

# JUMPING JACKS

Paul A. Lelekis

**This effect is an IDEAL opener for any card set – those who perform will know why!**

**EFFECT:** Spectator cuts deck into 4 piles that are placed in a “diamond” formation. Magician places a Jack onto each pile. He then, “*invisibly*”, takes a Jack from each pile and places them onto the “home plate” pile. All four Jacks are found there - then the 4 Aces are found on top of EACH of the four piles!

**SECRET:** Secretly get all four Aces on top of deck. Display the Jacks using the J.K. Hartman Secret Subtraction as follows:

*With deck held in LH dealer’s grip, add three of the face-down Aces to the bottom of the face-up Jacks held in RH Biddle grip. The left thumb drags the first Jack onto the deck, flipping it face down. Retake the FD Jack under the RH packet with a right rear thumb break. Turn your RH palm up to reshuffle this Jack.*

*Repeat the above actions with the second Jack. As you pull off the third Jack, drop the cards above the break onto the deck. Display third Jack and repeat with the fourth Jack, **however**, the “fourth Jack” remains **on top of the packet** and side-jogged to the magician’s left. Turn the packet toward the spectators to display two Jacks and then square the packet and lay it face down.*

The supposed Jack packet will actually contain a Jack on top and a Jack on bottom – different colors. In between will be three of the Aces. On top of the deck will be 2 Jacks and an Ace!

**Reverse Count the four Jacks (actually 2 Jacks and three Aces), and the last Jack will be a double.** At this point one may either perform Daryl’s Rising Crime Display or perform my method I’ll call The Lelekis Display using Larry Jennings’ Rhythm Count. First the Rhythm Count:

**Lelekis Display using Jennings’ Rhythm Count:** *Stud turnover top two cards face up and then back, face down – a Jack will be seen. Push off top card onto table with left thumb. The RH immediately takes new top card. The LH turns over to display another Jack and then thumbs off the top card of its packet onto the first tabled card. Next the RH flashes its card and tosses onto the tabled pile. The double left in the LH is then transferred to the RH into Biddle grip, displayed and placed onto the tabled packet. Each time you display a Jack – count, “One, two, three and four! At the end, the Jacks will be 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>d</sup> from top of the 5 card packet!*

**Daryl’s Rising Crime Display:** *For those who would rather not perform Jennings’ Rhythm Count, you may, instead, just reverse count the packet each time (as in Daryl’s Diamond Bar), display the double, turn it face-down and thumb off the card as above. Each time you display a Jack, reverse count the packet and turn up a double for “another” Jack. This is a much easier method – but I believe my method above is very convincing!*

Have a spectator cut the remainder of the deck into 4 piles into a diamond formation, being sure that you “direct” the spectator to cut the packets so that packet with the 2 Jacks and Ace on top (packet #4) is at “home plate” directly in front of you. See below.

**Note:** *I first place the supposed Jack packet at the center of the table. Next I place the deck on the table on the other side of the Jack packet, closest to the spectator. We’ll call this the North position from the performer’s perspective. I then direct the spectator to cut the deck in half and place it the East position, again from the performer’s perspective. Then have her cut the East packet in half again and place it in the South position in front of you. This packet contains the top stock! Finally have her cut the North packet in half and place it at the West position. The four packets now form a diamond. This will be clear in the videos I’m sending.*

**In this next sequence, you are supposedly placing a Jack onto each of the 4 piles via Daryl’s method:**

Pick up the supposed Jack packet and turn up a double to show a Jack. Turn it back face down and place the top card on packet #1 (the West position). Reverse count the remaining four cards as three by first peeling off top card, then peel the second and then stud over a double and immediately turn it back down. Place top card onto the North position. You will now have three cards left.

Thumb off the top card (of the three remaining) and simultaneously show two Jacks(?) cards in both hands – two more Jacks! Place the double in your RH, back on top of the card in your LH. Push off top card (an Ace!) onto the East position. Place the double (first flashing the face of the Jack) onto the pile in front of you. You have apparently placed four Jacks onto all four positions.

**This sequence is used if you use the Lelekis Display:**

Pick up packet, turn up a stud double and immediately turn it back, face down. Place the top card onto the West position.

Next hold the packet (four cards) in Elmsley Count position. Push over the top card into your left hand, then pinch your right thumb and push off an easy double on top of the LH card. Then place the last card on top of all. Stud turn up a double to show a Jack and immediately turn it face down. Place the top card onto the North position.

Thumb off the top card of the remaining three cards into your LH and turn both hands so that you can flash two Jacks(?)! Remove the top card and place it at the East position and flash the final double and place it on the South position nearest you.

In either method, you are now left with the four Jacks on top of the South position (with an Ace beneath the beneath the Jacks!) and an Ace on top of the other three positions!

Pretend to pick up an “invisible Jack” from packets #1, 2 and 3 and place onto packet #4 (the South position). Turn the top four cards of packet #4, face up, to reveal the 4 Jacks!

In my experience, the audience will be stunned and fairly silent. As SOON as turn up the four Jacks I say, **“Ya’ know, the four Jacks gathered to this pile is really cool on my part** (here you begin applauding yourself to get everyone else to applaud! This is good for a *very cheap* reaction – play this up!) - **but, remember that YOU are the one who cut the deck into four piles! I don’t know HOW you knew where to cut the cards...but YOU just cut to all four Aces! Let’s give her a big round of applause!”**

Everyone will now applaud and laugh and you’ve “given the bows” to your spectator! What better way is there to end an effect?