

# Film-making Roles

**Director:** Directors are responsible for creatively translating the film's written script into actual images and sounds on the screen - he or she must visualize and define the style and structure of the film, then act as both a storyteller and team leader to bring this vision to reality.

**Producer:** A Producer sets the situation for the production of a television show or movie. A film Producer initiates, coordinates, supervises and controls all aspects of a production, from fundraising and hiring key personnel, to arranging for distributors.

**Writer:** Writers are involved in the creation and/or development of all types of creative writing. They are responsible for premise, plot, setting description, action description, and dialogue.

**Script Supervisor:** The Script Supervisor is responsible for tracking which parts of the script have been shot (scenes are often not filmed in order); how the scenes have deviated from the script (scenes don't always follow the script exactly); and make continuity notes to ensure that the scenes flow together seamlessly.

**Editor:** Film Editors assemble footage of feature films, television shows, documentaries, and industrials into a seamless end product. They manipulate plot, score, sound, and graphics to refine the overall story into a continuous and enjoyable whole.

**Location Manager / Scout:** The Location Manager is the person who works closely with the film's director, making decisions not only about the right location, but also the logistics of making that location work.

**Casting Director:** The Casting Director is the person responsible for choosing the people who will fill the roles of all of the speaking (actors/actresses) and non-speaking (extras) parts in a production, including dancers, stand-ins, and stunt people.

**Actors**

**Extras**

**Art Director (Head of Art Department):** Art Directors act as project managers for the biggest department on any film - the art department. They facilitate the creative vision for all the locations and sets that eventually give the film its unique visual identity.

**Costume Designer (Wardrobe Department):** They oversee, and are responsible for, the creation, or procurement, inventory, care and maintenance of all costumes associated with productions, ensuring that they are tailored to the actors and within budgetary requirements.

**Make-up Artist**

**Hairdresser**

**Graphic Designer:** They are responsible for any graphics (text or otherwise) that appear on the screen, including the opening and closing credits.

**Prop Master (Prop Department):** They oversee, and are responsible for, the procurement or production, inventory, care and maintenance of all props associated with productions, ensuring that they are available on time, and within budgetary requirements.

**Set Decorator:** Set Decorators provide anything that furnishes a film set. They may have to provide a range of items, from lumps of sugar and teaspoons, to newspapers, furniture and drapes, to cars, carriages, or even cats and dogs.

**Sound Crew:** These are the people responsible for the soundtrack of the movies, including talking, voice-overs (narration), music, and sound effects. (aka Sound or Audio Technicians)

## **Camera & Electrical Department**

**Camera Operator**

**Gaffer:** chief lighting technician

**Grip:** Grips' responsibility is to build and maintain all the equipment that supports cameras. This equipment includes tripods, dollies, tracks, jibs, cranes, and static rigs. (The head grip is known as the Key Grip.)

**Best Boy:** assistant to the Gaffer or Key Grip

**Crafts Service:** The person (or people) available to assist the other crafts which include camera, sound, electricians, grips, props, art director, set decorator, hair and makeup, service the other crafts during the actual shooting of a motion picture, with tasks including providing snacks and cleaning the set.

*Depending on the size of the production, there can be many additional roles involved in the making of a film, including technical specialists, assistants, researchers, drivers, publicists, and legal counsel.*