



ēset

ESSENTIAL SKILLS FOR THE  
ENTERTAINMENT TECHNICIAN

**Essential Terminology  
For the Entertainment  
Technician**

**Venue**

**1099**

See also: Internal Revenue Service 1099

**A****A-1**

See also: Sound Crew Chief

**Academic Theatre**

See also: Educational Theatre

**Acoustical Shell**

See also: Orchestra Shell

**Act**

One unit or section of a production that has been defined by the author or director

**Acting Area**

Space in which performer moves in full view of audience

**Actors' Equity Association**

Labor union that represents actors, singers, dancers and stage managers in the professional theatre

Synonym: AEA, Equity

**AEA**

See also: Actors' Equity Association

**Aerial Lift**

See also: Personnel Lift

**Air Walls**

Moveable panels that divide large areas into smaller meeting rooms

**Aisle**

Walkway through seating in an audience area

**ALD**

See also: Assistant Lighting Designer

**All Access Pass**

See also: Security Clearance Badges

**Alley Staging**

Staging running the width of the hall with audience on two sides facing each other

Synonym: Corridor Stage, Traverse Stage

**Amphitheatre**

Outdoor performance space with stage and audience in a bowl-shaped seating

Synonym: Greek Theatre

**Ante Pro**

On the audience side of the proscenium

Synonym: AP

**AP**

See also: Ante Pro

**Apron**

Area downstage of the proscenium arch at stage level

Synonym: Forestage

**Arena**

Indoor flat surface surrounded by raked seating for sporting, entertainment and other public events

**Arena Stage**

Stage configuration where the audience surrounds the stage

**Armorer**

Specialist in charge of weapons as part of the props for a show

Synonym: Weapons

**Artistic Director**

Person responsible for the artistic (creative) vision of an organization

**ASM**

See also: Assistant Stage Manager

**Assistant Lighting Designer**

Person who works under the direction of the Lighting Designer  
Synonym: ALD

**Assistant Stage Manager**

Responsible for duties as assigned by the Stage Manager. Typically stationed backstage during performances  
Synonym: ASM

**Audience**

See also: Audience Member, Audience Area

**Audience Area**

Area in the venue where the patrons are located to see and hear a production  
Synonym: Audience, House

**Audience Member**

Person who attends a production Synonym: Audience

**Audience Platform**

See also: Platform

**Auditorium**

Enclosed audience area with stage used for public assembly

**B****Back of House**

Stage support space not visible to the audience

**Backstage**

Areas in the venue used by the performers and production crews that are not accessible to the audience

**Backstage Pass**

See also: Security Clearance Badges

**Backup Generator**

Power generator on standby in the event the primary power source is interrupted

**Balcony**

Upper levels of the seating above the main level  
Synonym: Loge

**Ballroom**

See also: Multipurpose Room

**Barrier**

Permanent or temporary elements used to control or restrict audience traffic  
Synonym: Bicycle Barricade, Sled

**Base Camp**

See also: Compound

**Beam Position**

See also: Cove Position

**Behind the House**

Space in the audience beyond the last row of seating

**Bicycle Barricade**

See also: Barrier

**Black Box**

Flexible performance space with no fixed stage platform or audience seating  
Synonym: Studio

**Blacks**

1) Black masking curtains; 2) Appropriate dark colored clothes for stagehands

**Bleachers**

Tiered bench seating

**Blocking**

Determined movement of actors on the stage during the performance

**Booth**

See also: Control Booth

**Border**

Short drapery hung horizontally to mask the overhead battens, lighting equipment and scenic elements

Synonym: Teaser

**Bowl**

Area of an arena or stadium including the field and lowest seating level

**Box Office**

See also: Ticket Office

**Box Office Staff**

See also: House Staff

**Box/Ticket Office Staff**

See also: House Staff

**Break**

Designated time out of work for rest

Synonym: Break Time, Coffee, Crew Break

**Break Time**

See also: Break

**Bull Door**

See also: Loading Door

**Bus & Truck**

See also: Touring Production

**C****Cable Grid**

See also: Tension Wire Grid ; Rigging

**Cable Pass**

See also: Pass-through

**Cafetorium**

See also: Multipurpose Room

**Call**

Announcement of the time and type of work that is to be done and by whom

Synonym: Work Hours

**Call Board**

Backstage bulletin board information about the production, crew, and venue are posted

**Call Sheet**

Document on which one finds the crew list and supervisors for each call for a crew

