

DOUGH by Jay Sankey

This is one of the cleanest and most convincing penetrations around. Luckily, it is also one of the easiest and most practical!

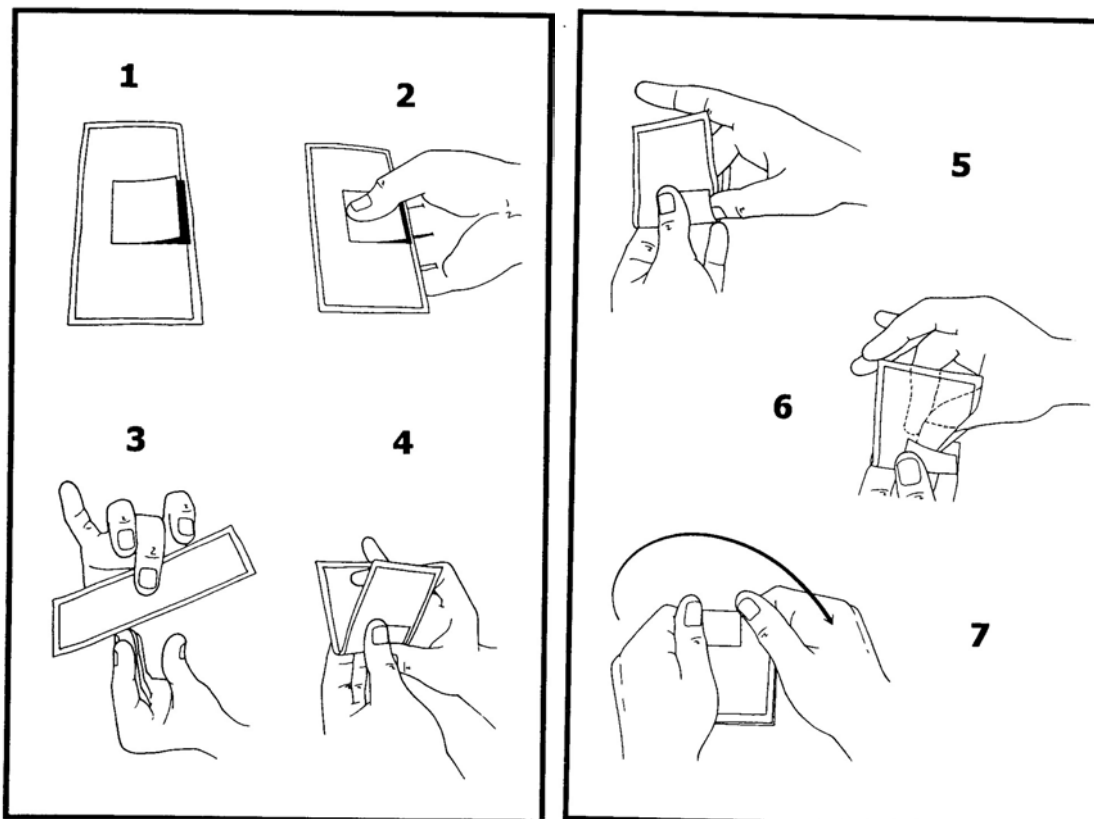
Borrow a bill and either introduce your own pencil or (even better) borrow a pencil or thin pen. Crumple the bill into a loose ball as you ask, "Ever wonder why money is called 'dough'?" Actually, it's because like bread dough, you can tear money and then knead it back together." Folks are skeptical, but you offer a demonstration.

Straighten the bill, then draw a small "bull's eye" on one of the enclosed post-it notes and stick it onto the bill (Fig.1) Take the bill and hold it in your palm up right hand with thumb on top and fingers below (Fig.2). Hand out the pencil to be examined with your left hand.

Make a comment about being an "excellent archer" as you casually fold the bill in half between your hands. It is under cover of this very casual act that you execute the routine's ONLY real "move."

To fold the bill, turn the right hand palm down and hold the left hand in "French Drop" position (Fig.3). Lower the bill down into the left hand (Fig.4) and at the same time, curl the right thumb and slip it BETWEEN the bill and the post-it note (Fig.5). The moment the folded bill is behind the left fingers, pull upward on the center of the bill between the right first finger and thumb (Fig.6).

Your right fingers now grab the corner of the bill and rotates it clockwise 90 degrees (Fig.7). Note the position of the curled fingers and that the thumb's position naturally covers the secret fold from view (Fig.8).

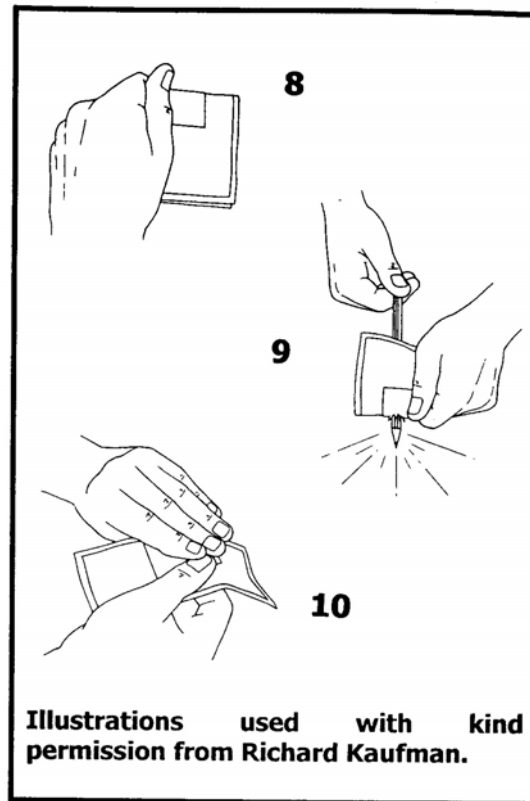


Hold the folded bill at about waist height

and slip the pencil inside until you feel the pencil's point "find the tunnel." Now just tap/push the pencil through the post-it note (Fig.9). It looks and sounds like it's going right through the bill!

Take hold of the tip of the pencil with your right fingers and thumb, and slowly pull the pencil "through the bill."

To finish, hand the pencil to someone and —under cover of straightening the bill- slip your right thumb inside the folded bill and use the tip of the thumb to "pop open" the secret fold as the left hand smoothly turns palm down and offers ample cover with the fingers (Fig.10) Smooth out the bill between your hands and then slowly, *very slowly* pull off the post-it note. Return the bill to the lender.



Illustrations used with kind permission from Richard Kaufman.