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Actions: The Actor's Thesaurus

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Synopsis
An essential companion for actors in rehearsal - a thesaurus of action words to revitalize performance. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Book Information
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Customer Reviews
"Actions" is the perfect size to carry around, and I've found it invaluable in preparing for auditions as well as fleshing out a role. The juice in this book is in the concept of characterizing a theatrical beat in one action word. Since theater is visual, it is critical for an actor to physically demonstrate the inner workings of the character, and this book is a great jumping off point. I did purchase a pocket size thesaurus to use with it, since on several occasions this book did not contain the exact word I was looking for. I've played four widely different roles since acquiring this book, and consider the hours I've spent looking for that perfect "aha!" word well worthwhile. I'm making much more confident acting choices, and I think my characters are more assured, clearly defined and authentic. Highly recommended!

I'm an acting teacher in the theatre department at a university. I've found one of the biggest problems for actors was naming their goal/objective/victory...whatever you want to call it...and coming up with tactics that were compelling and ACTABLE. This book offers a goldmine of ideas for actors. Now, hopefully, they can move on from "convince" and "avoid"!!![ASIN:0896762521 Actions: The Actors' Thesaurus]
This book is such a great idea, but it would be AMAZING to have a version for Kindle or to have an app so that I can carry it around with me all the time. I use it for directing actors. Absolutely invaluable.

This resource is a must for anyone analyzing a script. If you can’t find the purpose for your actions in the book, try again. The book acts as a reference guide to find the purpose behind saying each line. If the purpose for acting is to respond or react to what you are given you have to have an action. This book gives you the action and varying degrees of the action. Yes, you could use a regular thesaurus but you would get words that are not just actions. The idea of soliciting an action from your partner gives the scene and your reason for doing things in the scene POWER. When given a script, this book comes out with the pencil and highlighter. You might find your actions change but you have an action for each line. I’ve found if you don’t have an action, either you don’t understand the line or you aren’t doing your best work.

This book makes it so much easier to clarify your actions and your goals when acting. It was introduced to me by a director and our whole cast bought copies and use them all the time. I highly recommend it!

This book was suggested by my current Acting coach on the first day of class. After one week I hadn’t gotten it because I know tons of action verbs and I had written my own little booklet about them years ago in college so I had the info & thought I was fine. Then I realized my current coach is a genius and that this book is invaluable to all actors. I ordered it & I use it all the time. Actions plus a dictionary are two books all actors should carry with them every day. You might think that you want to manipulate someone in your scene, but you can’t keep using manipulate on every line! If it didn’t work the first time you need to try something else like coerce, taunt, trick, tease, jab, lure..... the list goes on. And it’s really well organized so you can search by categories or alphabetically. And each word (like Manipulate) has a list of other verbs that might suit your action better. I’m so thrilled this book exists! I’ve only had it about a month or so & have merely cracked the surface so I know I’ll be using it a very long time! Well worth the price no matter what you pay for it!

A must have for every actor. It’s great to have so many actionable words right at your fingertips. I really like that there is a section in the back that separates them into emotional groups. Good size to
carry with you to rehearsal.

As a human, we sometimes lack the words to say things. As an actor, we sometimes need a variety of words to help us communicate what we want to "do" in a scene. This is the perfect book to help give ideas. Well worth it.

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