

Camera shots

Class lecture 3

Field of view

This is used to describe the type of shots found in video production. How much of the scene the shot shows. How close the object seems to the viewer. These include ELS, LS MS, MCU, CU and ECU or TCU.

Wide Shot

The point of this shot is to show the subject's surroundings. The EWS is often used as an ***establishing shot*** — the first shot of a new scene, designed to show the audience where the action is taking place.



LONG SHOT(LS)

Object seen from far away or framed very loosely. The extreme long shot shows the object from great distance. It includes everything of importance in the scene.



MEDIUM SHOT (MS)

Object seen from a medium distance. It's between a LS and a CU closer. Establishes interplay between two characters, often in interview it's waist up.



Medium Close Up (MCU)

Half way between a MS and a CU. This shot shows the face more clearly, without getting uncomfortably close.



Close-up (CU)

Object or any part of it seen at close range and framed tightly. In interview usually a head shot. Concentrates on one person's face.



Extreme Close-up (ECU). These are all relative depending on action.



Framing

The placement of a person or object within the video frame/shot. Compositional elements related to framing are headroom, nose room and lead room. These terms refer to the amount of room in the frame which is strategically left empty.

Headroom: refers to the distance between the top of the person's head and the top edge of the frame.

Nose room: refers to the distance between the edge of the nose of a person in the shot and the edge of the video frame. (eye room, the eyes create a powerful force within the frame).

Lead room: because the camera must be somehow ahead of the subject in motion and should lead the action rather than follow it. This is called lead room

Lead room



Head room



Nose room



Framing & Composition

The *frame* is the picture you see in the viewfinder (or on a monitor).

Composition refers to the layout of everything within a picture frame.

- what the subject is,
- where it is in the frame,
- which way it's facing/looking,
- the background,
- the foreground,
- lighting, etc.

When you "frame" a shot, you adjust the camera position and zoom lens until your shot has the desired composition.

Do further reading