

ROPE MAGIC

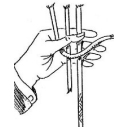
The following pages contain Idea Sheets about Rope Magic. Use the space below to write down your ideas and resources for accomplishing these miracles with your students.

Ideas for teaching Rope Magic:

Locally available Books, Videos, DVD's, about Rope Magic:

Local Magicians and Other Experts to help in teaching Rope Magic:

Resources:



ROPE

List the magic effects of the "Rope" kind that will fit best into each of these venues:

Close-Up: _____

Family Table Magic: _____

Visitors to the House: _____

Classroom Magic: _____

Summer Camp: _____

School Talent Show: _____

SAM Public Show: _____

Picnics: _____

Civic Clubs: _____

Birthday Parties: _____

Day Care: _____

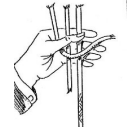
**Adult
Banquets:** _____

Senior Citizen Events: _____

Television: _____

Where Else: _____

Special Notations: Regarding Audiences, Angles and specific awareness that will help you choose Effects.



A LITTLE SOMETHING ABOUT ROPES

By T. J. Staab

When doing rope effects you want to use a soft rope. You can buy magicians rope from your local magic shop.

If you can not find magicians rope, you can make a good substitute yourself. Go to your local hardware store and find some clothes line, or a similar rope without a hard core. If you cannot find a rope without a core, cut what you will need, then pull the inside core out of the rope. If you wash the rope first, this helps to soften the rope.

Craft stores sell different colored cords that are soft and can be used in rope routines. These work well for colored rope effects, and they look nice from the audiences view.

Some routines can be done with shoelaces, ribbons or even string.

PREPARATION OF ROPE:

If you are doing routines where you will be cutting the rope, you do not have to prepare the ends of the rope. However, always use fresh cut rope for your routine, this way the ends look good and are not frayed.

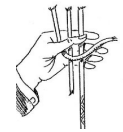
If you are making a rope for a routine, and will not be cutting it in the act, you need to fix the ends of the rope. By fixing the ends, the rope will not fray and come apart. If you are a good Scout, you might whip the ends. This is time consuming and it really does not look good.

The best way for fixing the ends of rope is to glue them. The best glue is Jewell & Glitter Glue made by Ridlen Adhesives, it dries very clear and does not come off. You can even wash your ropes. This glue can be found at most craft and cloth stores.

To glue the end of a rope, put a little glue on the cut end of the ropes, then roll it around between your fingers and tap down the end. Set them across a phone book with the ends just hanging over the edge to dry. (LET IT DRY)

Some rope effects use magnets in the end of the ropes. You can glue magnets into the end of the ropes the same way. Make sure to paint the end of the magnets to match the rope.

Now go and make some real rope magic happen.



3 ROPES THE SAME SIZE

By T. J. Staab

EFFECT:

The magician shows one small, one medium and one large rope. He hands them out to the audience to examine. He then takes the three ropes back and begins to stretch them. When he is done, he shows all three ropes are now the same length.

WHAT YOU NEED:

Three ropes, one 10½ inches, one 22½ inches and one 36 inches. After you cut the ropes, put them together so you have the three ropes the same size. If you need, cut off the ends to make them equal in length. Glue the ends to keep them from fraying.

PERFORMANCE:

Place the small rope into your left hand at the crook of the thumb. Place the medium rope alongside the small rope, and place the large rope next to the medium rope. Hold the ropes against your hand with your thumb (Pic. 1) **All pictures are performers view.**

With your right hand, take the bottom of the small rope and bring it across the other two ropes. (Pic. 2) When you are laying the small rope up against the large rope, under cover from your right hand, go around the front of the large rope and place the small rope on the inside of the large rope. (Pic. 3) Now take the bottom end of the medium rope and bring it across and place it next to the end rope on the right. Now take the bottom end of the large rope and bring it across and place it next to the end rope on the right. (Pic. 4)