**Calling a Show**

Process of giving cues to the crew and performers

Synonym: Cue Calling

**Camera Left/Right**

See also: House Left/Right

**Casino**

Gaming facilities that may also contain a variety of entertainment venue

**Cast**

Performers in a production

**Casual Laborer**

Part-time, temporary workers in the theatre, usually referring to technicians

Synonym: Casuals, Overhire

**Casuals**

See also: Casual Laborer

**Catering / Food & Beverage Director**

Responsible for food service in any venue

**Cats**

See also: Catwalk

**Catwalk**

Elevated walkway used to access equipment

Synonym: Cats

**Center Line**

Imaginary line through the center of the stage from upstage to downstage  
Synonym: CL

**Center Line Symbol**

"CL" with a vertical line of alternating long dashes and short dashes

**Change Over**

Replacing one production with another in the same venue

**Charge Painter**

Head scenic painter; responsible for budget and crew

**Chase**

See also: Pass-through

**Choral Shell**

See also: Orchestra Shell

**Choreographer**

Person who creates and directs movement/dance of performers

**Church**

See also: House of Worship

**Civic or Service Organizations**

Membership organization such as Masons, Kiwanis, Lions, and Rotarians clubs

**Civic Theatre**

Theatre organization often managed by a civic authority

**CL**

See also: Center Line

**Clean-up Time**

See also: Wash-up Time

**Cleaning Light**

See also: Janitor Light



**Closing**

Last performance of a production in a venue  
Synonym: Wrap

**Coffee**

See also: Break

**Combat Captain**

Person responsible for maintaining choreographed fight routines

**Combat Choreographer**

Person who creates and directs stage fight routines

**Commercial Exhibit**

See also: Trade Show

**Community Theatre Group**

Theatrical organization of local volunteers

**Comp**

See also: Complimentary Ticket

**Comp Ticket**

See also: Complimentary Ticket

**Company Manager**

Person responsible for administrative duties pertaining to performers and production personnel

**Complimentary Ticket**

Free admission to a performance or event  
Synonym: Comp, Comp Ticket

**Compound**

Restricted secure area generally used for prestaging, storage and performer trailers used in festivals  
Synonym: Base Camp

**Concert Hall**

Purpose built facility for performances of music

**Concession Stands**

Points of sale for food, beverage, and merchandise  
Synonym: Concessions

**Concessions**

See also: Concession Stands

**Concourse**

Space around a stadium behind or under the seating used for audience movement, concessions and other services

**Conductor**

See also: Music Director

**Conference Center**

Facility used by associations or organizations for meetings and presentations

**Control Booth**

Area where the theatrical control equipment and operators are located  
Synonym: Booth, Electronic Beach, Production Booth

**Convention Center**

Building with large open spaces that can be configured as needed for trade shows and other events

**Corporate Event**

See also: Industrials

**Corporate Theatre**

See also: Industrials

**Corridor Stage**

See also: Alley Staging

**Costume Plot**

See also: Plot

**Court**

Playing area of an arena when configured for a basketball, volleyball or tennis event  
Synonym: The Floor, Hardwood

**Cove Position**

Front of house overhead position for lighting and staging support  
Synonym: Beam Position

**Crew**

Workers assigned to a production or venue

**Crew Break**

See also: Break

**Crew Head**

See also: Head Carpenter

**Crossover**

Backstage area used to cross from one side of the stage to the other out of view from the audience

**Crowd Control**

Temporary barrier used to restrict access and control traffic flow

**Cruise Director**

Person responsible for all cruise ship entertainment activities

**Cruise Lines**

Organization that owns and operates cruise ships

**Cruise Ship**

"Floating hotels" typically equipped with entertainment venues

**Cue**

1.) Specific command in a production , usually given by the stage manager, that results in an action by performer or technician 2.) Specific command in a production that is identified and named that results in an action

**Cue Calling**

See also: Calling a Show

**Cue Cards**

Placards that have text to assist the performer's memory

**Cue to Cue**

Rehearsal consisting of running only the technical cues in sequence  
Synonym: Dry Tech, Tech, Wet Tech

**Cueing**

Process of determining and recording cues for a production  
Synonym: Programming

