163 Free Templates for Filmmakers – Part 1: Pre-Production

1. Screenwriting/Scriptwriting

Here are some nice screenwriting examples to fuel your creative fire.

- 2 Column Corporate Screenplay – Sonnyboo
- Writing Credit Contract for Film – New Brunswick Filmmakers’ Co-Operative
- Writing Credit Contract for TV – New Brunswick Filmmakers’ Co-Operative
- Documentary Script – Learnaboutfilm
- Director’s Worksheet – Film Contracts
- Literary Option & Purchase – Sonnyboo
- Moodboard Template – Filestage
- Character Bio Template – Filestage
2. Script Breakdown Template

A script breakdown template is necessary for every kind of film. Take a look at our templates. Maybe they are exactly what you’ve been looking for.

- Script Breakdown Sheet – StudioBinder
- Script Breakdown Sheet – HowtoFilmschool
- Breakdown Sheet – New Brunswick Filmmakers’ Co-Operative
- Breakdown Sheet – Michael Wiese Books

3. Storyboard Templates

Storyboards are graphic organizers in form of illustrations or images. Kind of a shot list, but in an arty way. Storyboards are sometimes part of the shot list, but you can also separate them.

- Storyboard – Filestage
- Storyboard – StudioBinder
- Storyboard – Sonnyboo
- Storyboard – Filmsourcing
- Storyboard – Film Contracts
- Storyboard – Learnaboutfilm
- Storyboard – PremiumBeat
- Storyboard, 4-up – FreeFilmSchool
- Storyboard, Horizontal – FreeFilmSchool
- TV Storyboard – Film Contracts
- Standard Ratio w/ Overhead Plan – Dependent Films
- Standard Ratio: Simplistic – Dependent Films
- Standard Ratio w/ Detailed Angle – Dependent Films
- Widescreen – Dependent Films

4. Shot List Template

Before starting the filming process, you need to structure your processes. One of the tasks: Organize your script into a clear “checklist” filled with detailed information for
every shot. A shot list helps you to keep track of all actions and the needed equipment for each of your scenes and shots. Moreover, a shot list will provide your team with clear expectations about the results. Important parts of a shot list are for example scene and shot number, a brief description, involved people and conversations. I know everyone will have their own way of shot listing. So feel free to get some inspiration by looking at these shot list templates.

- Shot List – Studio Binder
- Shot List – Film Contracts
- Shot List – Learnaboutfilm
- Shot List – LAVideoFilmmaker
- Camera Shot List (1) – Film Contracts
- Camera Shot List (2) – Film Contracts
- Camera Shot List (3) – Film Contracts
- Camera Shot List – Dependent Films
- Camera Shot List – Filmsourcing
- Camera Shot List Advanced – Filmsourcing
- Group-Shot-List – Murray Clarke
- Shot List Template – Open Source Ecology
- B-Roll Shot List – Izzy Video
- Shot List Template – fstoppers.com
- Essential Shot List – Intrepid Freelancer
- Shotlist Template – George V.K. Media
- Shot List Template – TechSmith

5. Film Budget Template

A film budget template helps you to manage your shoot expenses and overall budgeting. It doesn’t matter if you want to create a short film, an ad, a music video or a movie. Managing your film budget is crucial. But you don’t need to spend a lot of money for using complicated software. Often, an easy film budget template is totally sufficient and is half the job. So take a look at these helpful film budget templates. Some also have examples of budgeting.

- Questions & Budget Creation – Michael Wiese Books
- Basic Sample Budget – HowtoFilmschool
- Sample Budget – Sonnyboo
6. Personnel Forms

We’ve collected some useful templates from general contracts and agreements, to specific crew templates.

Note: This is not our complete list. More crew templates can be found in our Production and Post-Production articles (that will follow soon).

LIST AND SHEET

- Crew Contact List – Film Contracts
- Crew Contact List – Filmsourcing
- Crew Contact List – HowtoFilmschool
- Crew List – Michael Wiese Books
- Cast and Crew List – StudioBinder
- Crew Contact Sheet – Dependent Films
- Time Sheet – Michael Wiese Books
- Crew Start-Up & Data Sheet – Film Contracts
- Freelance Reference Data Input – Film Contracts

MEMO AND CONTRACT
7. Partnership Documents

Almost every filmmaker needs partners, whether it be investors, collaborators or funding corporations. Maybe our templates can help you secure a new partner.
8. Cast Forms

What would a movie be without actors – not a movie at all, with the exception of cartoons of course. Here are several relevant templates, from information sheets and lists to contracts.

