

12 BASIC SHOT TYPES GUIDE | Digital Film Production 1 | Ms. Kurland

A shot from far away, mostly about the location or setting of the film, and where it takes place. Main subject is very small

Extreme Long Shot (ELS)

Subject is still small, but you can see all of it. Shows what the subject looks like in the location

Long Shot (LS)

Shows most of the subject closer up than long shot, but still shows a lot of the location or setting. Plenty of room in the frame above & below subject's head & feet

Medium Long Shot (MLS)

This shot shows subject from top of head to knees filling the frame

Three-Quarter Shot (3/4)

Closer up than a medium long shot. Shows most of the subject, but you still see some location

Medium Shot (MS)

Halfway between a medium shot and a close up. The frame should show subject from top of the head to the chest

Medium Close Up (MCU)

Comes in even closer to subject and show a lot of detail. When you want to feature the main subject

Close Up (CU)

A shot taken from an angle that shows the viewer what the subject is seeing from their perspective

Point of View (POV)

Focuses really up close on one feature of the subject to show emotion and extreme detail

Extreme Close Up (XCU)

Camera above the subject to make them look small and weak

Bird's Eye View (BEV)
(aka Camera Superior)

Camera below the subject to make it look huge and powerful

Worm's Eye View (WEV)
(aka Camera Inferior)

More than one person in shot, with one subject's facing their back to camera. It shows a conversation or an interaction between two subjects

Over the Shoulder (OSS)