



1. You must go to be on a show.

As much as we would like to be discovered right where we are, it's unlikely that will happen. If you have said, "I have always wanted to do that," or "I wish I could be on a show," there is no time like the present. Tickets to game shows are free. It's as easy as going online and submitting your request. For shows such as "The Price is Right" and "Let's Make A Deal," I think it also helps when you are coming from out of town because the producers like people from faraway places. For some shows such as "Wheel of Fortune," "Millionaire," and "Family Feud," there is a more formal audition process, so you can audition by sending in a tape or going to an open casting call. Even if you are not selected as a contestant, it's fun to participate in the process and be in the audience. Visit show websites for detailed information.

2. Preparation is more than a notion.

If you want to be on a game show, then you just cannot show up and hope for the best. Putting in the work will yield the best results. If nothing else, you must watch the show. You should know how the game works and any rules that apply. Some shows have casting calls and multiple rounds of tryouts and others such as "The Price is Right" select contestants based on a brief interview before the show starts. Many of the games can be played online or there are board games available, so brushing up on those skills are key to getting selected. Either way, impressing the show's producers with your knowledge and ability to be a great contestant is always a plus. Bottom line? Watch, prepare, and practice.

3. Be enthusiastic, show personality, and smile.

Producers are all about ratings, so they love happy, friendly, high-energy, and excited people. If you do something unique, make sure you tell them or write it down on your contestant questionnaire if that is part of the process. You want to show producers why their show will benefit from casting you. Keep in mind this is not a one-contestant-fits-all-shows process. Your level of energy will be different for “The Price is Right” than for “Jeopardy!”, so know the show and the expectations of contestants that are selected.

4. If you land an audition, you really need to stand out.

You will have the chance to introduce yourself and tell producers what makes you unique and why you would be a great contestant. Prepare what you want to say in advance and deliver it in a clear, strong voice. Be excited to be there. Try to say something that will help the casting directors remember you. Typically, you only have about one minute or less to introduce yourself and make an impression, so make it count.

5. Dress the part.

In the business world, it is said to dress for the job you want. That applies in the game show world, too. Be familiar with how contestants dress for the game show you are vying for and follow suit. On “The Price is Right,” many of the contestants wear interesting shirts, so I had one made in the colors of the show’s logo highlighting my volunteer work. For “Wheel of Fortune,” I wore slacks and a bright, solid-colored shirt — an ensemble I felt would look good on television. So whether you go for an audition or send in a tape, make sure you represent yourself well.