

You Can't Fool Me!

MAGICAL EFFECT: The audience selects any number with any number of digits, then chooses one of those digits to keep secret from you; but they can't fool you, you guess that secret digit every time!

HOW TO PERFORM:

Ask the audience to give you any number with any number of digits:

EXAMPLE

32,645

Invite them to join you (with their own pencil and paper) as you:

Add the digits together:

$$3 + 2 + 6 + 4 + 5 =$$

20

Subtract that sum from the original number:

$$32,645 - 20 =$$

32,625

Now, ask one person to choose one of those digits and secretly cross it out:

6

Ask him to add the remaining digits and tell you that sum:

$$3 + 2 + 2 + 5 =$$

12

Now you reveal his secret crossed-out number:

6

SECRET:

Subtract his final sum from the next higher multiple of 9

$$18 - 12 =$$

6

If the sum itself is a multiple of 9, the secret crossed-out number will be 9.