

Editing

Now you've shot all your footage, you can start editing your film! Editing is the art of putting all of your images together in a sequence to tell your story as effectively as possible.

The most important concept of editing is continuity. You want to make sure that your characters movements match up between shots, so when you cut to another angle, they're not in a different place or in a different body position. This can be distracting and break the illusion of the film. You have to plan these things before you shoot so you don't get yourself into trouble when you're editing!

Once you've got good continuity the next thing you should learn about is pacing. By pacing, I mean how long or short each shot is. You want to give your audience enough time to understand each shot, without them going for too long. A big part of editing is intuition. How does it feel to you? Too fast or too slow.

Films build and break tension by changing the pacing of the shots. You can make the audience scared for a character by quickly cutting between lots of different shots. This technique shows the audience the emotional state of the character. Or you can let the shot go for a longer period of time. This allows your audience to look around the environment you're presenting them and to take it all in.

It's hard to let go of shots that you think look nice but sometimes you realise when you're editing that they don't help the story progress. So it's best to just get rid of them!

Remember to experiment when you're editing! These aren't hard and fast rules. You can break them and get really interesting and effective results. Quick changes between slow shots and fast shots can contrast two very different emotional states.

Have fun editing your film and try lots of different things! You don't know what you can do with your footage until you try it!

Here are some videos on how to use the free filming and editing software- Adobe Rush:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kpx3FEgcRPE>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tsc81qbpy6g>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iN8KqkW2WRI>

You can get it on your Android phone or iPhone/iPad.

And here are some videos on creative editing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nnXEIICrEgA>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAH0MoAv2CI&t=1s>

Music in Film

Music is a very powerful tool in filmmaking. It can completely change the meaning of your images and how the audience understands your story. It can make images that might seem sad, happy all of a sudden. Or it make make images that were originally scary look silly.

Music is difficult to explain in words so watch these videos:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iSkJFs7myn0&t=218s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r0JAB8jGE18&t=46s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=i8HePfa7WYs>

They will give you a really solid understanding of just how powerful music in film can!