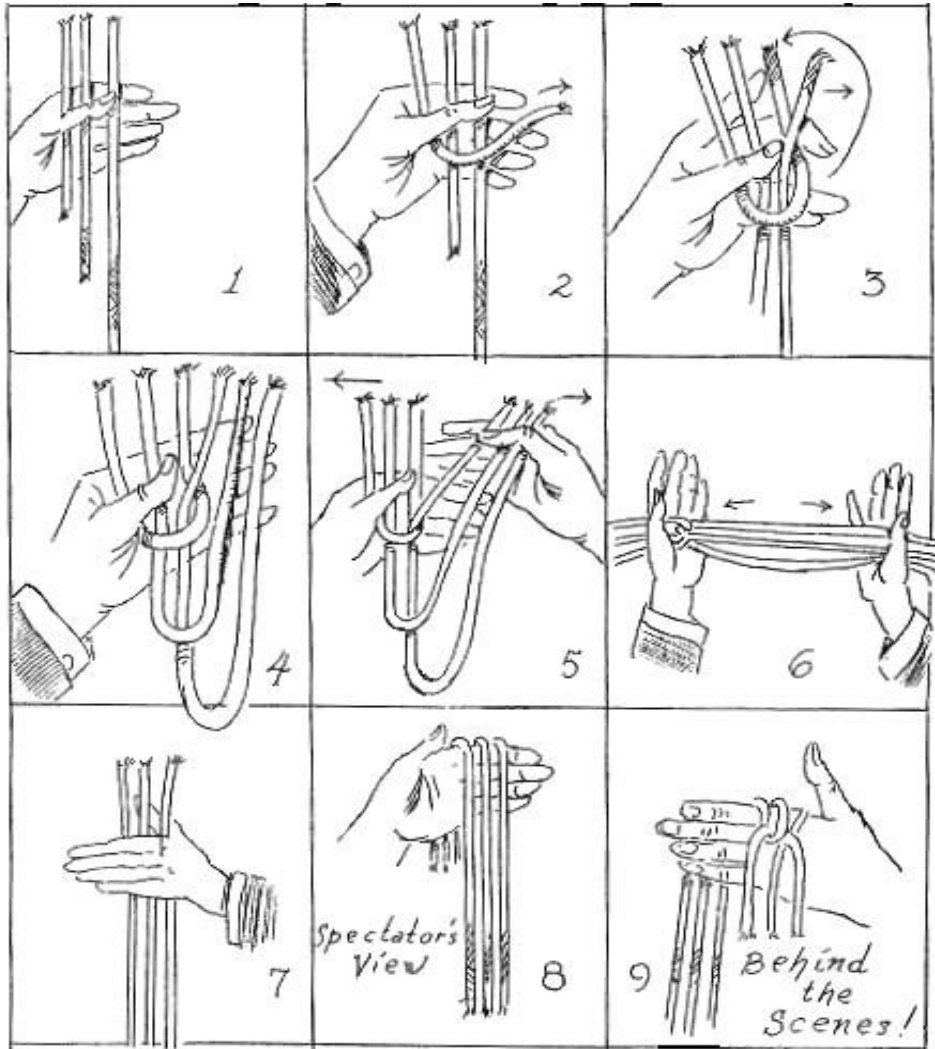
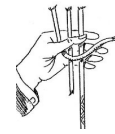
Now take the three ends on the right side into your right hand, (Pic. 5) and pull. (Pic. 6)

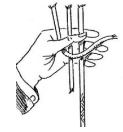
You can now show the audience the three ropes the same size. (Pic. 7&8)

By holding the ropes in your left hand, you can count the “3 equal ropes” out to the audience.

With your right hand, take the medium rope out and holding it up count “one”. Reach back with the right hand to take another rope but instead, quickly put the medium rope back into the left hand and take the other two ropes out (covering the loop) and say “two”. Reach back and take the single rope holding all three in your right hand, and say “three”.

Practice this in front of a mirror. Practice until you can do every move without looking at your hands. The more you practice, the smoother the illusion will ultimately become.





