

— 8 PRO TIPS TO —  
**MAKE YOUR  
CARDS  
LAST LONGER**





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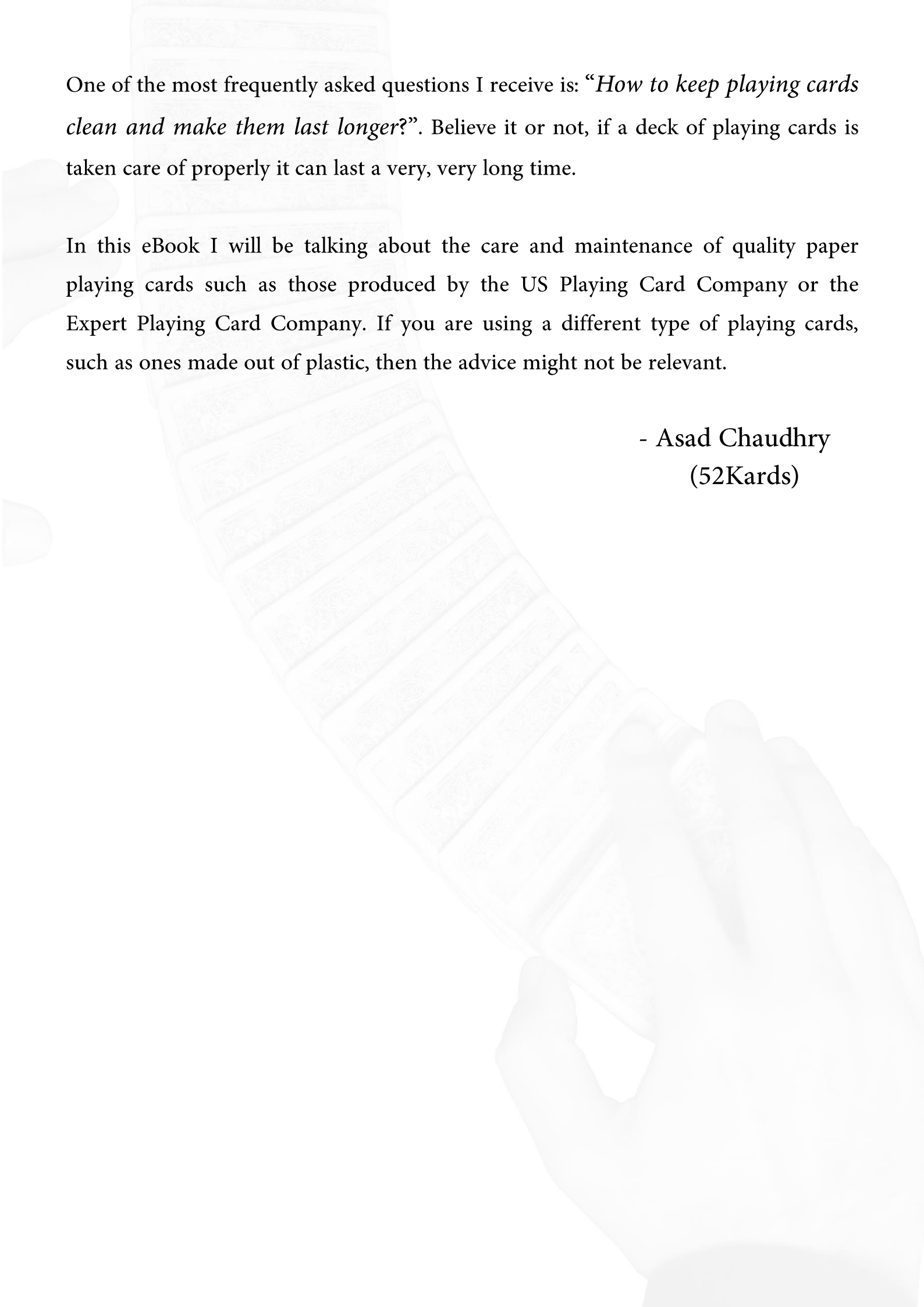
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One of the most frequently asked questions I receive is: “*How to keep playing cards clean and make them last longer?*”. Believe it or not, if a deck of playing cards is taken care of properly it can last a very, very long time.

In this eBook I will be talking about the care and maintenance of quality paper playing cards such as those produced by the US Playing Card Company or the Expert Playing Card Company. If you are using a different type of playing cards, such as ones made out of plastic, then the advice might not be relevant.

- Asad Chaudhry  
(52Kards)

## **1.) Store your deck in a dry and cool area.**

Cards are made out of paper, and paper doesn't mix well with moisture. Your deck will get clumpy and possibly warped if it isn't stored in a dry and cool environment. Those of us who live in dryer climates are lucky and our decks of cards can last many months and even years if they are taken care of. If you live in a humid climate, then unfortunately your decks will not last as long for you. However, there have been some decks of cards such as the Aladdin 1001's that have been produced with a smooth finish to help repel moisture so that they last longer.

## **2.) Only use your cards when your hands are clean.**

If your cards get dirty, they will start to clump up and smell funny, so make sure your hands are clean when using them. It's good to get into the habit of washing your hands before practicing or performing.

## **3.) Put the deck in its box when you're not using it.**

This will protect the cards from dirt, moisture, sunlight, etc..

## **4.) Don't keep your deck in your pants pocket.**

Your pants pocket can be too tight and also get very warm, which may cause the cards to warp. Keep your cards in your jacket pocket, or backpack.

## **5.) Use one deck for practicing and one deck for performing.**

If you reserve one deck for just performing it will last a very long time. You can continue to use your practice deck long after it is in its prime. If you follow this tip you won't have to replace your decks nearly as often.

## **6.) Place some heavy weights on your deck.**

If your cards ever develop a "click" and are no longer completely straight, you can put them in the card box and put some heavy books on top of it for a day or two.

## **7.) Spread your cards out on a table overnight.**

Sometimes your cards will get clumpy and no longer spread nicely after dirt and oil gets in between them. Try spreading them all over a table and let them "air out" for some time. It's possible they will become smooth again.

## **8.) Throw your cards in the freezer.**

Okay, that sounds strange. Another tip for when your cards become clumpy and stop spreading nicely is to put them in their card box and place them in the freezer overnight. Don't ask me to explain the science behind it..

## **Bonus: Where to get good cards from?**

Standard Bicycle® playing cards and other mass-produced brands can be found in many general stores in your area. However, if you want to get premium designer cards, you will either have to get them at dedicated magic stores or online. I feature and sell some of my favorite premium decks of cards at the [52Kards Deck Store](#).

