

# TOP 10 TIPS 2 BE THE BEST PUBLIC SPEAKER

BY THE IDIOT · JULY 19, 2017



**Even if you're a mime**, there comes a time when for whatever reason (work, wedding, fraternity hazing, mime convention) that you'll have to make a speech in front of a room full of people. If you're like me and have tried to picture people naked while speaking to them but its only made you more anxious and jealous (some of the audience members in my head have washboard abs) then these new strategies may suit you better (example: picture the audience not naked but in suits).

## **1. Make sure you are wearing the proper attire:**

Men: Go with the classic button down shirt and tie. If you really don't know the topic that you're presenting, wear a full suit or better yet a tux (let the outfit make you look like you know what you're talking about).

Women: Wear anything besides pajamas (unless you're in the business of selling pajamas). Whether man or woman, whatever outfit you choose to wear, make sure that it's something comfortable and wedgie free.

## **2. Be prepared- research the topic that you'll be giving a speech on,**

unless of course the topic of your speech is about not being prepared or is a research protest.

Create a power point presentation to go along with your speech that randomly includes videos of kittens stuck in boxes (a sure crowd pleaser).

Before your public speaking engagement, rehearse your material by practicing your speech/presentation in front of a smaller, less intimidating crowd (room full of babies, backyard full of puppies, library full of librarians, convention of mimes).

## **3. Knowing the information you're speaking about is important but even more important is feeling relaxed and confident. While speaking, avoid a panic attack by:**

-Having a "squeeze ball" in your pocket that you can play with to relax (warning: take the ball out of your pocket before squeezing)

– Hitting things with a Nerf bat to let off some nervous energy

– Wearing an ear piece that you can play with a pre-recorded message from your parents telling you how proud they are of you.

## **4. Make a Grand Entrance:**

Break through a fake wall like a wrestler (use of laser lights is a plus).

Make sure you have the proper entrance music to accompany you.

Highly recommended entrance music options: anything from the Rocky soundtracks (except for Rocky V of course), anything by Rick James

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**5. After wowing the crowd with your entrance, follow up with an opening joke.**

Caution: Stay away from yo mama jokes, prop jokes are recommended

**6. While talking, get the crowd “pumped” by moving around a lot to keep the energy of the room flowing(you don’t want anyone to fall asleep).**

Add in some dance moves for good measure and ask your audience every 20 minutes to stand up for some good ole squat thrusts.

**7. If you’re in front of a large enough audience (20 people or more) use a microphone (megaphones optional).** Make sure to decorate the grip of the mic in rhinestones. Also see if you have the option to auto tune your voice: it’s not always about what you say but how you say it that counts.

**8. Hire a clown with a hook or rent a gong for any hecklers in the audience.** Better yet, having both is the safest bet and will only set you back a few hundred dollars (plus the audience will love to receive ballon animals from the clown).

**9. If you feel like you’ve lost the audience’s attention and you’re bombing:**

- Pretend that you’re sick and force yourself to throw up
- Ask an audience member to finish the presentation for you
- Make your grand exit

**10. Make a Grand Exit**

Skip a Q & A session (you told your audience all they need to know). Instead, WOW the audience: Cue up the music (Daft Punk or AC/DC), have balloons fall from the ceiling, and shoot t-shirts from a t-shirt gun (with your logo on them) at audience members. Last impressions are the most important. At this point, it won’t matter what you’ve been talking about.

Be sure to take a bow (drop the mic if applicable). Pass around a tip jar (it’ll help pay for the balloons, t-shirt gun, and t-shirts).

Now get out there for that public speaking engagement and don’t be afraid; what’s the worst that can happen anyway? If you fail look at it as a learning experience that you’ll probably be able to look at online after someone in your audience taped you bombing and posted it on social media so your embarrassing moment can live on in infamy. Good Luck!

- The Idiot

**Want to share your own public speaking concerns? What to share your terrible public speaking experiences, leave a comment or email: [theidiotsadvice@gmail.com](mailto:theidiotsadvice@gmail.com)**

