# Dark Dagger™

SECRET INSTRUCTIONS

## THE TRICK

A metal disk fits into a drawer which slides into a case. A dagger imprisons the disk inside the case and yet before you can say "Houdini!" the disk melts right through the dagger. How can anything that looks this innocent be so sneaky?
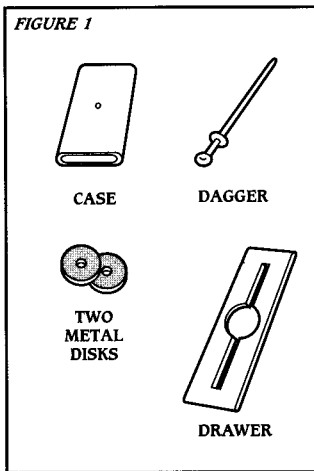
## THE SECRET

The case really holds two disks! When one disk is slid into the case and is stopped by the dagger, it is replaced on the other side of the dagger by the second disk. It appears as if one coin actually melts through the dagger!

## THE PROPS

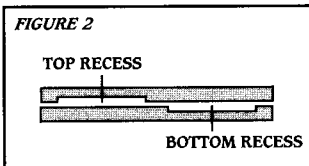You are supplied with the following props: a case, a drawer, a dagger and two metal disks, as shown in Figure 1.

FIGURE 1

CASE    DAGGER

TWO
METAL
DISKS

DRAWER

## THE SECRET PREPARATION

Inside the case are two secret recesses, one at the top and one at the bottom, at opposite ends *(see Figure 2).*
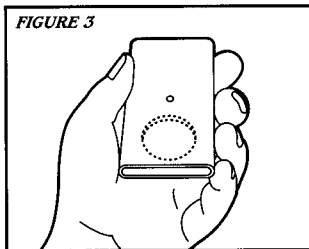
FIGURE 2

TOP RECESS

BOTTOM RECESS

Hold the case with the bottom recess toward you (peek inside if you have to, in order to get this right). *See Figure 3.*
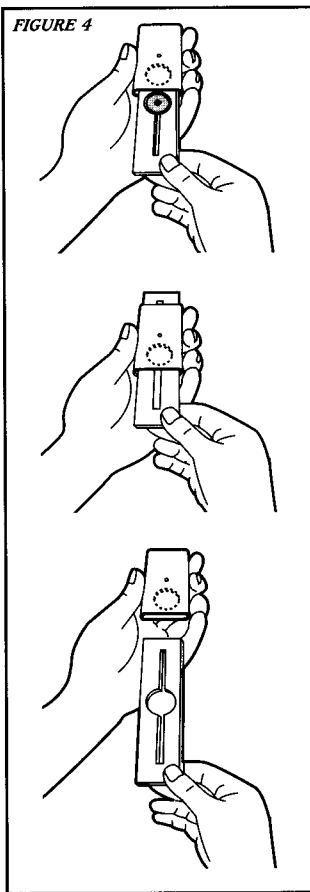
FIGURE 3

Place a disk into the drawer and insert the drawer into the case from your side. Push the drawer into the case until the disk drops out into the bottom recess *(see Figure 4).* Remove the empty drawer.
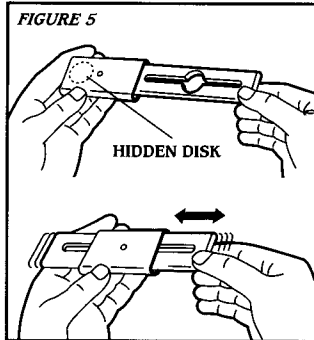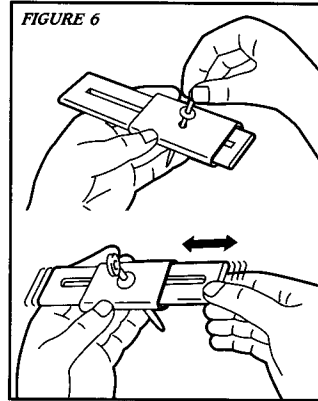
FIGURE 4

You are ready to begin. Place the case, the drawer, the dagger and the remaining disk onto the table.
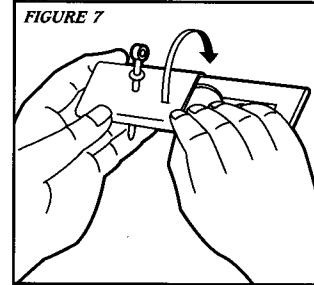
## THE PERFORMANCE

Hold the case with the disk-loaded end to the left and insert the drawer into the right end *(see Figure 5)*. Explain to your audience that the drawer just fits into the case, sliding the drawer back and forth as you do so, as shown in Figure 5.



