

**INTERNATIONAL
INSTITUTE
OF
LIVE
EVENTS**



Stage Terms Every Event Professional Should Know

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Whether you're in production, event management, or coordination, knowing these stage terms will help you communicate effectively at any event.

Key Stage Terms

- **Stage Left:** The left side of the stage from the performer's perspective, facing the audience.
- **Stage Right:** The right side of the stage from the performer's perspective, facing the audience.
- **House Left:** The audience's left (opposite of Stage Left).
- **House Right:** The audience's right (opposite of Stage Right).
- **Upstage:** Moving away from the audience, towards the back of the stage.
- **Downstage:** Moving closer to the audience, towards the front of the stage.
- **Centre Stage:** The middle of the stage, a key focal point for performances.
- **Wings:** The hidden areas on the sides of the stage, where performers wait before entering.
- **Crossover:** A backstage path that allows performers and crew to move unseen from one side of the stage to the other.
- **Fly System:** A rigging system used to raise and lower scenery, curtains, and lighting equipment above the stage.
- **Grid:** The overhead structure supporting rigging, lighting, and technical equipment.



Technical & Rehearsal Terms

- **Cue:** A signal (verbal, visual, or audio) that prompts a performer or crew member to take action.
- **Technical Rehearsal (Tech Run):** A rehearsal focusing on lighting, sound, and stage transitions without a full performance.
- **Dress Rehearsal:** A full run-through with costumes, props, and all technical elements, simulating a live show.
- **Load In:** Bringing in equipment, set pieces, and production materials to the venue.
- **Load Out:** Removing all production elements after the event.
- **Strike:** The process of breaking down and clearing the stage after a show.
- **Front of House (FOH):** The area in front of the stage, where the audience is seated, and where sound and lighting control are managed.

Why These Terms Matter?

Whether you're working backstage, on stage, or in the control room, knowing the correct terminology ensures a successful event and improve efficiency!

Get in touch!

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