

THEATRE TERMS – Part 2

In the House

1. **Aisles:** The passageway between or alongside the seats.
2. **Rows:** Seats arranged in a line facing the stage. Rows are usually labeled with letters, while seats are numbered.
3. **Partial View:** A seat in which you may not be able to see the entire action on the stage.
4. **Box Seats:** Fancier seats jutting out along the walls of the theatre.
5. **Balcony:** A second-story area of seating, looking down onto the stage.
6. **Orchestra Seats:** The section of seats closest to the stage.
7. **Standing Room:** A section at the back of the theater where people can pay a small price to stand and watch the show.
8. **Program:** A booklet listing the order of events, scenes, songs. It also gives information about the cast and the authors of the play. It is sometimes referred to as the “Playbill”, which is the most famous publisher of Broadway programs.
9. **Orchestra Pit:** A sunken area in front of the stage where the instrumentalists play (if there is music in the show).

About the Play

10. **Drama:** A serious play.
11. **Comedy:** A play meant to make you smile or laugh.
12. **Musical:** A play in which the characters sing and dance.
13. **Revival:** A play that is being performed again, after its original run.
14. **Overture:** The music before the curtain opens.
15. **Script:** The book that includes all the lines and stage directions.
16. **Acts:** Plays are broken into segments (usually two) called Acts. At the end of each act, there is usually a cliffhanger (suspenseful moment).
17. **Scenes:** Each act is broken into smaller segments called scenes. A scene usually changes when the location changes or time goes by.
18. **Intermission:** The time in between acts when the actors take a “break”. The audience gets to take a “break”, too.
19. **Period Piece:** A play that takes place during a specific time period in history.
20. **Outdated Play:** A play whose theme or message is no longer relevant.