

Technicolor Dream Cloth

(Routine by Peter Gardini)

Effect

A piece of multi coloured cloth is displayed. The performer says that this reminds them of Joseph and his coat of many colours. After running the cloth through their bare hands, the cloth visibly changes into a loop of rope. Using this loop of rope the performer then runs through a series of escape routines culminating in a cut and restored effect. This is very visual and easy to do.

Set-up

A pair of scissors

A four inch length of multi coloured stockinette. If this is examined it will be seen that it is actually a tube of material.

To make the rope loop

Display the piece of cloth to the audience saying that it reminds you of Joseph and his coat of many colours. Place the fingers of both hands into one end of the tube of material as in Fig 1.

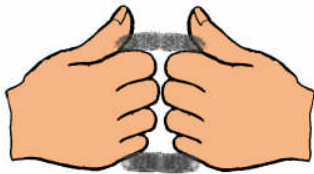


Fig. 1

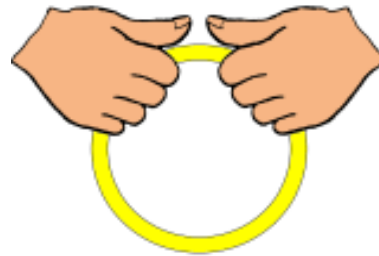


Fig 2.

By pulling the hands apart and allowing the material to run through the hands as in Fig 2., the material, due to the way that it is made will automatically form itself into what looks like a loop of rope. Now how easy was that?

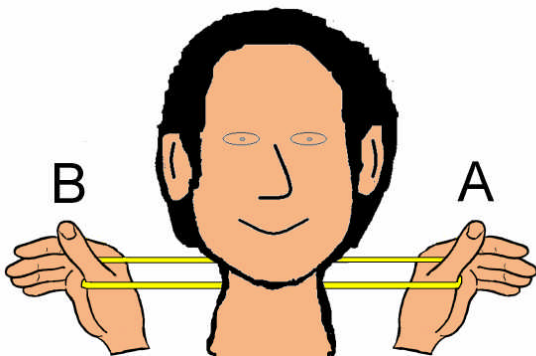


Fig. 3.

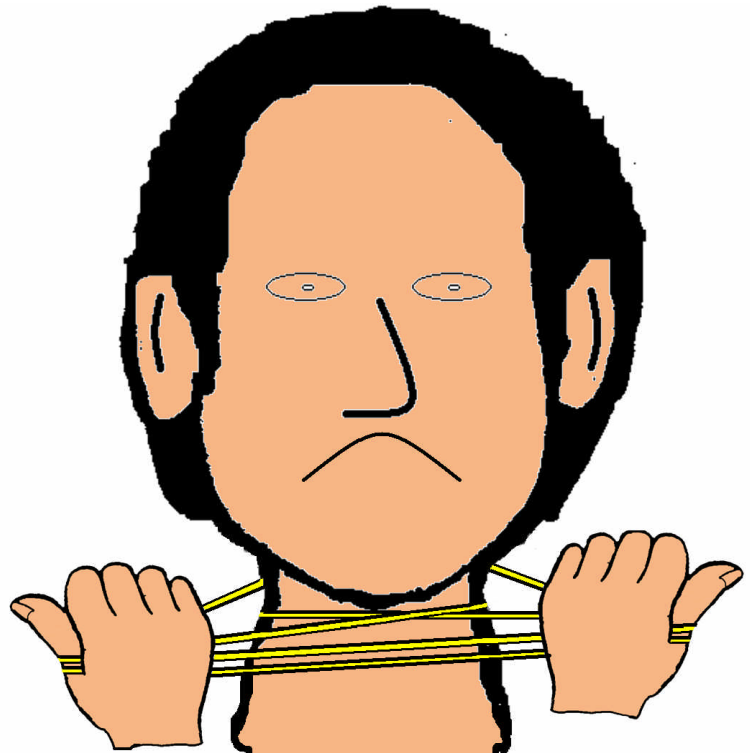


Fig. 4.

