HERE IS YOUR GUIDE TO 13 OF THE MOST POPULAR STYLES OF MAGICIANS AND THE TYPES OF MAGIC THEY DO.

1. SLEIGHT OF HAND
2. ILLUSIONIST
3. DRAMATIC / MONOLOGUE
4. COMEDY
5. ESCAPOLOGIST
6. MENTALIST
7. BLACK ART ILLUSIONIST
8. MECHANICAL MAGICIAN
9. ANIMAL MAGICIAN
10. PANTOMIME VS PATTERN
11. QUICK CHANGE MAGICIAN
12. TECHNOLOGY MAGICIAN
13. SPIRITUALIST
CATEGORIES OF MAGIC EFFECTS

- **Production:** The magician produces something from nothing—a rabbit from an empty hat.

- **Vanish:** The magician makes something disappear—a coin, a cage of doves.

- **Transformation:** The magician transforms something from one state into another—a silk handkerchief changes color.

- **Restoration:** The magician destroys an object—a rope is cut, a newspaper is torn, then restores it to its original state.

- **Transposition:** A transposition involves switching two or more objects.

- **Teleportation:** The magician causes something to move from one place to another.

- **Escape:** The magician (or less often, an assistant) is placed in a restraining device (i.e., handcuffs or a straitjacket) or a death trap, and escapes to safety.

- **Levitation:** The magician defies gravity, either by making something float in the air, or with the aid of another object (suspension)—a silver ball floats around a cloth.

- **Penetration:** The magician makes a solid object pass through another—a set of steel rings link and unlink, a candle penetrates an arm, swords pass through an assistant in a basket.

- **Prediction:** The magician accurately predicts the choice of a spectator or the outcome of an event.
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THE ROYAL DYNASTY OF MAGIC

It is a tradition in which a great magician nearing retirement, names a younger magician to carry on their legacy of great magic.

1. The dynasty started in 1896 with the untimely death of Alexander Herrmann, who was followed by Magician Harry Kellar.
2. When Kellar retired in 1908 he named young Howard Thurston as his successor.
3. In the 1930s, Thurston named Dante the magician as his successor.
4. When Dante neared retirement he moved to San Bernardino, California and attended one of Lee Grabel’s shows, in 1954.
5. After Dante died, Lee Grabel announced that he had been chosen as Dante’s successor.
6. In the early 1990s, Lee Grabel chose Las Vegas headliner Lance Burton. In a ceremony in Vegas he placed a mantle on Burton’s shoulder to symbolize the passage.
AT THE END OF THE LAST PRESENTATION, INTERESTING INFORMATION WAS GIVEN ABOUT MAGICIANS ROBERT HOUDIN, ILLUSIONIST HENRI ROBIN, JOHN WYMAN, AND HOUDINI.
JOHN HENRY ANDERSON
(1814–1874)

He was a Scottish professional magician, with the stage name: The Great Wizard of the North

CAREER
Orphaned at the age of 10, he started his career appearing on the stage with a travelling dramatic company in 1830. At 17, he began performing magic and in 1837, at the age of 23, he performed at the castle of Lord Panmure, in Scotland.

He is famous for a lifetime of successful performances of the bullet catch illusion.

He is also credited to be the first magician to pull a rabbit out of a top hat.
JOHN NEVIL MASKELYNE
1839 TO 1917

He was an English stage magician and inventor of the pay toilet (it only cost 1 cent, at that time), along with other Victorian-era devices.

Many of his illusions are still performed today as he was the first person to create the illusion of levitation!

His book *Sharps and Flats: A Complete Revelation of the Secrets of Cheating at Games of Chance and Skill* is considered a classic overview of card sharp practices.
Jasper claimed he created the ideas and how to make large-scale deceptions and camouflage, used during the Second World War.

An inflatable dummy Sherman tank, one of many deceptions that Maskelyne claimed to have created.

One of John Maskelyne’s sons - Nevil was the father of Jasper Maskelyne and both of them became magicians.
ALEXANDER HERRMANN
1844 - 1896

He was a French magician - a master of illusion, elaborate stunts, sleight of hand and card tricks.

**Known For:**
1) Being one of the first magicians to pull a live rabbit out of a hat.

2) Performing the bullet catch where it appeared that a fired bullet would be caught between his hands or in his teeth.

He came from a family of magician and was mostly trained by his brother Compars (Carl) Herrmann and the two toured the world together, performing for large crowds.

After his brother died, Alexander began doing solo shows.
ALEXANDER MARRIED
ADELAIDE SCARSEZ

She began her magic career as an assistant to her husband, after they were married in 1875.

She was known as the Queen of Magic.

At their wedding, presided over by New York City Mayor William H. Wickham, Alexander announced that he had no money to pay for the ceremony.

As the crowd reacted, he reached into the mayor’s long beard and produced a wad of bills.

He tossed them into the air, and they disappeared.

Alexander did ultimately pay the wedding fee, after the sleight of hand.
ADELAIDE HERRMANN

She was a key part of many of their illusions, performing as a levitating sleeper, the bullet catch trick, a human cannonball, and a dancer who swirled in red silk, like a pillar of fire.

