

## **December 27 - To Justify a Packet**

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“Packet tricks” have a tradition in the world of magic. When I was a teenager, in the 1970s, grown-up men went to magic club meetings carrying a purse with a wallet that had many compartments, each fitted with a “packet trick” of some sort. They would then perform one trick after the other, each with a different packet. Many of these tricks were terrible, some good and very few outstanding. The subject warrants a book, so I will limit this entry to answering the question of how to use a limited number of cards in a logical way.

### **Thinnest Deck in the World**

This is an idea by Jim Steinmeyer (see his “Thinnest Deck in the World”). The packet needed (“thinnest deck”) is carried in an equally thin card case. With a little bricolage you can transform any ordinary card case into a “thin” card case.

### **Waste Card Collection**

Explain that you used to throw away the Jokers, but have now found an interesting use for them. Can also be applied to publicity cards, guarantee cards, rank-of-hands cards, etc.

### **Magic Club Credential Trick**

Have a simple wallet that when opened shows some kind of badge à la police-FBI badge (Casino, Magic Club, etc.). In the compartment next to it is the card packet. Explain that in order to verify one’s identity, every magician needs to perform a trick. Now do the trick with the packet as your “credential.”

### **Convention Badge**

Here is an idea by craftsman extraordinaire Joan Font from Barcelona. The packet is in a transparent bag, or in a plastic folder, which hangs by a cord around your neck. It can be carried as an “amulet,” or as a “convention badge,” etc.

### **The Letter**

The packet is in an envelope, maybe together with a letter, which might play a role in the respective trick. Or maybe the “letter” is an instruction sheet from an old catalogue?

Come up with ten original ideas of how to carry a packet trick and thus justify its use.