

SEATTLE PLAYWRIGHTS SALON

SUBMISSION RESOURCE GUIDE

Playwrights interested in having their work shown at the Salon are strongly encouraged to consider these three steps prior to submitting their scripts for consideration:

1. Gather Feedback

- Host a table reading with friends
- Join a local writing group
- Explore [Trade A Play Tuesday](#) and [Playwrights Offering Free Feedback](#)

2. Proofread

- Hire an [editor or self-edit](#) for grammar, punctuation, spelling, and typos
- Check your play for anachronisms
- Identify and repair any formatting issues, such as widows, orphans, and issues with text alignment and formatting

3. Format

- Format your play for ease of reading and production (see attached script template guidelines provided by The Dramatists Guild)
- Include a character list, scene locations, setting, and your contact information on the title page
- Prepare a one-paragraph play synopsis to be included with your submission inquiry

ADDITIONAL PLAYWRITING RESOURCES

[Play Submission Helper](#) - Provides monthly submission opportunities.

[Dramatists Guild](#) - Serves as public advocate for dramatists' interests and assists dramatists in developing both their artistic and business skills.

[New Play Exchange](#) - Provides a streamlined script discovery and recommendation engine for the new play sector.

[Playwrights Center](#) - Supports playwrights and promotes new plays to production.

[Official Playwrights of Facebook Group](#) - Public Facebook group with more than 10,500 members.

[Donna Hoke's Playwriting Blog](#) - Provides script review and play submission feedback. Founder of [Trade A Play Tuesday](#) and [Playwrights Offering Free Feedback](#).

MODERN PLAY FORMAT



Dialogue begins 1.5 inches from left side to account for binding. Dialogue is single-spaced.

BOSS

You've probably come here to question me about that ex-convicts story in that damned yellow sheet down there in Wilkes county – That stuff about getting Pellagra in here – Jimmy, hand me that sample menu!

JIM

She's not a reporter.

BOSS

Aw. – What is your business, young lady?

EVA

I understand there's a vacancy here. Mr. McBurney, my landlady's brother-in-law, told her that you were needing a new stenographer and I'm sure that I can qualify for the position. I'm a college graduate, Mr. Whalen, I've had three years of business experience – references with me – but, oh – I've – I've had such abominable luck these last six months. – the last place I worked – the business recession set in they had to cut down on their sales-force – they gave me a wonderful letter – I've got in with me.

She opens her purse and spills contents on floor.

BOSS

Anybody outside?

EVA

Yes. That woman.

BOSS

What woman?

EVA

The one from Wisconsin. She's still waiting –

BOSS

I told you I don't want to see her.

(talking into phone)

How's the track, Bert? Fast? Okay.

Sailor Jack's mother, MRS. BRISTOL, has quietly entered. She carries a blanket.

MRS. BRISTOL

I beg your pardon, I – You see I'm Jack Bristol's mother, and I've been wanting to have a talk with you so long about – about my boy!

Character name in all caps; in the center of the page.

Dialogue extends to 1.0 inch from right margin

Stage action begins in the center of the page and scans to the right margin. A blank line is inserted before and after.

Standard font for this formatting is 12.0 point.

Stage action reliant on the preceding dialogue is indented to the left of the character name.



TRADITIONAL PLAY FORMAT

Dialogue begins 1.5 inches from left side to account for binding. Dialogue is single-spaced.

BOSS
(removes cover from basket)
Speak of biscuits and what turns up but a nice batch of homemade cookies! Have one young lady - Jim boy!

(Jim takes two.)

BOSS
Uh-huh, you've got an awful big paw, Jimmy!

(laughs)

Show the new Arky-what's-it to Miss Daily news - or is it the Morning Star? Have a chair! I'll be right with you -

(vanishes for a moment)

Sweat, sweat, sweat's all I do these hot breezy days!

JIM

(sotto voce)

He thinks you're a newspaper woman.

BOSS

Turn on that fan.

(emerging)

Well, now, let's see -

EVA

To begin with I'm not -

BOSS

You've probably come here to question me about that ex-convicts story in that damned yellow sheet down there in Wilkes county - That stuff about getting Pellagra in here - Jimmy, hand me that sample menu!

JIM

She's not a reporter.

BOSS

Aw. - What is your business, young lady?

(She opens her purse and spills contents on floor.)

Stage action is indented 3 inches from left; put in parenthesis. A blank line is inserted before and after.

Dialogue extends to 1.0 inch from right margin

Stage action reliant on the preceding dialogue is indented to the left of the character name.

Character name in all caps; in the center of the page.

Standard font for this formatting is 12.0 point.

Stage action is indented 3.0 inches from left margin and enclosed in parenthesis.

**There are many ways to paginate your play, from the straight forward numerical sequence of 1, 2, 3 to an older format of 1-2-16, (meaning Act 1, Scene 2, Page 16).