

## How Content Gets Made

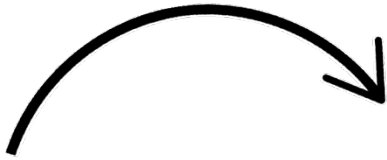
### An Easy Read Guide



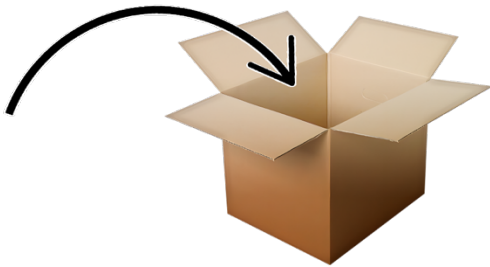
**Tip!**

Words in **pink** can be found in the Easy Read Glossary

## What is Content?



**Content** is something that goes inside something else



like the contents of a box.








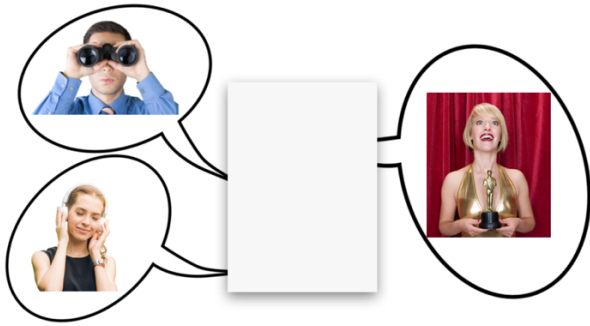
Content in film and television is what you see on the screen.



Content is also on your computer and phone.

## How is Content Made?

	<p>Sometimes a <b>Producer</b> or <b>Writer</b> comes up with an idea they take to a <b>production company</b>.</p>
	<p>Sometimes a production company goes looking for Producers and Writers who have a good idea.</p>
	<p>These early ideas are often called a <b>'pitch'</b>.</p>
	<p>A pitch can be a written document that says what happens in a story. It can also be told in a meeting or filmed and shared.</p>
	<p>A pitch can also tell the different stories in a <b>series</b>.</p> <p>A series is when there are lots of episodes or stories like Eastenders or Coronation Street.</p>



The pitch can also include a document with examples of how the series might look and sound.

Or what **actors** could be in it.

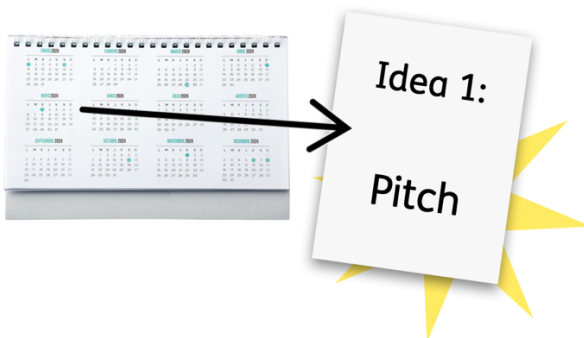
Treatment

This document is called a **treatment**. A treatment is a bigger document than a pitch and has more information.



Producers and writers might also make a short video.

This is called a **sizzle reel**.



It can take weeks, months or years to develop an idea into a document that is ready



to show to people who might pay for it to get made.



## Who Pays for Content to Get Made?



The people who make decisions about the funding of ideas are called **Commissioners**.



To commission something is to ask for it to be made



and pay for it.



Commissioners work at places like BBC, Netflix, Channel 4 or YouTube.



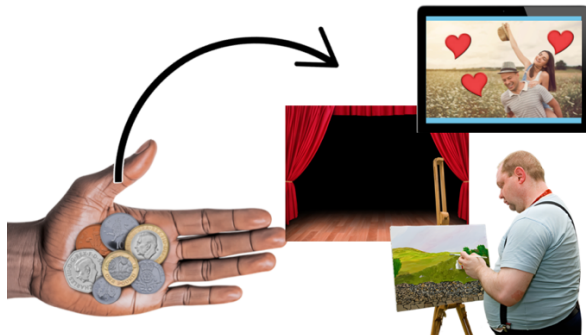
Producers can also apply for money from **government grants** or **private investors** to help get something made.



The production company might apply for funding from the National Lottery.



This is because when people buy a lottery ticket



some of the money goes into a pot to pay for TV, theatre and art projects.








Some people put their own money into making film and TV.



These people are called **investors**.

Invest means to use money to try and make more money.

