

DRESS CODE FOR THE STAGE

"What should I wear on stage for gathered worship?"

As leaders in worship, you represent Crawford Avenue Baptist Church. Because you are elevated, the congregation not only sees your face, they see your entire body. Your particular visibility communicates a lot about the church and the community. Don't worry, we won't ask you to wear khakis and matching polos (trust me, I've been there). We will, however, ask you to take your responsibility with sincerity. ***This means you will have to put extra effort into considering your clothes by using parameters you may not normally apply.***

Our goal is to dress in a way that:

- Honors the men and women whom you're leading in worship.
- Communicates to guests and to the church, "We've been expecting you!"
- Doesn't distract others from the discipline of worship.
- Communicates credibility and maturity (especially because many of us are younger).

WHAT NOT TO WEAR

EVERYONE

- No hats on stage (wraps are fine). This is considered an issue of disrespect with some, and we want to err on the side of honor.
- Short sleeves are cool. Shorts are not.
- No mid-riff shirts or blouses. No shirts that expose the torso when your arms are lifted.
- Clothes must cover all undergarments and be thick enough to conceal said undergarments. Undergarments should cover all of your business (that's right, your business).
- No plunging necklines (yes, guys and girls). No cleavage. No man cavern.
- Tight or form-fitting clothing is not appropriate. Many stylish jeans fall into this category.

MEN

- No tank tops or shirts with cut off sleeves.
- No t-shirts with printed images or large logos.
- No jeggings, super-extra-skinny skinny jeans, or jeans created for women.

WOMEN

- If you wear sleeveless tops or dresses, use the 3-finger rule when evaluating your straps. You may wear something that covers your shoulders if the strap is too narrow or the top is strapless.
- Jeggings or leggings may be worn, but they must be covered by a skirt (see below).
- Skirts/dresses should be at the knee (covers the knee when standing) or longer. This includes skirts worn over leggings. Sitting on a stool with a shorter dress may reveal aforementioned undergarments; if the hem doesn't hit your shins when you sit, don't sit!

NOTES

- **The dress code is important.** If you arrive on Sunday in violation of dress code and the infraction cannot be remedied, you will be asked to step down that week. Elders, elders' wives, and admin staff may all address you on the dress code. If you're uncomfortable reading this, you'll be even more uncomfortable when we talk to you about it.
- **If you're not sure about your outfit, don't risk it!** Change into something in which you can lead confidently. Don't wear anything with intention of drawing attention to yourself; it's not about us!