

Here are Richard Evans' tips for SELF TAPING...

- ✓ As with any audition, **learn any material you are sent** thoroughly before putting it on tape.
- ✓ Make sure the room in which you shoot your tape is quiet, echo-free and light enough. Try to also have a plain or neutral background behind you, so that **you are the main focus**.
- ✓ **Sit to shoot your scenes**, rather than standing, as this will ensure your face is in shot.
- ✓ Ensure your camera (or mobile phone or tablet) is on a tripod, table or other steady surface to avoid shaking and is **level with your face**.
- ✓ It's much easier to **have a friend with you** to operate the camera and read in the lines of other characters (fellow actors are especially useful for this).
- ✓ Do test shots of each scene and play them back to check picture and sound quality before actually shooting a take (**you might actually end up using some of them**).
- ✓ **Introduce yourself with your name and agent** (or personal contact details), mention which character you're reading and introduce each scene to separate them.
- ✓ **Separate each take** with a note of the scene and take number, like a clapperboard, followed by a second or two of silence. Write down the numbers of the takes you think are useable, so you can view them after shooting.
- ✓ Your performance will be fresher the fewer takes you do, so **concentrate and keep going**. Only take short breaks to refresh if you really need to.
- ✓ **The eyes say it all**, so make sure they are emoting, rather than looking down and reading from the script.
- ✓ Editing is far easier if you **shoot a whole scene as one take**, rather than picking up mid-take, so if you make a mistake, start again.
- ✓ When you have the best take for each scene, Edit them cleanly and **put all the scenes onto one file**, as this will make it easier to send, and view.
- ✓ Be sure to **adhere to the sending or upload methods** that have been requested and send the finished product as far before the specified deadline as you can.

and finally...

- ✓ **Do a dummy run** before you are actually asked to self tape, so that **you're fully prepared whenever the need arises**.

YOU CAN DO IT!

If you found these tips useful, you'll find a wealth of tips, advice and resources on self taping and auditions in general at

www.selftaping.com and www.auditionsthecompleteguide.com