

The Crystal Cleaver™



SECRET INSTRUCTIONS

2^{1/2}

THE TRICK

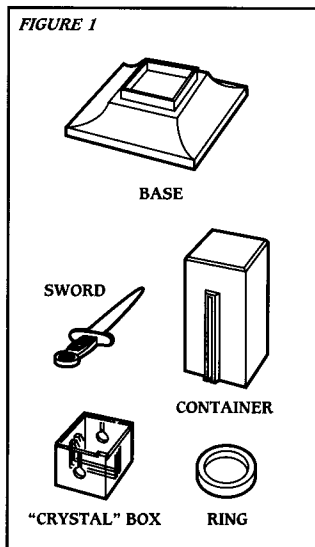
A metal ring is placed into a "crystal" box and the top is closed. The box is covered with an empty container. A magical cleaver (a small metal sword) is inserted into the top of the container, and then pushed down through the box and the ring. When the container is removed, the sword is through the ring inside the box. Metal has passed through metal!

THE SECRET

When the box is covered, a hidden spring inside the base secretly pushes up the box and ring. The sword easily goes through the holes in the sides of the box and the ring, yet appears to have cut through them.

THE PROPS

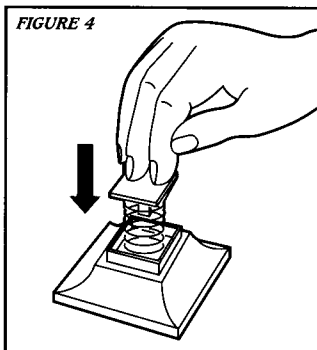
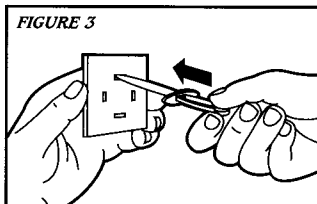
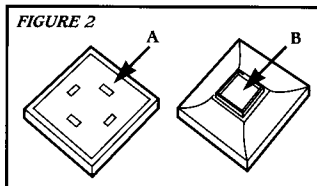
You are supplied with a base, a "crystal" box, a sword, a rectangular container and a ring (*see Figure 1*). If desired, this trick can be performed with a borrowed finger ring instead.

3^{1/2}

THE SECRET PREPARATION

The underside of the base has four holes (*see Figure 2*). One of these holes (A) is in fact a release catch for the spring gimmick built into the base. To set the gimmick, first push down on the center of the top of the base (B) to lock it in place. While holding down the top of the base, take the sword and insert it into the release hole (A) until you hear or feel one click (*see Figure 3*). You may have to try out other holes before you find it. If you don't hold down the top of the base at the same time, the platform in the center of the base will spring out, as seen in Figure 4. If this happens, just push the platform all the way back in. At this

stage you are ready to begin the performance.

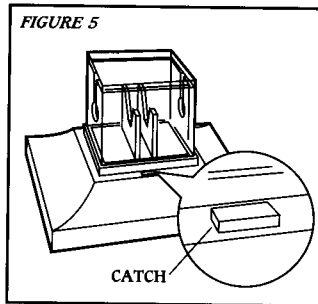


4

THE PERFORMANCE

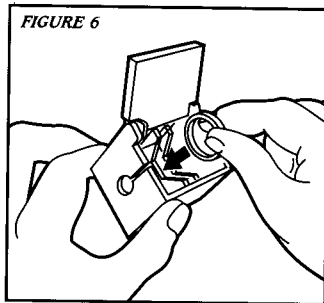
Show your audience the "crystal" box on the base. The catch (tiny protrusion activated by the gimmick) in the platform of the base should be toward you (see Figure 5). HINT: It's the one that's slightly raised.

FIGURE 5



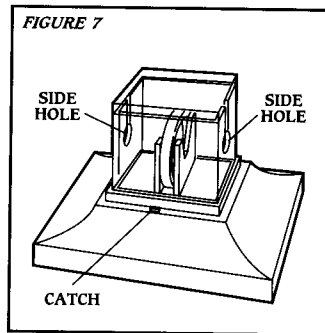
Remove the box from the base. Borrow an appropriate ring from a spectator, or use the ring supplied, and place it into the sleeves inside the box and shut the lid (see Figure 6).

FIGURE 6



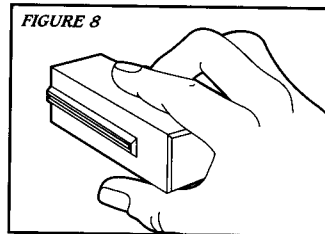
Place the box on the base so that the ring is lined up with the catch as seen in Figure 7.

