Legs

THE TRICK: When the magician leaves the room, his assistant tells the audience to select any object. Upon the magician's return, the assistant begins pointing to objects, each time asking if it is the selected one. Of course the magician says "no" until the right object is indicated.

THE SECRET: The first object the assistant points to contains the vital clue. If an object with legs is indicated by the assistant, then the magician knows that the correct article does have legs. The assistant then points to a number of articles without legs, such as ashtrays, lamps, or pictures, and when next he indicates an object with legs the magician knows that that is the correct object. If the group chose an article without legs, then the assistant reverses his procedure. First he points to an object without legs, then several with, and finally, the correct object.