Four Kings

**THE TRICK:** The magician shows the audience four kings, which he has sorted out of a deck of cards. He explains that he is going to scatter these kings throughout the deck, and then mysteriously bring them together again.

**THE SECRET:** Before holding up the four kings, the magician secretly places two other cards behind the second king from the left. He places all four kings on top of the deck (the cards are all face down). Then he takes the first king and puts it on the bottom of the deck; he takes the second card, which the audience believes is a king, and slips it into the middle of the deck, and he does the same with the third card. Then he says: "Ladies and gentlemen, you've all seen me scatter the kings in the deck of cards. One is at the top and one is at the bottom of the deck and two are somewhere in the middle. Is that right?"

When the others agree, he cuts the deck once, bringing the king at the bottom of the pack together with the three kings still on top. Then he turns the cards face up, fans them out, and, to everyone's surprise, shows all four kings together. This trick depends upon the magician's ability to keep the two cards well hidden behind the four kings at the beginning of the demonstration. It requires practice beforehand to be performed successfully.