

**HOW TO BE A SUCCESSFUL FREELANCE ARTIST**  
**BY JERILYNN STEPHENS**

# Prepare for the Opportunity

- Hairstylists learn Makeup, Makeup Artists learn Hairstyling  
Be a double Hitter!!
- Be on time, professional and ready to work.
- Dress for the environment. Night shoot in the woods, on stage, at an event. Always closed toe shoes.
- Clean Your Kit! Have alcohol spray labeled & Hand Sanitizer. Nothing worse to talent than a dirty kit.
- Get a great website and social media platform representing you and your work. GoDaddy, IG, FB Page, YouTube Channel.
- Keep Your personal and professional life separate on social media. True Fact Talent, Producers, Dept Heads look at your social media and will determine whether to hire you by your page and followers.
- Stay off your phone!!!! There is nothing more annoying unless it is required for the job.

# Talent Etiquette

- Introduce yourself
- Ask if they are allergic to anything. It may be in the product.
- Discuss the look you are to do and ask if there is anything they prefer. Sometimes, I let the talent blow dry their own bang if they have a particular way they like them. This is not about ego. We know you know how to do your job.
- Let the talent speak to you. You don't need to make small talk. They are there to do a job and may need to focus on lines or get into a calm state.
- Playing music in trailer should be a mutual consent among all. Be mindful if the scene is a funeral the talent may not want dance music.
- Never ask for a picture with talent. This is my professional opinion. There are times it may feel appropriate and I leave that up to you. FYI... Talent goes to work and this is a safe zone for them to do a job and not be harassed.
- It would be more appropriate to take pictures of your work rather than a selfie.

# Team Work

- **Makeup, Hair, Wardrobe need to communicate. Your Dept Head/Key is the only one you should take direction from. If you are told something let your Dept Head know and they will confirm and give direction.**
- **Always be willing to help in anyway. Team Work makes the dream work!**
- **Always communicate information you received. An AD/Producer may tell you something that everyone needs to hear. Sometimes we are all spread out in different locations. Always let your Dept Head Know everything!!**
- **We are in this to make the final product successful. For instance, hats, high collars on shirts, sequins, dramatic eyes involved we can help each other with design to make the final product excellent.**
- **Never have an opinion of the other departments. You don't know what was discussed previously with directors, agency, producers. Stay in your lane!**
- **Never speak badly of someone in any dept. We remember you for throwing someone under the bus and rarely remember the mistake itself.**

# Social Media Etiquette

- Always find out from production rules for social media!
- Some jobs don't allow posting or photos of any kind.
- Some jobs you can post as it airs.
- Some jobs will want you to post during the job.
- Never post a lanyard/credential online. These can be easily copied and jeopardize the security.

# On Set Etiquette

- Talking and voices on set should be limited.
- Ask where the monitor is to watch. Some sets won't have a place specifically for makeup and hair. Never sit by agency & producers!
- The 1st Ad (Assistant Director) can help you with being able to get a look at the talent on camera. If you need to change something let the 1st AD know and they can let you in to fix.
- There is always a last look before shooting the scene. The Ad will call it. During camera changes is a good time to do longer touchups.
- Be mindful of other departments for touchups. If there is a crying scene, give makeup their much needed time and space.
- Stay off your phone! Watch the monitor! You need to watch for continuity and do your job. Your job is to watch the hair and makeup at all times.

# On Set Etiquette.....

- Never spray ANYTHING near camera!! (10 feet) If you need to use spray of any kind, tell camera dept and they will cover the lens.
- Be aware of whats happening on set. If the talent is being lite by camera and lighting, DON'T try and touch up the talent. You get your last look.
- Be aware of where you put your set chair. Don't be in the way of workers trying to carry equipment and push carts. Everyone is working and needs to be respectful.
- Grips and Electric have a big job. If they are carrying "POINTS" step out of the way.
- If you borrow something from another dept. Please return it and not have someone hunt you down for it.



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