## The Development Stage

	<p>The investors, commissioners or production company pay for the idea to be developed.</p>
	<p><b>Development</b> in film and TV means turning a pitch into a treatment.</p> <p>Or an idea into a <b>script</b>.</p>
	<p>The characters, stories and the whole made-up world are given more detail until the script feels complete.</p>
	<p>The writer or writers have to work out what each character does over the series.</p>
	<p>For scripts to be detailed many smaller stories are told in one big one.</p>

	<p>For example:</p> <p>A detective is trying to solve a crime</p>
	<p>and also dealing with her relationship problems.</p>
	<p>She also thinks that the police are keeping secrets from her.</p>
	<p>This story has 3 storylines together:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The crime</li> <li>2. The love life</li> <li>3. The police secrets</li> </ol>
	<p>Sometimes story development like this happens in a <b>Writers' Room</b>.</p> <p>This is when a group of writers share ideas to make the storylines.</p>

## Who is Involved?

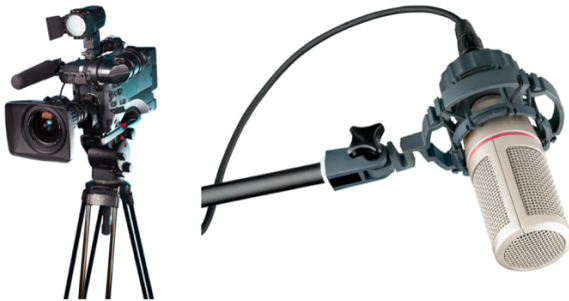
TV Production Company



The production company will start to employ the people it needs to make the TV series or film, known as the **cast** and **crew**.



The crew are the people who work behind the camera.



Examples of crew are the people operating the camera or putting make up on the actors.








Crew are also the people in the **Production Office**.


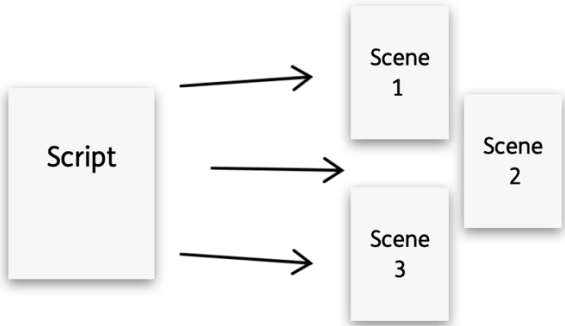

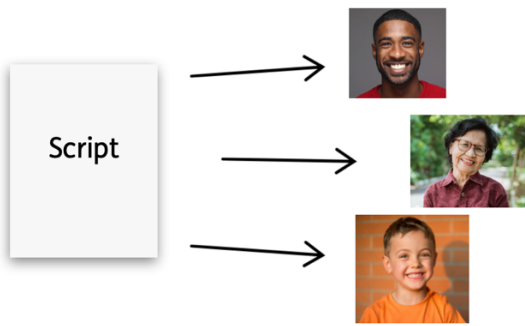
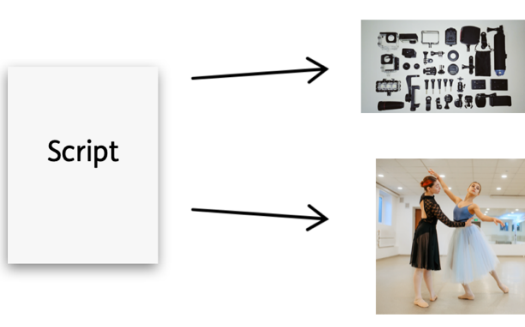


and the people making the food for everyone's breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks.


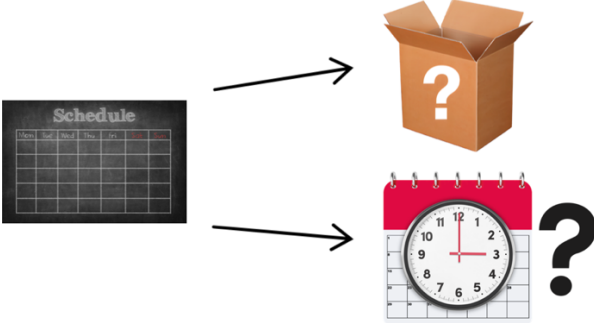


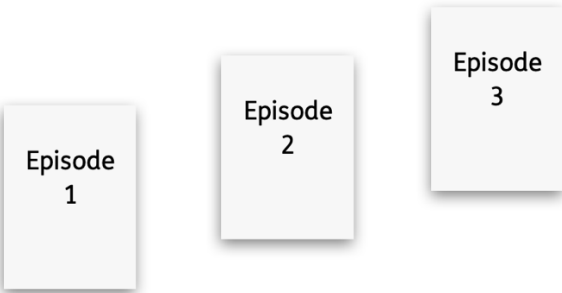


	<p>The cast are the people you see in front of the camera on screen, called <b>Actors, Supporting Artists</b> and <b>Background Artists</b>.</p>
	<p>One of the first people to start will be the <b>Director</b>.</p> <p>This is because the Director decides how the TV series or film will look and sound on screen.</p>
	<p>Then the <b>Heads of Department (HoDs)</b> join the team.</p> <p>Each HoD is in charge of each department.</p>
	<p>Examples of departments include Camera, Locations, Sound, Costume, Hair and Makeup and Art.</p>
	<p>The Writer, Director and Producer work together to decide who to employ as their HODs.</p> <p>They also work with a <b>Casting Director</b> to choose the actors.</p>



