**Scale Model Notes, Tips, and Tricks**

**Why are Scale Models Important?**

* They give a 3-D visualization of what something will look like before it is created, and gives a plan for how it should be built.
* They can be an educational tool, a reference material, a hobby, or a prototype.
* In theatre, they allow designers, actors, and directors to understand how the scenic design of a production will look within the theatre space.
* They are easier to manipulate compared to digital models and digital drafting.
* It is more cost effective to create a model prior to the construction of the set because they can expose faults in a design and can function as a construction guide.

**Making Your Model: the Tools**

It is extremely important to know how to use these tools **safely** and **effectively**.

Harming yourself and wasting material because you don’t know how to use these materials is not just a waste of your time, but also a waste of your production team’s time.

Exacto Knives Foam Board

Black Paper Super Glue

Pins Painters Tape

Rulers Cut Mat

Paints Paint Brushes

Rabbet Cutter Sobo Glue

**Exacto Knife Tips**

You can seriously hurt yourself if you’re not careful with an exacto. You can also waste your time and energy cutting something wrong and that’s just not fun.

*When using an exacto knife here are some helpful tips for you to remember:*

* Ensure that the collar is tight around the collet so your blade won’t move.
* Before you cut anything, draw pencil lines as guide marks.
* When cutting, use a metal ruler to ensure you get a clean cut.
* Cut with the blade’s edge parallel to what you are cutting, this makes your cut cleaner.
* Always cut on a cut mat.
* Hold the exacto like you are holding a pencil.
* Don’t get frustrated! It may take multiple cuts to get all the way through your desired material.