

NUT AND BOLT PUZZLE

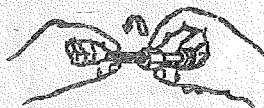
A Metal Bolt with a large Nut on it is displayed, with a Ring trapped between the Nut and the head of the Bolt.

Spectators are invited to take the Ring off the Bolt, but are unable to do so, as the Nut cannot be opened.

You can however do this in an instant, when you know the clever secret.

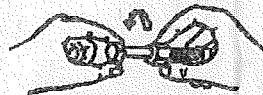
SECRET: The Bolt is made in two parts. The Nut locks these parts together.

To remove the Nut from the Bolt, you must *hold the Bolt by the threaded end opposite the head of the Bolt*. The Nut can then be removed in the normal way. (See figure below.)



Note how left hand holds the threaded part of bolt, while right hand unscrews nut, supporting the head of the bolt with the middle finger of the Right hand.

To replace the two parts together, hold them touching each other, and twist the Nut on to the Bolt, *holding the head of the Bolt* as you would normally do. This will enable you to fit the Bolt back in the original manner.



Again note how middle finger supports the threaded end, which will enable the nut move easily. Because the Bolt is in two parts, this support makes the opening and closing easier, by keeping the *two ends of the Bolt aligned in a straight line*.

Practice the handling a few times, and you can open and close the nut without looking, under cover of a Handkerchief or behind your back.