

FEARSON'S BOX

The ultimate close up self levitation!

UNSOLICITED TESTIMONIAL FROM THE INTERNET

Subject: Fearson has done it again!

From: LV LEW <1 2442.3301 @CompuServe.com>

Date: 3 A 1997 10244 3 l GMT

Message-FL: <5i01in mhade.production.compuserve.com>

Well, Steve Fearson has done it again. Last evening at the Las Vegas Gary Darwin Magic Club meeting he unveiled his latest creation.

Here is a brief description:

Performer brings in one of those plastic milk cartons that you see in back of your local supermarket. The box has attached to it a loop of rope about 7 feet long plus one of those "game controllers" that is used with your Nintendo. He climbs into the box (you can see his feet through the openings in the sides of the box) and picks up the "controller". After some manipulations he begins to lift-up (or liftoff) the floor of the box by several inches. You can clearly see his feet slowly lift up and off of the bottom of the box. He is levitating!

Next he reaches down, picks up the loop of rope and puts it over his head, around his neck. (Like a harness) Again he "fiddles" with the controls and this time when he floats up the box of course comes along with him! Both HE AND THE BOX are floating several inches off of the floor!!!!

This Can be done in your living room - at the club - at a party - or during a platform type show, although it is best when done with the audience up close. (you must supply your own plastic milk container). Believe me it is puzzling, baffling and above all, entertaining!

Fearson's Box

Web Notes

Thank you for purchasing the construction plans for Fearson's Box! Fearson's Box was originally marketed in 1997. This downloadable version is exactly the same as the version which was sold in the traditional manner, minus the secret something (a mirror).

The package for the original trick included a 3 page manuscript and the mirror, and sold for \$100. Here you have the same exact manuscript at a lesser price and must supply your own mirror. The mirror can be obtained from any glass shop for between 5 and 15 dollars, check your local phone book for a supplier. The mirror should be cut to fit exactly inside your box from corner to corner (the manuscript will make this clear). You can order the mirror cut to the 16th of an inch for an exact fit.

Order a **1/8"** thick mirror and tell the glass cutter that you want the edges of the mirror "**seamed**". This means that they just barely shave off the sharp edges rather than totally grinding them down. This makes for a more invisible edge.

You also do not need to use an actual milk crate, they are just the most readily available. You can use any crate as long as it is square. A rectangular crate won't work. A nice way to get a milk crate without risking arrest is to simply ask the grocery store manager how you could go about purchasing one. Odds are they'll just let you have one.

NOTE: Keep in mind while reading the manuscript that originally, the mirror was included and it was cut the size to fit the standard milk carton. You now have the option to use a different sized mirror and box.

So without further hesitation, I am proud to present Fearson's Box!

- Steve Fearson

FEARSON'S BOX

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What it is

Fearson's Box appears to be an ordinary milk crate which you have turned into a levitation device.

Standing inside Fearson's Box, you seem to defy gravity. First you float up and down inside the box! Then you strap yourself in and... the whole box floats off the ground! Afterwards, you and everyone else are so drained from the excitement that you all must rest.

What you'll need

Fearson's Box is actually constructed from junk around your house. First, you must obtain a milk crate like the kind that you see sitting behind a grocery store late at night. Where you get the crate is up to you. I got mine in Wisconsin. The inside dimensions should be 12X12 inches wide and 10 1/2 inches high.

You will also need the following:

A piece of **rope or twine**.

About 12 feet or so, any type or color of rope will do.

A **Stick**.

Any stick or rod around 2 feet long is fine.

Some **Cardboard**.

Not even the magic kind. Just regular cardboard, or tagboard.

Lastly, **Tape**.

Any kind of tape, as long as it's sticky.

See, we're not asking for much, and just wait till you see what you can do with this crap!

Oh yes, you also need a scissors. And since this has been mentioned, the mandatory disclaimer must follow: *Don't run down the stairs*

with the scissors! The mirror you received with this package will fit diagonally into a standard milk crate.