**Curtain Line**

Imaginary line beneath the act curtain

**Curtain Time**

Time the production is scheduled to begin  
Synonym: Show Time

**Custom Fabricator**

Companies that make items and/or equipment for entertainment

**D****Dance Captain**

Person responsible for maintaining choreography

**Dance Club**

See also: Night Club

**Dance Company**

Performing arts company that concentrates on the discipline of dance

**Dance Floor Ramp**

See also: Truck Ramp

**Dark**

When a venue is not open for a performance or performance related activity

**Day Rate**

Flat rate for one days work as defined by agreement

**Dead**

Not working or no longer in use

**Deck**

Flooring, permanent or portable  
Synonym: Floor

**Delay Towers**

See also: Towers

**Dinner theatre**

Theatre with table seating providing meal service

**Director**

Person responsible for all aspects and artistic vision of a production

**Disco**

See also: Night Club

**Display Department Manager**

Person responsible for retail, window and other merchandise displays

**Dock**

See also: Loading Dock

**Dock Board**

See also: Dock Plate

**Dock Leveler**

Adjustable plate used between a truck bed and a loading dock

**Dock Plate**

See also: Truck Ramp

**Door**

See also: Gate(s)

**Doors**

Entrance control points in a venue  
Synonym: Gates

**Doors Open**

Time at which the audience is admitted  
Synonym: Gates Open

**Double time**

Twice the hourly base rate

**Downstage**

Direction toward the audience from the stage back wall

**Dress**

See also: Dress Rehearsal

**Dress Code**

Appropriate dress for the work being performed as defined by the employer

**Dress Rehearsal**

Rehearsal of the complete production as it will be with an audience present

Synonym: Dress, Full Dress

**Dressing Room**

Designated room used by performers to change into costumes and makeup

**Dry Tech**

Running the show cue to cue without performers Synonym: Tech

**E****Educational Theatre**

Theatrical activities based in an academic environment

Synonym: Academic Theatre

**Electrical Tape**

Vinyl adhesive tape typically in a variety of colors

**Electronic Beach**

See also: Control Booth

**Elephant Door**

See also: Loading Door

**Entertainment Director**

Person responsible for all entertainment activities in a specific venue

**eSET: Venue**

**Environmental Staging**

Configuration with the audience and performance areas interspersed

**Equity**

See also: Actors' Equity Association

**Event Planner**

Person who coordinates all aspects of a party, social and/or business event function

Synonym: Party Planner

**Exhibit Director**

Person responsible for museum or trade show displays

**F****Facilities Manager**

Person responsible for managing physical plant (buildings and systems)

**Field**

Playing surface within a stadium

**Fit-up**

Installation of scenery and equipment in a venue

**Fixed Theater**

Theatre where the configuration between the audience and stage does not change

**Flat Fee**

Fixed amount of pay for a task

**Flat Rate**

See also: Week Rate

**Flexible Theatre**

Theatre space designed with multiple performance configurations of audience and stage relationships

**Flies**

See also: Fly Tower

**Floor**

See also: Deck

**Floor Plan**

Drafted view of scenery or stage layout from an overhead perspective

Synonym: Ground Plan, Plan View

**Fly Gallery**

Platform above the stage floor from which counterweights and rigging maybe operated

**Fly Tower**

Structure above the stage for the suspension and vertical movement of production elements Synonym: Flies

**FOH**

See also: Front of House

**Follow Spot Platform**

See also: Platform

**Followspot Position**

Any designated location for followspots Synonym: Followspot Booth

**Followspot Booth**

See also: Followspot Position

**Foreman**

See also: Head Carpenter

**Forestage**

See also: Apron

**Form I - 9 (INS)**

Immigration & Naturalization Services form to document eligibility for employment in the USA

**Foul Weather Gear**

Clothing for work being performed in a challenging environment

**Foyer**

Public area immediately inside exterior entrance  
Synonym: Vestibule

**Front of House**

All spaces used by the audience Synonym: FOH

**Front of House Manager**

See also: House Manager

**Full Dress**

See also: Dress Rehearsal

**G**

**Gallery**

Elevated walkway, technical or seating area open to the space below

**Gates**

See also: Doors



**Gates Open**

See also: Doors Open

**Gen-set**

See also: Generator

**Generator**

Electrical power source that typically provides additional, stand-by and/or emergency power

Synonym: Gen-set, Jenny

**Ghost Light**

Single lamp in a safety cage on a floor stand to illuminate the stage when the theater is not in use

