

Carrying It!

You may have seen clowns at conventions carrying the bag illustrated here. I can't imagine life without it. I can do a magic show from it. You can fit a bathroom waste basket in it to make it stand up. Every pocket has an assigned object or trick. There are four deep pockets and many small pockets on the sides. It hangs comfortably on my shoulder or as a decoration on the front of my clown cart. I am careful never to put it on a patient's bed. It is, however, machine washable!

Sherry Hanson makes them (\$50 including postage). She will customize it to your clown's character(s), if you send her pictures and fabric. The one pictured is a generic one I purchased at a convention some years ago. By the way this is also where I purchased Birdie Bird.

Sherry Hanson, Toys-Dolls-Puppets-Costumes,
Box 937, Yermo, CA 923098 (619) 254-2694.

Mind Floss:

Floss regularly to keep a clear head.

Just slip Mind Floss behind your head, over your ears and pull floss gently from left to right.

Mr. Bumbles (see page 4) sent us "Mind Floss" months ago, but we have not been able to find a source to buy them. Finally, I figured out how to make this great gimmick. Instructions follow.

Mr. Bumbles' routine goes like this: "What is this? Well, I had an exam a while back. They x-rayed my head. Guess what they found?" (Pause) "Nothing! The doctor couldn't find a thing! So they took me into a dark room and turned out the lights. Then they put a flashlight in one ear and you know what came out the other ear? Yup, light! It was clear all the way through. At the medical conference with all kinds of doctors consulting, they said 'Mr. Bumbles, we have good news and bad news. The bad news: you have no brain. The good news: Nothing bad can happen to your head.'"

To make Mind Floss you will need a small 1/4 of an inch plastic tubing. My plastic store has it in six foot lengths. It is easy to cut with a sharp knife or saw. Just score it and it will break. You will also need two pairs of pliers, a frying pan of boiling water, fine gauge copper wire (like the kind sold on spools in hobby and fabric stores). Oven mitts might help to keep you from burning yourself.

Take a 13-inch length of tubing. Put a piece of wire all the way through the tube before you bend it so you can tread the string later. Put the end of the tubing in the boiling water for several minutes to soften it. With the pliers in the water bend each end one inch in at a 90-degree angle. They bend up like eye glasses. With the bent ends pointing up, put the tubing into the boiling water. Slowly bend the tubing in a round. This is the part that will fit around the back of your neck. The 90-degree bend goes over your ears--like putting eye glasses on backwards. It is better to over bend the tubing as it is easy to adjust back by simply holding it under hot tap water for a few minutes and forcing it open. (Always work slowly. If you force the tubing too fast, it will snap) Have fun. Have problems? Write me.