ROUTINE FOR “3 ROPES THE SAME SIZE”

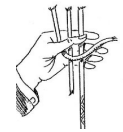
Start with the three ropes in a packet. Accordion fold the medium and long ropes together and tie the short rope around to create a packet. Ask the audience, “*Can you guess how many ropes are in this three rope packet?*” Kids don’t tend to hear the number three. They usually respond by yelling five or one hundred. Say, “*No, I’ll give you another try. Can you guess how many ropes are in this three rope packet?*” Hopefully someone yells out three. If not, repeat the question once more but really emphasize three. Then, they will say three. Respond with, “*How did you know that?*” They will say, “*Because you told us!*” Reply, “*Oh why did I say that?*”

Unwrap the packet and say, “*Yes, I have three ropes, and they’re all the same length.*” When the kids see that they are all different they will yell, “*No, the ropes are different!*” React by saying, “*Oh my, you’re right! Let’s do some magic! I’ll need a volunteer who wants to (Pause... hands will go up) eat this rope up like spaghetti. Only kidding!*” Pick a volunteer, (a girl would be best) hand them the long rope and say, “*Examine this rope, pull on it, tug on it, does it seem solid, it won’t pull apart? Try to jump rope with it!*” As you say this mime jumping rope by swinging your wrists. Encourage them to jump rope. This impromptu situation may yield some funny moments.

Take back the long rope and hand them the medium rope. Repeat, “*Pull on it, tug on it, does it seem solid, it won’t pull apart? Try to jump rope with this one!*” It is even funnier as child hits themselves in the leg. Take back the medium rope and hand the volunteer the smallest rope. “*Examine this rope, pull on it, tug on it, and try to...floss your teeth with it. Only kidding, try to jump rope with it.*” Child tries and children laugh.

Holding all three ropes say, “*Let’s bring up all the ends to the top. We have three ends up here.*” Display these. Pick up short rope end saying, “*End number four.*” Pick up medium rope end saying, “*End number five.*” Pick up long rope end saying, “*End number*” Let the kids yell “*six!*” “*That’s the end of the ends. Now watch...*” Slowly pull so that all three ropes are equal. “*Wow, they’re all the same!*” Count one as you display the first rope. Count two as you display the two ropes together. Count three as you display the three ropes together.

End with, “*In magic, we like things to go back to the way they started.*” Transfer the three ropes back to your left hand. Bring the ends of the ropes up to the other ends. Pull the ropes out one at a time as you say, “*With one short rope, one medium rope and one long rope, and one fantastic assistant!*” Point to your volunteer and say, “*Everyone clap for (there name).*”



CUT AND RESTORED ROPE

By T. J. Staab

EFFECT:

The magician takes a long piece of rope and with a pair of scissors, cuts the rope in two. Then moments later, he puts the rope back together again.

WHAT YOU NEED:

A length of magicians rope three to four feet long, and a pair of sharp scissors.

PERFORMANCE:

Start by holding the rope at one end in your left hand so the rope is hanging down in front of you. Take your open scissors in your right hand and run down the rope to the center. Using the scissors pick up the rope in the middle (Pic. 1).

Switch your grip on the rope in your left hand so it is between your index finger and the outside of your other fingers. At the same time, bring the center of the rope between your scissors over to your left hand (Pic. 2).

