

PRODUCTION TEAM

It is important that each member of the film crew knows their own role and also the roles of the other crew members. In low budget films or observational documentaries, it is very likely that each crew member will have several different roles to play.

There are a number of defined roles on a film crew. With smaller crews many of the functions tend to overlap.

DIRECTOR

It is the director's job to take the script or treatment and turn it into a film.

CINEMATOGRAPHER

The cinematographer is sometimes called the Director of Photography or Cameraperson. Working closely with the director, they are responsible for filming with the camera and lighting. The director may also be the cinematographer.

GAFFER

The gaffer works under the cinematographer to position any lighting that is required. The gaffer is usually a licensed electrician. On smaller productions the cinematographer will usually do this themselves.

GRIP

The grip works on set to and takes responsibility for any camera mounting equipment. Most documentary productions don't have a grip and share this role between other crew members.

SOUND RECORDIST

The sound recordist is responsible for recording of all sound during the shoot.

PRODUCTION MANAGER

The production manager is responsible for managing the film's production. This may include supervising the film's budget, dealing with logistics and location permissions.