

## Ten Commandments for Puppets

1. No flying puppets! Enter the stage by walking up stairs; exit by turning away and walking down stairs.
2. Look at each other when talking to each other. Have your puppet look at the puppet or person talking.
3. Don't mouth every syllable! Open mouth only with stressed syllables.
4. Don't bite your words! Open mouth in sync with words; don't close mouth with each word.
5. No catching flies! Close your puppet's mouth when not talking.
6. No noses in the air! Look down at the audience so they can see the puppet's eyes. Remember, they may be sitting on the ground or floor.
7. No naked puppets! Keep puppets hidden in a box or bag when not performing; adds to the believability.
8. No switching arms in the middle of a skit! Support the puppet arm with the other arm if you have to.
9. No leaning against the stage! It might fall over and crush your audience!
10. Ham it up and have fun!