

This is not a paid advertisement. The HCN doesn't take advertisers. I found this video so good, I thought some of you might like it. Kevin Crane, a magician from Berea, Kentucky phoned me for information. He had been invited to do a magic show for oncology children and wanted some pointers. In the course of our conversation he mentioned the following tape. It sounded so good, that I decided to buy it.

An entire act that fits in your pocket. Featuring the hilarious Magic Mouse. What could be better in the hospital than the use of an ordinary pocket- handkerchief.

## Five Minutes with a Pocket Handkerchief

Quentin Reynolds is a professional magician from Dublin, Ireland specializing in children's shows

This video shows a live performance in front of a classroom of children where Reynolds brings the kids to a frenzy using this handkerchief routine. His routine is a brisk and upbeat sequence of effects which begins with a stretching handkerchief, a series of knots and culminates with the animation of the Magic Mouse. It is the mouse that was so wonderful. And like many of us know, it's treating the puppet and in this case the mouse handkerchief as if it were real that makes the whole routine.

The most important part of the video is the way it is put together. Following the performance you are taught everything you need to know to perform the act. Really good visual instructions and then the whole routine is done again without the audience.

The routine is not unlike some of the improvisation exercise, where you make a broom into many different objects by the way you treat it. The handkerchief is folded into a hat, an iron, an earring, a moustache, and finally into a mouse. The mouse is wound up and begins to wiggle its tail. The mouse seems to come to life as it runs up and down your arm, around your neck, and then leaps into the audience — making them scream with fright. The mouse's tail is pulled and it turns back into a handkerchief. The handkerchief is folded and put back in your pocket. The act is now completely reset for your next show (or room).

The only problem I could see with it in the hospital is you'd have to be careful who you flicked the mouse at. A kid with a catheter or an IV might get so excited that they could harm themselves, but the kids would probably love it more if you flicked it and scared their parents. AND you would have to watch if it gets on the floor for hygiene sake.

The trick is obviously in your clown antics. Like all magic "you gotta believe" believe that the illusion works. It's really amazing how it does.

US \$19.95 <http://www.mymagic.com/reynolds.htm>

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