

The Final 3

Effect: Spectator picks 3 cards and conceals them in the deck. The performer deals out the deck into a faced-up pile and a faced-down pile, and repeats this over and over until there's only a 3-card faced-down pile, and the rest are faced-up. These are the spectator's cards.

Method

The trick's easy to do. Very much math based.

- Shuffle the deck any way you want. Doesn't have to be any sort of special deck.

- Have the spectator pick 3 cards. Don't let them show you and have them hold onto the three cards. Tell them to memorize the cards well.

- Deal out a pile of 10 cards on the right (pile 1), 15 cards in the middle (pile 2), 15 cards on the left (pile 3), and then the last nine in a separate pile below.

- Have the spectator put one card on top of pile 1.

- Tell them to cut pile 2 and put it on top of pile 1.

- Have the spectator put one card on top of the smaller pile 2.

- Have them cut pile 3 anywhere and place on top of pile 2.

- Put the last card on top of the smaller pile 3.

- Put the nine card pile on top of pile 3.

- Put pile 3 on top of pile 2, then put that on top of pile 1.

- Take the top four cards and put them on the bottom.

- Tell the spectator to watch the cards carefully and tell you to stop if they see their card.

- Start flipping the deck into two piles: one face up and one face down, alternating. Start with a face up card.

- Once you've gone through the entire deck, pick up the face down pile and repeat.

- Repeat until only three cards remain.

- Turn the three face down cards over.

- Tada! it's their cards!

Trick by Alexandra McMannis