

Shot techniques

Different kinds of shots impact a video in different ways. Some common shots used include:

- Medium shot: A shot wide enough to see the subject in the surrounding space, providing some context.
- Wide shot: Allows the audience to see a large area. Called an establishing shot when used to establish location.
- Close-up: Shows details such as facial expression.
- Extreme close-up: So close it may take the audience a moment to figure it out; provides striking visual detail.
- Long shot: Shows the entire object or human figure and is usually intended to place it in some relation to its surroundings.
- Over the shoulder: A shot taken from the perspective of looking over a person's shoulder. This shot is common for an interview where two characters are having a discussion.
- Point of view shot: Shows what the character is looking at.
- Trucking shot: Moves with the action.
- Cutaways: Help with jump cuts to distract the audience from the edit and smooth the transition between edited sequences, such as crowd reaction or the scoreboard at a sporting event.

Shot techniques worksheet

Using the above definitions, identify as many kinds of shots used in a video as you can:

Shot type:

Shot description:

How the shot might impact a video:

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Worksheet

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