

From the book

'MADE FOR HOLLYWOOD: AN ACTORS BEGINNER MANUAL' by Dom Campbell

Dos and Don'ts for Audition Preparation

[Dos]

1. **Study the Script:** Read the script multiple times to understand the story and character dynamics. Focus on your character's motivations and emotions.
2. **Rehearse Regularly:** Memorize your lines and refine your interpretation of the character. Record yourself or practice in front of a mirror for objective evaluation.
3. **Explore Physicality and Vocal Variation:** Work on your character's physical traits and vocal nuances to enhance your performance.
4. **Research the Casting Team:** Understand the preferences and previous works of the casting director and production team to better tailor your audition.
5. **Prepare for the Unexpected:** Practice improvisation to be ready for unexpected requests during auditions.
6. **Dress Appropriately:** Choose attire that reflects professionalism and aligns with the character you are auditioning for.
7. **Arrive Early:** Get to the audition site 15-30 minutes early to settle in and prepare.
8. **Warm Up:** Engage in physical and vocal exercises before your audition to release tension.
9. **Introduce Yourself Confidently:** State your name and the role you're auditioning for clearly to make a strong first impression.
10. **Show Gratitude:** Thank the casting team for their time before leaving the audition room.
11. **Follow Up with Gratitude:** Send a thank-you note or email to the casting director post-audition.
12. **Embrace Mistakes:** Handle mistakes during auditions gracefully and remain focused on your performance.
13. **Maintain Professionalism:** Be courteous and professional in all interactions, inside and outside the audition room.

14. **Pay Attention to Details:** Ensure your self-tape setup is professional, including good lighting, sound, and background.

[Don'ts]

1. **Don't Rush Your Preparation:** Avoid cramming lines or skipping script analysis. Preparation is key for a strong performance.
2. **Don't Ignore Instructions:** Follow any specific guidance given by the casting team closely.
3. **Don't Speak Too Softly:** Always ensure you articulate your name and lines clearly during your introduction.
4. **Don't Stare Directly at Casting Directors:** During scene work, engage with imaginary scene partners instead of fixating on the casting team.
5. **Don't Show Discontent with Rejection:** Handle rejection positively and use it as an opportunity for growth.
6. **Don't Pester the Casting Team:** Avoid bombarding them with inquiries about audition results; patience is important.
7. **Don't Neglect Your Online Presence:** Ensure your social media profiles reflect professionalism and enthusiasm for your craft.
8. **Don't Overanalyze in Cold Reads:** Trust your instincts and make bold character choices with the limited time you have.
9. **Don't Skip Warm-Ups:** Failing to warm up can hinder your physical and vocal performance.
10. **Don't Forget About Networking:** If appropriate, take the time to connect with others in the audition room professionally.