

The Kev-Burger

By Peter Bloedel

Production Notes

The Kev Burger can be produced by itself, or as a compilation with other short plays. The scenery is meant to be simple and easily set up and cleared either before or after the play.

The swinging door

The door to the back room, aside from furniture like tables and chairs, is the only notable scenic component in this play. The play can certainly be done without any door at all. For example, instead of a door, the “back room” could simply be played offstage to one side, out of view of the audience. However, a restaurant-style swinging kitchen door would certainly be the right aesthetic, and would add to the humor of the play.

The most common way to make this happen is by utilizing a rigid door flat (essentially a wall unit with a door built into it) that can be quickly brought onstage for the play, and brought offstage when the play is over.

A second option, for theaters that have a main curtain, is to partially close the curtain, leaving a gap the desired width for the door, and filling the gap with a free-standing door frame.

Those producing *The Kev Burger* should feel free to innovate in order to create a scenic environment that will best suit the needs of the production.

The body bag

The body bag in *The Kev Burger* needs to be a “rigged” prop. Essentially this is a fake body bag with a “break-away” top. The bag should be made of breathable material considering the comfort of the actor playing the corpse. The top of the body bag can be connected to the bottom using Velcro in key areas. The construction of this prop needn’t be cumbersome, but to sell the effect, the following instructions should be noted:

- When the Gangster and the Goons enter with the body bag (with the corpse actor inside), they need to be supporting the body from beneath. In this way they can carefully and safely place the body bag (and actor) onto the floor or table.
- When Jeanie and Kevin go to remove the body bag, they simply grab the top “break-away” material and briskly lift up on it. The top will be effectively separated from the bottom since the corpse actor’s body weight is keeping the bottom half of the bag in place on the floor or table. The ripping sound of the Velcro will also help this comic moment by cuing to the audience that the bag has indeed ripped.
- Most people don’t really know what a body bag looks like. It is actually the actor inside the body bag that is going to sell the idea to the audience. For this prop, simple is just as good as complex.