To escape from the slave collar or rope around the neck

Place the loop of rope behind the neck so that the left thumb is in end A and the right thumb is in end B as in Fig. 3. Bring both loops round to the front of the neck crossing them over so that loop A is on top of loop B. Curl the fingers of both hands down into loops A and B as in Fig. 4. This represents the slave collar.

To achieve the release, remove the fingers of both hands from the lower loop which is loop B but keep hold of the lower loop with the thumbs of each hand. When ready to do the release, drop the lower loop off both thumbs and quickly pull the hands apart. This will cause loop B to whip round the back of the neck as in Fig. 5. Done at the correct speed this will not be seen.

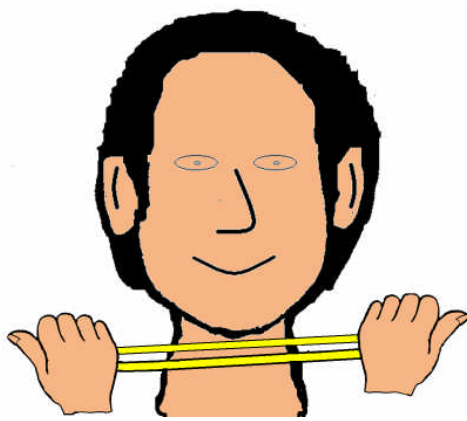


Fig. 5

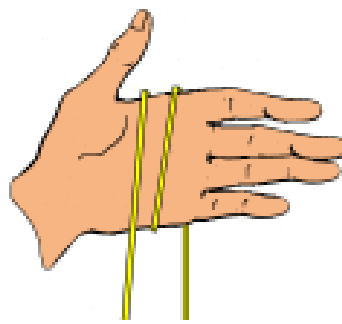


Fig. 6

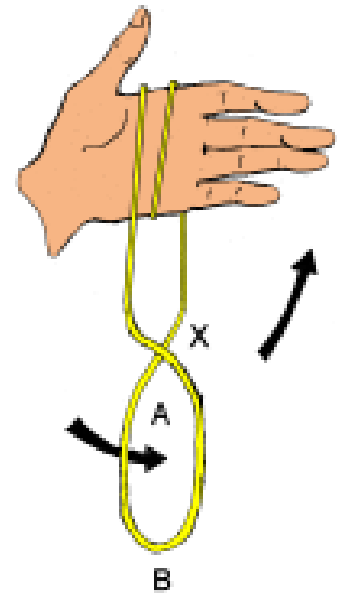


Fig. 7

To escape from the rope tied around the hand

Wind the rope one and a half times clockwise around the left hand as in Fig. 6. Pull on the rope to tighten it and to demonstrate that the hand is truly trapped.

With the right hand thumb and index finger put a twist in the rope at point X to give the loop A as in Fig. 7. Lift at point X with the thumb and index finger of the right hand and put the left hand fingers through the back of loop A. Rest point X on top of the left index finger and hold it in place with the left thumb. To make the escape, simply pull down at point B and the loop will appear to penetrate through the fingers.

Cut and restored instructions

Hold the rope loop between both hands and rotate the right hand anti-clockwise to put a half twist in the rope as in Fig. 8. Continue to put a full twist in the rope loop as in Fig. 9.

Bring the loop A down over loop B. Holding point C covered in the left hand and loops A and B in the right hand. Take a pair of scissors and cut through both loops at points marked X. This will give the position shown in Fig. 10. There will be a long length of rope with a short length looped round it. To the audience it will appear to be two lengths of rope the same length. To restore the rope to a single length, tie a simple overhand knot in the short length of rope around the long length of rope. The long length of rope may now be displayed to the audience and it will appear to be two equal lengths of rope tied together with a knot. To restore the rope to a single long length, wind the rope round the left hand and when the right hand meets the knot, continue to slide it along the long length of rope and off the end of the long rope. Conceal the knot in the right hand and uncoil the rope round the left hand to show that it has become one long rope. The knot in the right hand can be discarded as the long rope is put away.

