

eReport Series For New Comedians

AUDIENCE SECRETS FOR NEW COMEDIANS

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Audience Secrets For New Comedians

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The information provided in this publication is provided specifically for funny individuals who:

- Are seriously considering taking a shot at becoming a professional comedian
- Have attempted stand-up comedy but have not achieved the results they need to progress as a comedian
- Are involved in public speaking and want to incorporate (or improve) comedy and humor in speeches or presentations

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Table Of Contents

Introduction	2
Audience Secret #1	4
Audience Secret #2	6
Audience Secret #3	9
Final Thoughts	12
Resources (Special Links Included)	14

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Introduction

One of the things EVERY new comedian should be aware of is the impact that audience dynamics have on the laughter that a comedian generate during a performance.



AUDIENCE SECRETS FOR NEW COMEDIANS

This is particularly important because new comedians are an UNPROVEN entity. As a matter fact, it is assumed by virtually everyone involved in stand-up comedy that new comedians are going to suck on stage and in most cases – they will suck for months or even years before they can get the laughs they need to move forward as a comedian.

Subsequently, most of the time new comedians simply do not get to perform for larger audiences.

Keep this in mind before you continue:

There is a lot to know about becoming a comedian who can generate the average of 18+ seconds of laughter each performing minute to move ahead in the world of stand-up comedy. And there is a lot to know about stand-up comedy audiences.

But in this report I want to cover just the most essential secrets that every new comedian should know about the audiences they will be performing for in the beginning of their stand-up comedy adventures.

As you consume the information in this report, please be aware that it is provided from the context that you are 100% prepared to **PROFESSIONALLY** deliver your stand-up comedy routine regardless of the audience dynamics that may be present at the time of the performance.

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Audience Secret #1

Until a comedian has proven that they can generate laughs consistently for virtually any audience, the majority of audiences that a new comedian will be performing for will be small to very small.

So here's the first audience secret you need to know:

Audience Secret #1: It doesn't matter if there are 6 people in the audience or 100+ people in the audience. The most important audience factor that will amplify your ability to generate audience laughs as a comedian is proximity seating.

What do I mean by proximity seating? That's just a fancy term for how closely the audience members are seated next to each other and here is why this is so vitally important...

Laughter has what can easily be described as a "contagiousness" about it. But laughter contagiousness is directly related to how close people are when the laughing starts.

If you have ever been standing close to someone who is genuinely laughing out loud, it is difficult not to start laughing yourself. But if that person who is laughing is across the room or across the street, the "contagiousness" of that laughter is diminished.

So let me put this in most blunt terms possible as it applies to stand-up comedy performances:

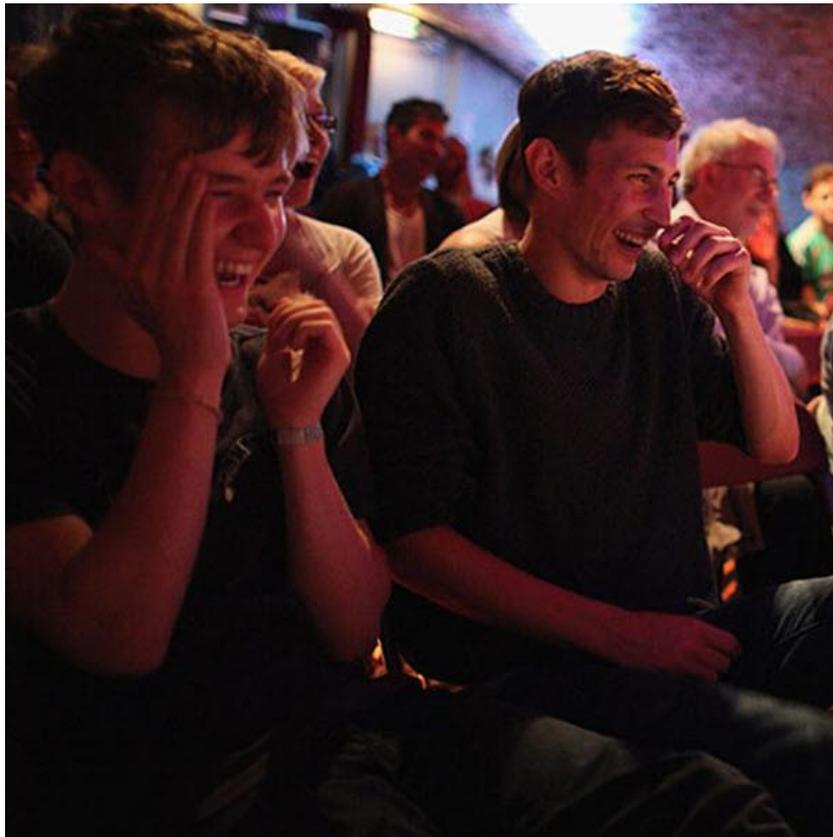
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If I were given the choice between performing for 15 people seated close together next to the stage or 45 people spread out in pockets across the expanse of a large room – I would choose to perform for the 15 people every time. Why?

