

10 tips for delivering a successful dance audition

1) Breakfast or other attempt having energy – It's important to be healthy and ready to "perform" for your audition. If you are afraid nerves will upset your stomach, eat early enough as to avoid that.

2) Appearance – This is VERY important. Wear appropriate attire that shows your body, preferably in a color that you are comfy wearing and that attracts attention. It's also a good idea to layer so you can easily change into "dance attire" after your vocal audition (or vice versa).

If you have long hair or hair that hangs in your face, tie it back, so your face is open. You need to present as much as possible with your look. Plus, hair in the face while dancing will get on your nerves, as well as the team's.

3) An over-crowded dance studio – and not enough space to dance! Everyone has the same idea – "get to the front, so I can see what is being taught and can nail the choreo." A good and fair choreographer will want to find good dancers and when it's crowded, they will most likely switch lines during the audition so everyone can see what is going on, or in other scenarios, send half of the room away and teach two separate groups.

4) The combination is taught fast –focus! Pay attention, listen, look, learn, take note of the style immediately and copy that what is being shown, it is for a reason, it is what is required for that particular production. A choreographer will be looking for this immediately. Are you a person that can pick up this style, would you fit in the show?

5) Think for yourself – If you don't think for yourself, it means you are not focused on yourself, you are focused on the other people around you in the studio, are you worried you are not good enough? Are you checking the others out? You will be looking at those "other people" and copying their movements and not thinking and executing the movements yourself. Copying others means your movements will be a beat behind the real time choreography – you will be dancing late and no doubt have a blank expression on your face.

6) Questions – If something is not clear: ask! Questions are mostly always welcome and even if you're not the one asking them, still listen, the answer will most definitely help, even if you know the answer already.

8) After you have danced, stay on place until a team member says thank you. You will be out of breath, control it, keep your stance, look strong, don't collapse on the floor, no matter how tired you are. Look positive and open.

9) Etiquette during the audition - never stand at the back of the studio (behind the dancers), always stand on the sides and never dance full out until it is your turn. It distracts the team and is very disrespectful to the people who are on at that point. Keep warm, keep your brain focused on the routine and dance the choreo with your toes in your shoes, at the most with light arms movements only. This helps the team so much, believe me. And don't chat!

10) Best advice: practice, the more classes you do with different teachers and choreographers with their own individual styles and the more auditions you do, the easier it becomes, (it never becomes easy, but easier). The more you get used to doing this process, the more you can really dig your heels in and travel the many levels needed to having a successful audition.