

GUIDANCE FOR REHEARSALS

A professional production requires lots of practice - so getting a good rehearsal timetable together is worth the effort!

Before you get started, make sure you consider:

- The availability of the cast and crew
- Booking space for rehearsals and getting the right permission
- Working back from the performance date and work out how many rehearsal slots you have, for how long, and how much can be covered in this time
- Breaking the play up into manageable scenes per rehearsal, including building in time to run through the entire production - including a dress rehearsal!
- Scheduling who needs to be at each rehearsal and when they need to have their lines learnt by

Early rehearsals might focus on exploring the story, so that everyone gets the opportunity to discover what the play is all about and discuss how they see it coming together. In the initial stages, you might want schedule read-through where everyone is present to read and run through the script as a group.

Once the cast and crew have had a chance to come together at the read-through, break the play into smaller workable scenes and rehearse those scenes - working out who needs to be there at each practice.

After you've had the opportunity to rehearse the individual scenes, it's time to bring everyone back together for the main rehearsals. This is where the magic really happens and you should start to see the play come together as a whole. Things to think about here are continuity, ensuring the story is clearly told, rehearsing with props and changing scenes - and of course the play running time!

FINALLY...

...Don't forget to include a dress rehearsal before your first performance to ensure that the artistic vision for the performance is being achieved and to make sure you're ready for your audience!



