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**What are the most important things you need to work on NOW, to prepare for your year as Worshipful Master of Your Lodge?**

- (a) Learn the **ritual** to open and close the lodge
- (b) Arrange your **programs** for the year you are Worshipful Master
- (c) Learn how to handle petitions for degrees, affiliation, and other **membership** issues
- (d) Take care of **finances** and preparing a budget
- (e) Practice being a good **speaker**
- (f) Learn **other** things, such as handling funerals, food for meetings, Grand Lodge rules

**Why is learning the ritual important TO YOU?**

- (a) So you don't have to worry about it while you're running your meetings
- (b) To prove to your members that you know what you're doing
- (c) Because you don't want PMs on the sidelines "helping" you with prompting
- (d) Because some Brethren feel it helps teach everyone important lessons

**What's the best way to learn the ritual to open and close your lodge?**

- (a) Read what's in the Kentucky Monitor/Th Ky Rtl book over and over
- (b) Listen carefully at lodge meetings
- (c) Recite the ritual in the car on your way to and from lodge meetings
- (d) Ask someone who knows the ritual very well to help you

**What should you remember about lodge programs?**

- (a) Make a calendar of all the meetings coming up in your year as Worshipful Master
- (b) Fill in all the "required" programs, such as elections, installation, etc.
- (c) List all the topics for programs that YOU think might be interesting
- (d) Put your program on FIRST, before the lodge business, to show what's most important
- (e) Try to put names together with program topics and ideas
- (f) Call, write, and talk with people who you want to help you with your programs
- (g) Keep notes, so you know who's interested and what follow-up is needed
- (h) When you have a program planned, send letters to all involved, with all the details
- (i) Call all involved a couple of weeks before programs, remind them, offer assistance
- (j) Call again a couple of days before, to remind again, and again offer assistance
- (k) Try to come up with interesting programs and ways of presenting them

**What do you need to know about lodge finances?**

- (a) It will not take much time to put together a simple budget
- (b) Find out about how much can be expected in dues
- (c) Find out about how much might be expected from investments and other income
- (d) Check what the expenses have been in recent years; which do you plan to continue
- (e) Think about other programs you might want, and what they might cost
- (f) Write down your proposed budget, and ask others for comments and suggestions



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**All in all, what do you need to learn and practice so the members of your Lodge will say, "He's one of the best Masters our Lodge has ever had."**

- (a) Become proficient at the opening and closing ritual, so you can say it in your sleep
- (b) Put most of your effort into organizing programs that everyone will find interesting
- (c) Learn how to handle petitions and other membership issues efficiently
- (d) Determine where the money will come from, and where it will go
- (e) Check on what has to be done to make Masonic funerals respectful and organized
- (f) Decide what you'll do about food at meetings during your year, plan, and get help
- (g) Learn the Constitution and By-Laws