Synonym: Pass Through Light

**Glow Tape**

Phosphorescent adhesive tape

**Go**

Final prompt in the cueing sequence to start a cue or technical action

**Going Dark**

Warning given when the stage is going to a blackout

Synonym: Going to Black

**Going to Black**

See also: Going Dark

**Golden Time**

Contractual hourly rate exceeding double time

**Grand Teaser**

See also: Valance

**Grand Valance**

See also: Valance

**Grandstand**

See also: Stands

**Greek Theatre**

See also: Amphitheatre

**Green Room**

Waiting area backstage

**Grid**

See also: Gridiron

**Gridiron**

Over stage support structure consisting of regularly spaced members permanently affixed to the venue to support equipment

Synonym: Grid

**Ground Plan**

See also: Floor Plan

**Guardrail**

See also: Hand Rail

**Gymatorium**

See also: Multipurpose Room

**H****Half Hour**

Thirty minutes before the beginning of a performance

**Hand Rail**

Protective structure to guard against a fall from an elevated walkway or level

Synonym: Guardrail, Railing

**Hard Cyclorama**

Up-stage wall, usually plastered and shaped with a slight curve, to serve as a background

**Hardwood**

See also: Court

**Head Carpenter**

Person responsible for directing all technical activities and crews working on the stage

Synonym: Crew Head, Foreman, Master Carpenter, Shop Foreman, Stage Crew Chief

**Head Electrician**

Person responsible for electrical crew for a production  
Synonym: Master Electrician, ME

**Head Flyman**

Person responsible for the fly system crew

**Head Rigger**

Person responsible for the rigging crew

**Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning**

Heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems  
Synonym: HVAC

**Honey Wagon**

Portable toilet and dressing room facilities

**House**

The audience See also: Audience Area

**House Carpenter**

Head carpenter designated by the venue

**House Crew**

Personnel who operate the performance space of a venue

**House Electrician**

Person responsible for stage electrical systems in a venue

**House Left/Right**

Left and right sides of the seating area as viewed by the audience facing the stage  
Synonym: Camera Left/Right

**House Manager**

Person responsible for the box office, concessions, ushers, and support for audience services  
Synonym: Front of House Manager

**House of Worship**

Place of assembly for religious purposes  
Synonym: Church

**House Staff**

Permanent personnel who are involved in the operations of a facility  
Synonym: Box Office Staff, Ticket Office Staff

**HVAC**

See also: Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning

**I****IA**

See also: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

**IATSE**

See also: International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees

**In-one**

1) Area immediately downstage to the first wing; 2) A scene performed covering an upstage scene change

**Industrials**

Production designed and mounted for a corporate entity  
Synonym: Corporate Theatre, Corporate Event

**Install**

See also: Load-In

**Intermission**

Planned break in a performance  
Synonym: Interval

**Internal Revenue Service 1099**

Report of taxable earnings  
Synonym: 1099

**Internal Revenue Service W- 4 forms**

Form to report payroll withholding deductions for taxes

**Internal Revenue Service W-2**

Annual report of taxable earnings and taxes withheld provided by the employer

**International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees**

Trade union representing stagehands, scenic artists and stage designers  
Synonym: IA, IATSE

**Interval**

See also: Intermission

**IRS W- 9 forms**

Form to provide the employer with taxpayer ID number or employer identification number

**Izenour Grid**

See also: Tension Wire Grid

**J**

**Janitor Light**

Lighting designated to be on for the cleaning of that space  
Synonym: Cleaning Light

**Jenny**

See also: Generator

**Journeyman**

Experienced worker with advanced and supervisory skills

**L**

**Layout Board**

Protective material used to cover venue's floor and/or field surfaces

**LD**

See also: Lighting Designer

**Lead Band Technician**

Person responsible for maintenance and setup of musical instruments

**League of Resident Theatres**

Theatre company that belongs to the League of Resident Theatres  
Synonym: LORT

**Light Lock**

Space that prevents light from intruding into a space that is meant to be dark

**Light Plot**

See also: Plot

**Lighting Crew Chief**

See also: Production Electrician

**Lighting Designer**

Person who creates the lighting design for a production  
Synonym: LD

**Lighting Director**

Person who stays with the show to maintain lighting design

**Lighting Supervisor**

Person who performs traditional duties of assistant lighting designer as well as coordinating stage electricians

**Load-in**

Time and activity when the production elements are brought into the venue  
Synonym: Put-In

**Load-out**

See also: Strike

**Loader**

See also: Truck Loader

**Loading Dock**

Area of the venue for bringing objects in to the facility, typically raised to allow easy access to trucks  
Synonym: Dock

**Loading Door**

Large access door into the performance space used to move equipment and materials in and out of the space  
Synonym: Bull Door, Elephant Door

