

The Actor Work Ethic
What Directors and Choreographers
Look for in the Professional Rehearsal Room

Are you a complainer?

When do you arrive for rehearsal?

Do you really warm up and vocally prepare each day?

Did you prepare outside of rehearsal and make alterations based on notes?

Do you learn your lines and vocal parts as written and assigned?

Do you meet deadlines?

What is your focus and concentration like during stop and starts?

Do you really listen to everything that is being said in the room?

Can you take direction and deliver changes?

Do you understand the concept and style that is being developed?

Are you more interested in the work, or entertaining yourself or others in the room?

Do you give every moment 110% or are you lazy with choreography, vocals or scene work? Are you marking or rehearsing?

Are you ready and prepared for every entrance?

Do you talk or make noise while other work is being done?

Are you distracted by technology?

Do you observe and learn from others at work and the direction being given?

Are you willing to take risks in the room? To try and fail, and try again?

Are you adding your input and creative energy to the work?

Are you writing down notes and asking questions?

Do you want to be in the room? Is this just a job or is it your passion?

Do you truly love the process of rehearsal work or just the high of being on stage in front of an audience?

Do you give as much to your fellow actors as you take?

How do you use your breaks?

How do you work when you are not feeling your best or you have an injury?

How do you treat others? Example: The creative team and the stage management team

Do you volunteer for assignments or do you just do enough to get by?

Do you make me watch you in a positive way that serves the work?
Are you a positive or negative force in the ensemble?

Do you help others learn the work?

Do you bring total commitment for the entire rehearsal?

Do you take care of yourself (physically, mentally and spiritually) outside of rehearsal?

Do you make excuses in the rehearsal room?

Do you make me want to work with you again as soon as possible?

After any note given the best response is always a simple "Thank You"

During any Music Rehearsals

Be on book during music rehearsals

Always have a pencil in hand

Maintain proper posture when singing

When the MD stops talking, don't you start talking. Wait for a break

Come to the vocal rehearsal having already listened to the music and aware of what part you're singing

Take copious notes and follow them

Do not talk among yourselves, if you have a question ask the MD, not your neighbor

Always work as if the most important producer or director you can think of is in that rehearsal room auditioning you for that Broadway lead

I would rather have 110% or trying my hardest than 50% of correct

Why Directors, Choreographers Observe Your Behavior in the Rehearsal Room

We see 100 hours of rehearsal process and maybe only one or two actual performances. Freelance directors usually leave after the first or second performance.

Observing helps us decide whom we might further showcase in the work.

We are often looking to cast future productions or tours of this particular work. We want to see who can step up into other roles.

We are looking to cast replacement for current productions.

We are looking to cast for future productions.

We are looking for talented hard working performers to recommend to our colleagues.

We want to find the cream of the crop. Actors, who enrich our work, and make it better. Actors that we want to work with over and over again.

Always be the most prepared and hardest working person in every rehearsal situation!