Film and TV drama: idea to screen

**Follow the arrows to learn three different ways an idea becomes a production and gets to the screen.**

**Hollywood movie**
- **Studio**
  - Studio executive
  - Studio commissions movie
- **Producer**
  - Director
  - Casting director
  - Writer
  - In-house producer
  - Pixie team to plan movie
- **Sales agent**
  - Sells rights to distributors
- **Distributor**
  - Studio distributes to movie

**Independent feature film**
- **Independent production company**
  - Screenwriter develops the script
- **Producer**
  - Director
  - Casting director
  - Director finds actors
  - Sales agent
  - Writer
  - In-house producer
- **Sales company**
  - Distributes to distributors
- **Distributor**
  - Independent distributor deals with cinemas
- **Publicist**
  - Creates a buzz
- **Festival programmer**
  - Shows film to industry

**TV drama**
- **Independent production company**
  - Screenwriter develops the script
  - Director
  - Production accountant
- **Commissioner**
  - Director
  - Commissioned drama
- **Producer**
  - In-house producer
  - Writers team to plan drama
- **Commissioner**
  - Delivers production to channel
- **Broadcasting executive**
  - Channel broadcasts and distributes drama

**Recoupment**
- Money from audiences goes back to funders

**Go to ScreenSkills for more details:**
**Film and TV drama: idea to screen**

**Jobs in TV drama from an idea to the screen.**

TV drama from an idea to the screen. Production in the UK in 2017 and £985m was spent on high-end TV movies are big business. A whopping £2bn was spent on film. Film and TV drama: idea to screen – in the US and across the world. They give deals with cinemas – or chains of cinemas – to show their films. The screenwriter does this before a studio, such as Disney, signs up to the project.

Hollywood movies

Example: The King’s Speech. Lunch Counter, Peterloo

An indie movie is a feature film produced by an independent production company. The film is usually low budget, and the funding comes from a variety of sources, including investors, the government, and crowdfunding.

Independent feature film

Example: The King’s Speech. Cuckoo Clock, Peterloo

A major studio is a large, well-funded production company that has a lot of resources to make big movies. Examples: Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures, Warner Bros. These studios, also known as majors, include Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures, Warner Bros., and Disney. Special effects, marketing, and distribution are key aspects of the TV series.

**The standard release process**

A typical agreement over the rights to screen a film between a distributor and its owners.

**What the employers are looking for**

**Broadcasters**

Companies like the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Channel 5, and other television networks. They acquire and distribute television programs.

**Distributors**

Companies like UIP, UK Film or Film4, and other companies. They acquire and distribute films.

**Film festivals**

The most important film festivals are the Cannes Film Festival, the Berlin International Film Festival, and the Sundance Film Festival.

**Marketing agencies**

Marketing agencies are companies that specialize in marketing film and TV production companies. They help to promote films and TV series.

**Where to study**

Many people in the industry are self-employed. So are the photographers who take pictures of a film set, the makeup artists, and the wardrobe assistants.

**How to get in**

**Filmmaking**

An apprenticeship is a job with training, so it’s a great opportunity to earn while you learn. An apprenticeship within the film and TV industry is a great way to get started. You’ll learn new skills and gain valuable experience.

**Networking**

Networking is important to get to know people in the industry. Go to film and TV industry events, such as the BAFTA Film Awards, and talk to people who work in the industry.

**Filmmaking**

You can also get a degree in film and TV production, or through learning it yourself.

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If you’re interested in a career in sales, marketing and distribution, you will need to find out more about these areas of the film and TV industries.

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