OUT ON A LIMB

Bet you can fill a stocking with an invisible leg!

THE SETUP

This eerie illusion works best on a cold, dry day. It may not work for you if it's hot and muggy. To make a “ghost” leg you will need a woman’s nylon stocking ---the shiny kind, not the kind with elastic in it. And you must have a piece of wool (a sweater, sock or scarf). Hold the toe of the stocking in your left hand. Grasp the piece of wool in your right hand and place it around the stocking close to your left hand. Pull the stocking through the wool-clad hand. Repeat this, rubbing the nylon in the same direction each time. Soon it will be “charged” up. Hold the opening of the stocking in your right hand. It will appear to inflate with an invisible leg.

INSIDER INFORMATION

Rubbing the nylon gives it an electrical charge known as static electricity. The entire stocking picks up the same charge, and since like charges repel each other, the opposite sides of the stocking move away from each other leaving room for the phantom limb.