FIGURE 7



Show the empty container to your audience (see Figure 8).

FIGURE 8



Place the container over the box so that the slits in its sides are lined up with the side holes in the box (see Figure 9). When you place the container firmly onto the base, a tiny projection under the container will release the catch. This produces a small "click" but your audience will not suspect anything as long as you do this in a single, deliberate movement. Inside the container, the rising platform will raise the crystal box secretly inside

5

the container. Figure 10 is an exposed view of this taking place.

FIGURE 9

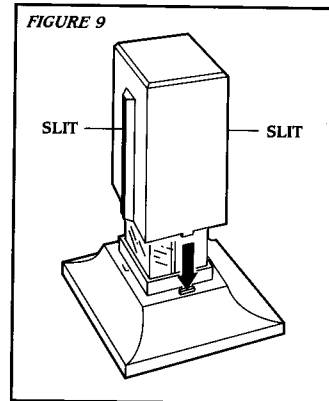
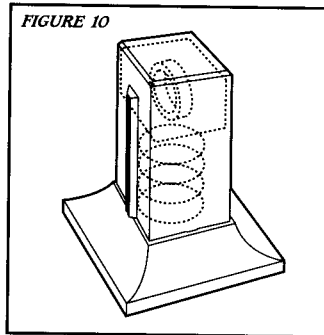
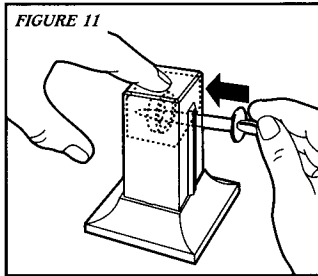


FIGURE 10

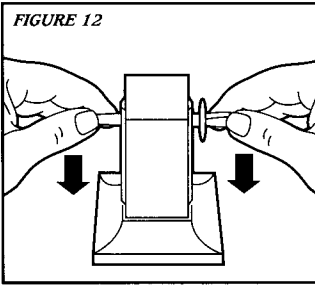


6^{1/2}

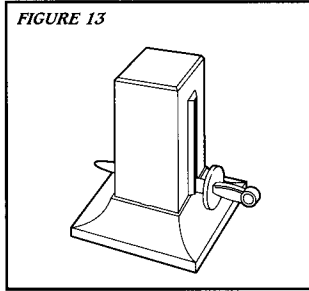
The right hand now holds the sword by its handle as the left forefinger holds the container steady. Insert the sword into the slit in the side of the container at the top position, as shown in Figure 11. What really happens is that the sword also goes into the crystal box, through the ring, through the other side of the box and then visibly out the other slit in the container.



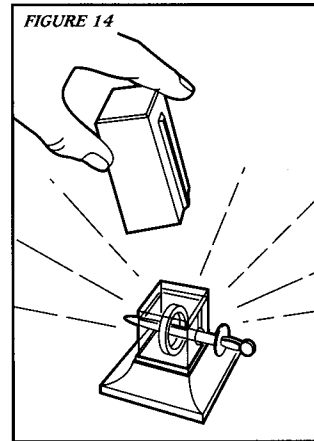
Hold both ends of the sword, one end with each hand, as shown in Figure 12.



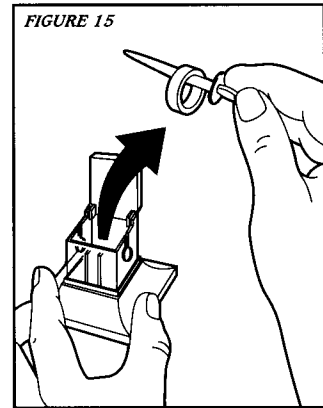
Move the sword down slowly, until you hear everything click into place. This means that the bottom moving platform has just been locked into its normal-looking position (see Figure 13). Don't worry about anyone hearing the click, because you can ask your audience if they heard the sound when the sword cut into the ring. It looks as if you cut right through the box and the ring.



Lift up the container (see Figure 14). A baffling mystery has taken place!

7^{1/2}

Hold the box steady as you lift the sword straight up (see Figure 15).



This is a very deceptive trick, and no one will suspect the true secret. In fact, after you finish performing, everything (that's right, *everything*) can be examined by your audience!

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 will now perform the impossible feat of passing metal through metal. I have here an empty box which will hold this ordinary ring. Take a good look at this ring. Notice it is completely solid, with no cracks or weak spots. I'll just put the ring in the box, close the lid and place it on the base. Now I'll place this container which,*

as you can see, is empty on top of the box, like this. Now watch carefully as I slide the sword in and down. Did you hear that? (Remove the container) Look! I've sliced right through the ring!

