

How to Get Great Pics with (H)DV Cameras

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Guild of Television Cameramen

www.urbanfox.tv/seminar

Guild of TV Cameramen

- Help & support broadcast cameramen
- Magazine (2) and newsletter (4)
- Free workshops for members
- Cameraman's forum
- Member's discounts (eg OpTex)
- www.gtc.org.uk
- Talk to us on our stand

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All of this presentation is on my website

www.urbanfox.tv/seminar

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ALWAYS KNOW YOUR AUDIENCE

- How many of you regularly shoot your own stuff.
- How many employ camera operator.
- How many act as sound recordist.
- How many edit.
- How many have never seen their rushes edited.

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MAKE FRIENDS...

with an EDITOR

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FIND OUT...

- What makes a good edit
- Learn how shots go together
- Learn how sequences go together
- How a story can be told in different ways thanks to the editors craft skills.

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MAKE FRIENDS...

...with your CAMERAMAN/WOMAN/ DOP

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Talk to them...

- Tell them about the story you want to tell
- Explain who the audience will be
- Discuss how you want it to look?
 - Shooting style
 - Lighting
- Then talk about the kit you can afford

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FIRST RULE OF PRODUCTION

- CHEAP
- FAST
- GOOD

YOU CAN ONLY HAVE 2 OUT OF 3

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Which Camera?

- Highest quality (for your budget)
- 16:9 not 4:3

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Sony HVR-Z1 (HDR-FX1)



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PANASONIC AG-HVX200



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JVC GY-HD100



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BUY OR HIRE?

Why not....

BUY THEN SELL

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FOR SALE

Brand new boxed FX1 for sale. It was bought to film a company video where it clocked up only 3 hours. It comes with an extra NP-F570 Rechargeable Battery and 3 unused Sony HDV tapes that weren't needed

UKP2000 (non negotiable)

POSTED ON SHOOTINGPEOPLE.ORG 25/05/05

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Where to buy a camera...

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| ■ Prokit | www.prokit.co.uk |
| ■ PEC | www.pec.co.uk |
| ■ Mitcorp | www.mitcorp.co.uk |
| ■ OpTex | www.optexint.com |
| ■ Visual Impact | www.visuals.co.uk |
| ■ Top Tekes | www.top-teks.co.uk |

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FOCUS

- Auto focus = bad
- Manual focus = good
- Push Auto = magic button
- Hyperfocal distance = witchcraft

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THE TROUBLE WITH VIDEO...



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IT IS BETTER TO
UNDER EXPOSE -

RATHER THAN
OVER EXPOSE

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THE TROUBLE WITH AUTO EXPOSURE



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EXPOSURE

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

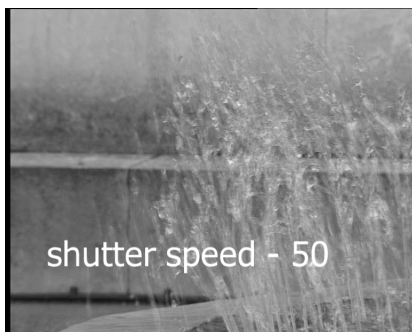
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QUESTION...

HOW MANY OF YOU SET THE
SHUTTER MANUALLY TO 50?

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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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MAKE FRIENDS...

- ...with a colourist (or grader)
- Sort out exposure and white balance
- Ease the transition from one format to another eg DigiBeta with DV.
- Make your project look like sex on a stick

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GRADING



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WHAT DO GRADERS HATE?

AUTO WHITE BALANCE

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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

- Spend as much as possible (£250 - £1,000)
- Weight (carbon fibre is expensive)
- Robust - outlive the camera
- Min and Max height
- Two sections or three section?
- Easy to use leg adjustments

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Alternative Support

- Bean bags...
 - The Pod - www.7dayshop.com
 - www.wildlifewatchingsupplies.co.uk
- Monopod (Manfrotto 682)

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FRAMING

FRAME - NOT AIM

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RULE OF THIRDS



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DINGLEBERRY



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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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**SOUND IS MORE
IMPORTANT THAN THE
PICTURES**

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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 416P
 - 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 (again)



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GOOD BOOK

Audio For Single Camera Operation

TONY GRANT

(focal press)

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WAFFLE

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

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Any questions?

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This presentation is at...

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