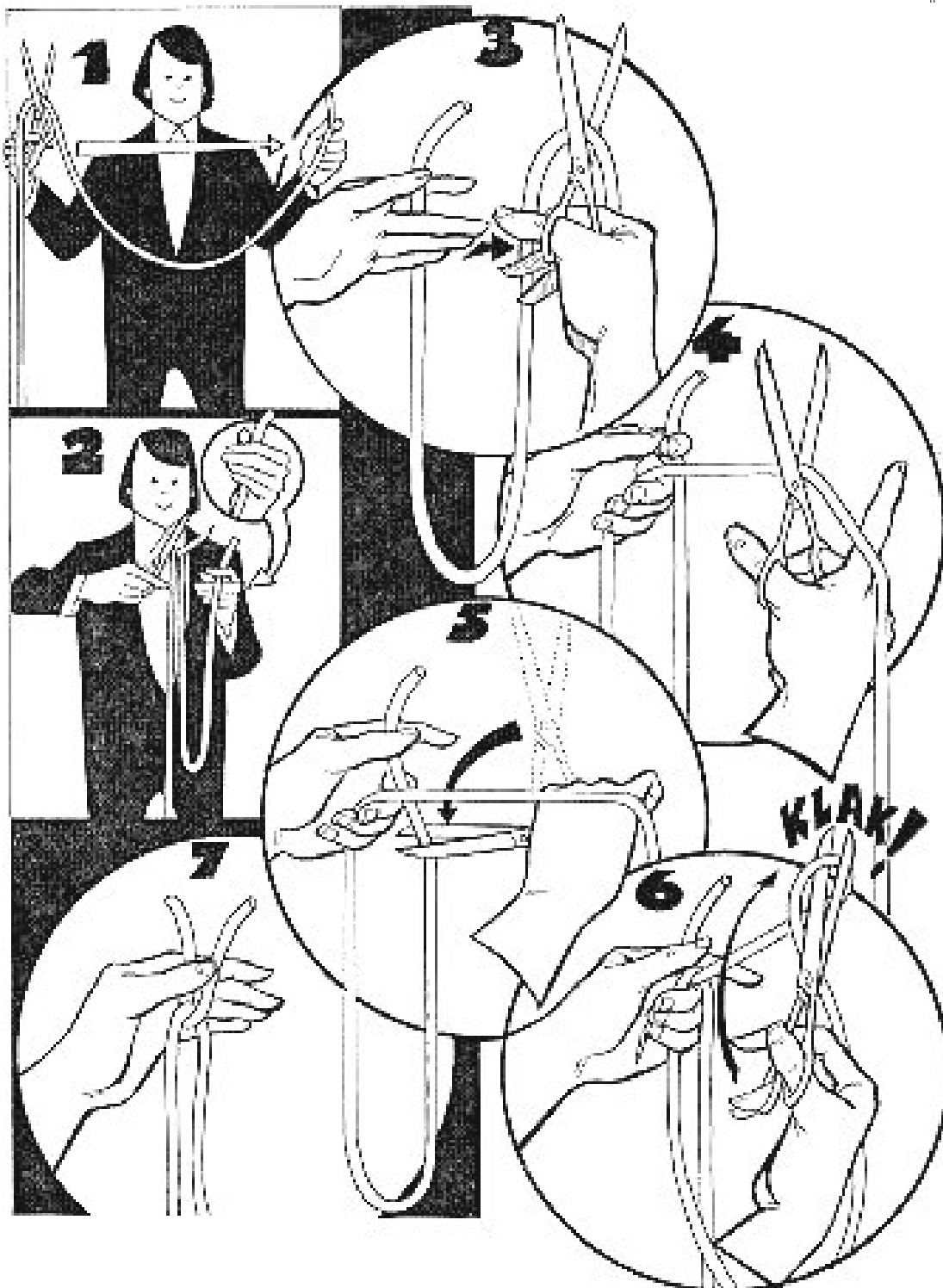
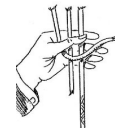
Grab the rope with your fingers of your left hand (Pic. 3). Pull it straight across the hanging rope in your left hand, at the same time catching the rope with your index finger of your right hand (Pic. 4).

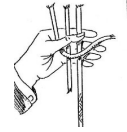
Now swing your scissors down and catch the lower part of the rope held in your left hand (Pic. 5) While holding the rope with the scissors, Swing underneath and up from the rope hanging in your two hands, letting the rope fall as you cut (Pic. 6)

Once the rope is cut you will have a loop hiding behind your left hand (Pic. 7). To the audience it will look as if you just cut the rope in the center.

All of these moves are done in one swift motion. You will need to practice these moves over and over again to get the muscle memory you will need to perform this effect with ease.

See if you can come up with a fascinating patter story to tell while doing this effect.





THE POP OFF KNOT

By T. J. Staab

EFFECT:

The magician shows a rope and ties it together in the middle. Then the magician takes a pair of scissors and cuts the rope in two. After some magic words, the knot in the middle of the rope just pops off.

WHAT YOU NEED:

A piece of magicians rope 4 feet long, a pair of scissors.

PERFORMANCE:

Begin with a piece of rope 4 feet long, the left hand is holding the end, and the right hand is holding the middle of the rope. Bring the left end over to the middle of the rope and tie a **SQUARE KNOT** (left over right - right over left). You are only tying the left end around the middle of the rope. (Figure 1) This will leave the right end long.

Take a pair of scissors and cut the rope on the loop next to the knot. (Figure 2)

Grab both ends of the rope (or you can have some help from the audience) and with some magic words, pull the ends apart hard. The knot will just pop right off. Show the rope completely restored.

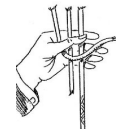
Practice until you can tie the knot smoothly. Make up some great patter and you will have a memorable miracle.



