

STAGE MAKE-UP 101

The number one rule of stage make up is that **you MUST provide your own**. It does not need to be expensive and you do not need a huge pallet of makeup in order to look good. (You probably won't be using this makeup for anything more than performances so you really don't need to buy a huge amount or anything particularly expensive. Makeup has to be replaced every once in a while anyway so don't go splurging.) There are several huge reasons why you want to have your own makeup. For one, what looks good on a friend might look ridiculous on you. You probably have a different skin type from someone you're going to try to mooch off of (oily, combination, dry...) so their makeup might dry out your skin or make you break out. Also, sharing some kinds of makeup, like mascara, eyeliner & lipstick, can spread bacteria. The last thing you need is to perform with pink-eye...Or spread it to the whole cast. Sharing makeup also means you're more likely to lose makeup. Lending a fellow cast member makeup means they very well may throw it in their bag by accident and then you're both out of luck.

The next rule of stage makeup is that it is meant to accentuate the way you already look. (Exceptions might include things like wrinkles, which you probably don't have at this point. And even then, don't go drawing lines on your face in black eyeliner.) The lights make you looked washed out and most people toward the back of the audience probably won't even be able to tell you have eyes.

If you buy nothing else new, buy **foundation**. This is probably the one item that really needs to be of quality. Things to look for in foundation: You want to have foundation that is lighter in consistency (as in water based, not oil based) and, if possible, contains an acne fighting medicine such as a small amount of salicylic acid [this is helpful since you'll have makeup covering your pores for hours on end for the next couple of weeks], and make sure it's about two shades darker than your skin. Any darker and you'll look like a clown, lighter and you'll look washed out. The rule of thumb is: foundation must be AT LEAST as dark as your normal skintone if you have a darker complexion...and two shades darker than your normal skintone if you are fairskinned.

Wear **lipstick**. Not lip gloss. Purchase a lipstick that is in the "nude" family (brownish pink). Sometimes girls wear red lipstick, but it implies certain time periods and types of characters. Don't go out and buy red lipstick unless the costumer or director tells you that your character needs red lipstick. (It's just impractical to buy red lipstick because nude colors are more often required and you'll get a lot more use out of them.) When you're looking for lipstick you'll want to keep your eye out for matching lip liner. It keeps your lipstick from bleeding. It's a must for shows since you'll probably be drinking lots of water. When picking out lip liner, remember that you want it to be from the same color family as your lipstick (Don't wear bright pink or red with nude lipstick.) The purpose of lip liner is just to keep your lips from looking like a big pink-brown blotch around your mouth, so it doesn't have to be particularly defined.

At this point, the guys' makeup and girls makeup diverges. The guys will want to have earthier shades of **blush**. They'll have names like "terra cotta". Girls can wear blush that has a redder or pinker tint to it, but it's best to stick to fairly neutral shades. They'll often have names that sound like some sort of spice. Stay away from things like "fire engine red".

Eye makeup is very important. Don't bother with **eye shadow** that says things like "metallic", "glitter", or "shimmer" because it really won't be visible from off stage and usually it'll just cost you more. You want your eye shadow to be slightly darker than your foundation. You don't ever need to buy a pallet with more than three shades of eye shadow because the audience members won't be able to tell the difference between the five different shades on your lids. Packs with three shades are a good bet because they help to define contours. However, you can survive with one shade. Stick to shades of brown, tan, or nude pinks. Do not wear blue, purple, green, bright pink, silver, or gold. These colors do not fit with most periods and often look gaudy or overwhelming.

When hunting down **eyeliner** and **mascara** look for packages with "black" in the name or "black brown". Black is more dramatic and feminine so boys sometimes go with the dark brown. You don't need to buy some special lengthening or volumizing mascara. The purpose of the mascara is mostly to make your eyelashes look like they exist under the bright lights. It's best to buy pencil eyeliner, not liquid, unless you're very familiar with it because mistakes are much easier to make. **(NEVER ever share mascara &/or eyeliner)**

You don't need to go out and buy professional brushes to apply your makeup. You'll want to have **makeup sponges** to apply things like foundation and blush. **Q-tips** come in handy for applying lipstick and eye shadow. **Tissues** and **cotton** balls are good for removing makeup after you make a mistake. **(If using sponges or Qtips to apply, it is okay to share blush or lipstick...NEVER share something that someone has put directly on their eyes or mouth.)**

Another thing that comes in handy is **nail polish remover**. You'll probably never be in a show where you're told to wear purple nail polish. That's one thing people actually will notice from offstage.

How to apply makeup:

1. You'll want to come to your show with a clean face. If you tend to break out or have oily skin, use a toner. It's also a good idea to moisturize (with an OIL FREE moisturizer) because it helps your makeup to stick and it keeps your skin from drying out as fast, which causes you to produce more oil and get acne.
2. Start by applying your foundation using a makeup sponge. You'll want to feather it out towards your ears and hairline and a little ways down your neck so you do not look like you are wearing a makeup mask. But do not go down so low that you get it on your costume!
3. Apply blush in the shape of a comma. Start by sucking in your cheeks and lightly swiping the blush up the hollow of your cheek. Then smile and spread a little blush on the apples of your cheeks using a circular motion.
4. Apply brown, tan, or nude pink eye shadow. If you buy a pack that has three different colors, use the medium shade on your lid, the darkest shade on the crease (concentrating on the outer edge), and the lightest color to highlight your brow bone.
5. Apply eyeliner by running the pencil along the top of your lash line and then on the bottom of your eye from the outer corner to about the middle of the eye. If you have a more dramatic character you make want to continue to the inner corner. Add mascara on the top and bottom lashes. You can add a dot of white or very light yellow eyeliner to the inner corners of your eyes to make them look bigger. However, this is not necessary and you should do this last so you have time to do the rest of your makeup.
6. Before putting on lipstick it's a good idea to use lip balm/chapstick because it helps lipstick to adhere to your lips and keeps them moisturized. Apply lip liner in a shade similar to the lipstick you're going to use on the edge of your lips, not on the skin around them. Then add lipstick.
7. For extra sticking power, it's a good idea to brush a translucent powder across your face. This will keep you from sweating it off under the hot lights.
8. Wash your hands so you don't get makeup on your costume before the show.
9. When you're ready to take off your makeup, either use makeup remover on a cotton ball or use makeup removal wipes.
CLEAN YOUR SKIN BEFORE YOU GO TO SLEEP!

Here's what you should have in your arsenal, though you do not necessarily have to go out & buy each of these items.

- Oil Free Moisturizer (and possibly astringent/toner)
- Foundation (2 shades darker than regular skin)
- Blush (More neutral colors. No bright pinks or reds.)
- Eye shadow (Brown, tan, or nude pink. No more than three colors needed.)
- Eyeliner (Black or brown black)
- Mascara (Matching the eyeliner)
- Lipstick (Brownish-pink not hot pinks or reds)
- Lip liner (In the same color family as the lipstick)
- Lip balm/chapstick
- Translucent powder
- Makeup Sponges
- Q-tips
- Cotton balls
- Tissues
- Makeup remover
- Nail polish remover

HAIR>>> you must bring your own comb & brush. You should provide your own hair ties & bobby pins. If you feel your hair needs to be 'set', bring your own hairspray.

Henceforth, **BRING YOUR OWN LABELED WATER BOTTLE & A HEALTHY SNACK** that won't be a slobbery mess...no sauces, soups or chocolates...and PLEASE no nuts. Do not drink soda because it's not good for your singing voice.