

# Technical Production Commission's COVID-19 Reopening Guides

# Considerations for Rehearsals

## General Practices

- Please adhere first and foremost to the CDC guidelines on COVID-19, social distancing, appropriate mask-wearing, and your state and local policies and procedures. [3]
- Any rehearsals should be virtual, rather than in-person, whenever possible. [3]
- In-person rehearsals should happen outside, if possible, to allow for the best ventilation. [9]
- Any in-person meetings, rehearsals, or performances should require the physical presence of as few people as practical, including the use of staggered calls or hybrid meetings. [3]
- A Health and Safety Coordinator should be present at all rehearsals to ensure that COVID-19 guidelines and check-in procedures are followed.

## Space Management

- Seating areas should be arranged to allow every participant to be six feet or more away from any other participant. [3]
- Dressing rooms should be set up to allow a minimum of six feet between any individuals in the same room. [3, 7]
- Masks should be worn at all times possible. [3]
- Staggered call times and other measures to reduce congestion in common areas such as dressing rooms and check-in areas are recommended. [3, 7]
- Backstage (wing) areas should be configured so that the ability to maintain social distancing between all cast and crew members is possible. Backstage crew should wear a mask at all times. Performers who are backstage should wear a mask, if possible, until they are needed on stage. Hand sanitizer should be readily available. [3, 9]
- The personal effects of performers (i.e.: bags, purses, water bottles) should remain with the performer at all times, or stored in an individual compartment, such as an assigned plastic bin, in a designated area, such as a dressing room. [7]
- Drinks should be individually packaged or, if drinks are to be dispensed from a water station, soda fountain, coffee machine or similar equipment, receptacles should not come into contact with dispensers. [8]

## Props & Furniture

- Props show and tell should be done virtually with photos or at a dedicated table separate from the main props storage area. [7]
- Only members of the props departments will touch items until it is clear what a performer will need. [7]
- Props should be stored in a secure location to prevent contamination. [7]
- Crew must clean hands before and after handling any costumes, accessories, props and other items. [3, 7]
- Set pieces, props, and surfaces performers are working on or with should be sanitized before and after use. Hard surfaces should be wiped down at every opportunity (intermission, between performances) using an appropriate disinfectant product found on EPA List N. [2, 4, 5]
- It is generally not considered likely that the coronavirus is transmitted by soft surfaces. However, small, hard elements that make up items we generally consider soft (e.g., couch legs or zippers on cushions) should be wiped down as frequently as possible using an appropriate disinfectant product found on EPA List N. Any fabrics that could be potentially contaminated and then "shaken" or disrupted in a way that could re-aerosolize the droplet-borne virus should be sanitized before and after use. [2, 4, 6]
- The consumption and use of actual food and drink on stage should be minimized as much as possible. When actual food or drink must be consumed, multiple identical setups should be provided to minimize the touching of food and drink by the crew. [8] Any consumable food should be made and handled in accordance with CDC and local guidelines regarding restaurant kitchens. [1] Prepackaged, sealed food is the safest.
- Use of paper props should be kept to a minimum. Laminated paper products that can be sanitized or fresh paper that is only touched by the performer should be used for every rehearsal. [8]

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## References

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3. CDC: Implementation of Mitigation Strategies for Communities with Local COVID-19 Transmission <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/community-mitigation.html>
4. EPA: List N: Disinfectants for Use Against Sars-Cov-2 (Covid-19) <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19>
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7. SAG-AFTRA & IATSE Joint Hair, Makeup, & Wardrobe Protocols [https://www.sagaftra.org/files/sa\\_documents/Joint%20HMWP%20Protocols%20UPDATED\\_0.pdf](https://www.sagaftra.org/files/sa_documents/Joint%20HMWP%20Protocols%20UPDATED_0.pdf)
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9. The Safe Way Forward: A Joint Report of DGA, SAG-AFTRA, IATSE, & Teamster's Committees for COVID-19 Safety Guidelines [https://www.dga.org/-/media/Files/TheGuild/Coronavirus-Resources/ProductionSafetyGuidelines\\_June2020.ashx](https://www.dga.org/-/media/Files/TheGuild/Coronavirus-Resources/ProductionSafetyGuidelines_June2020.ashx)