

## Helen's Magic Teapot

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by Peter Gardini

There have been many designs over the years for magic teapots or kettles for pouring out various drinks. This is the instructions for making up the magic teapot which I used when I first started out as a magical entertainer. In fact I used it to pass my first magic audition at a magic club. The one in the pictures below was made for my wife Helen to use in her church talks.



The type of teapot which I have used is shown in the top photograph. It's a tall shape and is made of stainless steel. The lid is also hinged so there is no danger of it falling off. I have also used a stainless steel beaker. This is shorter than the teapot and is glued using an epoxy resin glue for sticking metal to the inside base of the teapot. If you look at the bottom photograph, you will see that it has been glued so that it is to the rear of the teapot. This makes it easier to pour liquid into the teapot without getting the liquid in the beaker.

Do not use the teapot with hot liquids or the glue will break away from the metal. Using cool or cold liquids (Not freezing) should cause no problems. If you have access to a spot welder then the beaker could be welded in position but using glue is a cheaper alternative.

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### **A typical routine for the teapot would be as follows:**

Place some household bleach into the beaker. On top of this place one of those round plastic mesh kitchen scourers.

On top of the scourer place four or five different coloured silk handkerchiefs. The scourer will prevent the bleach coming into contact with the silks.

Have four or five glasses prepared with a small drop of food colouring in the bottom of each. The colours should match the colours of the silks in the beaker.

From a clear bottle, pour water into the outer section of the teapot proper, taking care not to spill any into the beaker.

Reach into the teapot, take out a silk handkerchief and tie it round the stem of the glass which has the same coloured food die in the bottom. Pour the water from the teapot into the glass and the water will change to the colour of the silk. Repeat this process for each of the silks.

Pour each glass back into the teapot but actually into the beaker. This will mix with the household bleach and turn clear, or very nearly. The liquid can now be poured out again to show that it has become clear.

### **WARNING.**

If you are using bleach in the kettle, do not drink any liquids poured from it as they will be poisonous.

### **Notes**

If you wanted to perform a slightly different routine where the liquids poured out can be consumed then **leave out the bleach** and use fizzy lemonade instead of water. You can then pour out different coloured fizzy drinks (a cheap version of any drink called for).

If you used small glasses such as the sort that communion wine is often served up in at non conformist churches, you will be able to give quite a few drinks out to your audience.

For adult audiences you could even substitute sweet white wine for the lemonade.

**Have fun !**