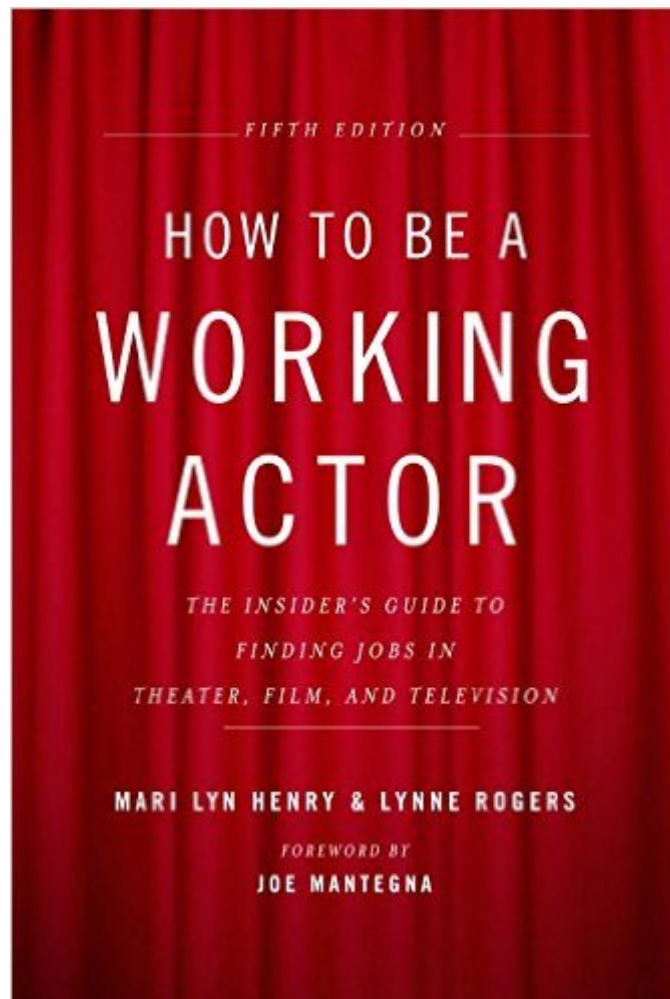


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# How To Be A Working Actor, 5th Edition: The Insider's Guide To Finding Jobs In Theater, Film & Television



## Synopsis

The celebrated survival guide for the working actor - now completely updated and expanded with a foreword by Tony award-winning actor Joe Mantegna! Renowned for more than two decades as the most comprehensive resource for actors, *How to Be a Working Actor* is a must-read for achieving success in The Business. Now this "Bible of the Biz" has been completely revised and greatly expanded to address new markets, ever-changing opportunities, and the many new ways today's actors find work. Talent manager, teacher, and career coach Mari Lyn Henry and actress, author, and spokeswoman Lynne Rogers combine their extensive skills and years of experience to cover all the essentials of how to market yourself, land roles, and manage a successful career. They also include expert advice from scores of other industry experts - well-known actors, agents, managers, casting directors, and teachers. *How to Be a Working Actor* is loaded with advice on how to: - put together a professional wardrobe - get a head shot that brings out the real you - create a resume that really works - find the training to develop your talents - communicate effectively with agents and managers - use the internet to promote your business and explore new opportunities - get the most value out of union membership - excel at auditions and screen tests - discover how to get work in regional markets - cope with success *How to Be a Working Actor* takes a no-nonsense approach to the whole business of being a working actor, with detailed information on how to live on a budget in New York and Los Angeles, what the acting jobs are and what they pay, even how to find a survival strategy that will augment your career. And an extensive section on script analysis shows you how to investigate the depth of a character to create a memorable audition for roles in theatre, film, and television.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This is the first time I've felt compelled to review a product on ... unfortunately to warn prospective buyers. I didn't find this book useful at all, and assuming you are a reasonably intelligent adult, you probably won't either. Half the book is wasted on really basic advice seemingly for kids leaving the house for the first time, anyone moving to "the big city" or generally looking for first jobs in the professional world - actors or no. That, and, much of the advice actually about the business of acting, feels kind of out of touch for 2014 (this is a 2008 edition so I probably should have known better). I'm bummed I'll have to pay return postage, but it's a good reminder to get to the library and borrow more books before buying. I would instead recommend *Self-Management for Actors* (the best out there, much more insightful, current and insider-y) or *Acting is Everything - An Actor's Guidebook*. Now THESE are books you'll be happy to buy and keep on your bookshelf to return to again and again.

As a recent graduate, starting a career in New York seems intimidating, but after reading *How to be a Working Actor* I feel much more confident and prepared. This book is inspiring me in my career. It includes in-depth, essential advice about what to wear, headshots and resumes, living as an actor, showcases and understanding the unions, as well as auditions and interviews. I thought I had a good basic knowledge of the industry, but this book gave me a lot more. I'd recommend it to anyone pursuing a career in New York or Los Angeles... or in the regional markets; they're covered in here too!

For the amateur or neophyte in your life, get this book. Before the Audition book, before the Get an Agent book, GET THIS BOOK. This breaks it down, the simple stuff to have in place first. Like a headshot, what should it look like, a resume, what it should look like, what if you don't have enough experience for a resume, things like this that seem to proliferate the message boards from newbies confused by the mixed messages of others on how to start or break in to the business. Invaluable and should be a birthday or christmas gift for those who you know have theatrical or film or tv aspirations.

"How to Be a Working Actor" is an excellent resource for beginning actors or old veterans. Mari Lyn Henry and Lynne Rogers are extremely accomplished. These talented ladies include all the

information you need to build a strong career as a working actor. Each chapter is specific, detailed and up to date. I am pursuing a career in New York and have found it an invaluable resource.  
Bottom line: Get this book!

This book is extremely valuable for the young actor. The problem is that this is only one perspective on the business of acting. It is accurate, but must be followed with caution and be advised that it will be outdated next year, due to the nature of the business.

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