

Dear parents,

As the holiday season is approaching you may be wondering what to buy for your budding young magician. As performers (and parents) ourselves we have learned from experience what is a valuable investment and what will likely end up in the magic drawer.

We have compiled a list of items that would serve any magician well for years to come. You will find in here items of all price ranges from \$5 to \$50 and up. While this list is by no means all inclusive nor mandatory, it does provide a good place to start.

Generally speaking books offer the best investment. Most of the ones we have listed are considered classics and will form part of a valuable reference library. We have listed the most recommend ones first.

Videos are good for learning sleights and techniques although they generally do not offer the same quantity or diversity of materials.

We have tried to keep the list of apparatus to what are considered staple items that can be used for more than one effect. There are some one effect items (such as color changing knives and Scotch and Soda) but these are considered to offer a powerful enough effect to warrant inclusion.

You can find these items in a variety of places but we encourage you to support your local magic store, Toad Hall Toys. They have a Wish list service this year. You can list the items appropriate for your child and the store will keep it handy for friends or relatives.

**Remember: If you are a buying for a SYM membe you get 10% off regularly priced magic at Toad!**

Have a wonderful holiday season; we look forward to being entertained with all the new material the kids bring in the New Year.

Sincerely,  
S.Y.M magic club

## Mini wands (7-9)

### BOOKS/Videos:

- Mark Wilson's Complete Course or Cyclopeda of Magic
- Josh Jay: Magic: The Complete Course (Book/DVD)
- Dover Press Magic Books ( Karl Fulves Self working series)
- **Master Magic – 3 of the Karl Fulves books (Cards, coins, silks), deck of cards and two handkerchiefs. Best value of all.**
- Magic with everyday objects - Schindler
- My first book of Illusions
- Any book on balloon animals
  - Balloons (Qualtex 260's) and/or good balloon pump (purple qualtex ones are recommended)
- Any of the Magic Makers DVD's.

### APPARATUS:

- Cards (good ones) – bridge and poker sizes
- Rubber bands (#19 are best for most rubber band tricks)
- Silk handkerchiefs various sizes (get these from a second hand store)
- Sponge balls (Super soft 1 or 1 ½")
- Thumb Tip (make sure it is kid sized)
- Rope (get rope that can be cored, not nylon, cotton)
- Either hot rod or Jumping arrow or for less money "Wonder signal"
- Cups and Balls with Chop cup or chop cup by itself. These usually come in two sizes, get the smaller ones
- Floating match/toothpick

## Top hats (10-16)

### BOOKS/VIDEOS

- Mark Wilson's Complete Course or Cyclopeda of Magic
- Josh Jay: Magic: The Complete Course (Book/DVD)
- Dover Press Magic Books ( Karl Fulves Self working series)
- **Master Magic – 3 of the Karl Fulves books (Cards, coins, silks), deck of cards and two handkerchiefs. Best value of all**
- Bobo's Modern Coin Magic
- Hugard's Royal Road to Card Magic
- Hugard-Expert card technique
- Corinda's 13 steps to mentalism
- Encyclopedia of Impromptu Magic by Martin Gardener
- McBride card manipulations Vol. 1 (video)
- Greg Wilson's on the spot (video)
- Complete Introduction to Coin Magic – Michael Ammar (video)
- Any of 6 Ammar card videos
- Magic for Dummies
- Henry Hay's Amateur Magician's Handbook
- David Roth expert coin magic vol 1-3 (video)
- Strong Magic – Darwin Ortiz
- Any of the Magic Makers DVD's.

### APPARATUS:

- Cups and Balls with Chop cup or chop cup by itself. These usually come in two sizes, get the larger ones
- Egg Bag
- Invisible Deck
- Silk handkerchiefs various sizes (get these from a second hand store)
- Square Circle (or make one from Mark Wilson Complete Course book, see above)
- Dove/Chick Pan
- Cavorting Crayons
- Sponge balls (1 ½ or 2", super soft)
- Sponge ball to Cube
- Hand or mouth squeakers
- Okito Box or Okito/boston box combination. Get the brass ones.
- ITR or invisible thread
- Scotch and Soda (this is a coin trick that has nothing to do with alcohol)