

CAMERA SHOTS: Framing

Eco-film Carousel

1. HIGH ANGLE



In order to shoot a high angle, the camera must be placed above the actors, or objects, looking down. This is also called Bird's Eye view. This angle is used to make the actor or objects appear insignificant or weak.

2. EXTREME CLOSE-UP



An Extreme Close-Up shot (also known as ECU or XCU) is when the subject exceeds the boundaries of the frame. It is used to create tension when the subject is a person or show lots of detail on an object.

3. CLOSE-UP



A Close-Up shot (also known as CU or a tight shot) frames a person's face, cuts off at mid-neck and generally shows the entire head. It is used to show emotions and highlight details on the subject.

4. MEDIUM CLOSE-UP



A Medium Close-Up (also known as MCU) frames the head and upper torso, often cutting off at mid-chest. It is close enough to read facial expressions but gives a polite distance. It also reveals a bit of the surroundings.

5. DUTCH ANGLE



In order to film a Dutch Angle, the camera has to be tilted to the right or the left. A Dutch angle is used to signify suspense or to foreshadow something about to happen.

6. MEDIUM SHOT



A Medium Shot (MS) is a happy medium between a close-up (CU) and long shot (LS). It is generally the most common type of shot used. Zooming in from a MS to a medium close-up (MCU) generally creates emphasis.

7. LONG SHOT



A Long Shot (LS) frames the subject from the feet up or slightly further away (to show motion). It captures not only the subject(s) but also the environment. It is more useful for filming action than emotion.

8. WIDE SHOT



In a Wide shot (WS) the camera is far away from the action to give an overview of the environment. It is generally used to show the audience where the story is taking place (establishing shot).

9. LOW ANGLE



To film this shot, the camera is placed lower than the person or object to be filmed. A low angle is being used when you want to depict the power or importance of an individual object.

10. RULE OF THIRDS



The Rule of Thirds divides the picture plane into nine equal parts by placing two equally spaced horizontal lines (imaginary) and two equally spaced vertical lines (imaginary) over the image. Important elements of the composition are to be placed along these lines, especially the points where the lines cross is a compositional guideline that helps create aesthetically pleasing images.

11. LEADING LINES



When leading lines are present in a composition, it leads our eyes along its path, drawing our attention. We can use this to our advantage by making the naturally occurring lines in our environment a part of our compositions.

For example: In the picture above, our eyes are drawn to the door at the end of the hallway. This happens because lines on the floor tiles and the lockers draw our eyes and we follow it to the very end. Using leading lines in our photographs and videos can make them dynamic and aesthetically pleasing.

SOURCES

- <http://www.readwritethink.org/>
- Shutter-stock