

BACKGROUND TO APPEARING LADDER FROM ANYWHERE

In 1998 I was experimenting with Appearing Pole Technology having already created my original Appearing Shovel, Missing Spade and Appearing Broom.

I came up with the design of the first 8 ft Appearing Ladder and found it fitted into a standard expanding briefcase. I devised a special roller system and side masking for the briefcase. The Appearing Ladder from Briefcase has been one of my best selling items.

The Appearing Ladder was eventually copied by another manufacturer and placed in a heavy tool box. The whole concept of bringing the Ladder out of an item that was actually associated with tools seemed to me to be a strange way of doing things until I saw one of the opposition's products and realized why they needed the weight. I only mention the copy cat product because in some ways its very existence has helped me strive to improve the production of my own original Appearing Ladder.

In 2009 there was a period when I was unable to purchase suitable plastic materials for my Appearing Ladder to the original standards. Remember, I live in New Zealand and all the materials are imported. I can't simply jump in my car and drive over town and buy a box of 8 ft plastic polycarbonate tubing.

For 12 years I had been purchasing my briefcases from a company who imported them from Indonesia or possibly China. Suddenly this supply dried up too, and they now sell mainly soft satchels made for laptop computers. When briefcases are available to me they are more expensive.

Over the years several magicians had asked if my Appearing Ladder could be produced from a container other than a briefcase. The answer was, of course, "Yes". The briefcase system was very convenient for the production as well as shipping and storage, and the bolt system I used was very secure. But it was not the only way to do it.

My friend Paul Romhany used a "newspaper" Appearing Ladder in the early days of his Charlie Chaplin magic act, and Paul pulled the Ladder from a carpet bag. I had occasionally performed a "Fire Sale" routine and produced the Ladder from a paper carry bag.

In March 2010 I decided to look seriously at re-inventing the presentation and providing a means of making the Ladder appear from ANY suitable container. The results you now have in front of you.

My personal favourite production item is a simple paper carry bag or large gift bag. For those magicians who still prefer the briefcase as a production item, a new gimmick is included that will fit most standard expanding briefcases.

Wayne Rogers
Auckland, New Zealand
August 2010