

Self-Tape Tips from Casting

NOTES

It is essential you read and follow the exact instructions provided.

REGRETTING TAPES

Let casting know if you can't make the deadline or regretting. It is ok, but let them know as soon as possible. You don't need elaborate reasons but casting want confirmations and regrets.

MULTIPLE TAKES

For smaller roles, a second take is appreciated, provided the takes are distinctly different.

PROPS

Avoid props, or limit them to just one. They can be too distracting.

OVERWORKED AUDITIONS

Don't do too many takes - it will look overworked.

TITLE CARDS

These are not required unless stated in the taping instructions.

SCENES

Upload your scenes separately if requested.

ARCHIVED TAPES

Casting may archive tapes and show them to directors or producers when considering you for another role.

DEADLINES

Meet your deadline. It might be possible to get an extension, but your late tape may come in after casting has already sent off their selects to the directors and producers.

SLATING

A close-up and a full-body shot is required. For wide angle slate shots, your background doesn't matter. Split screens are preferred if you have that option, but keep it simple. Do not make it a production. Show yourself "not in character".

State your physical location in addition to where you are normally based, if different (eg. Vacationing in Hawaii but live in Vancouver)

U.S. ACCENT

A lot of our productions are servicing U.S. markets so actors will need to have this down. Casting gets this note constantly as American directors and producers are listening for it.

tone & PACE

Actors should do their homework and watch the "creative team's" other work, or previous episodes of the series that they are auditioning for.

TRANSITIONS

Transitions should be short. Fadeouts or transitions between each scene are not needed.

DEMO OR SIZZLE REELS

These are different. A professional demo reel should be provided if the material on the reel is similar to the tone and content you are auditioning for. Sizzle reels can be an add-on, but not instead of a demo.

FEEDBACK

Casting cannot give feedback to everyone. If casting is requesting you again and again, you are doing something right.