Because I know that bigger laughs will ALWAYS be generated with an audience that is seated close together than they will with an audience that is not.

You can be the funniest comedian on the planet with the tightest act possible. But if the audience is not seated close together, you will not get the laughter levels that you can get when an audience is seated close together. It's a really big deal.

Now for the next secret....



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Audience Secret #2

I mentioned in the beginning of this report that most of the time new comedians will be performing for smaller audiences.

But here's the secret that no one seems to talk about with regard to small audiences:

Audience Secret #2: Given that you are thoroughly prepared to professionally deliver a tightly crafted stand-up comedy routine, the very best indicator of just how funny your material truly is will always come from small audiences that are seated properly.

Unfortunately, most new comedians want to gauge how funny their stand-up comedy material is relative to the size of the audience – **WITHOUT ANY OTHER CONSIDERATION.**

And instead of gaining some of the most valuable intelligence possible about how funny their stand-up comedy material really is, they blow the opportunity to do that time and time again when they see that they won't be performing for large masses of people.

Here's reality if you choose to accept it:

If your stand-up comedy material generates noteworthy laughs with small audiences (6-9+ people properly seated), it will almost always generate even bigger and longer laughs for larger audiences.

But the opposite situation is not necessarily true. During my own stand-up comedy career I cannot count the number of times I saw comedians (usually openers or feature acts) get some decent laughs if there were 100+ people in a room. However...

AUDIENCE SECRETS FOR NEW COMEDIANS

When they performed their same routine for 15-20 people (properly seated), they hardly generated laughs at all, which means that...

Their stand-up comedy material simply WAS NOT that funny to begin with.

I can say with great certainty that one of the keys to my own success as a comedian was delivering the same professionally delivered stand-up comedy routine REGARDLESS OF AUDIENCE SIZE and generating big laughs when I did.

Hint: Comedy club managers, talent buyers and even other comedians know that if you can rock a small audience with your stand-up comedy act, that is a powerful indicator of just how funny your comedy material is.

But this approach is not what you see when you get out in the real world of stand-up comedy.

What you will see is new comedians lament about how small an audience is before they get on stage, then they waste their time (and the audience's time) giving a half-baked performance with little interest or enthusiasm when they hit the stage.

And when all is said and done and the laughs didn't happen, guess what? Now the comedian determines that it's the audience's fault! To me, that's no different than blaming the basketball because it didn't go into the hoop after you take the shot.

If you want to move forward quickly in the world stand-up comedy and have better and better performing opportunities open up for you – I would strongly advise that you EMBRACE small audiences (seated properly) and depend on them to determine just how funny your stand-up comedy material truly is any time you can.

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I say that because if you will do this and you can consistently generate big laughs from small audiences, you WILL get noticed as a comedian.