LIST AND SHEET

- Cast Information – Film Contracts
- Cast and Crew List – StudioBinder
- Cast Contact List – HowtoFilmschool
- Cast List – Michael Wiese Books
- Cast List – Film Contracts
- Talent Audition Sheet – Film Contracts
- Basic Actor Info Sheet – Sonnybo
- Audition Sign-In Sheet – PremiumBeat
- Cast Contact Sheet – Dependent Films
- Casting Sheet – Film Contracts
- Cast Scene Number Breakdown – Film Contracts
- Makeup & Hairdressing Record – Film Contracts

MEMO AND CONTRACT

- Cast Deal Memo – Film Contracts
- Actor Contract – Sonnybo
- Freelance Actors Contract – Film Contracts
- Day Performer Contract Theatrical Motion Pictures – Film Contracts
- Day Performer Contract TV Motion Pictures or Videotape – Film Contracts
- Minimum Freelance Contract Theatrical Motion Pictures – Film Contracts
- Minimum 3-Day Contract TV Motion Pictures or Videotape – Film Contracts
- Minimum Freelance Weekly Contract TV or Videotape – Film Contracts
- Performer Contract Interactive Programming – Film Contracts

RELEASE AND AGREEMENT

- General Release – Video University
- Personal Release – Dependent Films
- Personal Release – HowtoFilmschool
- Personal Release (2) – Film Contracts
- Personal Release – Film Contracts
- Personal Release Payment – Film Contracts
- Talent Release – Dependent Films
- Talent Release – Filmsourcing
- Talent Release – PremiumBeat
9. Location Scouting

Finding the right place to shoot is often easier said than done. Unfortunately, we can not help you there. But, our templates could help you to organize everything else.

LIST AND SHEET

- Location Contact List – Film Contracts
- Location Scout Checklist – StudioBinder
- Location List – Film Contracts
- Location Scouting Sheet – Dependent Films
- Location Scouting – Filmsourcing
- Location Fact Sheet – PremiumBeat
- Location Fact Sheet – Film Contracts
- Location Information Sheet – Film Contracts
- Scouting Report – Film Contracts
- Location Survey Check – Film Contracts
- Cinematography Location Information Form – Film Contracts

CONTRACT

- Location Contract – Dependent Films
- Location Contract – Film Contracts
- Production Location Contract – Film Contracts

RELEASE AND AGREEMENT

- Location Release – PremiumBeat
- Location Release – Dependent Films
- Location Release – Film Contracts
- Location Release – Filmsourcing
10. Music Releases

Background music is just as important for the movie as the actors. But you also need agreements to use the tunes. Feel free to take a look at these useful templates.

- Sound Report – Filmsourcing
- Music Reference – Filmsourcing
- Music Release – New Brunswick Filmmakers’ Co-Operative
- Music Release – Filmsourcing
- Cue Sheet – Filmsourcing

11. Insurance Forms

Don’t forget to insure your equipment, your crew and yourself for that matter. You never know!

- Insurance Claim Worksheet Personal – Film Contracts
- Actor Insurance Claim Worksheet – New Brunswick Filmmakers’ Co-Operative
- Insurance Claim Worksheet Damage – Film Contracts
- Insurance Claim Worksheet Automobile Accident – Film Contracts
- Insurance Claim Worksheet Theft – Film Contracts
- Injury / Illness Report Form – Film Contracts
- Accident Report – Michael Wiese Books

12. Shooting Schedule Template
Managing your schedule when creating a film is crucial. There are different ways to achieve that. One of them is to use a simple shooting schedule template that helps you to create interactive shooting schedules.

- Shooting Schedule Template – FormsBirds
- Shooting Schedule Template – afieldinengland.com
- Production Schedule Template – BBC
- Preliminary Shooting Schedule – University of California Santa Cruz
- Shooting Schedule Template – TidyForm
- Shooting Schedule Template – Anthony Hanson

13. Other Templates

- Cinematography Pre-Production Checklist – Film Contracts
- Ultimate Creative Brief – Filestage
- Buyer Persona Template – Filestage
- Smart Goals Template – Filestage