They toured the United States, Mexico, South America, and Europe.

After Herrmann died, she toured as a headliner for over 25 years and performed internationally, touring London and Paris.
HARRY KELLAR
1849 – 1922
He was called the “Dean of American Magicians.”

He was popular for his magic trick "The Levitation of Princess Karnac", into the air.

He borrowed wedding rings from audience members, loaded them into a gun and “fired” them toward a locked wood chest.

The rings were then found to be tied with ribbons to flowers inside of boxes that are inside of a smaller chest, that was in the original chest.

Kellar with Harry Houdini in 1915
CHUNG LING SOO
1861 to 1918

William Ellsworth Robinson was an American magician who went by the stage name Chung Ling Soo.

He is mostly remembered today for his accidental death, due to a failed bullet catch trick.

In full Chinese costume, everyone thought he really was Chinese.

He fooled his audiences all his life, so I guess you could call that a really good magic trick.
MARY ANN FORD, AKA TALMA
1861 to 1944

She was born in England in July 1861.

She could manipulate up to 30 coins in her petite hands, earning her the nickname Queen of Coins.

Beginning in 1899 and performing through the 1920s, Talma played to crowds all over the world with her husband, Belgian magician, Servais Le Roy.
DAVID DEVANT
1868 to 1941

He was born David Wighton in Holloway, London.

He is regarded by magicians as a consummate exponent of suave and witty presentation of stage illusion.

He was considered as “England’s greatest magician—possibly the greatest magician of the 20th Century”.

Among Devant's signature routines were:

- The "Magic Kettle", which produced, on demand, any alcoholic beverage called for by the audience
- "Mascot Moth", an instantaneous vanish of a winged assistant.
HOWARD THURSTON
1869 to 1936

He dominated the American magic scene in the early 1900s and became known as the "King of Cards."

Tricks he did were:

- The "Rising Cards" trick, where he would conjure up an audience member’s chosen card and it would rise out of a glass goblet and into his hands.

- The famous Levitation of Princess Karnac, which had been invented by John Nevil Maskelyne and performed by Harry Kellar.

- Vanish groups of people, pianos, lions, tigers, and even automobiles.

With the expansion of the railroad in the early 1900s, he developed a traveling magic show that became the largest American had ever seen.
MAX MALINI
1873 to 1942

Max Katz Breit, renamed as Max Malini, he was born in Ostrov, Russia.

Under the spell of a Professor Seiden, a magician, fire-eater and ventriloquist who kept a drinking saloon on the Bowery, Max got taught sleight of hand tricks.

As a fully fledged busker and saloon entertainer he would walk into a saloon and perform with articles readily available; knives, glasses, matches, etc.

His early associates were Professor Walters and the famous Emile Jarrow, who later became one of Vaudevilles greatest comedy magicians.
Claude Alexander Conlin also known as:

Alexander, C.

Alexander the Crystal Seer

Alexander, the Man Who Knows

He was an American spiritual author, vaudeville magician who specialized in mentalism and psychic reading acts, dressed in Oriental style robes and a feathered turban, and often used a crystal ball as a prop.

In addition to performing, he also worked privately for clients, giving readings
Harry August Jansen was a Danish-born entertainer who came to the United States with his parents, at the age of 6.

He was known professionally for 20 years as the Great Jansen before adopting the name Dante the Magician.

He performed in every form of the theatrical business under canvas, touring the Chautauqua circuit, vaudeville, burlesque, movies, radio and in later years - television.
HARRY BLACKSTONE, SR.
1885 TO 1965

Harry Bouton Blackstone, from Chicago, was a famed stage magician and illusionist, of the 20th century.

He began his career as a magician in his teens, billed as The Great Blackstone, and was popular through World War II as a USO entertainer.

His son, namely, Harry Blackstone Jr. was also a famous magicians and in many stage shows.
a.k.a. The Professor, he was a Canadian magician.

His sleight of hand technique and knowledge, particularly with card tricks and close-up magic, garnered him respect among fellow magicians.

He was also a mentor to other magicians.
He was a Canadian-American stage magician, author and scientific skeptic who extensively challenged paranormal and pseudo-scientific claims.

Randi began his career as a magician under the stage name The Amazing Randi.

Later, he chose to devote most of his time to investigating paranormal, occult, and supernatural claims, which he collectively called "woo-woo".

Before his Randi’s retirement, his organization offered a prize of $1,000,000 US dollars to eligible applicants who could demonstrate evidence of any paranormal, supernatural, or occult power or event under test conditions, agreed to by both parties. No one succeeded doing it!
THE JAMES RANDI, BEARD CONTEST - WOMEN INCLUDED !!
What did Doug Henning do for magic? Although David Copperfield would pull off some of the largest magic tricks ever attempted, it was Henning who paved the way for other magicians and illusionists, like Criss Angel, by showing that successful magicians don’t have to be confined to tuxedos.

