

## **GETTING THE BEST (from your) KIT**

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This presentation will go on my website

[www.urbanfox.tv/seminar](http://www.urbanfox.tv/seminar)

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## **ALWAYS KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE**

- How many of you shoot your own stuff or expect to in the future?
- How many act as sound recordist?
- How many edit?
- How many want to buy some kit?
- How many of you own a Mac?

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## **Sony HVR-Z1**



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## **JVC GY-HD110/111 (100/101)**



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## **Canon XLH1**



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## Panasonic HVX200



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## Comparing all four...

- Adam Wilt's article on [www.dv.com](http://www.dv.com)



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## Comparing all four...

"All the 1/3" cameras clustered together more tightly than we expected. Each camera excelled at some aspect of image rendering, but all of them were more alike than different; none stood out as being clearly superior all around.

We came away convinced ... that the choice of camera should be made more on features and ergonomics than on image quality."

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## Buy the Sony Z1 if....

- You are a big fan of the PD150/170
- You intend to make documentaries
  - shoot interlaced (50i)
- You want to work for the BBC or London based production companies
- You want a good value - all round camera

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## Buy the JVC HD110/111 if

- You're shooting a low budget movie
- ...and want progressive (25p) film look
- Interchangeable lenses are important to you (and you can afford them)
- You intend to do a lot of hand held /on the shoulder camera operating

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## Buy the Canon XLH1 if...

- You own a studio (it has genlock) - but also need a location camera
- You have the kit to handle SDI output
- You love interchangeable lenses
- You're confident/geeky enough to change the colour matrix, gamma, black stretch
- You've always loved Canon's XL range

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## Buy the Panasonic HVX200 if...

- You believe the cost of P2 cards will drop
- Money is no object ;-)
- You intend to go fully tapeless
- You want the faster workflow of DVCPRO HD (compared to slow HDV)
- You shoot fast moving subjects (music and sport) and are worried about mpeg artifacts
- Want to use green screen effects (4:2:2)

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## Honorable mentions...

- Sony A1
- Sony V1
- Canon XH G1

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## HVR-A1

- HDV, DVCAM and DV
- 16 x 9
- Single CMOS chip
- £1,375 (£1,615)



<http://tinyurl.com/bwthe>

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## Sony HVR-V1

- HDV, DVCAM, DV
- PD150 size and weight
- 3 CMOS
- True progressive 25p
- Dedicated 60Gb hard drive (HVR-DR60)



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## Canon XH G1

- HDV 1080i
- 3 CCD
- Genlock
- Timecode in/out
- 25F (not 25P)



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## BUY OR HIRE?

Sony Z1 cost £3,000 + vat

Sony Z1 @ 1 weeks hire = £300

11 weeks hire = 1 new Z1

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## WHY NOT...

### BUY THEN SELL?

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## 0% CREDIT CARD...

- [www.fool.co.uk](http://www.fool.co.uk)
- [www.moneysavingexpert.com](http://www.moneysavingexpert.com)

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## Retailer Recommendations

- Will sell for a good price
- Not necessarily the cheapest
- Give good after sales service
- Can do repairs and routine maintenance on-site
- Recommended by a friend

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## Where to buy a camera...

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| ■ Mitcorp  | <a href="http://www.mitcorp.co.uk">www.mitcorp.co.uk</a>   |
| ■ PEC  | <a href="http://www.pec.co.uk">www.pec.co.uk</a>           |
| ■ Visual Impact  | <a href="http://www.visuals.co.uk">www.visuals.co.uk</a>   |
| ■ Top Tekes  | <a href="http://www.top-teks.co.uk">www.top-teks.co.uk</a> |
| ■ Prokit   | <a href="http://www.prokit.co.uk">www.prokit.co.uk</a>     |
| ■ More kit advice at <a href="http://tinyurl.com/c6rk6">http://tinyurl.com/c6rk6</a> |  |

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## RIP OFF BRITAIN

- Buying in the USA can be cheaper
- B&H in New York
- ....but is it more convenient?
- ...and don't forget to add import duty

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## BUYING SECOND HAND?

- Drum run hours.....bigger = cheaper
- 200 x10Hr = 2,000 hours = retirement age
- Check bodywork
- Check side handle for wear and tear
- Ask what it has been used for
- Put in a tape and record something

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## Where to buy

- [www.visuals.co.uk](http://www.visuals.co.uk)
- [www.mitcorp.co.uk](http://www.mitcorp.co.uk)
- [www.shootingpeople.org](http://www.shootingpeople.org)
- [www.eBay.co.uk](http://www.eBay.co.uk)
- [www.mcdauctions.co.uk](http://www.mcdauctions.co.uk)

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## What tape should you buy



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## Which Sony tape should you buy?

- Premium.....£1.65
- DVCAM.....£9.00
- HDV Master...£10.00



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## Where to buy tape

- [www.aprmedia.com](http://www.aprmedia.com)
- [www.first4media.com](http://www.first4media.com)
- [www.protape.co.uk](http://www.protape.co.uk)
- [www.feltech.co.uk](http://www.feltech.co.uk)
- [www.cva.co.uk](http://www.cva.co.uk)

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## Need an edit deck?

- HVR-M10E
- £2,000 ex VAT
- £2,350 inc VAT



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## How about an edit deck with a camera attached?

- HVR-A1
- £1,375 ex VAT
- £1,615 inc VAT
- = £700 saving



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## WAFFLE

- W WHITE BALANCE
- A AUDIO
- F FOCUS
- F FRAMING
- L LEGS (TRIPODS)
- E EXPOSURE

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## AUTO WHITE BALANCE

- is definitely getting better and better
- is great for GVs

I wouldn't use it for...

