

Paper Slide Video Essentials

Definition

A paper slide video is a short video recording of a presentation in which paper cutouts, photos, prepared drawings, or physical objects are moved across a table top, desktop, or whiteboard while recording a voice over, music or sound effects.

Prepare

The content you find or develop before shooting is even more important than the actual shooting of the video. Research your topic and decide what is important to communicate within the maximum length of the video. What are the major concepts, emotions, questions you want your viewers to have after watching your video. The video should tell a story with a beginning, middle, and end.

Make a Storyboard

Use a storyboard sheet or notecards to draw and write what each shot in the video will be. Each shot should include the narration, dialogue, music, or sound effects that will be heard by the viewers. Drawings do not have to be perfect, stick figures are fine. Use arrows or other types of lines to symbolize the action that will take place during the shot.

Roles

Decide which members of the group will be the director, narrator, slider, actors and sound engineer (if needed). It is best to have at least a narrator and a slider. Try to have every member of the group involved in the actually shooting of the video.

One Take

Rehearse, rehearse and then rehearse some more. You do not need a video camera to rehearse. Rehearse using the storyboard you created. There is no editing after the video is shot.

Narration

Tone of voice is important. Make sure to have variation in volume and emotion in your voice to communicate importance and emotion. Pace your narration so that you are not speaking too fast or staying at the same speed the entire video. Make sure to pronounce your words clearly. The most important thing is to be loud enough that you can be heard on the video.

Shots

Avoid using text except when necessary. Make sure you are shooting in landscape mode, not portrait mode. Frame the shot and do not move the camera. Movement can take place by sliding objects in and out of the frame. Seeing the hands of the slider is acceptable. Hand gestures by the slider can be used to express emotion. Drawings and objects should contrast with the background. White background works best to create contrast.

Graphics and Objects

Physical objects, photos, drawings and cut-outs can be used to tell the story. Use color, if possible. Cut-outs and objects can be moved around the scene to show action or demonstrate a concept. Make sure the objects, photos, drawings and cut-outs are large enough that viewers can identify what they are. Drawings do not need to be perfect, stick figures, silhouettes, basic shapes all can be used instead of detailed drawings.

Closing Slides

The name of each person and what they did producing the video should be included. Any photos, drawings or cut-outs that have a copyright should be given credit. Include credits for any ideas you borrowed from your research to make the video.