Figure 1



Figure 2



KNOTS ON ROPE

From the files of T. J. Staab

EFFECT:

The magician shows the audience a lunch size paper sack, and a piece of rope 15 feet long. The rope is coiled up and placed into the sack. Several rope knots are shown and placed in the sack. The magician pulls the rope out of the bag and shows that the rope now has the knots tied into it. The bag is shown to be empty, and it is torn to pieces.

WHAT YOU NEED:

A piece of rope 15 feet in length, several rope knots, two identical lunch bags, scissors, rubber cement.

CONSTRUCTION:

Take one of the bags and cut off one of the sides, from top to bottom. Glue this side inside the first bag (Fig 1) leaving the top open to form a pocket.

KNOTS ON THE ROPE:

Here is how the knots appear on the rope. The secret is in how the rope is coiled. Place the rope over the hands, hold palms upwards, about eight inches apart, so that one end of the rope falls behind the fork of the left thumb and the other end behind the right thumb, (fig. 2). Study figures 3 and 4 to see how the coil is made. Make the first loop, then continue making loops in the same way until the end of the rope is reached. When placing the rope in the bag, grab end "A" (the short end hanging beyond the left thumb) and pull it through all the loops. When taking the rope out of the bag, grab end A and draw the rope out through your open hand. This will put the knots tight on the rope. Practice this so you will know how many knots to use.

PERFORMANCE:

Take the rope and show it to the audience. Show the bag inside and out, holding your hand over the pocket side. Coil the rope up and place inside the bag. Take out a bunch of knots, (as many will be on the rope) and place them in the bag. (When you put the knots in the bag, place them in the secret pocket.) Say some magic words, reach in and pull out the rope with the knots in place. Now to show the bag is empty, simply hold the pocket shut with your hands on both sides at the top. Turn the bag upside down. Now just hold on tight to both sides at the top and rip it open. This will show that there is nothing in the bag. Then crumple up the bag and toss it aside. Experiment in front of a mirror and make adjustments as needed.

Come up with some wonderful patter to make this an outstanding effect.

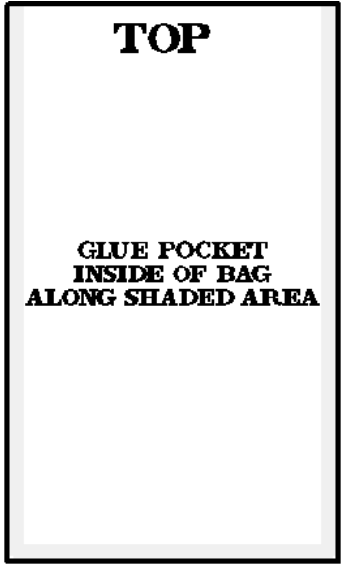
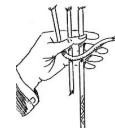


FIGURE 1

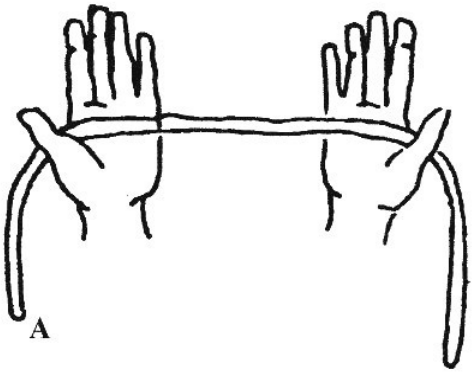


FIGURE 2

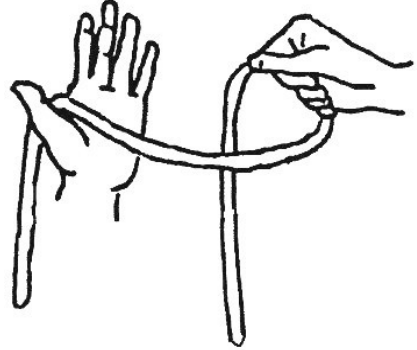


FIGURE 3

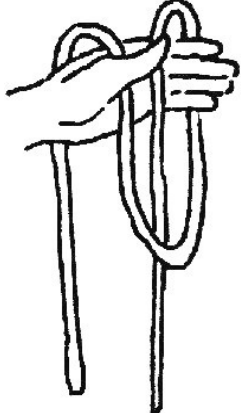


FIGURE 4