

10 QUICK SUSTAINABLE WINS

THEATRE PRODUCTION MANAGERS

1 SOURCING MATERIALS

When sourcing and obtaining equipment and materials:

- Use existing stock or re-purpose/find dead stock or materials
- Borrow
- Buy or hire locally
- Buy online prioritising small businesses or marketplaces

3 ENCOURAGING DESIGNERS TO REUSE SET

Encourage designers and builders to consider the plan for strike and reuse of a set:

- Plan for the future life of all materials used
- Reduce build techniques which render materials difficult to reuse, for example use mechanical fittings over glue, screws over staples and nails
- Consider modular choices which can be repurposed, and build to standard material sizes as possible
- Build network of charities, community groups, school, and community scrap schemes who can reuse materials
- Include the disposal costs of a set in the build budget

5 POLICY OF MATERIALS AND EQUIPMENT

Consider a policy of materials and equipment you will not use, and review annually:

- Some suggested items to consider would be polystyrene, balloons, glitter, helium, single use plastics, wipes etc.

7 SUPPLIER'S SUSTAINABILITY POLICIES

Ask suppliers to provide copies of their sustainability policies:

- Enquire about the footprint of materials before purchasing
- Consider the ethics of your suppliers including high street shops and larger store fronts.
- Ask questions about environmental claims, for instance, biodegradable - under what circumstances, recyclable - widely recyclable?, carbon neutral - through what method?

9 INTRODUCE A SUSTAINABLE PROCUREMENT POLICY

Sustainability should be part of the planning conversation from the beginning of a project.

- Include sustainability in all inductions with stage management, freelancers, and contractors include sustainability as an agenda item at all parameters, design and production meetings
- Keep sustainability in the conversation

2 DESIGN, TRANSPORT, SOURCING & SUPPLIERS

When considering design, transport, sourcing and suppliers, remember:

- Is it a good idea?
- What are the environmental consequences?
- What are the alternatives?
- Are the alternatives reasonably practical?
- What impacts would they have?
- Is it appropriate to change?

4 MATERIALS

Consider these preferred materials:

- FSC certified timber
- Low VOC adhesives
- Waterbased paints,
- Use of compressors instead of tins of aerosol
- Fabric cable ties instead of LX tape
- Rechargeable batteries
- Natural fibres over petroleum based fabrics

6 ENVIRONMENTAL POLICIES

Make environmental policies and guidelines an appendix to contracts:

- Everyone on a project can play their part
- Make it part of your toolbox and induction talks

8 IF USING NON-BIODEGRADABLE MATERIALS

If you are considering using plastics or other non-biodegradable materials? Remember:

- Avoid
- Reduce
- Reuse
- Recycle - last resort

10 TRANSPORT

When planning transport, consider:

- Planning tours to avoid backtracking and reduce journeys
- Planning the most fuel-efficient route
- Travel arrangements for the full company, including public transport and car sharing
- Planning the build and pack to reduce the required number of vehicles
- What needs to be transported and what can be procured locally for tours
- Having single days in the week for pick ups and deliveries to reduce van use

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