

# 25 PUB AND BAR TRICKS

HAVE GREAT FUN WITH THESE EASY TO DO PUB TRICKS!

## 1. THE SUCKING GLASS TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** An ashtray, an empty pint glass, some beer, a box of matches and a coin. **PREPARATION:** Pour a very shallow layer of beer into the ashtray. **THE TRICK:** Can anyone in the room make the beer go into the glass without touching the beer itself? **THE SECRET:** Place a coin in the middle of the beer. Light a match and place it horizontally on the coin. Take the empty glass and place it over the coin and the match. The resultant vacuum causes the beer to be sucked into the glass!

## 2. THE DANGEROUS EXPLODING BOTTLE TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A beer bottle and some water. **PREPARATION:** Buy some medical insurance! - Seriously be careful! **THE TRICK:** Say, "Is anybody here truly stupid enough to try and make this bottle blow up without the use of explosives?" **THE SECRET:** Drain a beer bottle and fill it with water to within 2cm of the rim. Strike the top of the bottle with the palm of your hand. The lower half of the bottle will instantly erupt into a shower of glass and water and maybe even blood! (You try this one entirely at your own risk - again be careful!)

## 3. PUSHING THE GLASS

**YOU WILL NEED:** A small glass, a straw and a beer mug. **PREPARATION:** Put all the equipment on the table. **THE TRICK:** Ask everyone if they can push the small glass through the handle of the beer mug without actually touching either of the glasses. **THE SECRET:** Take the straw, stick it through the handle of the beer mug and push the small glass with it. Now you are pushing a small glass through the handle of the beer mug without touching either of them! Cheeky i know ;-)

## 4. BEER CAP FRISBEE

**YOU WILL NEED:** A penny and two bottle tops. **PREPARATION:** Make sure the penny is handy. **THE TRICK:** Tell your mate that you can throw a bottle cap farther than he can. Allow him to choose his own bottle top if it makes him feel better. **THE SECRET:** Let your friend throw first. While he is trying to give it his best shot, hide the penny in the bottle top, bending the edges in slightly to hold the penny in place. This will make the bottle top much heavier causing it to travel much further!

## 5. THE OLIVE BRIDGE

**YOU WILL NEED:** An olive, a brandy glass, three whisky tumblers and a straw. **PREPARATION:** Place the olive on the bar and put the brandy glass nearby. Put two of the whisky glasses upside down about six inches from the olive with the straw balanced between the two like a bridge or a hurdle. Put the third whisky glass another six inches away from the hurdle, this time the right way up. **THE TRICK:** Say to your friends, "Holding only the base of the brandy glass, can you make the olive leap the hurdle and jump into the whisky glass?" **THE SECRET:** Put the brandy glass upside down over the olive. Hold the base of the brandy glass and start twirling it around to create a centrifugal force. The olive will rise up and spin around. Keep working the brandy glass and move it over the hurdle. Stop twirling the brandy glass over the whisky tumbler and drop it in!

## 6. THE CORKER

**YOU WILL NEED:** A silk scarf, an empty wine bottle and a cork. **PREPARATION:** Push the cork all the way into the bottle. **THE TRICK:** Can any of your friends get the cork out of the bottle without breaking the glass? **THE SECRET:** Grab the scarf by two diagonally opposite corners. Now work the centre of the scarf into the bottle. Do not let go of the corners of the scarf. Holding the bottle horizontally, you can move the cork onto the scarf loop that's formed. Pull the scarf and cork into the neck of the bottle and you will be able to slide them out!

## 7. MOVE THE BANK NOTE

**YOU WILL NEED:** A pint glass, a bank note and at least five 10p coins. **PREPARATION:** Balance the coins on the rim of the pint glass with the note between them. Again this will take a little skill, practice carefully before trying in public. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Can anyone remove the banknote without disturbing the coins?" **THE SECRET:** If you try to pull the note away flat then the coins will fall off. Take the free end of the banknote gently between thumb and forefinger and carefully raise the note to make an angle of about 45 degrees. Keeping hold of the note, strike sharply in the reverse direction at the base of the angle you have made, using the the forefinger of your other hand. Your coins will still be perfectly balanced on the lip of the glass.

## 8. THE KARATE CHOP

**YOU WILL NEED:** A box of matches, and a friend. **PREPARATION:** Wait until your friend goes to the toilet then put the matchbox on the table, resting on it's short side, and hold two matches against the long sides with your fingers so that they stand up like a rugby post above the end of the box. Make sure the heads of the matches are held against the striking board then balance another match across the top. **THE TRICK:** Tell your friend that everyone has tried to karate chop the matchstick but they have all failed dismally because it just hurt their fingers too much. **THE SECRET:** He will grab the box, and holding the matches in the same way he will then make a chop at the match on top. As he does the matches on the striking side will ignite as they are pushed downwards, thus burning his fingers! - Be careful with this one too!