	<p>A <b>Line Producer</b> works out how much the series will cost to make.</p> <p>They use the <b>script</b> to work out the total cost of production. This is called the <b>budget</b>.</p>
	<p>A script is made up of <b>scenes</b> which are chunks of action.</p>
	<p>The script says where they need to film.</p> <p>These places are called <b>locations</b>.</p>
	<p>It also tells us which actors need to be in each scene</p>
	<p>and if extra equipment or people with special skills will be needed.</p>

## The Schedule

	<p>The <b>First Assistant Director (1st AD)</b> also uses the script to make a <b>schedule</b> for filming.</p>
	<p>The schedule is like a diary.</p> <p>It helps everyone know what needs to be done and when.</p>
	<p>The schedule needs to make the best use of cast, locations, crew and equipment.</p> <p>This will help make the TV programme or film on time and on budget.</p>
	<p>For example all the scenes filmed in a park will be shot at the same time</p>
	<p>even if the scenes are for different episodes or at different times in the film.</p>



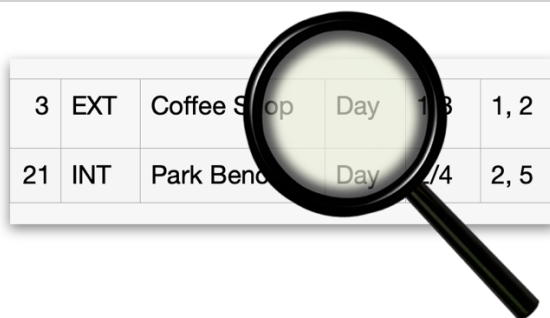
The schedule for filming is called the **Stripboard**.

3	EXT	Coffee Shop	Day	1/8	1, 2
21	INT	Park Bench	Day	2/4	2, 5

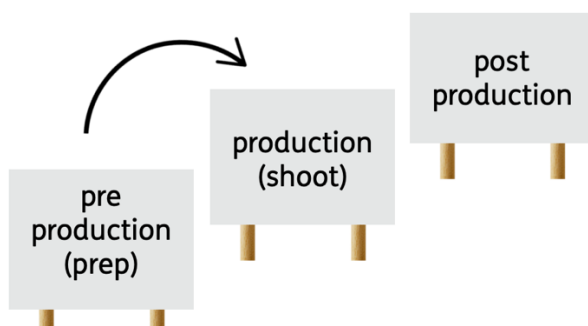
It is called this because the details for each scene are written out in a strip.



The Stripboard tells everyone what is happening, when it happens and what they need to do.



The Stripboard will be checked by the Director, Line Producer and HoDs.



It is made during **pre-production**.

The next stage of production is called the **shoot**.

## What Happens on the Shoot?



The shoot is when all departments come together to film the TV programme or film.



Sometimes the shoot is called **principle photography**.



Where the action takes place is called a **set**.

A set can be in a **studio** or on location.



A location can be inside or outside. For example a hotel room or a hillside.



There are 5 key steps to shooting a scene:



1. **Blocking** is planning where the actors and camera will need to move around in the scene.




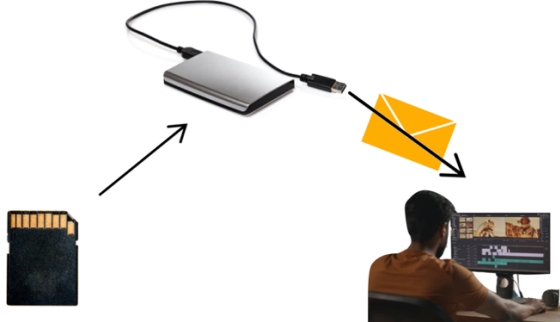


2. **Lighting** plans where the lights are set up and moved to make sure the scene is properly lit.



3. **Rehearsal** is for the actors and the Camera and Sound Departments to practice the scene on the set.



4. **Final checks** are when **Hair and Makeup**, **Costume** and the **Art Department** make sure everything is in the right place for the start of the scene.

	<p>5. Shoot is when the scene is acted and recorded on the camera.</p>
	<p>Everything recorded is stored on a card in the camera.</p> <p>This card is taken out and copied to a portable hard drive and sent to the <b>Edit</b>.</p>
	<p>You will learn more about what happens in the Edit in the <b>Post Production</b> module.</p>
	<p>To learn more about other departments and what happens to get content made, look at the other lessons in this training module.</p>