

Definition of Film Production Roles

A film crew is a group of people for the purposes of producing a film or motion picture

Cinematographer	A "Cinematographer" is the person in charge of 'look' of the 'frame' of the movie shots This person might like photography and playing round with cameras. Or just someone who is good with technology and has clear vision.
Camera Operator	A Camera Operator is the person who is operating the physical camera. They are in charge of recording the film as directed by the cinematographer.
Camera Assistant	A Camera Assistant helps the Camera Operator. They may set up equipment, be responsible for charging batteries and organising other camera technical equipment.
Director	A film Director is a person who leads the making of a film. Generally the highest authority on a film set. The "Director" works with the crew and cast to ensure the artistic vision of the film is fulfilled. This person needs clear vision but most importantly clear communication skills and the ability to collaborate with others.
Editor	An "Editor" is responsible for taking the footage from the shoot and organising it into a clear narrative. This involves cutting the footage, using filters and sometimes co-ordinating the music to fit the visuals. This person needs to be patient and precise but also like playing round on computers and learning new programs.
Actor	An "Actor" takes on a character from the narrative. They use make up and costume as well as voice and physicality to portray this character as best they can. This person needs to love performing and playing around with ideas. They also need to work with the director and cinematographer so need to be good at collaborating.
Wardrobe	The wardrobe department is responsible for all clothing and costume worn by actors on screen. They can design, plan and liaise with the actors.
Make up	Make Up artists will look after make and hair and any special effects needed to create a look for characters appearing on screen.
Art Director	Art Director is responsible for making the overall vision of the look come to life. This can include set pieces, props, furniture and dressing a location to fit the film's feel.
Sound	The Sound person looks after the recording of the sound, this can be done in camera or recorded separately. They make sure the sound recording takes are clean. That is no unnecessary noises are recorded as well.

Composer	A Composer will create music to accompany the film. It adds atmosphere and helps clarify and tell the story.
Special Effects Make Up	This person uses a variety of techniques for special affects. This includes blood, gore, burns, noses or anything else needed for the character.
Props Maker	These are people who make specialised props that are difficult to attain. They are generally made from scratch.
Storyboard Artist	The Storyboard Artist creates a series of illustrations and sketches based on the directors vision before pre production (before shooting). Each sketch represents a different camera setup. They include camera angles, characters and set design.
Data Wrangling	This person is responsible for taking the recorded footage from the camera and 'dumping' on a lap top or computer. This will later be transferred to the editor and director to cut the film together. They will check that all the footage has been organised, labelled, dowloaded, duplicated, re formatted and safely stored.
Gaffer / Best Boy (or girl!) (Lighting)	These roles are the chief lighting technician and their assistant. They are responsible for placing lighting on the set to illuminate giving the mood or feel needed for the frame.
Videographer	This person takes video footage of 'behind the scenes' of the film making process for documentation. This may include interviews with actors and production crew.
Production Stills	This person is responsible for taking photos of the movie for publicity and documentation.
Location Manager	Location Manager is responsible for final clearing (or guaranteeing permission to use) a location for filming.
Producer	The producer is involved throughout all phases of the film making process from development to completion. They supervise, co ordinates and control the project.
Script Supervisor / Continuity	The Script Supervisor / continuity keeps track of whats been filmed and makes notes of variation from the script
Production Manager	The Production Manager supervises the physical aspects of the production (not the creative aspects) including personnel, technology and scheduling.