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Audience Secret #3

Here's the last audience secret I want to cover in this report:

Audience Secret #3: Don't make any sort of determination on how funny your stand-up comedy material is after delivering that material to any audience that IS NOT seated close together.

Now I need to make something clear before I move forward which is this:

New comedians are quick to blame the audience for their lack of laughter generation skill. So I don't want to add yet another easy "excuse" that can be used to distract from what would be realistically categorized as a poor performance using unfunny material.

But hear me out and I think you will understand what I am trying to convey with this secret.

First of all, new comedians tend to lack confidence in their stand-up comedy material to begin with.

And it's no wonder, given the fact that most new comedians are trying to "write" jokes for a reader instead of structuring talking (and the natural expression of that talking) to create a powerful stand-up comedy act.

Trust me, I get it. But you never want to blame an audience for anything – they are what they are and you must recognize that as a professional.

If you have developed a stand-up comedy act that uses all of your comedy talent, is tightly constructed with 4-6+ punchlines per minute and is professionally delivered...

AUDIENCE SECRETS FOR NEW COMEDIANS

Use audience seating proximity – not audience size – to determine how funny your stand-up comedy material truly is. In other words...

If your stand-up comedy material is funny, tightly packaged (4-6+ punchlines/minute), professionally delivered, the audience is seated close together (again, regardless of size) and your stand-up comedy material is NOT getting the laughs you want, then here are the only reasons for that:

- Your comedy material is not funny
- Your comedy material is funny but not tight (laughs are few and far between)
- Your comedy material is funny but your delivery is substandard making it not funny
- Any combination of the above

Now if you sit through any stand-up comedy open mic night, what do you see from MOST of the comedians that attempt to perform?

What you will see with great consistency is that the open mic comedians are NOT prepared to give a tightly packaged, professionally delivered stand-up comedy audience NO MATTER WHAT SIZE THE AUDIENCE IS.

So answer this question honestly for yourself:

If a comedian is not prepared to professionally deliver a tightly packaged stand-up comedy routine to an audience – in a way that captures and presents ALL of their already developed comedy talent, how would they begin to know if their comedy material is actually funny or not?

The answer is that they don't – whatever laughs they get are an accident and there is no real way to determine how to repeat that laughter generation ON PURPOSE with the rest of their material.

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If that's the way you want to roll with your stand-up comedy adventure, that's 100% up to you. That's not my call to make.

All I am saying is that taking the stage unprepared to deliver the highest quality stand-up comedy routine possible is not the most efficient way to get the laughs you want as a new comedian — again, no matter what size the audience may be.



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Final Thoughts

What I have provided you in this report is just the bare bones basics about audiences that every new comedian should know.

What fascinates me today is that none of the so-called stand-up comedy experts that I am aware of addresses any sort of audience dynamics in any meaningful way as it relates to the creation of stand-up comedy material.

And this hasn't changed since the time I started my own stand-up comedy career in the early 90's.

Odd when you consider that audiences are a most important aspect of a comedian's ability to generate audience laughter.

Do let me say that the information I have presented in this report is applies regardless of the system, method or process you use to create, produce and prepare to deliver your stand-up comedy act and is not exclusive to any information that I provide in my online course.

Frequent and big audience laughter is your KEY to rapid success as a comedian. Small audiences properly seated are your KEY to knowing beyond a shadow of a doubt just how funny your stand-up comedy material is (rules apply as previous identified).

But don't take my word for it – get out and suffer through several comedy open mic nights. Pretend you are a talent scout or a talent buyer and at the end of the night ask yourself these questions:

