



# Inside Ed's Head

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## The Amount of Coin Magic Here Has Just Doubled! (The Size of My Half Dollar Has Tripled!)

I'm sure most of you know of Michael Powers. For I.B.M. members, you see his monthly column, "The Card Corner," in *The Linking Ring*. If you're not familiar with that, you've likely heard of one of his books, *Power Plays*, *Powerful Magic*, *Top Secret Stuff* and *Close-Up Variety Pack*. Or, perhaps, you've gone to his website <http://www.mallofmagic.com>. (This is an especially valuable resource for I.B.M. members. Read his column and follow his links.)

Mike has previously published one of my creations, *The G-H Pop-Out Move* in "The Card Corner." When I asked him if I might publish one of his tricks here, he graciously offered me several to choose from. The one I chose, "Expanding Expenditure" (*Power Plays*, p. 187), is a trick Mike recommends follow another coin trick. If you go back to the August 2015 issue of *Inside Ed's Head* (<http://edhassmagic.com/edshead/EH-2015-08.pdf>) you'll find a routine called "FREUC" whose premise is that of a "special coin." That premise leads so well into Mike's trick, that it seemed the most logical choice to make.

### Expanding Expenditure

#### Effect

After performing some other coin effects, you isolate a coin on your palm. You point out that it has other properties beyond those they just witnessed. To demonstrate, you dump the coin onto the table where its size triples! You explain the impossibility of this happening by showing the coin doesn't exist at all—it vanishes! You reach into your jacket and withdraw the coin, and then it vanishes again. When you reach into your jacket a second time, you find the coin has returned to normal size. You drop it onto the table, where it turns into the jumbo coin again.

#### Requirements

Mike blocks out this routine by using a coin purse to help him cop the jumbo coin at the appropriate time. If you wish to use this misdirection, you'll need a coin purse with some half dollars in it as

you begin. It should be in you left front pants pocket. (There are alternative ways of copping the coin. I'll mention one later on.) You should have a 3" half dollar in the same pocket with the tails side outward. (If you don't have one of these, you can buy one at [www.magictricks.com/jumbo-coin.html](http://www.magictricks.com/jumbo-coin.html) for \$4.99, which seems like a good price. I have no financial interest in this site; it's the first one I found that sells it for under \$5.00. There might be cheaper ones out there.) You must also be wearing a jacket. Since you'll be dropping the jumbo half on the table, it's probably a good idea to be using a close-up mat.

## Method

If you wish to begin this routine with "FREUC" take the coin purse from your pocket and remove a half dollar. Drop the purse in front of you, in a place that would be obviously in your way if you need to use space on the table. This will allow you to pocket the purse later on. It will not be in the way now because "FREUC" is accomplished completely in the hands. Use the ending of "FREUC" that reproduces the coin, so you'll have a half dollar in hand.

After you've finished "FREUC" take the half dollar in your right hand and feint putting it on the mat. "Notice" that the purse is in your way, pick it up in your left hand, and place the half on the table. Push it toward a spectator on your right and give him an opportunity to examine the coin. As you are doing this, your left hand should cop the jumbo half. The coin is not exactly "palmed," but held as in Photos 1 and 2—the tails side against your palm. Either sitting or standing, you can casually rest your hand on the table for the brief moment before you start the next step.



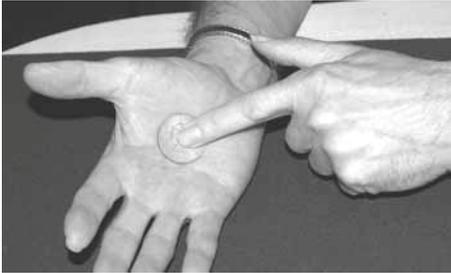
1



2

Take back the half and position it in your open right hand in position to be classic palmed, tail side up. Extend the index finger of your left

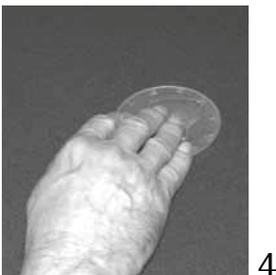
hand and point to the coin in your right, pressing the coin into a secure classic palm position as you patter about its magical properties. (Photo 3.)



(For those of you who are fearful of classic palms, this moment gives you an extra degree of security!)

You'll now use Allen Hayden's "Jumbo Coin Jumbo" (Apocalypse No. 6, 1979) to transform the regular half to the jumbo, as you apparently drop it to the table.

