



Instructions

Effect

The magician displays a traffic light tube, a pedestrian signal box, and three colored balls: red, yellow, and green. The balls are placed into the tube, yet the order mysteriously changes. In the finale, one ball is placed into the pedestrian box, but it vanishes and reappears in the traffic light.

What You Receive

- 1 traffic light tube
- 1 clear tube stand
- 1 pedestrian signal box
- 2 red balls
- 1 yellow ball
- 1 green ball

Important Secret

Although the audience believes there is only one red ball, the secret of the trick is that you actually use **two red balls**.

One red ball is openly shown during the routine.

The second red ball is secretly hidden in the traffic light tube at the start.

Secret Setup

Before performance, place **one red ball** secretly inside the traffic light tube. This hidden red ball is held in place by the **plastic tab** inside the tube.

This ball should remain concealed from the audience until needed later in the routine.

Your visible working balls will be:

- 1 red ball
- 1 yellow ball
- 1 green ball

Set the pedestrian box so it is ready for use during the final phase.

Understanding the Pedestrian Box

The pedestrian box contains a **secret holder** attached to one of the inner panels.

This holder allows a ball to remain concealed when the box is opened properly.

How to Show the Box Empty

Hold the box with the **pedestrian figure facing the audience**.

Grip the side panels, one in each hand. When you swing the box open, do so so that the panel containing the **secret holder** opens toward **your body**.

This keeps the concealed ball hidden from the audience and creates the illusion that the box is empty.

Important

- Open the box smoothly and casually.
- Do not flash the gimmicked side.
- Slightly angle the opening toward yourself.
- Never pause with the secret holder exposed.

Done correctly, the audience will be convinced the box is empty.

Basic Handling

1. Introduce the Props

Display the traffic light tube, the clear stand, and the pedestrian box.

Show the three visible balls:

- Red
- Yellow
- Green

Explain that these represent a traffic signal.

You may say:

“Red means stop, yellow means caution, and green means go.”

2. Load the Balls into the Tube

Place the visible balls into the tube one at a time in the order required by your routine.

As you insert the balls, do not call attention to the hidden red ball already inside the tube behind the plastic tab.

When inserting the **green ball**, keep your actions natural and relaxed. The concealed red ball stays hidden until the proper moment.

Continue placing the visible balls into the tube, maintaining the illusion that the audience is seeing only three balls total.

3. Reveal the Order Change

Once the balls are in place, show the apparent order of the colors.

The audience believes they have followed the positions correctly, but because of the concealed extra red ball and the construction of the prop, the order appears to have changed.

Pause here and let the audience react.

This is the first mystery of the routine.

4. Repeat or Build the Effect

You may continue by apparently placing the balls in another order and again showing that the colors do not remain where the audience expects.

This phase strengthens the effect by convincing the audience that the traffic light has a mind of its own.

Keep emphasizing the colors verbally:

- Red
- Yellow
- Green

This helps the audience form a strong memory of the supposed order.

The Finale

5. Introduce the Pedestrian Box

Explain that to make things fair, you will isolate one ball.

Show the pedestrian box apparently empty by using the handling described earlier:

- pedestrian facing audience
- gimmicked panel opening toward your body

Once the audience believes the box is empty, place a ball into it according to your routine handling.

Close the box and set it aside or keep it in view.

6. The Vanish and Return

At the proper moment, the hidden red ball in the traffic light tube is allowed to come into play.

This creates the illusion that the isolated ball has vanished from the pedestrian box and impossibly reappeared back in the traffic light with the others.

Open the pedestrian box to show the ball is gone.

Then reveal the ball in the traffic light.

This is the climax of the routine.



Suggested Script

“Traffic laws seem simple enough. Red means stop, yellow means slow down, and green means go. But have you ever noticed that no matter how simple something seems, people still manage to get it mixed up?”

Display the three balls and identify them:

- Red = Stop
- Yellow = Caution
- Green = Go

Show them clearly and place them into the clear tube one at a time, calling attention to the order.

“Once the signal is set, it should stay that way... unless, of course, we’re dealing with **Tricky Traffic Light.**”

Reveal that the order has changed.

React as though the system is malfunctioning.

“That explains a lot about traffic in California.”

Repeat with another apparent arrangement. Again, the balls change order.

At this point, transition to the final phase:

“To make this fair, we’ll keep one signal completely out of the way.”

Place one ball into the pedestrian signal box.

“That leaves only two lights in the signal and one safely locked away where it cannot possibly interfere.”

After the magical moment, open the box to show the ball has vanished. Then reveal it has reappeared in the tube with the others.

“And that is why you should never trust a traffic light built by a magician.”

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