**Loading Ramp**

Device to move materials to or from a truck

**Locker Room**

Designated room used to store personal items and may serve as dressing and shower facilities

**Loge**

See also: Balcony

**LORT**

See also: League of Resident Theatres

**M****Maestro**

See also: Music Director

**Marshalling Yard**

Offsite assembly area where trucks are held before being dispatched to the venue

**Master Carpenter**

See also: Head Carpenter

**Master Electrician**

See also: Head Electrician

**Matinee**

Afternoon performance of a production

**ME**

See also: Head Electrician

**Meal Penalties**

Additional charge levied for missing contractual meal breaks

**Meeting Room**

See also: Multipurpose Room

**Mezzanine**

Balcony level that is immediately above the orchestra level

**Military/Special Services**

Organized events by the military where work practices and management structures may be governed and regulated by the Department of Defense

**Mobile Production Truck**

Portable production control for audio and/or video

**Multipurpose Room**

Space that can be arranged to accommodate a variety of activities and events

Synonym: Ballroom, Cafetorium, Gymatorium, Meeting Room

**Museum**

Exhibition facilities that display cultural, historical, scientific, artifacts and fine arts and may use multimedia and staging techniques

**Music Director**

Person who selects the music and leads the rehearsal and performance of musicians

Synonym: Conductor, Maestro

**N****Night Club**

Establishment that has a dance floor with food and drink service with entertainment

Synonym: Disco, Dance Club

**Nose-bleed Section**

See also: Upper Decks

**O****Off Stage**

Stage area that is not visible to the audience

**Opera Company**

Organization that produces opera



**Orchestra Pit**

Sunken area immediately in front of the stage intended to accommodate musicians

Synonym: Pit

**Outdoor Drama**

Production that takes place in a natural (outdoors) environment

**Overheads**

See also: Worklights

**Overhire**

See also: Casual Laborer

**P****Page**

Making a backstage call through a sound system or runner

**Paint Light**

Lighting set up using the appropriate color temperature for scenic painting

**Papering the House**

Distributing free tickets to add more people to the audience

**Partial Dress**

Dress rehearsal where only selected parts of the finished production are used

**Party Planner**

See also: Event Planner

**Pass**

See also: Security Clearance Badges

**Pass Through Light**

See also: Ghost Light

**Pass-through**

Opening in the facility wall used for the temporary routing of cables

Synonym: Cable Pass, Chase

**Passerelle**

See also: Runway

**Patron**

Person who attends and supports an event

**Per Diem**

Per day non-salary compensation for expenses

**Performance**

Production scheduled for a specific day and time where an audience attends

**Personal Manager**

Person who coordinates and manages personal and professional matters for a performer

**Personnel Lift**

Machine designed to safely elevate workers to overhead positions  
Synonym: Aerial Lift, Scissor Lift

**Pit**

See also: Orchestra Pit

**Pit Cover**

Removable flooring over the orchestra pit

**Plan View**

See also: Floor Plan

**Plaster Line**

Imaginary line across the stage between the proscenium opening upstage corners  
Synonym: Proscenium Line

**Platform**

Reusable risers in standard sizes  
Synonym: Audience Platform, Follow Spot Platform

**Playing Area**

Area of the stage where the performance takes place, visible to the audience  
Synonym: Playing Space, Working Area

**Playing Space**

See also: Playing Area

**Plenum**

Enclosed space for air-flow from ventilation, heating and air conditioning

**Plot**

Document of where things are placed or moved

Synonym: Light Plot, Shift Plot, Prop Plot, Costume Plot, Preset

**PM**

See also: Production Manager

**Portable Seating**

Movable seats that can be added to a venue temporarily

**Pre-rig**

When points are rigged by a crew in advance of load-in

**Presenting Company**

Organization that arranges to have a production performed

**Preset**

See also: Plot

**Press box**

Designated area for the press

**Principal**

1) A leading member of a performance company; 2) Head of an elementary or secondary school

**Producer**

Person with ultimate control for an entertainment event

**Production**

Event that is presented to an audience

Synonym: Show

**Production Booth**

See also: Control Booth

**Production Coordinator**

Person who supervises all aspects of the technical production

**Production Desk**

Desk temporarily placed in audience seating area for use by production crew pre-opening

Synonym: Production Table, Tech Table

**Production Electrician**

Person who assembles and installs the lighting equipment of a production, and supervises the electrical crew

