



Welcome to Pageant Preparation Communiqué for 2010. We are happy to share with you tips and suggestions for preparing yourself both mentally and physically for your debut on the stage at the 2010 Miss USA state pageant this fall. We want to work closely with you and answer any questions you might have; whether it is about paperwork, wardrobe, deadlines, or sponsorships, we are here for you. You may contact the office by phone: 803.648.6220 or by email: info@rpmproductions.com. We look forward to welcoming you to our family.

For many of you entering, The Miss USA state pageant will be a new experience. You most likely have many questions and no idea where to begin. Let's start by looking at the pageant weekend.

The Miss USA state pageant is one of the most exciting pageants you will ever enter. We can say this because year after year, we receive letters and emails from contestants thanking RPM Productions for giving them the opportunity to compete and telling us what a great experience the pageant was for them. So what makes our Miss USA pageant so wonderful? **The Contestants! The Production Show! The Experience! The Crowning!**

You can expect to meet no less than two or three young ladies who may turn out to be life long friends. Like you, they are there for the experience, the fun, and the chance to make their dreams come true.

The Pageant Weekend starts off Friday morning with registration followed by orientation. This is the time you and your family will meet the production team and hear details about the weekend. Afterwards, parents are dismissed and you will be assigned a chaperone. Your chaperone will be responsible for making sure you get to and from the various activities we have planned. She can be very helpful and has years of chaperone experience so take advantage of this valuable knowledge. During the two-day event, you will spend several hours rehearsing and learning the opening number and during down time you have a chance to talk with fellow contestants to exchange fashion and make-up tips as well as stories of how you made it this far and where you hope to be months down the road.

After the preliminary show Friday night, you will room with another contestant within your group. We have carefully assigned roommates and planned activities and meals with you in mind. Your chaperone and "group" will share some wonderful moments over the course of the weekend so remember your camera and take lots of photos because the weekend will go by very quickly. Imagine the scrapbook or facebook page you could create! Be sure not to miss the private after party hosted by the state titleholders!

Many of the girls you will meet at this pageant have never competed in a pageant before; or may have only competed in their high school or local festival pageant. It is understandable that you will be excited and a bit nervous, but remember you are not alone. You will have many people around you who want you to have the best experience of your life. The pageant team at RPM Productions is committed to this and we are always just a phone call away.

The MISS USA®
Pageant
Live on NBC
Las Vegas, NV
April 19, 2009.

"YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU PUT YOUR MIND TO."

**Another starting point is to begin thinking about your wardrobe.
Below is a sneak peek into the anatomy of the pageant wardrobe!**

SWIMSUIT COMPETITION

As a contestant in the state competition, you have the choice of wearing a one-piece or two-piece swimsuit. We suggest choosing a suit with a style and color that flatter you and your particular body type. We've found that a solid color or two-toned suit shows best. Often a busy print detracts from your face and figure. Take into consideration that the style should be in good taste; **no thongs or strings.** Legs may be cut moderately high and a two-piece bottom must have sides at least 1.5" wide. If your selection is questionable, bring an alternate. No hosiery is permitted, but leg makeup is acceptable. Padding is allowed to enhance the bust. Tips: Do not apply oil or heavy lotion prior to the competition. **This causes a shiny, unnatural stage presence.** To keep your swimsuit in place, use a product called "Firm Grip." It can be found in pageant and sporting goods stores. Shoes that have a 2" or higher heel tend to look more complementary in this competition. Taupe, tan or neutral heels work well, but the trend is to wear a strappy sandal.

EVENING GOWN COMPETITION

For the most elegant phase of competition you will need one full-length evening gown. A second gown is optional, but certainly not necessary. In making your selections, always choose a gown color that flatters your skin tone and one that depicts your own personal sense of style, regardless of "what you think the judges are looking for." The trend is simple elegance, and **the judges will be judging you, not the gown.** Take advantage of our knowledgeable resource team for any wardrobe questions that you may have. A teen gown should reflect the contestant's personality with a youthful flare. Choose a gown that shows well on stage and a style and color that suits you best. Shoes that have a 2" or higher heel are suggested, but be certain you are able to walk confidently. Accessories in moderation will enhance your overall look, however excessive accessories are not recommended. Hosiery is generally not necessary.

INTERVIEW COMPETITION

What is considered the most fun phase of competition in the Miss USA system is the personality interview. You'll have the opportunity to meet some "movers and shakers" in the world of business and entertainment; while learning more about yourself. In choosing your interview wardrobe, traditional business suits are no longer a necessity and are discouraged...unless, of course, this supports your personal sense of style! To showcase our contestants' exact sense of style and self, we are broadening our definition of interview attire. Here are the updated guidelines:

Miss: Choose an outfit, dress or skirt/slacks/jeans and blouse/sweater in a color and style that best suits your body type and personality. Feel free to select fresh and modern pieces that truly reflect who you are. Do not wear cocktail attire. Select heels, hosiery and accessories that compliment your outfit.

Teen: Teens must wear a nice, fitted pair of jeans and dressy top of their choice. Jeans should be free of holes, but can be embellished with rhinestones, ribbons, belts, etc. to compliment their personality. Acceptable tops include jackets, blouses, halters, sweater sets, and camis. Choose your shoes accordingly. We suggest heeled shoes or boots that compliment your outfit.

Earrings, broaches, bracelets and other accessories are acceptable when not overdone.

"Your goal should be not to become another person, but to become the best of yourself!"

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Do I wear the same swimsuit, evening gown and interview attire on both days?

A: Yes, your pageant wardrobe is the same for both the preliminary judging and the finals competition.

Q: Besides my swimsuit, evening gown and interview attire, what other clothes do I need to bring with me?

A: There will be an opening production number at the beginning of both the Friday night's presentation show and Saturday night's finals competition. You will not be judged during this portion of the pageant. However, it is always a good idea to make a great first impression. You will be given the theme for the pageant and ideas for the opening number in your contestant package. You will also need to bring comfortable clothes and shoes for rehearsals. One day will be designated t-shirt day and official pageant t-shirts will be available for a nominal fee.

Q: Are there restrictions on tattoos or body piercing?

A: No, there are no written restrictions on tattoos or body piercings; however, if any are visible while you are in your swimsuit, evening gown or interview attire, you have the option of removing your body jewelry or covering up tattoos with body make-up.

We hope you have enjoyed these valuable tips and information.

*As always, please visit our website for up to date information, links to our sponsors, and 2010 pageant news. It's so simple, just go to **www.rpmproductions.com** and click on your state. Thanks and remember...we are here to make dreams a reality!*

When in doubt.....Ask!