## 9. EVERLASTING ASH TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A cigarette and a paper clip. **PREPARATION:** Before the trick, get a cigarette, then straighten a paper clip and carefully stick it down the full length of the ciggy, as close to the middle as you can get it. Make sure that no one can see the clip. Put it back into your packet and return to the table. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet you that I can smoke my cigarette without letting any of the ash fall off!" **THE SECRET:** When you light the 'fixed' cigarette the metal inside will stop the ash from falling off. You can even wave the fag around and the ash won't fall off!

## 10. THE BENDING CIGARETTE TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A packet of cigarettes. **PREPARATION:** Buy a drink and take out your cigarette and a lighter. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet you can't bend this cigarette totally in half without breaking it!" **THE SECRET:** Firstly, let your friends try, unsuccessfully to bend a cigarette, breaking it each time. They will all say that it is impossible. Then show them how it's done. Simply dip the end of your cigarette into your pint, so that roughly the last half centimeter is wet. Light the cigarette and take a drag on the ciggy as hard as you can, at the same time. After a couple of seconds you will be able to bend the cigarette in half without breaking it!

## 11. THE COIN TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A coin and a box of matches. **PREPARATION:** Put a match, head up, between the end of the box and the tray. Stick the coin on top of the box and balance another match between the coin and the first match, so that the two match heads are touching at the top. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Can anyone take the coin off the box without touching the match on top?" **THE SECRET:** Use a lighter to light the balanced match, lighting it about halfway along the length. The match will ignite, stick to the other match and slowly rise up. Then you can take your coin out!

## 12. THE HAT TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A whiskey tumbler and a hat. **PREPARATION:** Pour a shot of whiskey or any other drink into the glass and place the hat over the top of the glass to cover it. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet I can drink this whiskey without touching the hat!" **THE SECRET:** Get under the table and make a slurping sound. Pop back up looking satisfied. Your friend will inevitably let curiosity get the better of him and he will check under the hat to see if you drank it, giving you the opportunity to grab the glass and drink the whiskey without having touched the hat!

### 13. THE BALANCING ACT

**YOU WILL NEED:** A matchbox and a pint of beer. **PREPARATION:** Balance the pint of beer on top of the matchbox. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet you can't move the matchbox without touching the pint of beer!" **THE SECRET:** Make sure that the bottom of the glass, the bar surface and the matchbox is dry. Place your hand flat on the bar underneath the edge of the pint glass. With a sharp sideways swipe slap the box out from under the pint of beer making sure your hand follows through.

### 14. THE BOTTLE CAP TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A beer bottle and a bottle cap. **PREPARATION:** Put the bottle top next to the bottle on the table. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Using only your forefinger move the bottle cap up the side of the bottle until it is upside down on top of the bottle. Next turn the bottle top the right way up on top of the bottle then turn it back upside down again. Finally get the bottle cap back to the table, again using only your forefinger." **THE SECRET:** Push the bottle cap to the top of the bottle and make sure that it sits there upside down. Then gently roll the bottle top around until it is balanced on the edge and you can get your finger underneath it. Deftly flip it over. Then reverse the process, turning it in the opposite direction and slide it down the side! Easy!

### 15. THE GLASSBLOWING TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** Two straight pint glasses. **PREPARATION:** Put one glass loosely inside another and then place them on their side with the ends of the glasses pointing towards you. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet you can't get the inner glass out of the outer glass without touching either of the glasses." **THE SECRET:** Simple. Blow very hard into the gap between the two glasses and the glass on the inside will pop out into your hands.

### 16. THE EGG TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A beer bottle or even better a milk bottle, some paper, a shelled hard boiled egg and a box of matches. **PREPARATION:** Just lay everything on the bar. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Can anyone here get the egg into the bottle without breaking the egg or the bottle?" **THE SECRET:** Take a piece of paper, roll it up and set fire to it. Place the burning paper into the bottle. Now place the egg on top of the open bottle. This will now create a vacuum and in doing so will suck the egg into the bottle.

### 17. THE FASTEST DRINKING TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** One short drink, two pints of beer and a friend. **PREPARATION:** Put the drinks on the bar. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet I can drink my two pints before you can drink your short drink. Say there are two conditions though. They are not allowed to start drinking the short until you have finished and put down your pint and neither of you can touch each other's glasses." **THE SECRET:** Drink the first pint and quickly place the empty pint glass upside down over the short glass. The other person is not allowed to touch your glass so you can finish your second pint at your leisure.

### 18. THE MAGIC COIN

**YOU WILL NEED:** A wine glass, an unlit cigarette, a penny coin and a beer mat. **PREPARATION:** Put the beer mat over the wine glass, balance the cigarette, filter upwards, in the middle of the beer mat, then balance the coin on top of the fag. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Can you get the coin into the glass without touching anything?" **THE SECRET:** Blow under the edge of the beer mat in an upward direction. The beer mat and the cigarette will be blown away and the heavier coin will fall into the glass.

### 19. THE MAGIC GLASS TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A brandy glass with a shot of booze in it and an empty sherry glass. **PREPARATION:** Turn the sherry glass upside down and stick it in the brandy glass. **THE TRICK:** Say, "Can anyone get the brandy into the sherry glass and drink it without touching the sherry glass with your hands?" **THE SECRET:** Pick up the brandy glass. Take the far side of the sherry glass in your mouth and pull it out of the brandy glass. Stand straight and tip your head back so the glass is the right side up. Carefully pour the brandy into the sherry glass. Turn the empty brandy glass upside down and hold it in your hand. Next slide the smaller glass onto the base of the brandy glass. You can now put the whole top end of the sherry glass into your mouth, tip your head back and swallow.

