

# Audition Tips

*"There is no one else who will give your audition. I repeat, no one!"*

– Scott Ellis, director

## 1) Confidence

- Breathe! Enter a state of “relaxed readiness” – do a 5-10 minute warm-up of you mind/voice/body before entering the room.
- Recognize your power as an actor who is prepared and ready to work. Trust your instincts, training and your own talent!
- Every director wants you to be the person to cast – it solves their problem – be confident that you could be that solution!
- Remember that the auditors are on your side! They want you to do well!
- Walk into the room with confidence, relaxed and ready to have fun and work.
- Claim the playing space – this is your time to shine – Auditions are your time to act and enjoy a performance – put the chair where you want it, find your perfect starting point, find your light, and rock n’ roll!
- Be confident and comfortable in your movements and body language. Most people don’t stand completely still for 2 minutes – find a moment to cross (diagonal crosses are more exciting) – so that you don’t physically start and end at the same spot – give yourself a journey.
- Every audition is an opportunity – not just for a role in this show, but an opportunity to work on your craft.
- No matter how poorly you may think you did, don’t display disappointment (you are more aware of your own mistakes than the auditors)

## 2) Commitment

- Be 100% committed to your choices! This is the time to “Go big or go home”.
- Know who you are talking to and how you feel about them. Be specific!
- Know what you want (objective) and how you are trying to get it (actions).
- Vary those actions – no one does the same thing over and over for 2 minutes – find variety in the dialogue and the moments.
- What is the pre-beat? (What happens right before this scene starts that makes you start your monologue? What are you reacting to?)
- What is the journey/story of this monologue? How does the character change?
- Do you get what you want at the end? Or not? Don’t rush out of the moment of acting – give us a beat as an ending.

## 3) Concentration

- Be in the moment. Be present. When you say hello and when you perform.
- Take a breath and center yourself before beginning the monologue (give yourself the cue of the pre-beat moment) – don’t rush it – it’s your time.
- Find a focal point for where you can look during your monologue – this can be center or just off to the right or left (some auditors do not like it when actors look right at them). Find moments to look away and back – we rarely stare at one spot for the whole time we are talking.

**BONUS TIP:** The best advice I ever got was to plan on doing something fun after the audition – go see a movie, get ice cream, hang out with a friend, watch a Netflix show, whatever makes you happy and takes your mind off worrying about how you did. Self-analysis is good but worrying not so much. Celebrate the fact that you did your best work!