

# Grants

## Chinese Sticks Routine

Manufactured and Released by  
MAK Magic Co., Columbus, Ohio

The apparatus consists of two 'sticks' with cords passing through one end. The cords also pass through weights which slide inside of the 'sticks'. It will require a little practice for you to get your timing down right and to smooth out your routine, but once mastered, you have a trick that is always ready to work, is very entertaining and mystifying, and can be worked under all conditions. Have the sticks on your table, side by side, with one cord pulled out and the other one in.

Pick up the sticks holding them side by side in one hand, and straight out in front of you, *not tilted*, so the long cord will not be pulled in. Now, as the free hand pulls the short cord out long, the hand holding the sticks tips them up *slightly* so the long cord is pulled into the stick and becomes short. It appears as if one cord runs through the two sticks. Now, before letting go of the cord just pulled out, straighten the sticks so that when you let go the cord will not be pulled back in. Again grasp the short one and as you pull that out, tip the sticks up again and the long one becomes short as the short one grows long. This is the actual working -- now for the routine. By knowing the above you will recognize the moves from the routine.

Routine: Pick up the sticks and pull the cords back and forth a few times. Then separate them at the outer ends, but so the other ends are still together. Still, when you pull down on one cord the other goes up. Now they figure that the sticks are joined at the rear, and that the cord goes down one stick and up the other. You try to prove that this is not the case by pulling the long cord up and down through the stick. You can even have a spectator hold the tassel as you grasp the top knot and the two of you pull the cord back and forth. Then show that the cord is longer than the stick! Continue by pulling down on one as the other goes up.

Finally, part the sticks and show that there is no connection between them. Still when you pull one cord down the other one gets short, etc. Do this a couple of times. Comment that the trick never fails. At the same time, pull the short one out long but *do not tilt the sticks*. To your apparent amazement you now have two long cords! To overcome this, and with both sticks held in one hand, you take a pencil and pretend to draw a line between the two sticks at the outer end. The free hand pretends to grasp this invisible line and pulls up on it. As it does, tip both sticks up and both cords grow short, as if pulled up by the invisible line.

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Now pull one of the cords out long. Then place the stick with the short cord in the outer breast pocket of your coat, with the cord end of the stick at the top. The stick with the long cord is held in the left hand, and you stand facing slightly to the right, with your left side closer to the audience. Now as the right hand pulls the short cord out long from the stick in the pocket, the left hand tips its stick and that cord grows short. *Retaining your hold on the end of the cord from the stick in the pocket*, that hand goes over to the stick in the left hand and, as it takes hold of the short cord of that stick, it lets go of the cord from the stick in the pocket. As the cord from the left hand stick is pulled long, the other cord becomes short. This move is repeated twice. This final move, which is very pretty and very confusing, was originated by John Greely of Uniontown, Pa.

Patter: We are not going to give you word for word patter that you would have to memorize. Most performers develop a routine to suit their needs and style. But we are going to give you a patter theme which can be adapted to any routine!

Refer to the short cord as the TISSEL and the long cord as the TASSEL. It is that simple! You would say, for example, "Here we have a TISSEL and here we have a TASSEL. If we pull on the TISSEL the TISSEL becomes the TASSEL and the TASSEL becomes the TISSEL. However, if we tug on the TISSEL which was a TASSEL, it once again becomes a TASSEL as the TASSEL becomes a TISSEL." The patter is ridiculous, but it really helps to make the routine, and you can adapt it to what ever type of routine you do.

Footnote: You can start your routine with both cords short. This would permit you to have the sticks in your pocket with the cord ends at the top. When ready to start the routine, remove the sticks and hold them out straight saying, "You will notice that we have two TISSELS. Actually, it's better to have a TASSEL and a TISSEL. So if we pull on this TISSEL it becomes a TASSEL while the other remains a TISSEL," etc.

AN ADDITION TO

## CRYSTAL CHINESE STICKS

IF YOU CAN'T DO YOUR THING....  
UNTANGLE YOUR STRING.

AFTER PERFORMING OFTEN OR LEAVING YOUR CHINESE STICKS PACKED IDLE FOR A TIME THE STRING IN EACH STICK WILL APPARENTLY SLOW DOWN. THIS IS BECAUSE THE WEIGHT IN THE STICKS HAS A TENDANCY TO ROTATE IN A SPIRAL THUS TWISTING THE STRING.

THE REMEDY IS SIMPLE AND EASY.

SIT DOWN AND SUPPORT THE STICK VERTICALLY BETWEEN YOUR KNEES WITH THE STRING ENTRANCE END UPWARD. GRASP THE TASSLE IN ONE HAND AND THE BEAD IN THE OTHER HAND. GENTLY SEPERATE YOUR HANDS, THUS STRETCHING THE STRING AND RAISING THE WEIGHT. WHEN THE WEIGHT COMES TO THE TOP, IT WILL SPIN AROUND QUICKLY AND UNTANGLE.

REPETE WITH THE OTHER STICK. PACK THE STICKS WITH THE STRINGS FULLY EXTENDED AND WRAPPED AROUND THE PAIRED STICKS.

USE NO LUBRICATION. IF STRINGS NEED REPLACING, RETURN THEM TO THE DEALER FROM WHOM YOU PURCHASED THEM. FOR A MODEST CHARGE EVERYTHING WILL BE PUT IN GOOD WORKING ORDER.

IF NECESSARY STICKS CAN BE RETURNED TO:

MAK MAGIC  
P.O.Box 44052  
COLUMBUS OH 43204