A Simple Card Trick

Have you ever watched TV and seen magicians performing card tricks? Have you ever wondered how they baffle the audience? Have you ever wanted to perform a trick yourself? Using cards for magical tricks has been around for over a thousand years. It is not all that difficult. If you are interested, then read on.

What you need:
- At least two people to trick
- A pack of cards

What the trick looks like:
One of the people watching is asked to take a card from the pack and look at it without you seeing. Then they have to put the card back in the place that they wish. You then spread the cards out and point to the one that they had chosen… as if by magic!

How the trick is done:

1. Before starting the trick, tell those watching that you had better check that all the cards are there.
2. Quickly flick through the pack and remember the card at the top.
3. Now put the pack on a table.
4. Next, ask someone to cut the pack (split the pile into two), look at the bottom card (without you seeing) and remember it.
5. There are now two half-packs on the table.
6. After that, ask the volunteer to halve the pack again.
7. Now pick up the packs and put them back together.
8. When you do this make sure that the pack with the bottom card that your volunteer memorised is placed on top of the original top card that you memorised.
9. At last, you can spread the cards out on the table.
10. The card that the volunteer chose will be on the left of the card that you first memorised.
11. Finally, ‘hum’ and ‘hah’, as if letting the magic work, before revealing the card.

This is a simple enough trick. You will need to practise shuffling the decks quickly, so that people watching do not realise how it was done.