

# Daniel Dern - Suggested Magic Books to start with

(February 2021)

There are HUNDREDS of books about learning magic tricks and becoming a magician. Here's a few good ones to start with. Most of these should be readily available for \$10-\$20. Some may cost more. There may also be DVD versions, or accompanying DVDs.

Don't overbuy when starting out -- start with one book, and read/try it slowly. Maybe two.

There's also lots of magic tutorials online, including on YouTube, and through various magician and magic store web sites. (I particularly recommend VanishingInc.com)

Here's some books suggestions: (there may also be DVD and online video versions)

**JOSHUA JAY's AMAZING BOOK OF CARDS** -- I only recently learned about this book... and I'm getting ready to spend a lot of time with it (and half a dozen new decks of cards), for back-to-basics shuffling, handling, and some of the tricks.

**MARK WILSON'S COMPLETE COURSE IN MAGIC** - good card stuff, and lots more (There's also a smaller-format (but thicker) **MARK WILSON'S CYCLOPEDIA OF MAGIC: A COMPLETE COURSE**.)

**MAGIC: THE COMPLETE COURSE**, by Joshua Jay. Like Jay's other book (above), I only recently bought this -- but, like Mark Wilson's, it looks like you could get just either of these books and have enough... although, inevitably, you're likely to keep buying more...

**MAGIC FOR DUMMIES**, David Pogue

**THE COMPLETE IDIOT'S GUIDE TO MAGIC TRICKS**, Tom Ogden

**THE ROYAL ROAD TO CARD MAGIC**, Jean Hugard & Frederick Braue (I'm very fond of this particular book.)

**CARD COLLEGE, VOLUME 1**, Robert Giobbi [Note: Card College has 5 volumes, but you should start with just Vol. 1 -- among reasons, because they're \$40 per volume -- and if you like it, you can continue on to Volumes 2 and on.]

**CARD MANIPULATIONS**, Jean Hugard - another good card handling and tricks book. (Not necessarily for beginners.)

**THE EXPERT AT THE CARD TABLE**, S. W. Erdnase - not about magic tricks per se, but classic, definitive information about card handling, sleight of hand, and more. (Not necessarily for beginners.)

Hope this helps! Best of luck!

-- Daniel Dern (dern@pair.com)