

# THE RIPPER

By Lee Asher

**Effect:** A double backed card is removed from your pocket and displayed. Magically, the double backer is ripped into two Jacks. These two Jacks are then ripped into the four Jacks. The whole effect, from start to finish, takes about 8 to 10 seconds, and you end up in a super nice display.

**Credits:** What sparked the idea for The Ripper was something that *Scott Alexander* and *Alan Nu* came up with. Their version of a four Ace explosion will see print one of these days. Also I must credit *Eddie Hughlett* for the grip used (a fine addition to the method).

**Pre-show:** Set up the Jacks so one color (red) is in the center of the other (black) {Example: Jack of Spades, Jack of Hearts, Jack of Diamonds, Jack of Clubs}. Take the four Jacks and give them a slight bend inwards (see photo 1). Turn the Jack of Spades and Jack of Hearts face down on the Jack of Clubs and Jack of Diamonds (see photo 2). Square them, and set the four card packet in a top shirt pocket. Your side pants pocket is just as good.



Now you are ready to perform The Ripper.

**Show Time:** Take the four card double backer out of your pocket, or off the top of the deck. Hold it as square as possible, and say to the audience, "...have you ever seen one of these?"



You will display both sides of the double backer by holding the packet in your left hand, thumb on top of the cards in the lower left corner, and the fingers underneath. Turn your wrist face up, and then down, to show the single card. Feel like a paddle move? Basically you can use any flourish-like way of showing a single card. Just make sure to imply that the one card has two backs, but never actually call attention to it.

Now hold the packet parallel to the floor and re-grip the packet in the following position: The pad of the right third finger sits on the tip of the upper right corner of the card(s), the same with the pad of the right thumb, on the lower right corner. Hold the exact same grip in the left hand. Have the pad of the left third finger on the upper left corner of the card(s), and the left thumb on the lower left corner (see photo 3).

If pressure is applied by squeezing the packet with the third fingers toward the thumbs, the card(s) will bow up and down due to the pre-show bends you've placed in them (see photo 4).

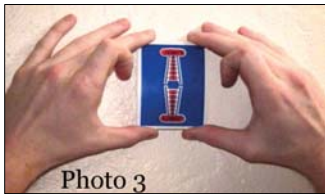


Photo 3

Stick both pointer fingers in the two big gaps, and then pinch the lower left and right corners by pressing against your thumbs (see photo 5). Let your third fingers move off the corners.

This makes the packet spring open, and you end up with two doubles (see photo 6). The next action happens very fast and I have broken it down into a few sequences so you can understand it a little better.



Photo 4

With your left thumb, push the cards closest to the thumbs, to the right. Your left first finger, pull the cards closest to it, to the left.

This action causes the two doubles to split.

Continue to pull (rip) the cards with the right thumb and first fingers until you have two Jacks in both hands (see photo 7).

This is the final display of The Ripper.

It makes for a great applause cue!



Photo 5

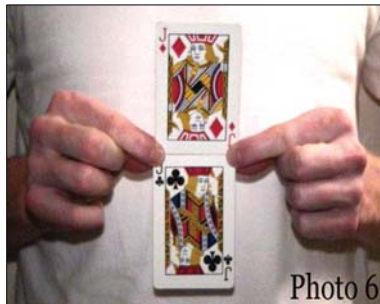


Photo 6



Photo 7

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