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 **Apprentice Rehearsal Etiquette:**

1. Theatre is not reality, that’s why we do it – because sometimes real life is unpleasant and it’s nice to take a break by pretending you are someone and somewhere else in a play. If participants bring negative things like gossiping, forming clicks, criticizing others – it becomes tedious, tiresome, and not an escape from reality. Stay positive.
2. Bring your script and a pencil, this is your equipment – a doctor doesn’t show up for surgery without anesthesia.
3. Everyone involved should be on time. Start on time and end on time – arrive 10 to 15 minutes prior to rehearsal and be ready to go at the starting time.
4. Nobody should ever be in the theatre alone. Two pre-approved Old Brick staff member must be in attendance for the building to be open. It is against OBP policy for any person to work alone in the theatre. There must be a pre-approved staff member present at all times.
5. Do not talk during blocking whether you are onstage or offstage. This interrupts the rehearsal and causes it to take longer. Please write down your blocking.
6. Never take your phone or anything else electronic onstage unless directed to do so. Just like a toaster in the bathtub, don’t do it. When you are not onstage, during performance or rehearsal, keep your phone turned off.
7. Highlight your lines and put your name on your script.
8. Blocking is the movement pattern of actors on the stage. It doesn’t involve acting though sometimes we will give you ideas quickly during blocking if it clarifies your movement. Write all of your blocking clearly in the margin of your script as we are blocking the show. Memorize your blocking along with your lines, *both are equally important.*
9. If there is a part of the script you don’t understand, ask one of the staff about it or look it up in a library or on internet. We would rather you ask any question rather than act like you know the answer.
10. During rehearsal, don’t talk to actors or staff unless we are on break or unless it is an emergency. Save your questions until after rehearsal. Don’t interrupt the Director during a run through, blocking session or notes unless someone is bleeding or an equivalent urgency.
11. It is important for everyone to know the flow of the play, so pay attention while others are getting their blocking.

When we start running things, you will feel confused and overwhelmed if you don’t know the basic plot.

1. **Actors do not direct other actors in blocking, line delivery, or anything else.** Spend that time and energy focusing on your own direction and blocking.
2. If you are, for some reason, offstage during a rehearsal, don’t talk especially with anything you don’t want us to know.
3. During rehearsals, everyone must be seated in the house, unless otherwise directed by the staff. We must be able to locate you at all times. You don’t however have to ask to go to the restroom – we encourage it.
4. We are impressed by people who have memorized their lines and blocking before the off-book date. We encourage going over lines with other actors before and after rehearsals, but not during.
5. **Backstage is a quiet zone when the production process begins.**
6. The prop table should be left alone **by everyone,** at all times, with the exception of the actor using the prop at the appropriate time and the props master or mistress.
7. When you leave apprenticeship in the evening, please clean up any mess that you have created.
8. Never criticize another actor either here or on your own time. This is a team sport and the better we work together, the better the show will be. Nobody is the star. Everyone makes mistakes.
9. If there is something you feel you cannot do*, i.e*., a dance step, talk to a member of the staff about it after you have given it your best shot.
10. Rehearsals can be fun and exciting if you pay attention; otherwise they can be plodding and tedious.
11. Staff members are not your personal servants…they are here to teach you…thank them. If you have a problem with someone else in the cast or if you see someone being bullied, tell a member of Staff right away**.** We do not tolerate aggressive or negative behavior.
12. Most of the seniors and juniors have been here before; we expect them to help and to encourage others to follow this long list of suggestions and be role models for the younger students.
13. Temperamental actors don’t get cast in large roles next year. Remember this.
14. Don’t roll your eyes, but be positive about blocking and all other aspects of theatre.
15. **It is your responsibility to know when rehearsals and shows are**. We gave each of you a schedule, we have a hotline and a website, and most information is posted on the bulletin board (by the Fourth Street entrance) as well. We are impressed with those who take these schedules seriously and we are upset when you inconvenience your parents.
16. The Old Brick Apprentices are like a family - a family that likes each other. Be polite, respectful, protective, and friendly to new folks.
17. **You are a representative for the Brick-act like it!**
18. Your performance reflects the amount of time that you invest in it. Everyone is visible onstage at all times.
19. We notice good - and bad - behavior.
20. We - the Staff - know what we are doing. You don’t need to tell us.
21. Respect the Director and other cast members at all times. Theatre is a team sport and the better we work together, the better the show will be.
22. If you arrive under the influence of any alcohol or drug you will be asked to leave.