

A Few Quick Tips On Making A Quality Video

- ◆ Sound is often overlooked, so have the actors speak up. Also, if using the camera microphone zoom all the way out and get the camera as close as possible to the actors. You could even go so far as to tape the zoom button down so it is set as wide as possible, because . . .
- ◆ ...Zooming in and out generally is distracting - try not to use the zoom button unless it enhances the narrative.
- ◆ Video is a close-up medium- fill the frame. Shots that look great on 70mm film in "Lord of the Rings" do not look good on consumer video cameras or smart phones.
- ◆ The more light the better, so try and shoot in bright well lit locations. If it's not too noisy and windy, which would disrupt the sound, try taping outside.
- ◆ If you have a tripod use it! Avoid doing lots of pans and tilts as they tend to be distracting. Like over-zooming, if they are not done smoothly and fluidly (which is hard to do on most low to mid-priced tripods) try not to do them unless it enhances the story telling. Set up your shot and lock the tripod down.
- ◆ Plan ahead! Scout out locations and pick places that are free of background noise and other distractions. Make sure your actors know what they are going to say and how they are going to move in the scene. Plan out your shots so that the video flows from scene to scene. This will also make editing easier and less time consuming.

HAVE FUN!

