

Welcome to Rose Bruford College!

We're thrilled to welcome you to the **BA (Hons) Design for Performance** programme. As you begin this exciting creative journey, it's important to arrive with the right tools, materials and mindset to support your training.

This guide outlines the essential and recommended equipment you'll need. Please make purchases according to your budget and personal preference, and don't hesitate to contact us with any questions.

Essential Equipment List

Below is a list of items you'll need from the start of your course. Many of these can be found in art stores, hardware shops, or online. Aim to have these with you for your first few weeks.

Model Making Tools

Quantity	Item	Notes
1	Swann Morton scalpel with replaceable 10a blades	Essential for precision cutting
1	1m steel ruler	For large-scale measurements
1	30cm steel ruler	Handy for desk work
1	Scale ruler (1:25)	For accurate model scale drawings
1	Set square or small T-square	For right angles and clean lines
1	Set of compasses	For drawing circles
1	Protractor	For measuring and drawing angles
1	Scissors (for paper/card)	Keep separate from fabric scissors

Consumables

Quantity	Item	Notes
1	Masking tape (1" wide)	Multipurpose use
1	Double-sided tape (½" or 1" wide)	For clean adhesion
1	UHU glue stick	General sticking
1	Large tube of UHU contact adhesive	For stronger bonds
1	Super glue	For detailed model making
1	Blue Tac	Temporary fixing
1	Thick black felt pen or Sharpie	Marking and labelling
1	Fine sandpaper	For smoothing materials
1	Ready-mixed fine Polyfilla	For surface finishing
1	Packet of modelling clay (e.g. Fimo or Milliput)	For prototyping

Art Supplies

Quantity	Item	Notes
4 per year	A4 or A5 plain sketchbook	Used daily for research and development
1 set	Drawing pencils (range H, HB, B)	For detailed sketching
1	Eraser	Standard or kneadable
1 set	Coloured crayons or water-soluble pencils	Choose based on your preference
1 set	Paintbrushes (varied sizes)	From expressive to detailed work
1 set	Acrylic or gouache paints	Include black, white, and basic colour range

Costume Making Essentials

Quantity	Item	Notes
1	Dressmaking scissors	For fabric only
1	Small scissors	For fine detail
1	Dressmaker's tape measure	Essential for body measurements
1 box	Steel pins	For fabric pinning
1 pack	Sewing needles (general purpose)	Hand sewing tasks

PPE (Personal Protective Equipment)

Quantity	Item	Notes
1 pair	Steel toe-capped boots	Required for workshop safety

Recommended Equipment

These are not essential but are strongly advised. You may choose to acquire them as your projects become more complex.

Model Making

Item	Notes
Stanley knife with retractable blade	Useful for tougher materials
Retractable metal tape measure (3–5m)	For scenic design measurements
Click fine-lead pencil	For technical drawing
Wire cutters	For working with metal and armatures
Pliers (flat and sharp nose)	For shaping and holding
Cutting mat (A2 minimum)	Protects surfaces and blades
Soldering iron, flux & soldering wire	For advanced model making

Lighting & Electrical

Item	Notes
Lee or Rosco filter swatch book	Industry standard gel reference
Head torch	For backstage and low-light work
Set of insulated screwdrivers	For electrical tasks
Wire strippers and side cutters	Basic electrical work
8" adjustable spanner	For rigging or set tasks
Lighting stencils	Helpful in design drafting
Hard hat	May be required on-site
Continuity test meter	For testing circuits and power

Digital Equipment

Item	Notes
Camera (smartphone is fine)	For documenting your work
Torch (phone torch is fine)	Useful on-site
USB flash drive	For quick file transfers
Mini jack to phone lead	For sound output/input
External hard drive (1TB minimum)	For storing large files and backups

Other Recommended Items

Item	Notes
Lockable toolbox	To store your equipment securely
Black trousers and long sleeve top	Suitable for backstage or performance roles

Technology & Software

Laptop (Optional but Recommended)

A personal laptop is not mandatory but will be a valuable tool throughout your studies.

- Choose Mac or PC depending on your preference.
- Ensure you have a compatible **HDMI or DisplayPort converter** for presentations.
- Student discounts are available via [UNiDAYS](#).

Recommended Accessories

- Smartphone with high-quality camera
 - Apps for 3D scanning, face tracking, note-taking, or productivity
 - A graphics tablet (e.g. Wacom One, XP Pen Deco Pro, or iPad Pro) – optional but useful
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Software You Will Use

These programmes are provided on College computers, but you may wish to explore them independently:

Content Creation

- Adobe Creative Cloud (Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Premiere Pro)
- Blender
- Procreate

Game Engines

- Unreal Engine

CAD & Visualisation

- AutoCAD
- Vectorworks
- SketchUp
- Wysiwyg

Word Processing

- Microsoft Office (or Apple Pages)
All students have access to Microsoft 365 via their College login.
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Academic Support & Further Guidance

All written assignments must be word-processed. If you have (or believe you may have) dyslexia or another learning need, support is available. Please contact **Ros Platton**, our Disability Adviser, for more information and guidance on equipment grants or additional learning support.

Final Notes

- **Clearly label** all equipment with your name.
 - We recommend **insuring valuable items** (many student-friendly options are available).
 - It is **your responsibility** to maintain and replace lost or damaged items.
 - Locker facilities are limited—please plan accordingly.
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We look forward to seeing you!

Bring your creativity, imagination, and curiosity—this is where your design journey begins. If you have any questions before you arrive, feel free to reach out.

Warm regards,

The Design for Performance Team

Rose Bruford College