



Cut Here:

The performer slowly moves an open pair of scissors down the length of a thin strip of cardstock and asks the spectator to say the word, "Stop" anytime they wish. When they do, the magician gives the spectator another opportunity to either raise or lower the position of the scissors as much or as little as they like. The spectator has an absolutely free choice. Finally, the performer cuts the strip of paper in half, precisely where the spectator decided. When the strip is turned around, the cut is found to be directly between the two words "Cut Here" which are printed on the paper!

This is really cool, but SO simple.

Just print out a sheet of paper on your computer that looks like this

CUT HERE

CUT HERE

Only, the 2 words should be at the the very top and very bottom of the page. then cut vertically an either side of the words, making a 1-1/2 inch strip or so. then, as precisley as you can, cut horizontally right through the word CUT HERE as close to half way as you can. Do the same thing on the bottom word. The two pieces that you cut off, when stuck together, should match to spell CUT HERE almost perfectly.

Now you have a strip with a half CUT HERE on top and on bottom

THE TRICK.

Hold the piece of paper UPSIDE DOWN, so that the the top part of the word CUT HERE is upside down. get them to cut the paper anywhere they want. as the bottom piece falls, ask them to pick it up. While the piece is falling, it will rotate naturally in the air, so the spec cannot know which side was up to begin with. During this misdirection, REVERSE the piece you are holding, so that the CUT HERE word is at the bottom. show it to them, and it will look like they cut right through the only word on the paper.

TIPS -

I use construction-style paper for this, as it is thicker, so the spec cannot see through the paper, which would reveal the secret, like they can with standard printer paper.

There are many applications fo this idea. I also print a page like this:

8
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8

and cut through the 8's on top and bottom. This allows for cool prediction effects. For this, though, you have to be sure they do not cut through any other number. I place an home-made envelope type thing over top of the sheet, with lines through THE SPACES BETWEEN THE NUMBERS drawn on the envelope. get them to cut through one of these lines. open the envelope, and they should have cut through one of the spaces. then you can reveal the prediction.

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