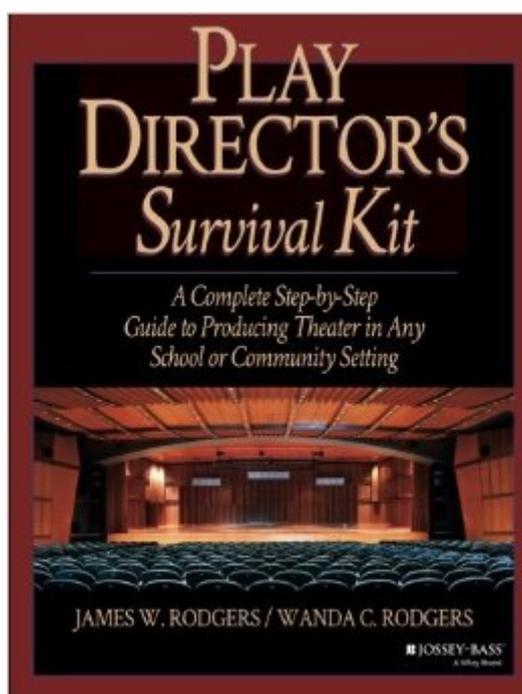


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# Play Director's Survival Kit: A Complete Step-by-Step Guide To Producing Theater In Any School Or Community Setting



## Synopsis

This expansive guide covers the where, when, and how for every step of school play production, including play selection and adaptation, auditions, casting and dealing with disappointed students, budgeting, coaching actors, setting up a production team, rehearsals, publicity, and promotion.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Survival Kit is the perfect name for this book. The Play Director's Survival Kit has been in great demand no matter what community or regional theater I've worked in. Everyone is borrowing it. Time to buy your own kit. The kit is perfect for the person who may be slightly unorganized (as creative people can be) and will take you through step by step to get your production to a successful conclusion. It's hard to forget anything when you have this kit by your side. I highly recommend this book for anyone who is directing for the first time or who has found that they are not quite as organized as they thought.

I discovered this book through a fellow theatre professor and was immediately impressed with its scope of information. So impressed, in fact, that I'm planning to adopt it as the textbook for an advanced directing course I teach that culminates with the production of a one-act play. The authors have covered everything a director needs to know, from selecting the play through rehearsals, performances, and marketing. This book would be especially helpful for high school/community theatre directors, or those in similar situations where the director is expected to assume some of the

responsibilities usually handled by a producer. (The sample forms are especially good for these organizations.) Although not a substitute for a more thorough book on the pure basics of directing (blocking, composition, etc.), this is an excellent supplement that reviews those basics and enhances them with elements that often aren't covered in directing classes but are faced in production (putting together program copy, for example). Although I've been directing professionally for over 12 years, I immediately ordered a copy for myself after examining it.

I wish someone had recommended this book before I directed half a dozen musicals and learned its contents the hard way...trial and error. While the information is largely common sense, the organization saves the time of having to figure it out yourself. I recommend it highly...especially for school and community theatre.

This is the book of practicalities--perfect for beginning school and community theatre play directors. Everything from sample audition announcements to production time lines to a list of plays that work well in schools and community theatres.

This book is very practical and easy to understand. Parts might be a little basic, but they're definitely helpful. This book was recommended for a Directing 2 class in which *Directors in Rehearsal* (Cole), *The Open Door* (Brook), and *A Director Prepares* (Bogart) were all required. Which one do you think I read first, AND w/ the greatest of ease? Great for those just beginning to direct as well as teachers.

As a playwright and director, I found this book to be necessary for survival, just like the title states. It's written in a format that's easy to use and highly accessible. Many 'Help Books' are unfortunately written by people who have not actually lived the life. Delightfully, this is not the case with *Play Director's Survival Kit*. It's easy to see that James W. Rodgers and Wanda C. Rodgers have been in the trenches themselves. They make it easy for both novices and seasoned professionals to direct and produce theatre in any school or community setting.

What a fabulous book for the beginning community theater director! This gem covers every topic you can think of and then some - giving you a head start before you hear those awesome words "Would you like to direct this play?" I found parts of it rather detailed and tedious on first reading since I have no first-hand knowledge of directing. However, I finished it feeling like I have enough

grasp to feel a little more confident if someone gave me a chance to direct! I love the step-by-step approach which certainly helps you feel like you're acquiring enough knowledge and understanding to consider taking up such a challenge as directing. Perfect for all levels from high schools to junior colleges to community theaters. Be sure to put your name in a prominent place on the inside because people will be borrowing it from you again and again! (Worth a second - and third - read for sure!)

While I didn't actually get any practice directing techniques from this kit, I wasn't actually looking for any either. Anyone who thinks they can learn to direct from a book, shouldn't be directing in the first place. The kit has several checklists and forms that are a great resource for the new and more experienced director. It also serves as a solid outline of what is or should be involved with directing. It won't teach you how to direct, but then again, that's not the intent.

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