The Complete Idiot's Guide To Street Magic (Complete Idiot's Guides (Lifestyle Paperback))
It's the hip-hop of hocus-pocus. Forget about David Copperfield, cruise ship illusionists, and birthday party magicians. They're so twentieth century. Think cutting-edge magickers like David Blaine and Criss Angel. People starting out in magic today want something edgier, grittier, quick, visual, and maybe a little dangerous. This guide will teach you how to do it! What makes The Complete Idiot's Guide to Street Magic different from other books is the type of tricks and the thematic presentations that readers will actually learn. Out of the literally thousands of tricks that could have been included, only those that have the greatest impact, both visually and psychologically, appear in this book. It includes: 75 to 100 tricks, 200 illustrations, from how-to shots to photos of street magicians at work; Contains something for all levels, from easy-to-accomplish tricks for complete beginners to more challenging sleight-of-hand for those who seriously want to pursue the art of legerdemain.

**Book Information**

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**Customer Reviews**

The title of this book might be a bit off-putting to serious magicians. "Street magic" is busking, a centuries-old art: a charismatic street performer draws a crowd and does a show for as many people as will watch. Ogden is referring here to the "street magic" seen on television since David Blaine's first special in 1997. Young magicians find Blaine's "street magic" fascinating, because it's cooler than traditional stage performance. Old-timers don't consider TV-style "street magic" to be
the real deal. However, Ogden is using the concept here to appeal directly to a 21st-century audience. Ogden offers a first-rate introduction to the history and art of conjuring. The tricks here vary in difficulty from very simple sleight-free tricks to intermediate sleight-of-hand. They are carefully selected to have maximum punch. The presentations will truly amaze audiences. His partners in this venture include some of the biggest names in magic: Max Maven, Jeff McBride, Mac King, Michael Ammar, and many others. This is one of the best introductory books on conjuring I have ever seen. Highly recommended.

Great selection of tricks and side bars! I really liked the layout of the book and all the side comments. Very interesting stuff - Tom Ogden always does a great job researching his info and making sure it is succinct for the reader. Great read!

This is a very nice, detailed book, with good black and white photographic illustrations. I really like the "Flowers Direct" effect by Jeff McBride. If you are interested in close up magic with quick, direct illusions, this is a great instructional magic book.

Well, I was pretty excited when I got this book, I was not expecting absolutely amazing tricks to be revealed in this book, but, I didn’t expect tricks that I knew about when I was 13 years old. One trick is the famous disappearing object trick where you place a napkin over an object, drop that object into your lap and then "smash" the object under the napkin. Most of the tricks in this book are like this, so while I am disappointed to a certain extent I would suspect that this product would be better for younger people.

Like the title says. You won’t be David Blaine after reading the book but it’s a lot of fun to read and some really cool tricks are included. I wouldn’t say this is the best book on magic because I do think there are other killer ones out there but it certainly shouldn’t be looked over. Some books like Marc Wilson’s, Joshua Jay’s Complete Course, Royal Road to Card Magic, anything by Karl Fulves and even some DVD’s like Inside Magic and how to do street magic by Brad from Ellusionist are a little more "informative" but also gave a little higher caliber of effects in my personal opinion. However if this is your very first step into magic and you are interested; pick it up. It’s a good read and like I said has some good things in there from cards to all over the place. You could probably only beat the price/value with something like Royal Road to Card Magic.
This is a very good book for the beginning magician. It has some very basic tricks as well as some that are more sophisticated. I love close-up magic rather than the stage type because you are right there. This challenges the magician to be the best he/she can be at the craft. If you like David Blaine and his type of magic this book is for you.

This was the hit stocking-stuffer for my 10 year old. Three months later and he is still working these tricks. Easy (but not too easy) to read and digest the book is filled with surprisingly clever tricks. If you’re kiddo is even remotely interested in slight of hand get it now. You’ll not be disappointed.

I’ve had this book for two days, but I’ve already learned some astonishing effects that would give many magicians a run for there money! Some of the tricks I know already, but even these were presented in a fresh and edgy way. If you are even slightly interested in magic or are a fan of David Blaine or Criss Angel, buy this book! You will be glad you did! Have you ever wondered how Criss Angel or David Blaine "levitate" to the astonishment of viewers? Have you ever wanted to try magic but never worked up the nerve? This fun and informative book will give you the right persona, the confidence you need, and some great tricks to get you started!

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