

CLEVER

Eight

Copper/Silver Thought

# Copper/Silver Thought

Published by Brad L Gordon

Copyright in 2008  
All rights reserved

Reproduction or utilization of this work in any form, by any means now known or hereinafter invented, and or in any information storage and retrieval system, is forbidden without permission from the copyright holder.  
Printed in the United States of America

## Windfall

# Copper Silver - *Thought*

Most of us already own a copper/silver gimmick, and many of you probably know many routines incorporating this versatile coin. The following is a neat little handling that can also serve as a brief exercise in psychology.

**Method and Effect:** A copper English penny, and a silver half dollar are shown, both coins are placed in the participants hand, their hand is closed and turned over. The spectator is asked to think of both of the coins- *"Please concentrate on both coins, the silver and the copper"*. One coin is slowly removed *"The copper coin"*, Magician asks participant to now try very hard **not** to think of the copper coin, and repeated twice *"Please try very hard NOT to think of the copper coin?"* and then state *"I am asking you NOT to think of the copper coin because I am getting rid of the coin"*. Now place the coin in your pocket. The following patter follows *"Isn't that kind of a strange thing? The more I ask you not to think of the copper coin, the more you have to think about it"* *"Another example of this phenomenon would be if I were to ask you to try very hard NOT to think of pink elephants, you would have to think about them in order not to."* After this is said you say to the spectator *"for a split moment did you forget about the silver coin"* the spectator answers yes, *"So did I, please open your hand"*. The normal copper coin is now revealed.

**Set Up:** All you need of course is a Copper/Silver gimmick coin and a regular Copper English penny that matches the gimmick. You could easily replace the regular copper coin with a regular American half dollar, and then change your patter to suit, however I use the copper coin because the half dollar is more common, and seemingly easier to forget in the moment- a kind of consciously invisible detail.

In the presentation make sure the silver coin is placed on top of the copper coin in the spectators palm. Gently close their fingers over the two coins, then softly turn their hand over (palm down). When reaching in to remove a coin, grasp the coin that is lowermost. That's it, perfect.

## Notes:

In addition- this patten and handling could be applied to other effects, for example I sometimes apply this presentation to the wonderful effect "Beswitched" by George Hample

The Copper/Silver gimmick coin has obviously been around for a very long time, I am currently unaware of who the originator is. Personally I first learned the sequence of this effect right out of the instructions from the Copper/Silver coin trick made by "Sterling".

I actually read a beginners book on NLP "Neuro Linguistic Programming" back in 2000- where I found the exercise of asking a person not to think of something which causes them to think of it in order not to.

Yes - very basic, better yet very very easy, I honestly use this all the time every where I go, it's a great warm up effect as well as what many call a tester trick- to sort of evaluate your audience, and or get your performing juices flowing.

Natural abilities are like natural plants, that need pruning by study. --  
FRANCIS BACON

## Contact Information

Brad L Gordon  
4614 Quail Park Dr #D  
Salt Lake City, UT 84117

[scarnecky@hotmail.com](mailto:scarnecky@hotmail.com)

Thank You