### 20. THE FLAMING FIVER TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** A glass of whiskey or brandy and a five pound note. **PREPARATION:** Get your glass of brandy or whiskey and the five pound note handy. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet I can make this five pound note go up in flames and still be able to spend it." and then casually order a whiskey or brandy from the bar. **THE SECRET:** Take the note out of the alcohol and put it on the table or in an empty glass. Now set fire to one corner of the note, be careful to let go of it quickly. All the spirit will now burn off but the note will be left intact so go and collect your winnings. Don't forget to clean your five pound note with water after the trick.

### 21. THE COIN THROUGH THE TABLE TRICK

**YOU WILL NEED:** Two scraps of paper, Sellotape and two medium size coins of the same value. **PREPARATION:** Firstly get a pal to write his initials on two scraps of paper and then tape each of them to a one pound coin. Tell your friends you are doing this because it stops you swapping any coins while you are doing the trick. **THE TRICK:** Say, "I bet I can pass this coin with your initials on straight through this table and catch it underneath!" **THE SECRET:** Place the two coins on the edge of the table then drag the first coin towards you with your left hand, pick it up and hold your hand under the table with your fist closed. Next pretend to pick up the other coin in the same way with your right hand, but as you drag the coin towards you, knock it onto your lap leaving your right fist on the table. Now slyly pick up the second coin from your lap with your left hand and tell your friends that you are going to move the coin they think is in your right hand straight through the table into your other hand. Click the coins together as if the second coin has just landed under the table, hold out your left hand and reveal the two coins together in your hand.

### 22. THE CLASSIC NOTE TRICK

This is a classic note switch used by conmen in the USA. It relies heavily on the fact that US dollars all look quite alike to one another. First get a \$50 dollar note and fold it width ways around your middle finger, securing it with your ring and index fingers. Now get a \$5 dollar bill and fold it widthways again and hold it in the palm of your hand, holding it in place with your thumb. Now with the back of your hand to the bartender, hold the bill up above all the other customers to get noticed and as you order your drink slam your hand down on the bar. The barman will clearly see the value of the dollar bill and will turn away to get your drink. While the barman's attention is on getting your drink, simply drop the \$5 dollar note onto the bar, which lies folded the same way as the \$50 dollar note, which you then swiftly tuck under your palm. Now all you have to do is put the middle, index and ring fingers in the same position as you had the \$50 dollar bill. With a little practice this can be done seamlessly. You cannot get caught doing this trick because if the barman notices the \$5 dollar bill then you just pretend to be drunk and claim you made a mistake. Only ever do this trick in a crowded bar where there is quite a rush of people. Eight out of ten times it WILL work! And don't forget "Practice makes perfect!"

### 23. THE AMAZING MAGIC CRUCIFIX!

First get a plastic straw and spear a cocktail stick through it, about an inch from the top. Next get a spirit bottle, making sure that a little bit of brandy is left in the bottom, and put the bottle under a hot tap for a couple of minutes, taking care not to get any water in the bottle. Next push the straw into the bottle using the cocktail stick as a crossbar. Now say to your friends, "I bet I can get the cross out of the bottle without touching the cross or the bottle, then simply light a match, throw it into the bottle and stand back as the straw crucifix rockets through the air, trailing a red hot flame! A Stunner!

### 24. THE TRICKY COIN TOSS

The coin toss trick is an easy money spinner and relies on the victim thinking that he has a fifty fifty chance. Basically the victim calls heads or tails and if he is correct then he wins the bet but loses if he is wrong. With this trick the victim loses every time you want him to lose! The secret to the trick is that you have an identical second coin tucked under your ring finger with the heads side facing the palm of your hand. Catch the tossed coin between your index finger and thumb and release the other one on the back of your hand according to the victim's call, either heads or tails. If they call heads then the switch is easy but if they call tails let the hidden coin drop the other way by letting it fall onto your finger tips before slapping it down. As you show the victim that he lost yet again secretly position the other coin under your ring finger and look at which side is facing your palm before doing the trick again. With practice this trick is a very effective way of making a lot of money!

### 25. SWAP THE NOTE

A well known trick in the USA which seems to work a lot is conning a bartender, especially in a very busy bar. While you are waiting to be served drop a crumpled \$5 dollar bill onto the floor behind the bar then get the bartender's attention by pointing out that you have accidentally dropped the five dollar note. As the barman hands the money back to you, you instantly say, "Actually, I will use that for a beer!", at the same time switching the original \$5 dollar bill for a crumpled \$1 dollar bill you have hidden in the palm of your hand, and hand the money back to the barman. This all happens so quickly that the barman doesn't realise that he now has a different dollar bill in his hand. What also helps is the fact that most US dollars are the same size and colour! This trick works the best in more darker bars or in nightclubs where there are plenty of flashing lights! Enjoy a few free drinks!