



Digital Film school

Make your video look interesting

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It's important you get the shots you need to tell your particular story but also make sure that those shots are as interesting as possible. A good way to achieve this is to use a variety of different camera angles and movement within your film.

First of all, move around your subject to find something that excites or interests you. A conventional composition is great but how about a low angle shot or a high angle shot or even a Dutch tilt to help tell your story.

Camera movement livens things up. There are basic pans and tilts; these ones were done on a tripod. You could also try a handheld tracking shot or a handheld crane shot. Both of these terms refer to the equipment that originally enabled larger film cameras to obtain these shots but nowadays a small camcorder can get good results after a few practice runs.

Lighting makes a huge difference to how a viewer will respond to your images. Bright daylight, strong moody shadows, soft late afternoon light or harsh fluorescents all have different emotional effects on us and it's very wise to be aware of these associations for your film.

Ensure that the visual elements in your shots, your sequences support the key messages of your film and the more you experiment the more your confidence will grow and the wider the range of film making techniques you'll have at your disposal.