

# Lights, Camera, Action!

## How Movies Are Made



### On the Big Screen

People watch movies to laugh. People watch movies to cry. People watch movies to see a good story. Hundreds of movies are made each year. It can take months to make a movie. Sometimes it can take years. Many people help make a movie.

### Writing the Story

Every movie starts with a **script**. This is the story of a movie. The script is written by a **screenwriter**. Scripts that tell a good story are made into movies.



### Making a Plan

Then a **producer** plans the movie. The producer helps raise money for a movie to be made. A producer also puts together a movie team. The movie team includes the **director** and the **actors**. The director is in charge of filming the movie. The actors play the characters. The director helps the actors do their best to tell a good story.

### Shooting the Movie

The director says, "Action!" This is a signal for actors to play their characters. Then a **camera person** shoots the movie. Special cameras take moving pictures of the actors. Other people help with lights, makeup, and costumes.

### Editing the Movie

Editing is the last step. An **editor** picks the best shots. These shots will make the final cut. Then the editor adds or changes sounds. The editor also adds music and special effects.

## That's a Wrap

The movie is finished! The final step is the **movie release**. This is when the movie is sent to theaters. People can now see the movie with family or friends.

## From the Page to the Screen

Many people help make movies. Sometimes hundreds of people help make one movie. All movies start with a good story. The story is what we see and hear on the screen.



## Glossary

**actor** — a person who plays a character

**camera person** — a person who takes moving pictures with a camera

**director** — a person who is in charge of filming the movie

**editor** — a person who picks the best camera shots to put in a movie

**movie release** — when a movie is sent to theaters for people to watch

**producer** — a person who plans the movie and makes the movie team

**screenwriter** — a person who writes a script

**script** — the story of a movie