

## Video Errata – Allan Ackerman

Well these are not actual mistakes in the video – but you might notice two video demonstrations that seem to be different than how they are described in the book.

1. When you are watching the section on effects with a prearranged deck, Erdnase gives the 8 Kings setup. He also states, “Any arrangement is as good as another so long as the values do not run in their regular order.” Wanting to keep my methods hidden, I took Erdnase’s warning very seriously,” Only those who are well versed in card tricks would recognize the order.” I wanted **no one** to recognize the order so I took 13 cards, one for each value, with a random selection of the four suits. I then shuffled them up and spread them on the table. The arrangement I had was A, 3, 4, 10, 7, K, 6, J, 9, 2, 8, 5, Q. This then became the arrangement for the tetradistic stack that I have used since I was a teenager. This arrangement is what I used when I demonstrated the effects in this section. When I explained the methods, I used 8 Kings just like S.W.E. did.

Erdnase wants you to memorize the order – not recite the rhyme. To quote the master, “The tax on the memory is very slight, there being but thirteen names to commit, and conning them over for **half an hour** or so should impress their order on the mind permanently.” When I am explaining the methods I recite the rhyme and count on my fingers. In the performance if I had to count on my fingers you would notice. I have my 13 cards memorized – can recite their order backwards & forwards in less than 2 seconds. If you give me a card I can instantly tell you its position. Take the 30 minutes and remember your 13 values – commit them to memory.

I personally feel the tetradistic stack is the strongest of all stacks. Most memorized deck effects can be done with any stack – so the choice of your stack is going to be made by the few effects that are built into your stack. The reason the tetradistic stack is so fantastic is the culling routines that you can do if you know how to faro shuffle. Another wonderful property is the ability to get into a full stay-stack order. I do a quick second deal demo – dealing twenty six consecutive seconds with the top card reversed - any tetradistic stack is now in a stay-stack order.

2. The second item you may notice that looks different is Erdnase’s first bottom palm-first variation. When you watch the demo, you might be tempted to say, no way can I be doing the first method, but I am. I took Erdnase’s advice, failing to improve the method - change the moment. You will not see any of the right little finger movement that is almost always visible when most people do this move. So, here is what I did. Assume you want to bottom palm the four aces that are on the bottom of the deck. Hold the deck in the right hand by the ends. Thumb at the rear end and fingers in the front, but maintain a right-little

finger break above the aces, that is to say, hold an Erdnase break above the four aces. (See SWE shift) Move your right hand down to the table and bring the side of the deck into view. The right little finger curls inward and angle jogs the four aces. The angle jog is maintained by the base of the right little finger. (See photo.) This takes less than a microsecond to do and you will not see any movement if the audience is looking at the side of the deck. There is barely any motion at all if someone is looking at the right side of the deck – a microsecond is pretty fast. Now all you have to do is place the deck into the left hand and it will go into a full bottom palm. Just e-mail me if you would like a video of the moment change just described. My e-mail is at [cards@aja.lvcoxmail.com](mailto:cards@aja.lvcoxmail.com) or go to my website [www.allanackerman.com](http://www.allanackerman.com) and click on contact. If there are any more errors found I will update this errata sheet and post it on the site.

We often did the demonstrations on different days than when we did the methods – This little moment change somehow slipped through the cracks and never did get recorded.

Ed Marlo had a variation of the first bottom palm, second variation that I explained in the Traveling cards. I mentioned that Marlo published the move in the Wallet manuscript and gave the wrong publishing date – it was in the February, 1961. I would not have come up with my handling if I had not read the Marlo version.

Allan Ackerman  
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