

Sleight of Hand 101: Close-Up Card Magic—Resources for Development

Books

- Card College—Roberto Globbi
 - There are five volumes that provide an extensive overview of many great techniques. Each volume teaches different material, but the skills are cumulative across all of the volumes. In depth descriptions and detailed diagrams are included to help teach eager magicians everything that they need to know to help advance their performance. I would highly recommend these materials; however, they may be pricey and not the best place to start (see **YouTube** section).

Direct Magician Products/Memberships

- Direct Magician Products
 - The creators of a specific technique/sleight/trick often sell an in depth description on how to properly perform it. There are many resources available on YouTube, however, these tutorials are not as detailed and may be more difficult to learn proper technique. You should only invest in a direct magician product, such as The Brick Pass by Alex Pandrea, if you have a strong foundation in sleight of hand card magic and want to improve a specific technique.
- Memberships
 - Some online resources, such as Ellusionists, allow you to create an account and receive access to downloadable content. Again, these resources are great for experienced magicians. Ellusionists also has resources for new magicians, one of which is titled 'How to be a Magician'. The four tricks that I demonstrated for you today were derived from this source.

YouTube—A.K.A. Your FREE Best Friend

- START HERE
 - I learned almost everything I know from watching YouTube videos. YouTube is a free source that provides relevant material for magicians of all skill levels. YouTube has tutorials for color changes, forces, controls, flourishes, performances, angle control, misdirection, and more. Online videos will allow you to view how a trick is done and will reveal any associated nuisances for which one must take into consideration during performance. Below is a list of several channels/performers that have great beginner, intermediate, and advanced tutorial videos:
 - The Russian Genius (my personal favorite)
 - Jay Nation (a lot of great beginner sleights)
 - Penn and Teller (Less tutorials but always fun to watch)
 - Shin Lim (Same as above; AMAZING performer but not many tutorials)
 - Disturb Reality (good tutorials for all skill levels)
 - Chris Ramsey (from Ellusionist; very good and great explanations)
 - 52 Kards (very in depth explanations)
 - Mismag822 (great for new magicians)

As mentioned in class, magic is a very rewarding experience, but it will take time. Practice is key to success and to “master” a technique, but after short time you will be able to begin performing for your friends and family. I perform magic because I love the joy that it brings to others. Witnessing the impossible is a mind blowing and unforgettable experience. YOU can possess this ability. YOU can learn magic. YOU will be great. I hope that these resources are helpful and that you continue to develop a passion for sleight of hand card magic. 😊