

A PRACTICAL GAG

ONLY IN RARE INSTANCES WILL EROTIC BONDAGE BE COMPLETE WITHOUT THE APPLICATION OF A SECURE, FUNCTIONAL GAG. THIS ARTICLE DESCRIBES A NUMBER OF THE MORE POPULAR TYPES OF GAGS AND COMMENTS ON THE VARYING DEGREE OF EFFECTIVENESS WITH EACH TYPE!

A wise man once said, "The only way to keep a woman quiet is to keep her gagged at all times." The time of confinement suggested may be a bit extreme, but the idea is most certainly inviting. Actually, gags are a very important part of B&D. In other words, a "gag" is hardly a practical joke. For the most part gags are used to add to the feeling of helplessness while the victim is otherwise restrained. Since the bondage used is real and secure, it follows that the gag used should also be secure and effective.

The loose pieces of cloth tied about the mouth (as is most often seen in movies and photos) are fine for props but, let's face it, they don't do a thing as far as insuring quiet or providing any feeling of helplessness.

The best that can be expected of any gag is to make intelligible speech impossible and either muffle or stop any loud noises. To achieve this, something must first be put into the mouth; then something else must be used to cover the stuffing so the victim can't force it out with her tongue. The stuffing in the mouth can be almost anything: a handkerchief, a rubber ball, a pair of panties, a sponge, a wad of cotton, etc.

The choice of the external part of the gag is equally as free. The method of applying this part is the most important factor.



Illustration I - Improper Cloth Gag

Illustration I, on this page, shows an improperly applied cloth gag. The victim's mouth is stuffed with a pair of panties, which is good, but the cloth strung between her teeth and tied at the back of her head is much too loose. In less than a minute she could push out the panties with her tongue and the cloth could be maneuvered down to her chin.

Illustration II shows the same gag, but here the cloth is tied tightly. Now she would have a much more difficult time getting the panties out and she could never get the cloth off without help. Even with the panties out, the tightness of the cloth between her teeth would make her speech quite jumbled and she wouldn't be able to scream too loudly.



Illustration II - Proper Application

The same rules apply to the common ball gag. If not fastened tightly enough the victim can work the ball out of her mouth and then she is left with no gag at all. **Illustration III** shows a ball-gag properly applied. We have all seen various things tied over the mouth as gags. Almost nothing that is put over the mouth exclusively can actually stop noise. About the only thing that may be accomplished is muffled speech. This also applies to tape stuck over the mouth, no matter how tightly. These over-the-mouth gags will work for a while if the mouth is stuffed with something first.

A single piece of tape stuck over a stuffed mouth can be worked off quite easily and will allow the victim to push



Illustration III - Ball Gag

out the stuffing with her tongue. A much more functional use of tape is exemplified in **Illustration IV**. Here a single piece is stuck over the mouth and well back on the cheeks; then two more pieces are applied over the first, forming an "X". Then, if the tape is stuck high up on the cheeks and well under the chin, it will stay on for quite a while, being extremely difficult to remove without the use of hands. Of course, if the face is wet where the tape is put on, the tape won't stick well at all.



Illustration IV - Tape Gag

It should be mentioned that tape wrapped completely around, from the mouth to the back of the head, is very effective if applied tightly. However, this method has one major draw-back: it is often quite painful when removed because the tape tends to stick to the short hair at the back of the neck. This problem can be overcome if the tape is put over a long wig or a piece of cloth. Also, an elastic bandage can be used in much the same way as the tape and often works just as well if it is applied over a cloth tied between the teeth or stuffed into the mouth. This will cause fewer problems when it is removed. As shown in **Illustration V**, the elastic was applied over a stocking pulled between the teeth and tied tightly at the back of the victim's head.

There are many variations and combinations on the basic ideas presented, using generally available materials. Unfortunately, most of these gags, if put on tightly enough to be effective, are often uncomfortable for the victim to wear for any length of time.

For the purist, or dedicated practitioner, there are quite a few serious gags available commercially. For the most part these professionally produced gags can be worn with some degree of comfort for long periods.



Illustration V – Elastic Gag

Most of these are leather or rubber or some combination of the two.

One such gag was already mentioned: the ball strap, which is shown in **Illustration III**.

Illustration III. This is usually just a rubber ball with a leather strap strung

through the center, and a buckle at one end of the strap, but it also comes in a variety of head harness straps that hold the ball in the mouth more securely. The ball types are effective if fastened tightly enough and, if the ball is not too large, are usually comfortable enough to wear for long periods. Other types of specially made gags have wide interior mouth pieces of rubber or leather and wide comfortable exterior straps similar to those on a harness. Without the mouth-piece this type will only muffle sound unless it includes a strap that goes under the chin to the top of the head to hold the jaws tightly closed. One such harness type gag is shown in **Illustration VI**.

Another gag which is often grouped with the harness type is the mouth bit. The straight bit is generally not too effective as a gag unless it is held extremely tight, which in turn renders it very painful. An extremely effective silencer can be constructed by simply adding a soft rubber ball to the center of the bit.

I am sure many of you are bursting with innovative ideas for gags and other bondage equipment. Let us hear about them. We'd love to pass your ideas along to the readers in future issues of HOGTIE.



Illustration VI – Harness Type