Synonym: Lighting Crew Chief

**Production Manager**

Person responsible for the technical preparations including scheduling, budgeting, and overall supervision of the production personnel

Synonym: PM

**Production Office**

Designated office area used by the production staff

**Production Period**

Span of time used for creating the production

**Production Stage Manager**

Person who coordinates activities of a stage management team

Synonym: PSM

**Production Table**

See also: Production Desk

**Production Trailer**

Temporary, portable space used for offices

**Programming**

See also: Cueing

**Projection Booth**

Space designated for projectors

**Projection Designer**

Person who creates the projection design

**Promotions Director**

Person responsible for marketing of an event

**Prompter**

Person or device that follows the script of a production to help the performer with their lines

Synonym: Teleprompter

**Prop Plot**

See also: Plot

**Properties Artisan**

Craftsperson who constructs props and modifies them during rehearsals

**Properties Designer**

Person who creates the design for production props

**Properties Master**

Person responsible for all production props during the run of a show

**Proscenium**

End stage configuration where the audience area is separated from the stage

**Proscenium Arch**

Frame that separates the stage from the audience in a proscenium theatre

**Proscenium Line**

See also: Plaster Line

**Proscenium Opening**

Opening in the wall between the audience and stage in a proscenium theatre

**Proscenium Stage**

See also: Proscenium Theatre

**Proscenium Theatre**

Theatre configuration where the audience views the production through a large opening in the wall between the audience and the stage spaces

**Proscenium Wall**

Dividing wall between the stage and auditorium

**PSM**

See also: Production Stage Manager

**Put-in**

See also: Load-in

**Put-Out**

See also: Strike

**R****Racetrack**

Perimeter curtain track with the curtain suspended from wheeled, moveable carriers

**Railing**

See also: Hand Rail

**Raked**

Slanted surface where one end is higher than the other  
Synonym: Raked Stage

**Raked Stage**

See also: Raked

**Ramp**

Sloped transition between levels

**Reader Board**

Permanently installed LED digital display board on which a variety of information may be displayed

**Recital Hall**

Specially designed space for small-scale productions and musical performances

**Regional Theatre**

Professional theatre that is produced and performed in local communities

**Rehearsal**

Practice session preparing for a production

**Rehearsal Light**

Illumination used for onstage rehearsals

**Religious Theatre**

Performances that convey a religious message through production

**Repertory**

Repeated series of productions scheduled for a given period of time

**Retail venue**

Commercial venue using theatrical and architectural lighting for display of products

**Revolve**

See also: Turntable

**Revue**

Variety of songs and sketches usually around a theme, composer, type of music, etc.

**Road House**

Venue in which touring shows perform

**Road Manager**

Person who coordinates technical and performance details for traveling company

**Road Show**

See also: Touring Production

**Run of Show**

Time that one production is in a venue or length of time a production is being presented on the road

Synonym: Show's Run

**Run-through**

Rehearsal of the complete show with the performers

**Running Crew**

Persons involved in doing the technical work during a performance

**Running Lights**

Lighting used during a performance or rehearsal to allow visibility backstage  
Synonym: Safety Lights

**Runway**

Narrow extension of the stage that projects into the audience area  
Synonym: Passarelle

**S****Safety Equipment**

As appropriate for the work being performed as defined by the employer

**Safety Light**

See also: Running Lights

**Scaffold**

Temporary platform structure

**Scene**

1) View of the elements in a presentation that constitutes a section of a production; 2) Small section of an act in a production with fixed time and setting

**Scenic Designer**

Person who creates the design for the stage scenic elements

**Scissor Lift**

See also: Personnel Lift

**Scoreboard**

Display board on which the scores and similar information are displayed

**Scoreboard Cluster**

Large signs that contain video and speakers that communicate information

**Seating Cart**

Portable, rolling cart used to transport temporary seating

**Seating Towers**

See also: Towers



**Section**

Area of audience seating, typically dividing the audience seating along a horizontal plane

**Security Clearance Badges**

Identification credentials or check required for access  
Synonym: All Access Pass, Backstage Pass, Pass

**Semi-enclosed Venue**

See also: Shed

**Set Dresser**

Person who places and cares for all props attached to or placed on the set

**Set-Up**

Preparing all elements of the production for the performance

**Shed**

Open air performance spaces that have some cover over the stage and parts of the audience  
Synonym: Semi-enclosed Venue