Your left hand moves to a position about six inches away from your right, its palm down in readiness to drop the coin. Both hands are about six to eight inches above the table. Your right hand begins to turn palm down, as if about to slap the coin heads up on the table. It really maintains the coin in classic palm as the left hand lets its coin fall to the table as follows. Your palm-down hand opens *slightly*, to let the coin rotate 180° as it falls. The left hand immediately moves to the left, as the right hand continues downward and *contacts the coin as it is falling*, ending up as in Photo 4. The right hand, with the half still in classic palm, moves aside for a beat, so the audience can appreciate the change.



I know the above paragraph is rather dense, but just look at Photo 4 and you'll find the way to get there is very intuitive and very easy. Your only concern is to avoid slapping the jumbo coin down so hard as to jar the half out of classic palm.

Take the coin into your right hand. You're about to make the coin vanish with Al Schneider's "Snap-Back Vanish." (Al Schneider On Coins, p. 12 1975, and other Schneider works.) You must turn to the

spectator at your extreme left, as this move has a very bad angle on the left when used with a jumbo coin. (I'll talk more about angle problems at the end of the article.)

Hold the coin between the thumb and the first and second fingers. Normally, you'd want to hold the coin near the edge as in Photo 5, but if you have small hands, you might want to move your grip closer to the center of the coin as shown in Photo 6. Be sure the right hand's knuckles are perpendicular to the floor. If your hand tilts downward, you make it more likely to clink the jumbo coin into the half dollar as you do the move.



5



6

Now, as your left hand moves over as if taking the coin. The left fingers point upward and the back of the hand is toward the spectators. As the left thumb moves to "take" the coin, the right middle finger moves inward sliding the coin along the thumb, as though snapping your fingers. This will rotate the coin into a horizontal position supported by your middle finger as in Photo 7. Photo 8 shows a spectator's view from directly in front. Photo 9 is what a spectator with a center-left position will see.



7



8



9

The nature of this vanish should keep the jumbo coin from hitting the classic palmed half. If it does clink, you're probably not rotating the

jumbo coin directly against your thumb. Photo 10 is a view with my right ring and little fingers drawn back, so you can see how to keep the two coins separated.



10

Mike suggests you say something like, “A coin like this can not be real.” Move your left hand to the left and make a tossing upward gesture, following the motion of the “coin” upwards as it vanishes. Reach your right hand inside your jacket, pivot the coin back to its original grip, and pull the coin out of the jacket, showing it has returned. (The palmed half dollar remains in place throughout this sequence.)

Repeat the vanish sequence, but this time, drop the jumbo half into your left sleeve as the hand goes beneath your jacket. Be sure to bend your left arm at the elbow to keep the coin from falling out prematurely. While still under the jacket, drop the palmed half into fingertip rest position, and then into the same grip used to hold the jumbo coin, then withdraw the hand showing the half has returned to its original size.

As you are displaying the half, turn to a spectator on your left and drop your left arm to your side, so the sleeved coin falls into your cupped left fingers. (You turn to the left to keep your hand out of sight as the coin arrives.) You can now palm that coin as you did at the beginning of the routine. Get the half into position shown in Photo 1, and you can repeat the Hayden switch to produce the jumbo coin once more, as you say, “Most people prefer the big one.”

**Cleaning Up:** Put the jumbo coin into your left pocket. Bring out the coin purse and open it with your right hand. Look into the purse and let the palmed coin drop into fingertip rest position. Reach into the purse as though to remove one of the coins. Instead, remove the hand with the formerly palmed coin in view. Say, “The only problem is, the big one doesn’t fit into the purse with these.”

**Alternate Clean-Up:** Instead of reproducing the jumbo coin after it’s fallen into your left fingers from your sleeve, simply put it into your left pocket as you remove the purse. You can now either put the half

into it and end, or remove some more coins and continue with another trick.

### **Additional Thoughts**

I usually perform seated at the dinner table, so I just put the jumbo half on my seat prior to dinner. When ready to perform I get up from the table, get the props I'll need, and get the coin on my lap as I sit down again. It's easy to cop the coin at the end of the previous trick—the audience won't look askance at my dropping my left hand into my lap as I take the half dollar into my hand as the prologue to "Expanding Expenditure."

**Angles:** Using the "Snap-back Vanish" with a regular coin is just about angle proof. It's a different story with jumbo coin. As noted in the main text, you have a very bad angle towards the left. Even for someone directly in front of you, they could get a glimpse of the coin if you're not careful. If you're standing, working for a sitting audience, you'll have to be sure that the coin doesn't peek out below the palm of your hand.

If you're behind a bar, with someone standing as well, they might be able to see over the top of your hand to get a glimpse of the coin—you'll have to tilt the hand downward a bit to cover that angle.

Before doing this trick, it's important to do more than mirror practice. You should either video the performance under "live" conditions, or have a friend view your performance and check out how the vanish looks.

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