But before you insert the mirror you must modify the crate slightly. First, cut out the mesh side panels as in **photo 1**. This can be done easily with a hack saw.

The box in the photos has small stubs around the edges of the cut out portion but you may want to make a smooth edge. It's up to you. After you have cut out the sides, you're ready to cut the bottom. You



photo 1

will be removing half of the bottom of the box. It is important that you make a nice smooth edge here, because this area may come in contact with your foot. If you don't believe this is important, go ahead and leave some sharp needle-like stubs around the edges. I dare you. Just don't come crying to me later. Be sure to leave the center strip of plastic intact. The mirror will be resting right on this center strip. **Photo 2** shows a bottom view. Once you have done this, the hard part is over. Insert the mirror as shown in **Photo 3** so that it faces the side with the floor, creating the illusion of a solid bottom. With some milk crates, the mirror may be a bit tight near the bottom. If this is the case, scrape or carve out the corners of the crate with a screwdriver to allow the mirror to fit. Now you must disguise the top edge of the mirror with the stick. In the photos a piece of aluminum curtain rod was used, this worked well because the slotted edge fit right over the edge of the mirror. Lay the stick along the edge of the mirror and tape it to the corners of the box as in **Photo 4**. If you would like to attach a video game type of controller to the box, tape the cord from the controller to the end of the stick. Attach a cardboard sign to the stick by taping it to the back of the mirror. The sign is very important, it provides cover in a crucial area. A cloud is a good idea for the shape of the sign, as it is best to have wavy or curved lines at the edges. Make whatever type of sign you want, curved lines and edges are best for the illusion. Make it approximately the same size as in the photographs. The sign should overlap the curtain rod slightly as in **figure 5**. Lastly, tie the ends of the rope to the box at opposite corners as shown in **figure 5**. Tie the rope so that it is just long enough to pass over your shoulders, around the



photo 2



photo 3



photo 4

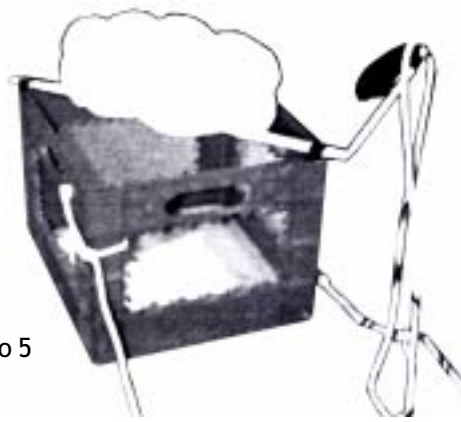


photo 5

back of your neck while you are standing in the box.

Performance

You begin by getting in the box. This is done under cover. A piece of cardboard can be placed against the front of the box to hide it. I use a large piece of cardboard with the words, "The Magic Box". Step into the box, placing one foot on each side of the mirror, and then move the cardboard away. Hold the controller as if you are playing a video game, and you are ready to create the illusion of levitating inside the box. You do this by balancing on the left foot. Going up on the toes causes the right foot to rise off the ground a few inches. To the audience, it looks like both feet are rising. **Figure 6** shows this position. With practice, this becomes easy and you can get a lot of movement Practice in a mirror until it really looks like you are floating.

To make the box float, you must first strap yourself in using the rope. Adjust the length of the rope so that it is just long enough to pass over your shoulders and around the back of your neck as in **photo 7**. When the rope is properly adjusted, the box will be pulled off the ground as you go up on the left toes. Keep the right foot flat against the bottom of the box, being careful not to float too high and expose the foot. A little bit is all it takes. A small wooden block or paperback book under the toes can really enhance the effect.

Practice in a mirror to be sure you have it right. Then get ready to amaze your audience and possibly start your own religion.

Thank you for purchasing this illusion and I hope you enjoy it. -

Steve Fearson



photo 6



photo 7