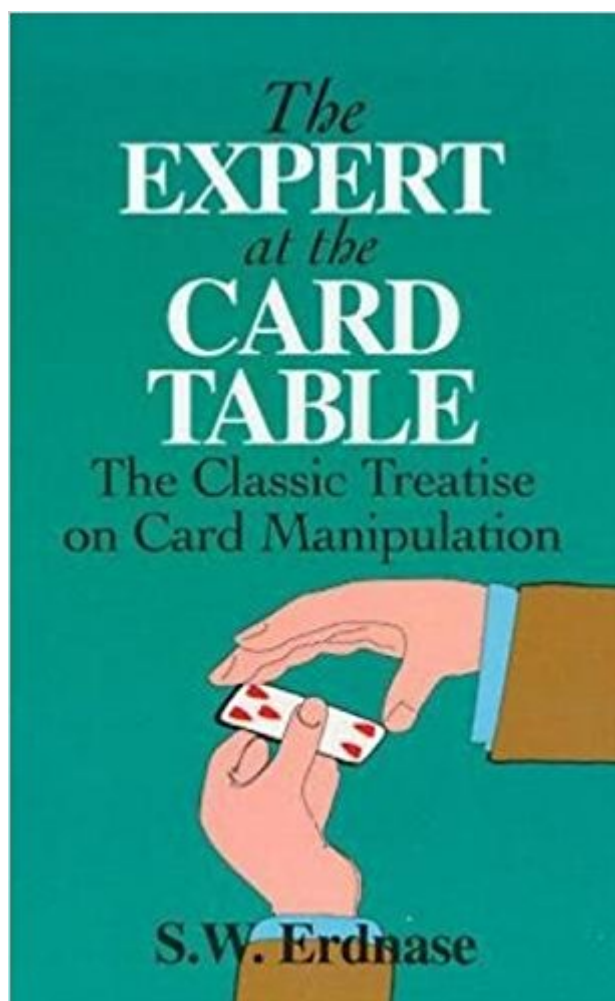


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The Expert At The Card Table: The Classic Treatise On Card Manipulation (Dover Magic Books)



Synopsis

"The Expert at the Card Table is the most famous, the most carefully studied book ever published on the art of manipulating cards at gaming tables." —from the Foreword by Martin Gardner. For almost a century, this book has been considered indispensable to attaining the highest level of card mastery. In it, S. W. Erdnase, a supreme master of card manipulation, teaches card enthusiasts how to perform the dazzling tricks and sleights — many of them his own creations — that made him famous. The first section of the book deals with card table artifice, or, to put it more bluntly, cheating at cards. Step by step, Mr. Erdnase demonstrates his own systems of false shuffling, false riffing and cutting, dealing from the bottom, and such slick moves as palming cards, "skinning the hand" — even three-card monte. The second section covers legerdemain: the art of forcing a card, one- and two-hand transformations, the devious "slide" and more. Card handlers will love Erdnase's selection of dazzling card tricks, including The Acrobatic Jacks, The Exclusive Coterie, The Divining Rod, The Invisible Flights, A Mind Reading Trick, and many others. In an informative Foreword to this edition, Martin Gardner relates the unhappy details of the author's personal life, and recounts the history of this famous book, whose methods, Mr. Gardner asserts, "are as useful today by magicians and card hustlers as they were in 1902. This book is still the bible of card 'mechanics,' and as much a delight to read as it was in the early years of this century."

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Great book with lots of info. You will need a lot of serious concentration over time to master the

techniques described within this classic. I just got through reading "The Magician and the Cardsharp: The Search for America's Greatest Sleight-of-Hand Artist" and would highly recommend it to help you with SWE's book. It's a great historical treatise about Dai Vernon's search for the "center dealer"; something not discussed in the SWE book. Probably because it was thought to be impossible to accomplish.

This is a somewhat hard read for many (if not most) who venture through its pages, but when you get it... You really have something. It is one of those books you almost have to have some knowledge of to become a member of "the magic world" where card magic is concerned. There are many card magic books that are easier reads, more fun, more "up to date" but this was one I have seen referenced so many times I'm so many ways by so many great card men that " I Had To " and I am glad I did.

This is it. There is a reason it has been in print since 1902. Yes, it does talk about cheating at cards but the same moves are the basic staples of card magic. Don't think this is an introductory textbook though. It's graduate level work. (For an intro level book for a good price, go get Royal Road to Card Magic by Hugard and Braue.) Pay close attention to every single word, and study the somewhat difficult to understand drawings. Take a few years to digest and practice. And, if you are serious, go find yourself a good teacher.

Great source of "how to" with playing cards. There's nothing more to say about it. The number of words required to do this is ridiculous.

This is the most comprehensive book on card handling every written. An essential read for anyone who uses cards for a living

From Michael Ammar to Dai Vernon they all at some point refer to this classic in their journey to becoming master cardsharps and magicians. While the newer generation of card men prefers heavily illustrated books and DVD this is still the "classic" from which we can all gain insight. Like anything worth having you've got to earn it. It's going to take a bit of commitment to study this but it's SO worth it.

Son was very happy!

Whether you're a magician or gambler, this book is a must read. I read it in my teens, and have re-read it many times since. Having it as a handy electronic version, complete with drawings, is indispensable

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