

## Digital Media Services

# Making a shot list

A shot list helps you plan out what you're shooting so you don't miss anything.

In most cases you won't want to shoot your video in the order of your script. Why not? Because it's not time-efficient. Instead, group your shots according to location, time of day, and subject matter.

Let's look at an example. Your scripts need not be this fancy.  
(EXT.= exterior, INT.= interior)

```
-----  
EXT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY  
Mandy walks into the coffee shop  
  
INT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY  
Mandy orders a drink  
  
EXT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY  
Mandy walks out of the coffee shop
```

In this case, we would want to shoot Scene 1 and Scene 3 at the same time, because they are in the same place.

Let's change it up a little bit. This time Mandy works at the coffee shop.

```
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EXT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY  
Mandy walks into the coffee shop  
  
INT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY  
Mandy serves customers.  
  
EXT. COFFEE SHOP- NIGHT  
Hours later, Mandy finally walks out of coffee shop.
```

This time we would have to shoot Scene 1 & Scene 2 at the same time, because we need day light. We could wait until later, or come back at another time to shoot Scene 3.

Here's one last example. This time, singer Willie Nelson is making a guest appearance.

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EXT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY

Mandy walks into the coffee shop

INT. COFFEE SHOP- DAY

Willie Nelson enters, and hears Mandy singing. He asks her to quit her job, and come on tour with him as a back-up singer. They sing a musical number together.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP- NIGHT

Mandy walks out of the coffee shop with Willie Nelson.

In this case we would want to group the two shots of Willie Nelson, because his time is limited.

We might shoot Scene 2 right before dark so we can shoot them in a row.

Or, we might even change Scene 2 to a night scene so that we can shoot them both at night.