

Help your child break into acting!

FabJob Guide to
**Become a
Child Actor**



**A Guide for Parents on How to Get
Your Child into TV Commercials**

JAMES JONTZ

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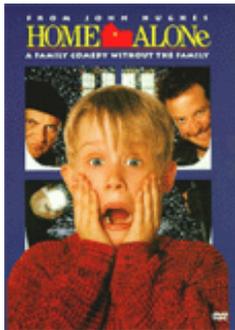
Contents

About the Author	6
1. Introduction	7
2. What You Need to Succeed	9
2.1 Does Your Child Have What It Takes?	9
2.1.1 Your Location	10
2.1.2 Your Child's "Look" and "Type"	10
2.1.3 Your Child's Personality and Behaviors	11
2.1.4 Does Your Child Want to be in Commercials?	14
2.2 Do You Have What It Takes?	17
2.3 Preparing Your Child	19
2.3.1 Acting Classes	19
2.3.2 Photographs	24
3. Representation for Your Child	27
3.1 How the Hiring Process Works	27
3.2 How to Get an Agent	29
3.2.1 Locating Agents	29
3.2.2 Working with Agents	31
3.3 Working with a Manager	33
3.4 Checking Out an Agent or Manager	35
3.4.1 Questions to Ask	35
3.4.2 Avoiding Scams	36
3.5 The Agent Interview	41
3.5.1 Training Your Child for the Interview	41
3.5.2 Creating a Good First Impression	42
3.5.3 After the Interview	43
3.5.4 What Do Agents and Managers Look For?	44
4. Treating Your Child's Career as a Business	47
4.1 Earnings	47
4.2 Developing an Action Plan	51

4.3 Tools of the Trade	52
4.3.1 Professional Photos	52
4.3.2 Resume	57
4.3.3 Postcards	60
4.3.4 Demo DVDs	60
4.3.5 Tools to Help You Stay Organized	61
4.3.6 Trade Papers	62
4.3.7 Talent Directories	62
4.4 The Unions	63
4.4.1 Should Your Child Join a Union?	64
4.4.2 Costs and Benefits of Joining	65
4.4.3 Responsibilities of Union Members	66
4.5 The Audition	67
4.5.1 A Practice Audition	67
4.5.2 Developing a Winning Attitude	76
4.5.3 Audition Checklist	77
4.5.4 After the Audition	80
5. Shooting The Commercial	81
5.1 What to Expect When Your Child Wins the Audition	81
5.2 The Day of the Shoot	82
5.2.1 What to Bring With You	82
5.2.2 What to Do When You Arrive	83
5.2.3 What Happens During the Shoot	84
5.2.4 The End of the Shoot	86
5.3 Your Child's Welfare on the Set	87
5.3.1 Schooling	87
5.3.2 Protection	89
6. The Long Run	92
6.1 Career Ups and Downs	92
6.2 How to Help Your Child Succeed	93
6.3 Final Words	95

1. Introduction

Children have been charming us forever, but that charm has never worked more magic than on the silver screen. Who can forget **Shirley Temple's** performance in *The Little Colonel* or her determined *Heidi*. More recently, **Macauley Culkin** in *Home Alone* proved that a kid could be the master of his universe.



Movies like these have spawned generations of wannabe child actors. In fact, the innocent charm of a child actually transcends the film medium, because not only do children become engaging characters, they are also recognized as a powerful element in marketing consumer products. In the hands of Madison Avenue advertisers, children move **billions** of dollars of product annually, not just to other children but to adults as well.

Children are often used in the marketing of anything from **toys** and **games** to **fast food** and **vacation destinations**. In fact, it's well known in the advertising community that the three most powerful attractors on the cover of a book or magazine are a puppy, an attractive woman, or — you guessed it — a child.

Children are seen in more advertising now than at any time in the past. With **500+ cable channels** and hundreds of periodicals there are golden opportunities for children who would like to be an actor in a commercial or a model in a print ad.

Just the experience of being in a commercial is priceless. To see what goes into the making of a commercial — the number of people involved, the amount of equipment necessary, and the thrill of the call, “lights, camera, action” — can be awe inspiring. Plus, the possibility of earning some serious **money** awaits those who decide to pursue it.

“How much?” you might ask. We'll talk more about that later in this guide, but for now, suffice it to say that much to the delight of parents, many a kid has paid for his/her entire college education by doing a few national spots.

Inside This Guide

This guide will offer some insights on how to go about **getting your child into a commercial**. If he or she enjoys the experience we'll show you how your kid can pursue a **career** as a **professional child actor**.

You'll be able to determine if your child has what it takes, not just to make it through the first booking, but also to make it as a career. You'll hear **agents, managers, casting directors** and other professionals talk about the "spark" and why it's so important.

The two most important factors of success are a willing (and eager) **child**, and a **parent** who is willing to take time out of his or her own schedule to take the budding actor around to auditions and to the shoots. We'll deal with these issues in depth in our guide. But if you qualify on these counts, this guide can show you the way to a richly rewarding experience for both parent and child.

During the pursuit of a commercial acting career, your child will learn **poise, charm** and **self-confidence**. The life lessons your child will experience will serve him well throughout life, no matter what career ends up being the chosen one.

