

Do's and Don'ts of Acting in a Scene

DO:

Make relationships and status of characters clear

Establish the conflict and dramatic action

Use clear, articulate voices that project and can be heard

Make eye contact with scene partner

Listen and respond to each other “in the moment”

Make sure you are visible to the audience

DON'T:

Speak so softly you cannot be heard

Use poor articulation and lack of clarity in your speech

Avoid making eye contact with your scene partner

Upstage yourself or your fellow actors

Forget to make sure you are visible to the audience

Overact—or push it

Underact- don't read your lines with nothing behind it

Anticipate your cues and cut your scene partner off

Pause too much (while you think) and then respond

Play a scene with no conflict, obstacle or dramatic action