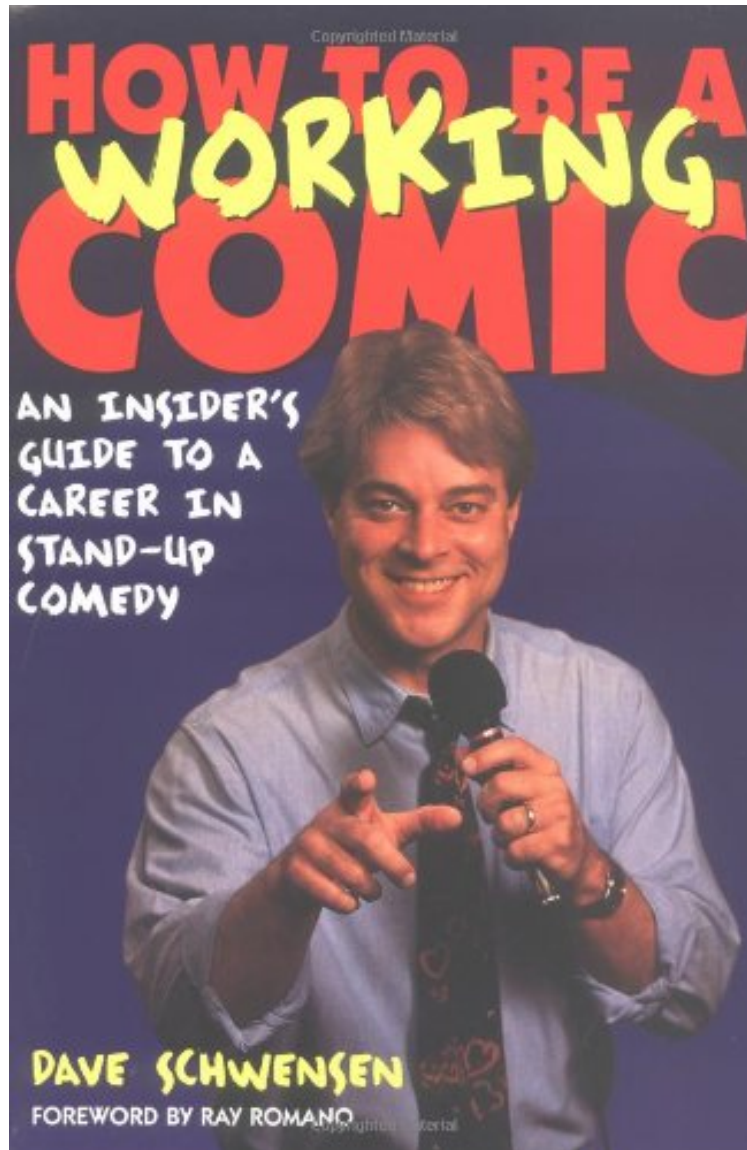


How to Be a Working Comic: An Insider's Guide to a Career in Stand-Up Comedy

Dave Schwensen

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Dave Schwensen : How to Be a Working Comic: An Insider's Guide to a Career in Stand-Up Comedy before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised How to Be a Working Comic: An Insider's Guide to a Career in Stand-Up Comedy:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A must Have for ALL COMEDIANS!By AndrizzleRead his book

and personally took his course. What more can I say: This man is a genius! The book is a MUST HAVE if you are contemplating in becoming a comedian or just curious how the business is done. BTW: I am now a working Comic!!!1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. and this book answered all my questions on how to start making money doing what I love.By Oen AndersonI often asked comics in Q A sessions how much they get paid or how they get booked on the road and they tell me it's none of my business. Yes it is, and this book answered all my questions on how to start making money doing what I love.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. It was a nice read.By John C S LehmannThe information is timeless. Tidbits of information to assist you in not taking such a hard bump on the street of stand up comedy.

Getting ahead in standup comedy means having an original slant on things. Many books and comedy classes offer secrets and formulas intended to make the aspiring comic a big success. In *How to Be a Working Comic*, author Dave Schwensen points out that the performers who are in demand never follow the same path and neither should you if you want to excel in this demanding, competitive profession. Offering more insiders advice than any other manual, this book shows you how to try out material; get onstage experience; market your act to talent bookers, agents, and managers; go on the road; get on television, and much more. Supplementing the authors own expertise are his interviews with more than sixteen proven talents, including Drew Carey, Carrot Top, Jeff Foxworthy, and Tommy Smothers all of whom embody the qualities of originality, career know-how, and laughter. Schwensen assumes you already believe youre funny enough to tackle a comedy career. Making sure you develop a comic vision thats completely your own is the essential lesson in starting out in the exciting but crowded field of standup comedy.

From *Library Journal* Schwensen, former talent coordinator for AE's *An Evening at the Improv*, reminds us that comedy is a business and provides specific and useful advice on basic issues such as headshots, resumes, and agents. While Schwensen sensibly advises novices to be original and to work steadily at stage time, Jay Sankey's *Zen and the Art of Stand-Up Comedy* (LJ 5/1/98) offers much more on the craft of performance. Nearly half of this book is devoted to brief interviews with 12 top comedians (e.g., Drew Carey, Rhonda Shear, and Rene Hicks). While Jeff Dunham observes that "comedy has taken such a nose-dive," Schwensen does not otherwise acknowledge that comedians face a shrinking stand-up industry. For strong performing arts collections. Norman Oder, "Library Journal" Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc. About the Author Dave Schwensen is the owner of Dave Schwensen Entertainment, where he books talent for clubs, colleges, corporate shows, concerts, theaters, and special events. A teacher of comedy workshops, he live in Vermilion, Ohio.