

Overview

This standard is about your ability to age and distress costumes and accessories.

This may involve breaking down a garment to meet production requirements, using knowledge of historical references and the visual style of the production, identifying safe locations to carry out work, with adequate ventilation, power and water supplies that will help ensure duplicate effects.

This standard may be applicable to costume supervisors, costume assistants, costume stand bys, wardrobe assistants and costumemakers.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. review the production requirements, costume designers brief and script and identify costume distress requirements
2. confirm the production schedule, budget and sequence plan
3. confirm the costume continuity requirements
4. brief the costume team on the costume requirements
5. identify and source resources required for costume break down and distress
6. identify allergies and sensitivity levels of performers and the costume team and ensure appropriate products are used
7. use the appropriate processes to break down fabrics, garments, shoes and accessories
8. identify costume breakdown and distress work to be outsourced
9. source and liaise with an appropriate subcontractor when necessary, communicating and agreeing the work, budget and schedule
10. identify and communicate how much of the costume will be used in shot, and confirm whether there are close up or background shots
11. monitor and manage subcontractors ensuring the quality standard, budget and schedules are met
12. wear appropriate protective wear to carry out 'costume distressing' work
13. identify and work in a safe location
14. keep records and store details of completed costume ageing and distressing work
15. follow the production's confidentiality rules
16. ensure COSHH (Control of Substances Hazardous to Health) regulations are adhered to
17. communicate clearly across production staff and other relevant departments or individuals
18. follow health, safety and environmental legislation, policies and guidelines

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. the genre or time period of the production
2. the production requirements and costume designer's brief
3. the timescales, schedule and sequence plan
4. the production's budgets
5. the production's continuity requirements
6. techniques and processes used to break down and distress costumes
7. the resources and products required to carry out costume break down
8. allergies and sensitivity levels of performers and the costume team and how to deal with them
9. how to assess the work load and estimate outsourcing requirements
10. how to outsource/subcontract work to meet the budget and schedule
11. how much of the costumes will be seen and the impact that has on the costume breakdown, distressing work required
12. the protective clothing and equipment required when carrying out costume break down, distressing work
13. how to assess locations for suitability in relation to costume break down distressing work
14. the costume breakdown records and details required
15. production staff and departments involved and the communication protocol
16. the production's confidentiality rules
17. statutory responsibilities under health, safety, COSHH and environmental legislation and regulation

Age and distress costumes

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Suite Costume for Film, TV and Theatre Productions

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