

SHOT ANGLES AND DISTANCES



Close shot or Close up (CU) - a shot taken from a close distance so that the object appears relatively large and fills the entire frame. In human terms, a close up might show someone's face.



Medium shot (MS) - a shot that usually frames objects so that they appear equivalent to a normal visual perspective. In human terms, a medium shot might show a person from the waist up.



Long shot or Wide shot (LS or WS) - a shot taken from a greater distance so that the object appears relatively small in the frame. A long shot can convey setting or context. In human terms, a long shot might encompass someone's whole body and the surrounding area. An extreme long shot might encompass an entire cityscape or skyline.



Foreground - objects or action closest to the camera



Middle ground - objects or actions positioned midway in the camera frame.



Background - objects or actions furthest from the camera.



Normal angle - the camera is positioned at chest height and makes the subject appear neutral.



High angle - the camera is positioned above and looks down on the subject. A high angle image often has the effect of making the subject appear weak or vulnerable.



Low angle - the camera is positioned below and looks up at the subject. A low angle image often has the effect of making the subject appear powerful or ominous.