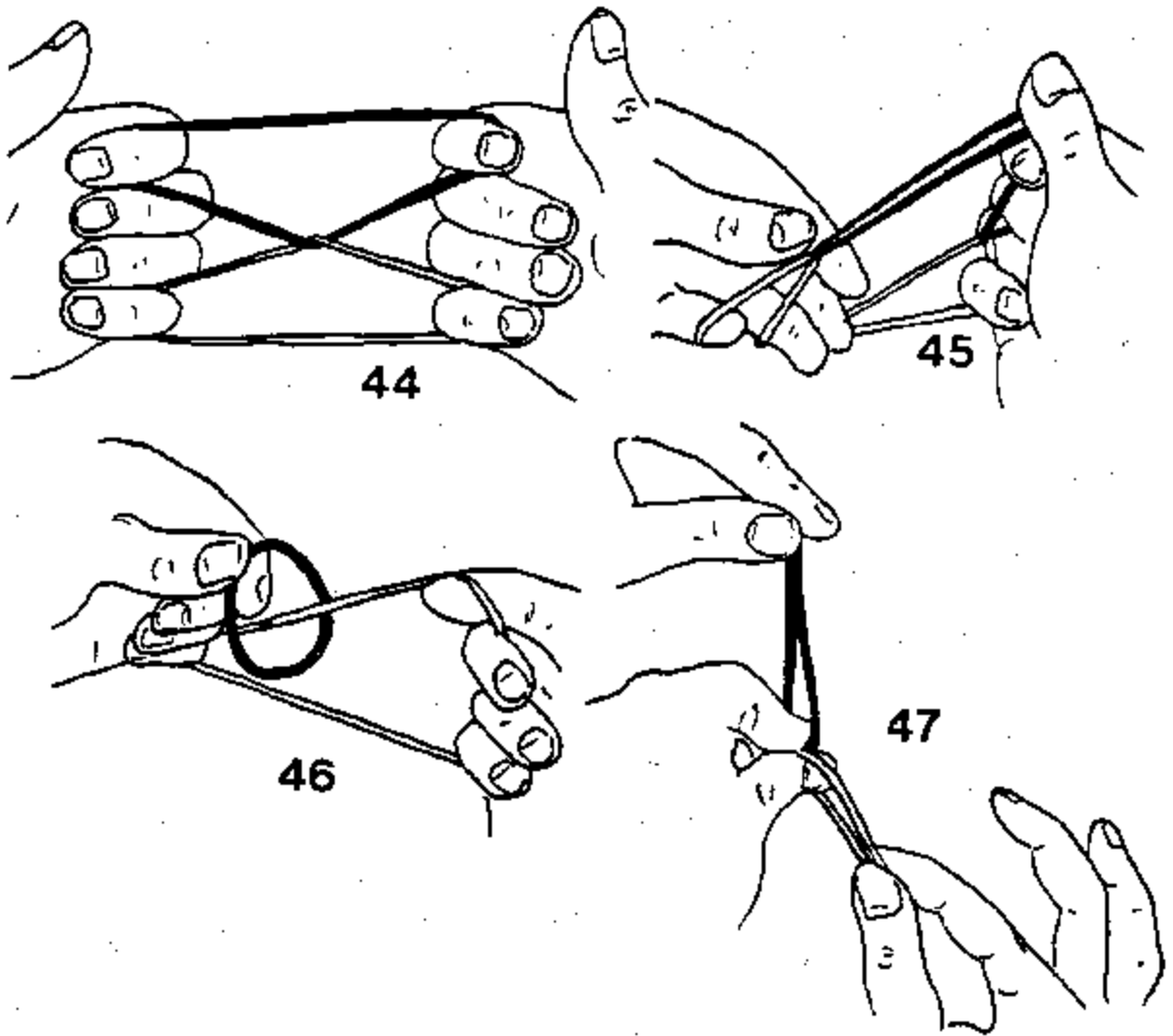


secret link openly shown in figure 42. To the audience, the position is the same as in figure 38.

Stretch the middle and ring fingers of your right hand and grip the two middle strands as in figure 43. Bend the two fingers again and show that the two rubber bands are linked (figure 44).

Grip the point where the two rubber bands are linked at the left between the thumb and left forefinger by pulling the bands with your right hand as in figure 45. The top rubber band is released and appears to be linked with the lower band. The illusion is perfect (figure 46).

Regrip, the bands as in figure 44 and ask a spectator to firmly grip the rubber band at the center where they are apparently linked. Release the bands from both your hands and grip them as shown in figure 47. The two bands are free but appear to be still linked because of the spectator's grip on



Ask the spectator to release the grip and the two bands are free, one on each of your hands.