

Audition Tips and Tricks:

Here we go! This is just a list of additional helpful things to do when self-taping (video auditions). You do not have to use them for this audition, but if you ever do move on to professional auditions (Who knows who will win the next Oscars!), please do keep them in mind!



1. Please prepare **30-90 seconds** of a monologue or Bible passage or anything else you wish to recite (i.e. poetry, song lyrics (not sung), or perhaps the rules to your favorite board game). You can have this memorized or you can read it. We just want to see your face and smile and hear you talk for a bit!
2. Please film this **horizontally** (which is a good rule of thumb for anything you film), and have the shot reach from the top of your head to your knees at the least so that we can see you!
3. Last of all, please state your name and what you will be performing right before you go into your piece. This is called a **slate** and it is an important part of any audition video.
4. Look directly at the camera for your slate (introduction), and then to the left of the camera for your piece, as if someone was sitting/standing there. It can help to have someone sit there or place a specific item to designate someone's face. On camera, it looks like you are speaking to a real person!
5. Find the borders of where you can move to while performing without being out of view of the camera. Move yourself, not the camera. It helps to put markers on the floor. I've used ribbons, spoons and even hairbrushes. Anything works!
6. It's ok to take a moment (1-5) seconds in between your slate and your piece to get into character. It helps to look down for your moment and then look up to clearly mark the beginning of your piece
7. Film against a solid color wall, and move any furniture out of the way if at all possible. Then we can just see you! Hanging a sheet as a temporary background also works well.
8. Wear clothes that you feel confident in! You do not have to wear business dress, but it helps to look put together. Wear what you are wearing with intentionality. Examples: I wore a nice shirt and jeans for college video auditions and then a rainbow 80s style sweater with a black pencil skirt for virtual auditions. I felt very confident and outgoing in the sweater/skirt combo which helped with auditioning and interviews!
9. When slating, be calm, peaceful, and happy. Smile! It helps ground you before starting your piece.
10. Finally, take the time on your character! Journal some, think about why they are saying what they are saying. Come up with what just happened before your character starts talking. If you are having trouble taking your writing work from on page to the character, try some improv. Just talk as your character, monologue in the mirror and find out how it feels to be in their skin. Also, you find the most out about your character through what they think of other people. Make up some people. Talk to them in your mirror. There are no wrong choices or words. It takes a little time to feel comfortable with your character! That is perfectly fine. HAVE FUN. (WARNING: side effects of this include starting to people watch)

Ok!!!! Get ready to audition and have fun!!