FIGURE 5

HIDDEN DISK

Pick up the dagger and insert it through the hole in the top of the case *(see Figure 6)*. Again, show that the drawer still slides back and forth even with the dagger through the case as shown in Figure 6. Leave the drawer emerging from the right side.
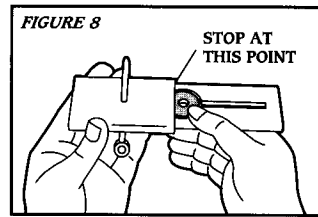


FIGURE 6

Show the other side of the case by turning it over with the right hand *(see Figure 7)*.
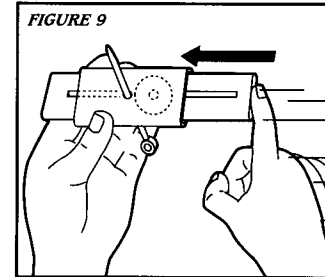


FIGURE 7

While still holding the case in its upside-down position, pick up the disk and hold it inside the hole in the drawer. Now slide the drawer part way into the case to stop the disk from falling out *(see Figure 8)*.
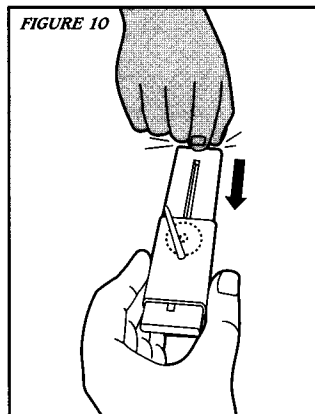


FIGURE 8

STOP AT THIS POINT

Push the drawer quickly and forcefully to the left, until the disk hits the dagger, which stops it *(see Figure 9)*.
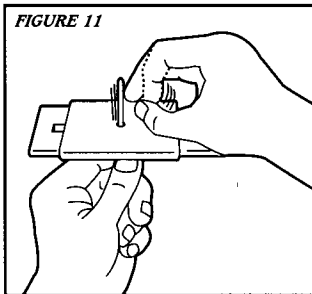


FIGURE 9

**Careful! If you slide the drawer in too slowly, the disk will fall into the recess, which you don't want to happen yet.**
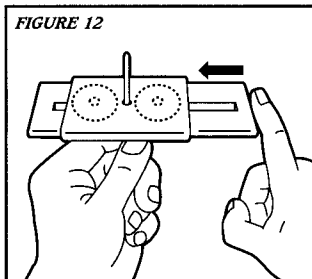
Ask a spectator to push the drawer to prove that the dagger is indeed blocking the disk *(see Figure 10)*.
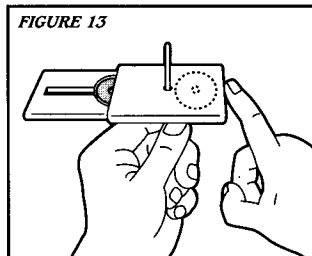


FIGURE 10

With the left hand, hold the head of the dagger and snap the right forefinger against the tip of the dagger *(see Figure 11)*. This will jar the disk and it will fall into the recess. (If it doesn't, then slide the drawer back and forth a bit.)
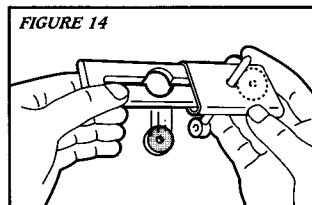


FIGURE 11

Push the drawer until it is centered in the case *(see Figure 12)* as you explain to your audience that the disk is melting through the dagger.
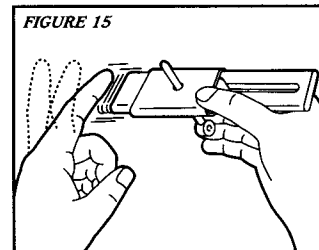


FIGURE 12

As you continue to push the drawer through, the hidden disk will automatically drop into the drawer and will emerge from the left end *(see Figure 13)*.



FIGURE 13

Hold the case with the right hand as the left pulls the drawer out further, which allows the visible disk to fall free of the drawer *(see Figure 14)*.



FIGURE 14

At this point, slide the drawer back over to the right *(see Figure 15)* which conveys the impression that the case is empty. Remove the dagger and the drawer.



FIGURE 15

## WHAT'S THE PATTER?

Patter is what magicians say to create a mood for a trick and to draw the audience's attention to details like innocent-looking props. You can use the patter we've provided, or make up your own!

*Ladies and Gentlemen, I have here before me a case, a drawer, a metal disk and a plastic dagger. As you can plainly see, there's only enough room in the case for the drawer to slide through. Now take a look at this little dagger. It's solid, isn't it? O.K., watch as I put it into this hole, all the way through the case. What happens when I slide the drawer now? It still moves back and forth but the dagger stops the drawer from coming out.* (Turn the case over) *See? The dagger goes all the way through. Now I'll put the disk into the drawer and ... of course, the dagger blocks the disk.* (Now indicate a spectator to try and push the drawer) *Here, push on the drawer ... can't push the disk through, can you? I'll just give the dagger a special magic tap .... and now look how the disk melts right through it!*

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