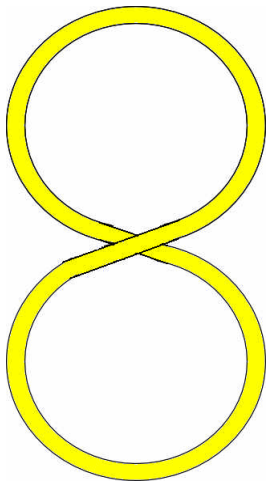


Fig. 8

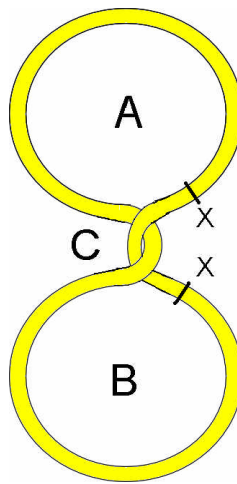


Fig. 9

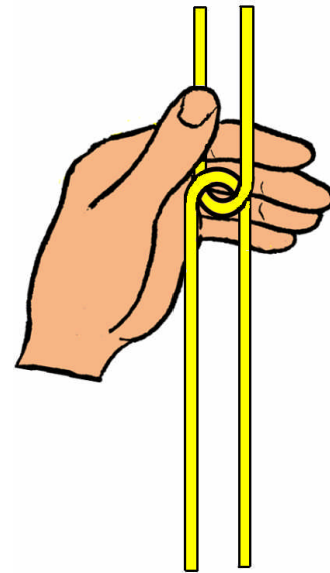


Fig 10

Full routine and patter

Display the piece of stockinette between the hands

“When I saw this piece of coloured cloth it reminded me of the story of Joseph and his many coloured coat. God knew that Joseph was going to be someone special.” **Make the cloth into a loop Fig 2.**

“Joseph’s brothers sold him into slavery in Egypt”. **Go into the slave collar position Fig. 3 and Fig. 4.**

“God looked after Joseph and enabled him to become the second highest in the kingdom of Egypt. He also enabled him to save his family and restored his brothers to him.” **Fig. 5.**

“God looked after Joseph’s family” **Fig. 2.**

“After many years the descendants of Joseph and his family were made slaves again and were tied and put to work in the fields and the brick pits.” **Fig. 6.**

“The more they cried out the heavier their bonds and work became” **Fig. 7.**

“God raised up Moses to be their rescuer and to release them from their captivity”. **Fig. 2.**

“All through the Old Testament we hear about the children of Israel being made captives and God raising up people to be their rescuers or saviours”.

“Finally God sent His own Son Jesus Christ into the world to be the Saviour of all and to rescue us from sin and death. He came as a baby and was wrapped in cloths.” **Hold the cord bundled up between cupped hands as you say this.** “We were all trapped with no escape” **Fig. 8. and Fig. 9. Hold the two loops between the hands like handcuffs as these words are spoken.**

“Jesus died on the cross at Calvary for all people, he was cut off from the living” **Cut through the two loops at xx and hold the ropes as in Fig. 10.**

“Jesus took upon himself everything that keeps us from God’s love, all our sins and the things we do wrong.” Tie the two short ends together and display the knot in the rope, our sins.

“They wrapped His body and laid it in a stone tomb” **Using the right hand, wrap the cord around the left hand taking the knot away in the right hand as you do.** “But on the third day He rose again and took all our sins away”. Display the single long length of rope minus the knot which is concealed in the right hand.

To finish, place both ends of the rope into the right hand and give the illusion that the circle has been restored by moving the left hand repeatedly along the rope **Fig. 2.**

This is a very simple routine which links Christmas with Easter.

Notes:

The same routine but with different patter could be used for birthday parties, where instead of a Gospel message the story could be that the piece of cloth was a piece of material from a school scarf from a famous school of magic and wizardry.

This effect is very inexpensive to make up. It is light weight so that it can be carried in a pocket but it can be presented close up for intimate presentations or on stage to the largest audience if required

Audiences often accuse the performer of having something up their sleeve, so to add to the mystery, this effect can be performed with bare arms or with rolled up sleeves.

Never look at the hands when performing an effect. Wherever you look the audience will look so if a difficult move is being made and you look at your hands the audience are more likely to spot it.

Never perform a trick to an audience until you have practiced it. When you think that you have practiced it enough then practice it again until you can do it with your eyes shut.

Remember the magician's code and never tell how the trick was performed.

Keep the secret but share the truth of the Gospel message.