- Interviews
- Long sequences
- If you are going to grade your story

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## GRADERS HATE AUTO WHITE BALANCE

And you want to be friends with your  
grader...because

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## A good grader/colourist will...

- Sort out your exposure, lighting and colour problems
- Ease the transition from one format to another eg DigiBeta with DV
- Make your project look like sex on a stick
- Help you talk to your viewer on a psychological level

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## GRADING



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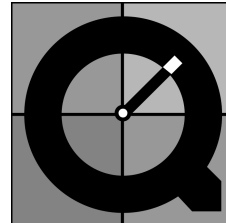
## WAFFLE

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**SOUND IS MORE IMPORTANT  
THAN THE PICTURES**

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**SOUND IS MORE IMPORTANT  
THAN THE PICTURES**

trouble is...we forget that  
important rule until we  
are in the edit

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## **FIRST RULE OF MICROPHONES**

The microphone needs to be as near to  
the sound source as possible....

...but, without looking silly

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## **SECOND RULE...**

**USE THE RIGHT MIC  
FOR THE RIGHT JOB**

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## Basic Sound Kit

- Gun mic (hypercardioid)  
great for noisy places
- Sennheiser 416
  - [www.mcdauctions.co.uk](http://www.mcdauctions.co.uk)
- Sennheiser ME66 (K6)



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## Basic Sound Kit

- Personal mic (Tie, clip, lavalier)
  - (omni directional)
- Sony ECM77 or ECM88
- The Tram TR-50
- Sanken COS-11
- <http://tinyurl.com/7zzpk>



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## Basic Sound Kit

- Radio mic
- Sennheiser Evolution  
(EW112-p G2)



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## Basic Sound Kit

- Sony UWP-C1 series
- Diversity System



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## DON'T FORGET THE HEADPHONES!

- Closed Headphones
  - Sennheiser HD25
- Rule of thirds



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## GOOD BOOK

Audio For Single Camera Operation

TONY GRANT

(focal press)

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## FOCUS

- Auto focus = bad
- Manual focus = good
- Push Auto = magic button

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## DEPTH OF FIELD



- F11

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## DEPTH OF FIELD



- F2.4

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## DEPTH OF FIELD



- F2.4
- <http://tinyurl.com/5ml3y>

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## DON'T AIM FRAME

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## RULE OF THIRDS



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## DINGLEBERRY



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## WAFFLE

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## TRIPOD

"Reputations are *earned* by being able to hand hold a camera well - reputations are *kept* by putting it back on the tripod."

David Drinkwater  
Senior cameraman TV2 NZ

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## Choosing a Tripod

- Don't buy a photographic tripod
- Spend as much as possible (£250 - £600)
- Weight (carbon fibre is expensive)
- Robust - outlive the camera
- Min and Max height

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## Alternative Support

- Bean bags...
  - The Pod - [www.7dayshop.com](http://www.7dayshop.com)
  - [www.wildlifewatchingsupplies.co.uk](http://www.wildlifewatchingsupplies.co.uk)
- Monopod



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## WAFFLE

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## EXPOSURE

- S Shutter
- I Iris
- N ND Filter
- G Gain

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## THE TROUBLE WITH VIDEO...



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## THE TROUBLE WITH AUTO EXPOSURE



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**IT IS BETTER TO  
UNDER EXPOSE -**

**RATHER THAN  
OVER EXPOSE**

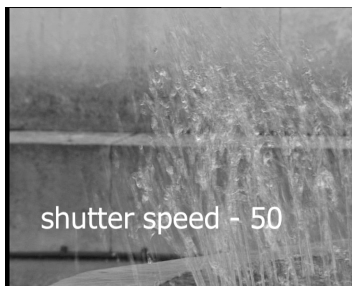
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**How many of you set the shutter  
manually to 50 - every time you  
shoot?**

**The shutter (left in automatic) can be  
bad news for the look and feel of your  
pictures?**

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## **THE SHUTTER**



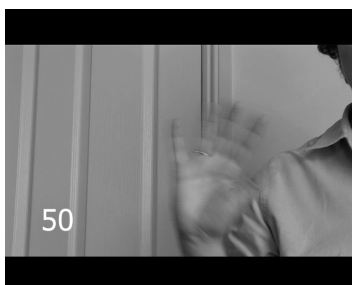
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## **SHUTTER**

- For 99% of your shoot - leave the shutter (IN MANUAL) at 50
- Only use a high speed shutter for fast moving objects you want to see clearly.
- Use slow shutter for fun effects.

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**Weird look!**



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**Can I just add...**

**I love my Mac**

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- Wait for the Leopard
- or
- Buy a refurbished Mac - every Wed am  
<http://tinyurl.com/y6ckqv>

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## RAM

[www.crucial.com](http://www.crucial.com)

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## GarageBand

- IPR
- Performance rights



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While we're on the subject of copyright...

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## Future Earnings

"The ideal contract (from a copyright owners perspective) is one which *licenses* your work and involves the purchaser having to pay royalties for *each and every* future use of your work."

Kate Fox - Thompsons Solicitors

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## Stock footage

- Hold on to your Intellectual property rights
- License don't sell
- Value will yo-yo
- Your pension fund
- ...or pocket money ([www.pond5.com](http://www.pond5.com))

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## Postcard

### Contact details



UrbanFox Ltd  
DV and HDV camera  
training  
Editing training  
One-to-one camera  
training for freelancers  
Group training for employees  
or colleagues working on a project  
[www.urbanfox.tv](http://www.urbanfox.tv)

**W.A.F.F.L.E**

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**Any questions?**

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**This presentation will be  
posted on...**

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