

Trunk

1. Explain all the magic you want to show them is in the trunk
2. You have a combination lock and when you bought it the number was set to 0000 and you set a new number which you have forgotten
3. Get someone up to try lots of different numbers
4. You hand the calculator out and get someone to enter a 2 digit number, press the X button and pass it on to someone else
5. The second person is to enter a 1 or 2 digit number (depending on how large you need the total at end) and press X or + (again depending on the total required) and pass it on to a third person
6. The third person enters a 1 or 2 digit number and presses = (see separate instruction sheet for the calculator)
7. Before you get for the total ask the person with the lock if they have tried lots of different numbers and that they haven't secretly opened it and lock it again (!)
8. Ask for the total and write it on the flipchart while asking the person with the lock to enter the four digit number – if the date is 3 digits add a zero to the end or beginning
9. Retrieve the calculator to 'check the number'
10. The lock will open and you should act surprised
11. Thank the helper and ask them to take their seat
12. Ask the audience what the odds are of getting the numbers matching – its 10,000 to 1 (there are 4 barrels with 10 digits on each so its $10 \times 10 \times 10 \times 10$)
13. Ask if the number that was randomly chosen (!) means anything to anybody – apart from the fact that it opened the lock
14. As you are waiting for an answer put a / into the number to change it to a date i.e. 1604 to 16/04
15. You will get a great reaction
16. Go on to explain the odds are now 3,650,000 to 1 ($10,000 \times 365$) – “this trick will only work today”