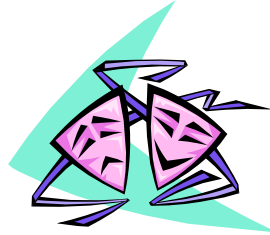


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# Theatre Forms

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## for Community Theatres



### ➔ **ACTOR'S CODE**

This "Actor's Code" can help avoid problems and conflicts by defining rules and expectations at the outset.

This 2-page CODE, designed to be doubled-sided (8½" X 11"), can be:

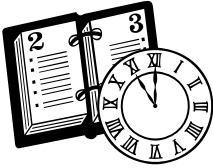




- included in an actor's packet;
- assigned for brief discussion as part of theatre awareness/ education;
- reviewed in segments at rehearsals;
- posted in the green-room; and
- so forth.

Topics in the Code include care of script, costume, & props; stage manners; Do's & Don'ts, etc.

If certain parts of the Code do not meet your theatre's needs, white-out those parts before copying (except for source & © info).

Every theatre group that has accessed these forms can make copies as needed for their use. Please encourage other groups or persons (if they want a copy) to download from <https://www.zanthymhouse.ca> so ZH can keep current with stats and analytics, and so others can be encouraged to participate in the gift-economy.

# THE ACTOR'S CODE

	<p><b>BE ON TIME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Calendar for all rehearsals &amp; performance dates</li> <li>• Arrive with enough time to settle in &amp; be ready at the appointed time. Then, be readily available as needed</li> <li>• Notify the Stage Manager ASAP of any time problems</li> </ul>
	<p><b>DIRECTION</b> 😊</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• You take direction from the Director(s) ONLY ♦ AGAP*</li> <li>• You get other information from the Stage Manager</li> <li>• Do not give direction to others</li> <li>• Trust the Directors' overall vision</li> <li>• If you have concerns or ideas talk to the Director(s) [privately, if necessary]</li> </ul> <p>*AGAP = as gracefully as possible</p>
	<p><b>FOCUS ♦ CONCENTRATION ♦ FOCUS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorize your lines - ASAP</li> <li>• Learn your business</li> <li>• Study your character to determine your motivation for action and movement</li> <li>• Watch others being rehearsed &amp; learn from their experience</li> <li>• LISTEN &amp; PRACTICE MINDFULNESS</li> <li>• Respect the focus of others</li> <li>• TRICKS &amp; SURPRISES are never appropriate</li> </ul>
<p><b>STAGE MANNERS</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The actor's job is to understand &amp; interpret lines, not to invent them</li> <li>• Pay attention &amp; BE on cue</li> <li>• Project, PROJECT, enunciate, ENUNCIATE</li> <li>• Do not upstage others. Every performance is a team effort</li> <li>• Keep still onstage unless you have something definite to do</li> </ul>
	<p><b>SCRIPT</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Treat your script with tender care</li> <li>• Write down ALL YOUR BLOCKING in soft lead pencil</li> <li>• On the final night of performance, turn your script in, clean</li> </ul>
	<p><b>COSTUME</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wear the costumes provided, in the manner directed</li> <li>• Treat costumes with respect. Keep them clean &amp; hang them up in the place assigned</li> <li>• Never wear logo-ed or patterned items under a costume (they can show thru under strong theatre lighting)</li> <li>• Never wear costumes outside the designated theatre area</li> <li>• Give the Costume Mistress advance notice about repairs</li> </ul>

Theatre **E**'s: Good theatre will **E**ntertain, **E**nlighten, & **E**dify

~ Plato, Moliere, Tolstoy, etc.

[This form is available at <https://www.zanthyhouse.ca>]



## HAND PROPS

- Make sure you have the needed prop(s) for each scene BEFORE you make your entrance
- After use, return your props to the designated area. Do not carry props off to strange or unexpected places
- Do not touch the props of others

## DO'S

## RESPECT & COURTESY

**DO:**

- behave off-stage as you would have others behave when you are on-stage. In other words, THE GOLDEN RULE
- BE KIND, PATIENT, & FORGIVING
- during the performance run, report in as soon as you arrive
- cooperate with the backstage crew & respect their vital contribution to the success of the play
- take care with & be respectful of all sets, props, costumes, wigs, make-up, etc.
- help keep the premises clean & tidy
- keep to the *green-room* until your call to the wings
- be WHERE you need to be WHEN you need to be there
- help strike-the-set and clean-up at the end of the run
- cheerfully work as a team member in all that is required

## DON'TS

## DON'T:

- criticize other's performances
- interfere with another's focus or concentration
- distract or talk to the prompter
- be temperamental
- make others wait on you
- chew gum on stage
- mess with stage & design props or sets
- mess with or borrow the belongings, props, costumes, wigs, make-up, etc., of others
- bring or invite friends or family members to rehearsals or backstage during a performance (including the *green-room*)

# The Magic Of Play

## BASIC RULE OF THEATRE

- Create & maintain the TRUTH OF THE STORY
  - STAY in character (including all entrances & exists)
  - AVOID distractions of every kind

## ACTOR E's

## ENJOYMENT & EXCELLENCE

- Make friends, memories, & the best of every circumstance
- Develop your talents. Share your gifts
- Keep happy. Be positive
- If mistakes happen, learn from them & go forward



After each performance, thank the Production Crew ~ goodnight