Although Henning dabbled in magic as a boy and teen, he enrolled in college in his native Canada with the intention of earning a medical degree. He did his magic act at local bars and clubs just as a way to earn money for school. After he completed his bachelor degree in psychology, he took his magic act on the road, touring across Canada and building a name for himself as a magician.
PENN JILLETTE AND TELLER

They are American magicians, entertainers, and scientific skeptics who have performed together since the late 1970s. They are noted for their ongoing act that combines elements of comedy with magic.

The duo has been featured in numerous stage and television shows such as Penn & Teller: Fool Us.

They currently perform in Las Vegas at The Rio, the longest running headliners to play at the same hotel in Las Vegas history.

Penn & Teller at a ceremony to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in April 2013.
PENN AND TELLER

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lo5BRAKvJoA
FAY PRESTO

Fay Presto was born in 1948 and is the stage name of Letitia Winter, a British magician and member of The Inner Magic Circle known for her close-up magic.

She was called the Queen of Close-up.

Presto is a transgender woman, and regularly organizes and performs in benefits to support the rights of women, children and the LGBT community.

She is an ambassador for Action for Children.
DAVID COPPERFIELD
1956 – Present

Known For: Performing illusions on a grand scale.

Copperfield is easily one of the most famous magicians of all time.

He has won 21 Emmy Awards, been named “Magician of the Century” by the Society of American Magicians and holds eleven Guinness World Records.

Some of his most memorable illusions were when he made the Statue of Liberty “disappear” and when he seemingly walked through the Great Wall of China.
Illusionist David Copperfield has become a dedicated guardian of the secrets of magicians going back more than a century, amassing a stunning collection of artifacts tracing the history of magic.

In a huge Las Vegas warehouse, he's created what he calls the International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts.

Copperfield says he has spent hundreds of millions of dollars over the last two decades acquiring some 80,000 pieces, including apparatus and stage props, books, notes and posters of great conjuring artists. Most are irreplaceable, so he considers the collection priceless.
DAVID COPPERFIELD
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RZXc56-14xg
Tenko Hikita II, best known under the stage name of Princess Tenko, is a Japanese pop singer turned magician, specializing in grand illusion.

She debuted in North America at the Radio City Music Hall in 1994, and subsequently achieved worldwide fame.

She was famous because of an American magical girl-inspired cartoon series is based on her character.

The Mattel Toy co. produced a line of fashion dolls named after her.

Besides being an illusionist, she is also known as a singer, stage director, movie director, video photographer and painter.
William Lance Burton is an American stage magician.

He performed more than 15,000 shows in Las Vegas for over 5,000,000 people.

In 2010 he ended his 31-year Vegas show.

An important portion of Lance's education was spent in perfecting the art of misdirection.

His superb mastery of this art has earned Lance the title, "A Magician's Magician."
LANCE BURTON

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ngmcu9-xRSk
CHRIS ANGEL
1967 TO NOW

Known For: Being a world-famous illusionist and magician.

He has been the International Magicians Society’s “Magician of the Year”, a record-breaking five times.

They also named him “Magician of the Decade” and “Magician of the Century.”

He had a popular television show that ran for five years called “Criss Angel Mindfreak” in which he performed street magic and stunts.

His signature tricks are making doves appear to materialize and fly from his hands, levitation and disappearing acts.
DOROTHY DIETRICH

She was born October 31, 1969 and is an American stage magician.

She is:

An escapologist

- Best known for performing the bullet catch in her mouth

- The first woman to perform a straitjacket escape while suspended hundreds of feet in the air from a burning rope.

- The first woman to gain prominence as an escape artist since the days of Houdini.
DAVID BLAINE

He was born on April 4, 1973 and is an American illusionist, endurance artist, and extreme performer.

He is best known for his high-profile feats of endurance and has set and broken several world records.

For his stunt “Buried Alive,” Blaine went into a small plastic coffin that was buried and covered with a 3 ton water tank, for seven days without food.

He performed a feat called “Frozen in Time” where he was sealed in a large block of ice for nearly 64 hours – he was unable to walk for one month, afterwards.
Ning Cai, better known as 'Magic Babe' Ning, is a Singaporean magician and entrepreneur.

She has been recognized by Channel News Asia as "SouthEast Asia's First Professional Female Magician"

She performed her first magic tricks as a volunteer for the Children's Cancer Foundation and subsequently helped establish an online forum known as the Singapore Magic Circle.

Her numerous honors include a 2012 Patrons of Magic Award; a 2009 International Magicians Society Merlin Award; and a 2013 International Brotherhood of Magicians honor.
Jonathan and Charlotte Pendragon were a husband-and-wife team of American illusionists who called their work "physical grand illusion". They are widely known due to numerous national and international television appearances.

Their athletic skills allowed the pair to develop a distinctive and graceful take on classic illusions such as levitation.
Liang-Shun Lim, born on September 25, 1991, is known professionally as Shin Lim. He is a Canadian-American magician, recognized for his use of card manipulation and sleight of hand.

He is known for elaborate close-up card magic routines, during which he remains silent with the tricks set to music.

He is self-taught, having learned most of his skills from watching YouTube, on which he has since shared some of his techniques.
SHIN LIM
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Pxzjzp8NtE0
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All of the past and present magicians

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article about women magicians