**Shell**

See also: Orchestra Shell

**Shift Plot**

See also: Plot

**Shop Foreman**

See also: Head Carpenter

**Show**

See also: Production

**Show Carpenter**

Person who builds and installs scenic elements and runs scenic shifts during the production

**Show Clothes**

Appropriate dress or costume to be worn by the crew for a particular production

**Show Control Supervisor**

Person responsible for show and motion control programming

**Show Time**

See also: Curtain Time

**Show's Run**

See also: Run of Show

**Showcase - Equity Waiver**

A contractual arrangement with the production company that limits the maximum number of audience seating allowed

**Showroom**

Spaces where products are displayed for public viewing and/or sales

**Side Coves**

Vertical slots in the side walls of a venue, usually containing lighting and/or sound equipment  
Synonym: Vertical Slot

**Side Walls**

Walls to the right and left of the primary audience space

**Sideline**

Area next to and off the playing field

**Sightlines**

Boundary to what an audience can see on stage, separating onstage from offstage

**Sign-in Sheet**

Sheet on the call board or at the stage door for personnel to check- in when they arrive

**Sitzprobe**

First session of an orchestra with singers

**Sky Deck®**

Trade Name (InterAmerica Stage Inc.) See also: Tension Wire Grid

**Sky-box**

Private luxury seating in arenas and stadiums, typically with both enclosed and open seating areas

**Sled**

See also: Barrier

**Slip Stage**

Sliding portion of the stage deck

**SM**

See also: Stage Manager

**SOP**

Standard Operating Procedure

**Sound Crew Chief**

Person in charge of the audio crew  
Synonym: A-1, Sound Master

**Sound Designer**

Person who assembles and/or creates the sound for a production

**Sound Lock**

Space that prevents sound from intruding into a space that is meant to be quiet

**Sound Master**

See also: Sound Crew Chief

**Speaker Towers**

See also: Towers

**Special Effects Coordinator**

Person responsible for special effects elements in a production

**Special Events**

One time events such as ceremonies, award shows, parties, parades, contests, etc.

**Spike Tape**

Colored cloth backed adhesive tape typically 1/2 inch wide

**Spot Towers**

See also: Towers

**Stadium**

Venue primarily designed for sporting events also used for staging productions such as concerts

**Stage**

Designated space for the performance of theatrical productions or other events

**Stage Configuration**

Orientation of the stage to the audience space

**Stage Crew Chief**

See also: Head Carpenter

**Stage Deck**

The architectural floor of the stage  
Synonym: Stage Floor

**Stage Door**

Controlled entrance to the backstage areas

**Stage Floor**

See also: Stage Deck

**Stage Left**

Area to the left hand side of a performer standing onstage and facing the audience

**Stage Lift**

Portions of the stage floor that raise and lower

**Stage Manager**

Person managing the rehearsal process and calling the cues during the performance  
Synonym: SM

**Stage Manager's Desk/Panel**

Control position from which the stage manager can direct the actions of the production

**Stage Right**

Area to the right hand side of a performer standing onstage and facing the audience

**Stagehand**

Person who moves scenic elements on stage  
Synonym: Techie

**Staging**

Temporary platform creating a performance area

**Staging Area**

Space designated for temporary storage

**Stanchion**

Freestanding, portable post used to support lines or other materials

**Standby**

The second prompt in the sequence of cue execution

**Stands**

Audience seating areas surrounding the central presentation space in an arena  
Synonym: Grandstand

**Stipend**

Payment in a lump sum for a particular service or to offset expenses

**Store Manager**

Person responsible for operations in a retail establishment

**Straight Time**

Base hourly rate

**Strike**

Removal of an element from a production or the entire production from the venue  
Synonym: Load-out, Put-out, Wrap

**Studio**

See also: Black Box

**Summer Stock**

Production company that operates during the summer

**Swing Person**

Crew person or performer who fills the relative position when someone is absent or off

**T****Talent Manager**

See also: Personal Manager

**Tape-the-Stage**

Placing tape on the rehearsal floor that gives the outline of sets that will be used in a production

**Tarp**

Removable fabric covering for all or part of items that need to be protected from damage or elements

