

# Getting Started in Film & TV



To succeed as a crew member in Film and TV, focus on punctuality, preparedness, and a proactive, respectful attitude. Be ready to learn, ask questions, and embrace the fast-paced, collaborative environment. Strong communication skills and a willingness to help wherever needed are also crucial.

Here are a few other tips as you get started in the film industry.

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## Do Your Homework

Every project, company, and role is different. Before an interview, know who's who, what the department does, and be prepared to share why you're the right fit.

## Networking is Key

Most crew jobs spread by word-of-mouth or recommendations. Be professional, work hard, and stay connected — a good reputation travels fast. Show up at local festivals, screenings, panels, and crew meet-ups. They're goldmines for leads and contacts. Listen more than you talk and always follow up.

## Right to Work

Most productions require confirmation of your legal right to work in the UK before hiring. Be sure you have the correct documentation before the first day of work.

## Be Curious, Stay Flexible

Be open to new opportunities. You might start in one department and discover you love another. Watch, ask, and learn as much as you can.

## Plan Your Journey

You'll almost always need your own reliable way to get to work — sometimes at odd hours and remote locations where public transport may not be available. .

## Stand Out

Showcase the things you do outside of work that demonstrate your enthusiasm and commitment to the industry, whether it is volunteering, personal projects, hobbies, or part-time work—these might just be the qualities that set you apart from other candidates.

## Budget Like a Freelancer

Jobs come in waves; it is important to plan financially to account for any gaps between projects or unexpected disruptions such as strikes or production delays. Setting aside savings during active periods can help you stay secure throughout quieter periods.

*This advice is intended for guidance and information only and does not constitute a guarantee of employment.*

# CV Basics



Breaking into crew work often starts with your CV. Even if your credits are light, the way you present your experience can show that you're reliable, eager to learn, and ready for production life.

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## Keep It Concise & Relevant

People working in this industry often have limited time and may need to review dozens of CVs. Keeping things relevant and concise will help you stand out. Ensure your relevant experience is easy to find and try to keep it to one or two pages. Avoid including generic skills like "proficient in MS Word" or unrelated job experience that isn't necessarily transferrable to production or the department you are applying to.

## Highlight Practical Experience

List all experience relative to the position or department you are applying for, including unpaid or low-budget work. Include your role, the project title, production company (if applicable) and year.

## Showcase Transferable Skills

If you lack direct experience, showcase any relevant roles that help demonstrate desirable attributes like dependability, collaboration, and resilience (such as event work, stage crew, AV tech, even customer service).

## Include Technical Proficiencies

Many crew roles require familiarity or experience of using specific tools, software or equipment, even at an entry level. Use a "Skills" section to list anything relevant but be honest about your proficiency.

## Training Counts

Be sure to detail any industry relevant workshops, safety certifications (such as Nebosh or First Aid), and other professional development programmes you have completed, through organisations such as ScreenSkills, MAMA Youth Project, or the NFTS.

## Format Like a Pro

Keep fonts clean and easy to read. Steer clear of "creative" formatting, the structure should be simple and easy to skim. Don't include graphics or headshots.

## Contact Info Only

Include your name, phone, email, city/region and a link to your LinkedIn profile or other professional online portfolio. If you have credits, add your IMDB profile.

Don't include your full address. Do highlight locations you are able to work. Keep it professional (yes, that means no "partyguy420@gmail").

## Customise for Each Role

Small adjustments to your CV to highlight your experience, skills or credits that are most relevant to the department or role you're applying for will go a long way.

## Proofread and Get Feedback

Proofread multiple times and ask a friend, mentor or industry contact to review your CV. Typos or formatting errors can signal a lack of attention to detail, a skill that is critical for crew members.

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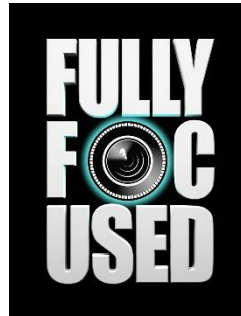
# Partner Organisations



No matter where you are based, there are local organisations and training schemes to help get you connected, stay trained and find your next role.

The Walt Disney Studios is proud to support talented individuals taking their first steps into roles on production. We encourage anyone looking for a pathway into the industry to research multiple organisations and find the one that is best for their career goals and passion.

The Walt Disney Studios work with the below partners, amongst others, to source candidates for upcoming Trainee positions:



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