

Card to Wallet

By
jpearson

When it comes to magic, I think that most people have a basic dichotomy going on inside of their heads. One half of their brain desperately wants to know how a trick is done whereas the other half simply says "Sit back and relax, be amazed and enjoy the show." I am going to attempt to satisfy both halves of the brain by performing and then explaining a common magical effect known as "card to unusual location."

What is "card to unusual location?"

We start with an ordinary deck and ask our sucker - er, spectator - to select a card and then personalize it in some manner. Handed a Sharpie, the sucker - I mean, spectator - draws a cute picture such as a puppy, or - if they really want to make it truly unique to themselves - they may scribble their user names and passwords. Pretty women may consider writing the name of their favorite men's colognes. In any case, the goal is to demonstrate that there is no possible way - no how - for the magician to insert a duplicate of their card later on into the mix. The personalized card is inserted and apparently lost in the deck.

The effect ends when the magician reveals that the sucker's - ...spectator's - card is no longer in the deck. Rather, he or she proceeds to pull it out from an unusual location such as their pocket, their shoe, or perhaps their wallet. It is the latter effect that you're about to see.

OK, ready? Let's begin with the line that all magicians are required to utter at least once every 90 minutes during their waking hours: "Pick a card, any card." By the way, as you will be drawing on the card, you may want to select one with lots of white space if you're feeling particularly creative. *[Card is selected]* Good! Here's a Sharpie, please draw whatever you'd like to make this card truly your own. Your signature alone is fine if you prefer. *[Card is signed]*

Now, before we lose your card in the deck, let's address the common concern that "it really doesn't matter where one inserts a card into the deck as the magician will know where it's at anyway." Let me confess right here that this is true but I'll show you how it's done! You see - we cheat! While the spectator is busy drawing on the card, we look at another card from the middle of the deck. Like this... *[Cut deck and show face of bottom card of the upper half]*

When you place your card on top of these cards, I'll make sure that I place this card on top of yours and then I'll be able find your card later on. Please go ahead and make sure that everyone around you has seen the card. *[Card is shown around; perform a pass at the same time.]* Now drop your card onto this pile. I'll subtly peek at the bottom card and then drop the stack on top of your card like this. *[Pass performed again to show the bottom card had not changed. After all is said and done, the signed card winds up on the top of the deck.]* I'll now place all of these cards back into the card case.

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OK. Welcome back to the second half of our show! We're in the midst of "card to wallet." We have the card. Next, we need a wallet. It so happens that I have one right here. *[Pull out comedy miniature wallet]* I should explain, though, that when my wife washed my pants the last time, she accidentally washed my wallet with them and it shrunk! However, it's still usable:

You see, this still looks like me *[I shrunk my ID card changing my address to protect privacy]*. I have some small checks, a small wad of cash. This *[show finger cot as condom]* is actual size unfortunately.... I also have some small change. *[Show very small coins]*

Now, would you be amazed if I told you that I have your card inside as well? You gotta admit that if your card was inside of my wallet, it would be a pretty good trick, right? Well, take a look here and watch what I'm pulling out; I have a single red *[or blue]* backed card with bicycles on it. Let's turn it over slowly for maximum effect and - Voila! - it's "Your Card!" *[I scanned and shrunk both red and blue backed bicycle cards and wrote "YOUR CARD" on the face of each. I keep them both in the wallet b/c I'm not always sure what color deck I'll be using.]*

OK, that was cheap. I admit it. Let's put this away. *[Miniature wallet is put away and the deck is picked up and cards removed]* What was the name of the card that you selected?

The _____ of _____ did you say? That's impossible. You see, I don't keep a _____ of _____ in this deck. You see, I've always considered the _____ of _____ to be unlucky - I always had one on me when my girlfriends dumped me - so I never keep one in the deck. Here, check the deck for yourself. *[Selected card is palmed as deck is handed out for inspection.]* You see, to avoid cross-contamination with the other cards, I keep the _____ of _____ separated from the others by keeping it in my real wallet. *[Card is inserted into Steve Draun's Real Man's Wallet as it is removed from the rear pocket]*

[As wallet is opened] Look inside! There is a red *[or blue]* backed bicycle card. *[As card is removed]* Look it's the _____ of _____! That is your signature *[or drawing]*, isn't it?

And *that's* how card to wallet is performed. Thank you very much.

Now, I'm going to reveal the secret work behind the trick. First, let's lose your card in the deck like before. *[Same procedure is performed to bring card to the top of the deck, with the 6 of Hearts immediately below it. Perform a double lift and note the top card is the 6 of Hearts. Repeat the double lift and then the deck is placed face down on the table.]*

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Now, some great magicians use sleight of hand to accomplish this trick whereas very good ones might use sleight of mouth. As I'm neither great nor very good, I have to use a gimmick to help me. This is my "Transmogrifier" device *[I show them my cell phone]*. You see, the Transmogrifier has the ability to fold space; to alter the time-space continuum. Or, to put it quite simply, it moves things from one place to another.

So that you can witness the actual transmogrification process in action, I'm going to pull out a clear plastic business card protector and let's insert the top card, the 6 of Hearts into it. *[I keep the WOW gimmick in a plastic card wallet with some business cards under it where they can be seen through the clear plastic. Place the top card (spectator's signed card) into the WOW Gimmick and show it off as the 6 of Hearts.]*

Now, I'm going to hold the Transmogrifier device over the card and let it capture its image. *[I have a stored image of the 6 of Hearts on my phone that I bring up at the touch of a button. I show this image to the spectators.]* Now, it's time for the magic to happen - watch carefully... on the count of 3 -

1...2...3! *[On "3", I trigger the WOW gimmick to reveal the card transformation from the 6 of Hearts to their signed card and -at the same time - hit button on my cell phone to make the 6 of Hearts image disappear.]*

Is that your signed _____ of _____? *[Yes, of course it is...]*

Now, for the record, you'll note that this stack of cards has been sitting on the table all of this time. Would you mind please turning over the top card of the deck? *[Card is turned over to reveal]* Ladies and gentleman, the 6 of Hearts! And that's how I perform my card to wallet!

Now, ladies and gentlemen, because I showed you how to do this trick, I have to get you all to magician's pinky swear the Magician's Oath so please, repeat after me:

I, state your name in full *[wait for them to repeat this]*, promise to never ever repeat the load of BS that was just foisted upon me or else die of embarrassment!

Incidentally, if any of you truly are interested in knowing where you could pick up your own Transmogrifier device, I suggest that you try your local Verizon magic shop.

[End]

Comments? Contact magicdoc@sprainedangles.com