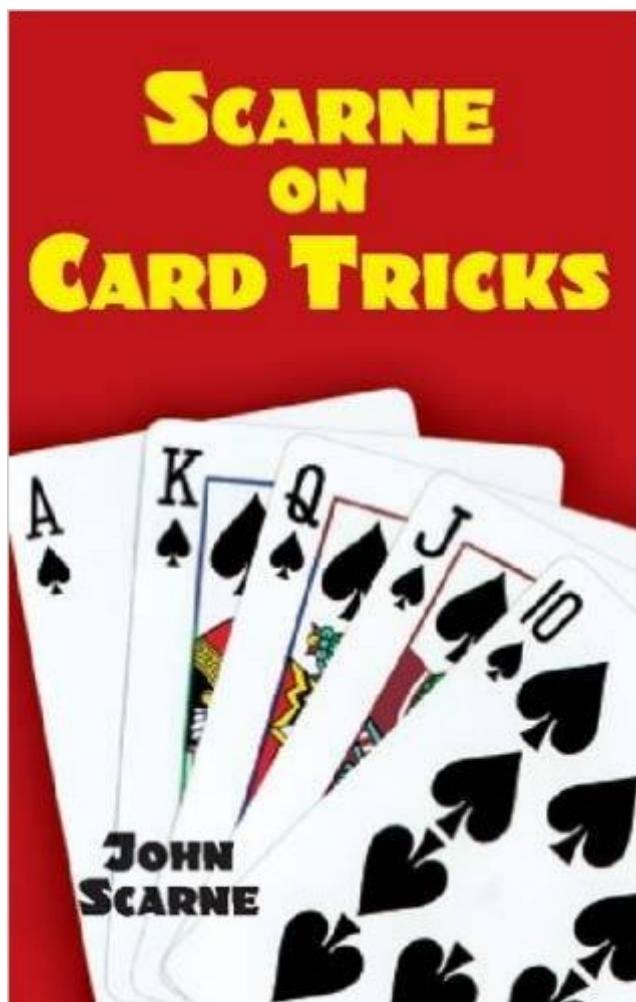


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Scarne On Card Tricks (Dover Magic Books)



Synopsis

In this treasury, the world's number one card wizard sets forth the precise details of 150 professional card tricks — none of which require sleight-of-hand dexterity. Presented with simple instructions and clear illustrations, plus suggestions for accompanying patter, are Houdini's "Card on the Ceiling," Blackstone's "Card Trick Without Cards," Carlyle's "Piano Card Trick," Milton Berle's "Quickie Card Deal," and Scarne's very own "Drunken Poker Deal" and "Knockout Card Trick."

Book Information

Series: Dover Magic Books

Paperback: 336 pages

Publisher: Dover Publications (March 10, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0486427358

ISBN-13: 978-0486427355

Product Dimensions: 5.4 x 0.7 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (19 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #82,368 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #21 in Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Magic & Illusion #31 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Magic #55 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Puzzles & Games > Card Games

Customer Reviews

John Scarne is today perhaps best remembered as a leading authority on gambling scams and card cheats. However, in his prime, he was one of the best magicians in America. In the late 40s, as stated in the Introduction, Scarne decided to gather for magicians a set of card tricks involving no sleight-of-hand. The result is "Scarne on Card Tricks". The 155 effects in the book range from quick tricks and puzzlers to more elaborate card demonstrations. All of the effects are attributed to either the originator of the effect or to a magician who used the effect frequently. The book clearly bears Scarne's unique genius not only in the selection and variety of effects, but in Scarne's improvements of the original effects. There is no doubt that anyone can put together a most entertaining routine with the material in this book. Two words of caution. First, the copyright of the book is 1950 and so some of the patter is clearly dated and needs to be revised for contemporary audiences. (Patter is the words or story that accompany the effect.) Second, because the effects are

easy to do when practiced, there is a tendency to perform the effects before fully thought out. For every hour learning the basic effect itself, two hours should be spent on how to present it in an entertaining and interesting manner. The book itself, however, remains one of the very best in card magic. Scarne's work clearly stands the test of time. Frankly, the book is a steal at the published price. I bought two copies because I knew I'd wear one book out. I did. The book is that useful.

Many magicians own the Classic book "Scarne on Card Tricks." But it is said if you want to keep a trick a secret, put it in print! Most of what's in Scarne on Card Tricks is no doubt a complete mystery to most laymen--and many magicians! Its a great book for the card beginner. On the other hand, there's a lot of boring and tedious count-down stuff in there as well. The book is BIG--over 300 pages of carefully detailed effects. It can be a little overwhelming to someone the first time he picks it up. How do you separate the wheat from the chaff? Best, in my view, are the tricks that can be done TOTALLY impromptu, with very little or no stacking, when a deck is shoved into your hands and somebody says "Do a trick!". Here are some of the effects that I have judged to be best, based on the above criteria:

The Upside down Deck by Francis Carlyle
Hit the Deck
Scarne's Follow the Leader
Cardini's Color Discernment
Card on the Ceiling
Card through the Handkerchief
Of course, You Do as I Do is also a classic, though it is fairly well known among magicians. In short, a little work digging out the best tricks will make you a true card magician in most people's eyes, with enough practice and performing experience.

This is the definitive collection of non sleight-of-hand (you don't have to be quick with your hands) card tricks. I bought my first paperback copy in 1974 when I was still a schoolboy. Some of the tricks are easy but astounding, such that I've memorised two of them and have amazed my friends over the years until now. Since then, there hasn't been any other card trick manual that can beat this one, to the best of my knowledge.

This book brings back good memories as it was my first card trick book when I was a child in the 80's. The tricks are simple and effective and require no slight of hand. They can be performed with just a normal deck of cards. The pictures in the book look a little dated, but this doesn't take away from any of the tricks. One of the more complicated tricks is still one that I perform to stunned friends after more than 30 years.

This is one of the cornerstone books for anyone looking to learn or improve their cardistry or magic

skills. It is that rare type of book that retains its relevance over time and has been handed down from previous generations to the present and I'm certain this will continue for many years to come--so much of it is timeless. I was very happy to find that there is a Kindle version and that for the most part, it is well done. This is a simply amazing book in scope and quality.

I own the original 1950 hard-backed copy of Scarne on Card Tricks. John was a dear old friend of our family. For years, I have been doing his great tricks and astounding everyone without having to use any slight of hand. That's what makes this book so great. If you want to entertain your friends or bring some life to a party, this is a great way to do it. They're clever, simple, yet always impossible to figure out! I strongly suggest everyone get it!! John always was, and always will be the greatest magician and authority on gambling that ever lived!

a "MUST HAVE" book if you are interested in card tricks that do not involve any sleight-of-hand. The tricks are very well explained and easy to learn, even for children. With over 150 tricks in one book. If one were to learn them all, then friends will be amazed at the depth of tricks that a performer knows at any one setting.

I really like the thoroughness of this book and the enormous amount of tricks. Just one thing--there aren't enough illustrations that kept me up with the tricks. Instead, I am still a little confused about some of the more difficult card tricks.

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