

Audition Wear - Do's and Dont's

Do think of your daytime audition clothes as living somewhere between what you'd wear to a church service and a cocktail party. Women should, in general, wear either a dress or top-and-skirt combo. Pants can work, of course, if they're dressy and paired with a stylish top. For men, slacks and a nice button down or sweater with a jacket is appropriate. Variations on these basic suggestions are of course welcome, and singers are encouraged to infuse their audition outfit with their own brand of style, but in general, thinking along these lines is a good idea.

Don't be too adventurous or casual in your audition outfit. Jeans are a firm no. T-shirts, anything with a logo, clothes that are wrinkled, or anything see-through is inappropriate. Nothing too low-cut or too short, either. At or below the knee is the minimum standard for women. The last thing you want to do is make the audition panel uncomfortable.

Do wear clothes that make you feel confident, comfortable, and powerful. It's important to be able to breathe and move with ease. Clothes that help you access your strongest self are priceless! This includes shoes. Make sure you can move fluidly and in good balance. Footwear that allows you to draw power and project self-assurance are ideal. Modest heels, tasteful flats, dress shoes, and pumps are all good choices.

Don't wear anything uncomfortable or that makes you feel self-conscious. If you're squirming in misery, you won't be able to present your best self to the audition panel. This especially applies to shoes. Avoid platform heels, stilettos, casual flats, wedges, sandals, or anything that can compromise your stability or change your balance. No open-toed shoes, unless your pedicure is flawless. No character shoes! And of course, no sneakers.

Do practice singing with 100% energy and commitment in your full outfit - including jewelry - before your audition. You might not notice that your favorite

bracelet jangles in a distracting way until you wear it while running through your repertoire.

Don't wear anything that jingles, jangles, restricts movement, or rustles. Big accessories and statement jewelry can be fabulous, but if it makes noise or is distracting, it will detract from your performance.

Do choose clothing that is fitted without being tight. A slim-line top with an A-line skirt is a classic look that always works. Classic or slim fit slacks for men create a sharp silhouette. Consider wearing clothes that accentuate your assets and discreetly draw attention away from areas you'd like to disguise.

Don't try to hide your body under oversized clothing OR show off too much skin in undersized duds. Loose, billowing clothes look sloppy onstage. Conversely, cleavage and mini-skirts are a huge No-No. Rehearse in your outfit and in front of a mirror ahead of time to make sure you're not inadvertently flashing your audience!

Do pull your hair back into a tidy style that won't go swinging into your face. Make sure the judges can see your expressions! Tasteful makeup completes the picture and lets you be clearly seen under lights that otherwise might wash you out.

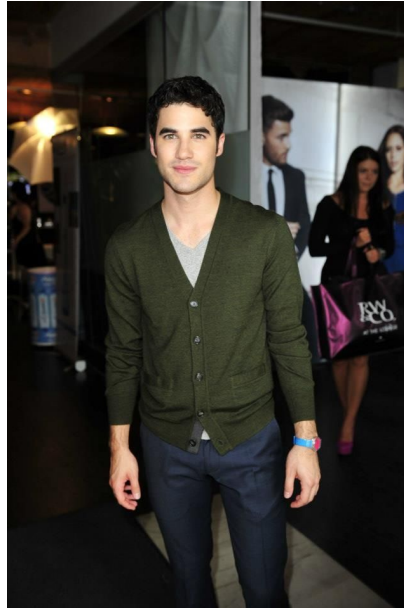
Don't get too adventurous with your cosmetics; An audition is not the time to try a new eyeliner or Instagram smokey eye.

Do be your best self; Put together, polished, and undeniably you! Individual touches like bright scarves, colorful pocket squares, and statement jewelry are great ways to display personal style while distinguishing yourself from your fellow audition-ees.

Don't try to add touches for the sole purpose of looking "different". They can work dangerously, especially if you're choosing unusual or potentially offensive items!

Erin G. McCarthy Vocal Studio

These are **good** examples of what to wear. You could copy them directly and would be well-appointed!



Erin G. McCarthy Vocal Studio