**TD**

See also: Technical Director

**Teaser**

See also: Border

**Tech**

See also: Dry Tech, Technical Rehearsal, Wet Tech

**Tech Rehearsal**

See also: Technical Rehearsal

**Tech Table**

See also: Production Desk

**Techie**

See also: Stagehand

**Technical Director**

Person who coordinates all technical aspects of a production and/or facility

Synonym: TD, Technical Production Director

**Technical Production Director**  
See also: Technical Director

**Technical Rehearsal**  
Rehearsal with the technical elements added  
Synonym: Tech, Tech Rehearsal

**Teleprompter**  
See also: Prompter

**Tension Grid**  
See also: Tension Wire Grid

**Tension Wire Grid**  
System of interwoven wire rope that serves as a working platform  
Synonym: Cable Grid, Izenour Grid, Sky Deck®, Tension Grid, Wire Grid

**The Floor**  
See also: Court

**Theatre**  
See also: Venue

**Theatre Configuration**  
Orientation of the audience space to the stage

**Theatre-in-the-Round**  
Stage configuration where the audience surrounds the performance area

**Theme Park**  
Controlled entrance area with a variety of attractions including rides and live performances organized around a specific subject

**Thrust Stage**  
Stage configuration where the stage extends into the house with audience on three side

**Ticket Office**  
Location where admission is sold, typically in the Front of House or lobby  
Synonym: Box Office

**Ticket Office Staff**  
See also: House Staff

**Time & 1/2**

Hourly rate multiplied by 1.5

**Time Sheet**

Form on which hours worked are recorded

**Tour**

See also: Touring Production

**Tour Manager**

Person who coordinates the all aspects of a tour including logistics, lodging, schedules, catering, etc.

**Touring Company**

Production personnel that travel with a touring production

**Touring Production**

Traveling production that performs in more than one venue  
Synonym: Bus & Truck, Road Show, Tour, Touring Show

**Touring Show**

See also: Touring Production

**Towers**

Scaffolding or other raised platforms  
Synonym: Delay Towers, Seating Towers, Speaker Towers, Spot Towers

**Trade Show**

Organized exhibition by manufacturers and vendors to promote their products and services  
Synonym: Commercial Exhibit

**Transportation Coordinator**

Person responsible for handling details of transportation requirements: air, bus, truck, etc.

**Trap**

Removable portion of stage floor

**Trap room**

Space below the stage accessible through stage floor openings



**Travel Time Pay**

Compensation based on the time spent traveling during work hours

**Traverse Stage**

See also: Alley Staging

**Truck Loader**

Person assigned to loading/unloading show material from trucks

Synonym: Loader

**Truck Ramp**

Equipment used to create a transition between the bed of a truck and loading level

Synonym: Dance Floor Ramp

**Tunnel**

Access pathway to seating areas, stage or playing field

Synonym: Vomitorium, Vomitory, Voms

**Turnaround Time**

Time allotted between working shifts

**Turntable**

Rotating platform Synonym: Revolve

**U****Understudy**

Performer who trains to replace lead performer when he or she is not able to perform

**Union Steward**

Person who coordinates job assignments, adherence to work rules, time recording, paperwork, dispute resolution, etc.; May vary by local

**Upper Decks**

Highest level of seating

Synonym: Nose-bleed Section

**Upstage**

Direction toward the stage back wall away from the audience

**Ushers**

Persons who take tickets, distribute programs, and assist audience members in finding seats

**V****Valance**

Decorative border immediately upstage of the proscenium arch that defines the top of the stage opening  
Synonym: Grand Teaser, Grand Valance

**Vendor**

Company providing/installing entertainment equipment

**Venue**

Facility where a production may be performed

**Vertical Slot**

See also: Side Coves

**Vestibule**

See also: Foyer

**Video Crew Chief**

Head of the video crew and responsible for installation and maintenance of video/projection equipment

**Vomitorium**

See also: Tunnel

**Vomitory**

See also: Tunnel

**Voms**

See also: Tunnel

**W****Warning**

The first prompt in the sequence of cue execution

**eSET: Venue**

**Wash-up Time**

Period of time allotted prior to end of shift for clean up  
Synonym: Clean-up Time

**Weapons**

See also: Armorer

**Week Rate**

Flat rate for one week of work as defined by an agreement  
Synonym: Flat Rate

**Wet Tech**

Running the show cue to cue with performers  
Synonym: Tech

**Wings**

Offstage area stage right and stage left of the actors playing area

**Wire Grid**

See also: Tension Wire Grid

**Work Clothes**

Appropriate dress for the tasks being performed that may or may not be defined by the employer

**Work Hours**

See also: Call

**Working Area**

See also: Playing Area

**Worklights**

Lighting fixtures used for general illumination other than during performances  
Synonym: Overheads

**Wrap**

See also: Closing, Strike