



Fork Trick, the coolest dinner table trick ever

As a kid, I learned an amazing trick from a waiter that I have carried with me for many years. I have performed this trick at restaurants, bars, meetings, conferences, and get-togethers and it always generates a smile, a few bewildered looks, and a whole lot of fun. So, after many years of table-side lessons, I thought I would share with the world the one and only bar/restaurant trick I know. I call it *Fork Trick!*

Let's break it down step-by-step...

1. Assemble your supplies

You need to construct a stable base to hold the toothpick. I find a wine bottle with a cork does the trick but I have also used salt and pepper shakers. You can use anything that will securely hold a toothpick straight in the air. Be sure to grab lots of extra toothpicks; sometimes they break and you may need to start over.



2. Position your wine bottle

Place your wine bottle base somewhere it will not wobble or shake.



3. Stick the toothpick in the cork



4. Ensure the toothpick is stable



5. Grab your forks

Most forks should work, though I have seen very heavy forks break thin toothpicks.



6. Tightly interlock the fork tines



7. Stick the toothpick into the first tine slot

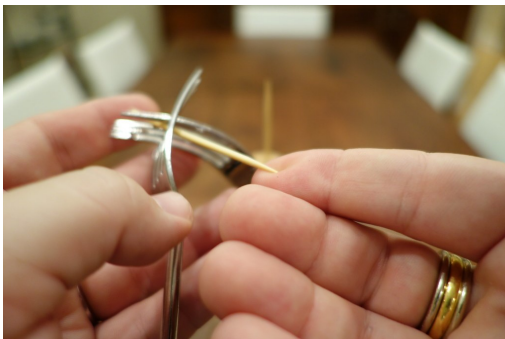
This is the first difficult part and sometimes it takes some work to position it just right. The toothpick

should be angled up so that it is pointing up if the forks were lying flat on the table.



8. Adjust the toothpick to get the balance right

You may have to slide the toothpick back and forth to find the center of gravity. Try to position the center of gravity at the tip of the toothpick.



9. Test the balance on your finger

If it can balance on your finger, it can balance on the head of a toothpick. You can now see that the center of gravity is the point where the toothpick meets my finger tip.

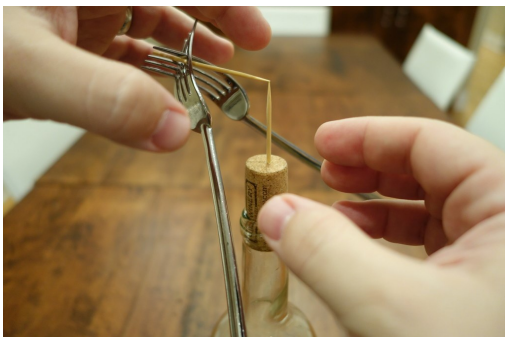


10. Align the tips of the two toothpicks

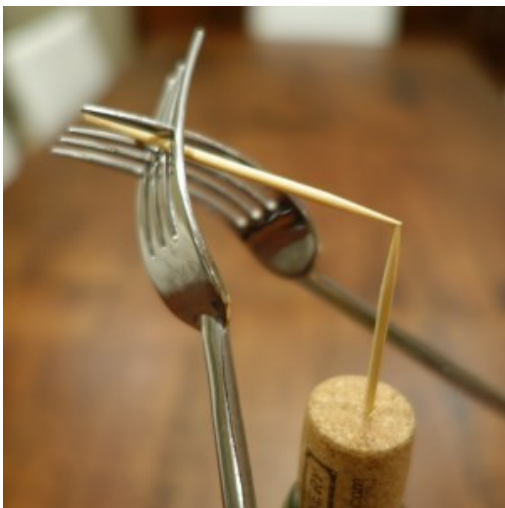
This is the trickiest part of the build. I find it's easiest to hold the base toothpick with one hand and use my finger to align the tips of the toothpick. When you feel it start to stabilize, gently let go. It may take a few tries to get it right. Do not be scared of a few crashes. Keep at it until the toothpicks are balancing on their own.



11. Gently let go



12. Boom! There it is: Fork Trick achieved!





13. Variations

There are a lot of variations you can do with Fork Trick. Here are a few variations of Fork Trick caught in the wild.

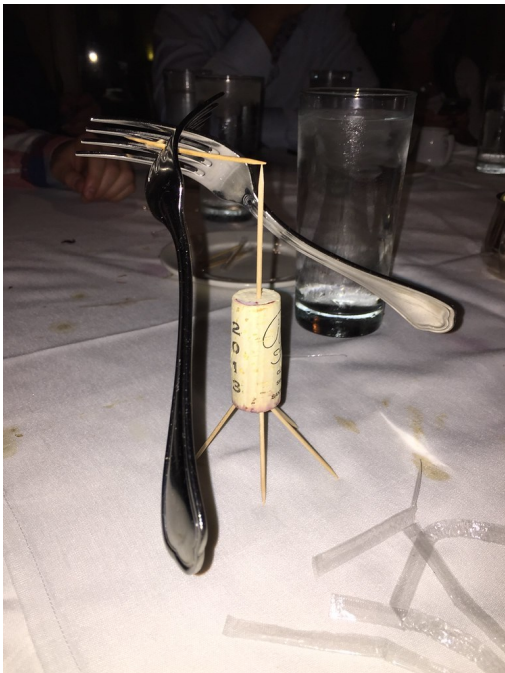
Salt shaker as a base



Water glass as a base



Cork and toothpick base



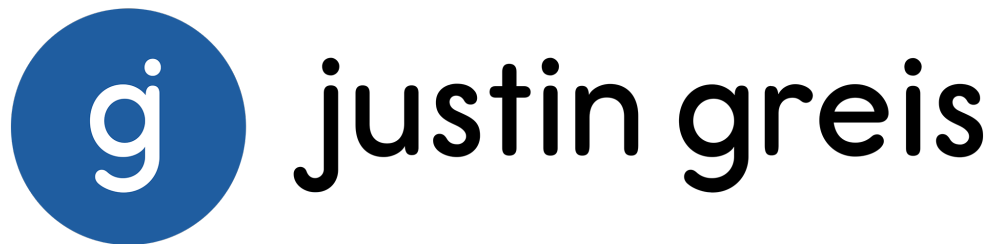
Double-sided Fork Trick



The trifecta: the three-way Fork Trick



Go ahead and give it a try! I am sure it will bring a smile to your face and will amaze your friends.



hi, i'm justin
(nice to meet you)

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