

TWELVE STEPS To Becoming A Great Actor

As a comprehensive acting tool, please utilize the 12-steps to becoming a great actor based on Ivana Chubbuck's technique found in her book, "*The Power of the Actor*." For more details about these 12-steps [please click here for Amazon.com](#) or ask to borrow one of these books from your instructor.

1. Overall Objective: What does your character want from life more than anything? Finding out what your character wants throughout the script. It's important for the actor to identify their character's primal need, goal or OBJECTIVE. It's best used when an actor finds the appropriate personal pain that can effectively drive this OBJECTIVE.
2. Scene Objective: What your character wants over the course of an entire scene, which supports the character's OVERALL OBJECTIVE.
3. Obstacle: Determining the physical, emotional and mental hurdles that make it difficult for your character to achieve his or her overall and SCENE OBJECTIVE.
4. Substitution: Endowing the other actor in the scene with a person from your real life that makes sense to your OVERALL AND SCENE OBJECTIVE.
5. Inner Objects: The pictures you see in your mind when speaking or hearing about a person place, thing or event.
6. Beats and Actions: A BEAT is a thought. Every time there's a change in thought, there's a BEAT change. ACTIONS are the mini-OBJECTIVES that are attached to each BEAT that support the SCENE OBJECTIVES.
7. Moment Before: The event that happens before you begin the scene. This is created by your imagination. It gives you a place to move from, physically and emotionally.
8. Place and Fourth Wall: You endow your character's physical reality, with your imagination. It's best used with attributes from your real life, it creates privacy, intimacy, history, meaning and safety.
9. Doings: The handling of props which produces behavior.
10. Inner Monologue: The dialogue that's going on inside your head that you don't speak out loud. It's also called an inner thought.
11. Previous Circumstances: Your character's history. This is important it's also called CHARACTER BACKGROUND. This is the information that determines why your character is what he is. And how he operates in the world and why. This will help you to understand your characters behavior and bring more of a real connection.
12. Let It Go: Just what it means LET IT GO and trust it's all there. The foundation of your work. Trust your instincts and natural impulses. Stay aware of your surroundings. Be as curious as possible. Stay in touch with your FEELINGS they will come in handy later to utilize as a tool for a scene. Increase your listening and allow organic response. Stay open and try to write every thing down onto your script.