



<http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips>

# **Double Your Chances of Getting Called Back!**

10 simple steps for actors to implement to double  
their chances of getting the role!

**Martin Bentsen** is a professional headshot photographer and author of several information products, including "Make Yourself Famous" and "How to Take Headshots the Right Way." Bentsen has spent over seven years working as a photographer and filmmaker, and has learned all of the ins and outs of the entertainment business, especially when it comes to bringing actors up in the ranks from nothing.

Visit Martin at his website, <http://www.cityheadshots.com/>

# Welcome!

Did you know that agents know in the first 20 seconds or less of meeting an actor whether they are going to represent that actor? And did you also know that Casting Directors have a sixth sense as to who's going to get a callback by how an actor walks into the room? Don't be one of the seventy-five percent of actors who don't get a second chance because of a stupid, silly mistake.

Here are a number of short tips to help you win over those with a critical eye within the first twenty seconds of meeting them:

**1. Look like a million bucks.** You might think this is just a saying, but it's absolutely true. There is no way you are going to get a second chance if you walk in looking like a slob. Nice, well-chosen clothes are a must if you want to have a successful acting career. In addition to wearing good clothes, make sure you have clear, smooth skin, appropriate makeup & presentable hair. You should ALWAYS come into an audition looking just like the headshot you sent them (though you don't have to be wearing the same outfit). Also, make sure that your hands are in good shape. No one likes to shake sweaty or extremely coarse hands.

**2. Don't chew gum when you come into an audition.** Spit it out before entering the room, because chewing gum is impolite unless you brought enough for everybody. But do be sure your breath smells good. Bring some breath mints, and eat one right before entering. Remember that the whole point is to give the casting director or agent absolutely no reason to have anything against you.

<http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips>

**3. When you enter, be sure to look the person in the eyes when meeting them.** I can't tell you how many times I've had an actor come into an audition who wouldn't look me in the eye. It makes you appear untrustworthy and doesn't look professional. If you find it difficult to look someone in the eye when speaking to them, practice now with your friends.

**4. Walk with confidence, holding your head up high and standing with good posture.** Sit up straight and lean forward a bit when listening to them talk, as it shows you are interested in what they have to say. If you lean back and sit with bad posture, they will notice, trust me. Be confident, but not cocky. There is a difference between walking confidently and walking with a swag. If you do the latter, you are sure to get a negative reaction. Let the casting director or agent know that you believe in your skills, but don't let them think you think you're better than everyone else.

**5. Don't shake hands, in today's world, unless they offer their hand first.** It might seem contrary to what you would think, but germs and sickness makes everyone cautious these days. Therefore, be ready to shake the casting director or agent's hand if they offer it, but don't offer yours until they offer theirs. If you do and they weren't planning on shaking your hand, they might feel uncomfortable, and there you go - you've made them have a reason to dislike something about you.

**6. Never forget to bring a copy of the sides and plenty of copies of your resume, unless they expressly ask you not to.** If you forget these things, you will seem irresponsible and not invested fully in their project. Be sure to also bring a copy of your acting reel on DVD and if you have one, a binder-style portfolio with photos just in case. Have all of these things ready to pull right out of your bag. If you sit spending a few minutes trying to find what is needed in your bag, it puts a sour taste in the casting director or agent's mouth.

**7. Invest in a good bag.** Having a nice, brand name bag that is organized neatly and isn't dirty goes a long way in sending the message that you care about acting to the casting director or agent. If your bag looks like a piece of crap, you absolutely will be judged. Remember this little tip: even though we seem to live in a world now where people aren't supposed to judge a book by its cover and be discriminatory, almost everyone still is. The honest and sad truth is that if you walk in with clothing or a bag that looks old and tattered or dirty, people will think you are irresponsible and don't care about what you do.

**8. Treat each of those 20 seconds like gold.** Remember that you have a purpose while you're there, so be sure that you use each of those moments well. Speak with a purpose and be clear in what you have to say. No "um's," "whatever's," "like's," etc., they make you look immature. Be polite, friendly, and confident.

**9. Show your outgoing personality by being friendly and answering their questions clearly.** But also, remember this little tip: people like to hear themselves talk. So the more you let them do the talking, the more they will like you. If you just sit there talking about yourself the whole time, they won't like you very much. Additionally, be sure to show your charisma and intelligence. Research their company or production as much as you can before coming in. If they ask you a simple question and you don't know the answer because you didn't do any research before coming in, they will like you less. If you *do* know they answer, they will like you more. But be truthful in your responses, and if you truthfully don't know the answer, tell them so. Don't try to make things up because it will get really awkward if they catch you.

**10. A brief, "Thank you for seeing me" when you leave is a great way to end.** Be sure to ask them when you might expect to hear back from them, because you have the right to know. It shows them that you are interested in their project and will give you information that you otherwise might not have known.

<http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips>

<http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips>

## **Thank you!**

I hope that these tips were helpful to you! If you have found them useful, you may be interested in reading some of my other FREE information eBooks for actors. Simply visit <http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips> to sign up to receive my full reports and tips absolutely free!

You may distribute and send this report to whoever you like, feel free to email it to your actor friends if you think they might find it useful!

Your friend, Martin Bentsen.

<http://www.cityheadshots.com/>

<http://www.tinyurl.com/actortips>