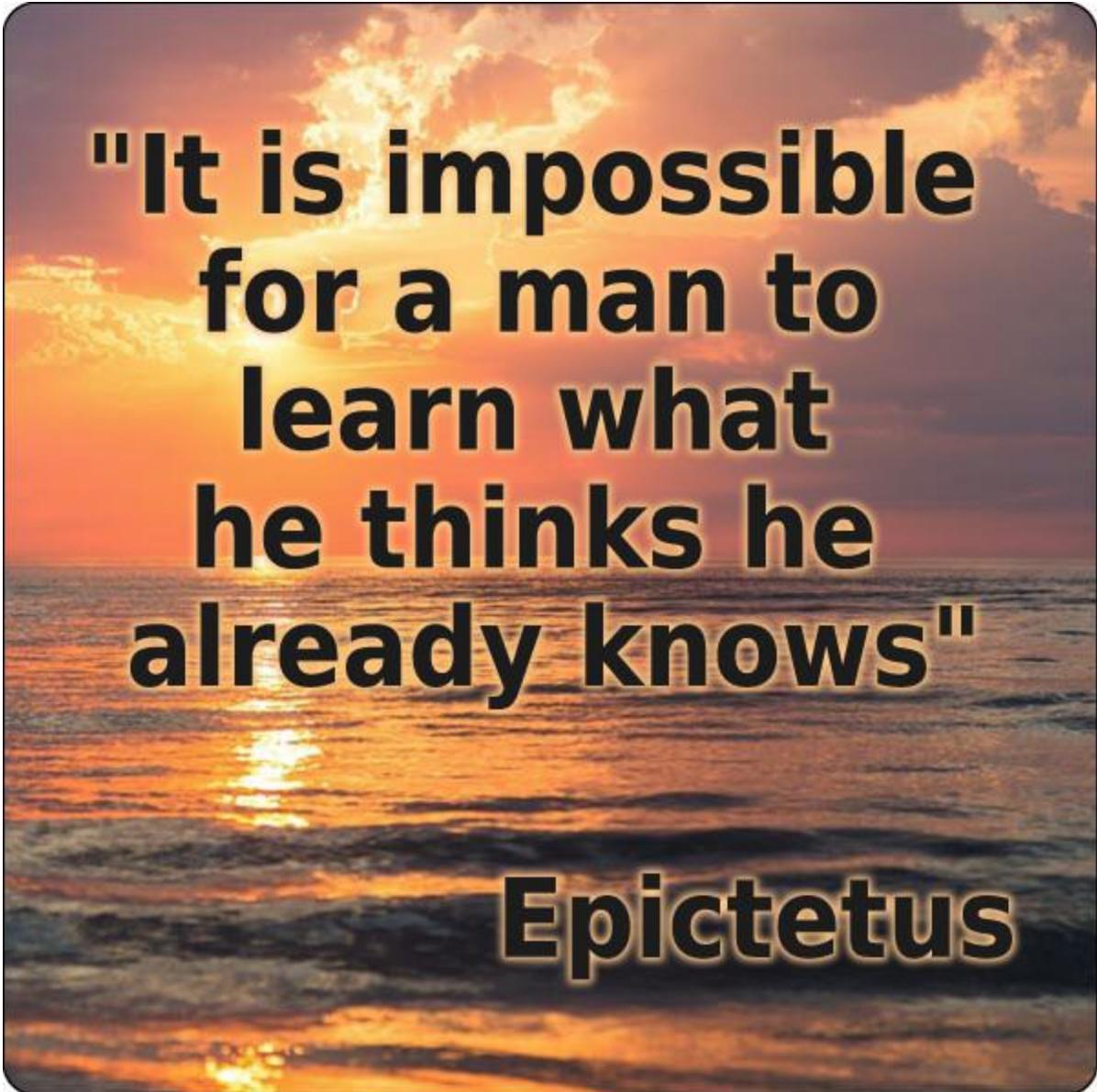
Which open mic comedians would YOU hire based on what you witnessed?

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Other than not generating laughs, can you pinpoint SPECIFICALLY why would you hire or not hire open mic comedians you saw perform?

Is what you witness at comedy open mic nights representative of how you intend to approach your own stand-up comedy adventure?

How you answer those questions should have a positive impact on how you choose to approach your own stand-up comedy adventure (unless you want to follow in the footsteps of most new comedians).



**"It is impossible
for a man to
learn what
he thinks he
already knows"**

Epictetus

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