

## Red-Black (Divide) Location

I don't think I have to tell you that now you can count the cards of a borrowed deck, do the deal jog to separate the reds and blacks, and then do any of the standard selected-card locations utilizing the color separation. Basically, have a card selected from one half of the hand-to-hand spread and replaced into the other half, and so forth.

But here's a way to do this with which I've "taken in" magicians for years. The idea has been ripped off a few times through the years, so it must be good.

Assume you're in position-the cards are color separated (via The Great Divide, or any other way). Have a card freely selected from the top half, remembered-keep spreading-and have it replaced about a quarter of the way up from bottom. Square. It's all very clean.

Then, table the deck to riffle-shuffle position, cutting the lower half deck to the left. Move back a bit so that you can comfortably see the long sides of the cards, and start to legitimately riffle shuffle the halves into each other. Just look at the long sides (of the left half particularly) and the odd-colored card will stand out like the proverbial sore thumb!

(Particularly if you lift the cards of the left half a bit more than usual as you shuffle.)

You don't need to know which color was, or is, where. It will be either a red card among (near center of) the blacks, or a black card among the reds. Either way, it will be hard to miss.

The thing to do is to "catch" that odd-colored index as you riffle shuffle without pausing, without hesitation. Try it; you'll see that it's easy to do. Remember the card, of course. Complete the shuffle. Then do one more riffle shuffle.

You've "broken" the red-black stack-the cards are really mixed- and you know the selected card. Let the spectator shuffle, and end however you like.

Afterthoughts: If you handle it so that there's no suspicion of a red-black separation, this must fool!