
Video Production standards

Video Production standards

- In the United States, the **NTSC** standard has been used since the 1950's for video broadcasts.
- NTSC is also used in certain parts of Asia, while **PAL** and **SECAM** are standards used in Europe.
- Each standard carries its own specifications - and in fact there are several variations of each standard - but the video standard you will be using is going to be mainly determined by the country in which you live.

Frame Rate

- Frame rate describes the number of frames, or images, that are displayed per second of video.
- The NTSC standard frame rate, for instance, shows 29.97 frames every second.
- PAL and SECAM are both 25 frames per second
- Film is shot at 24 fps.

Timecode

- measures video frames in realtime, and is set to Hours, Minutes, Seconds, and Frames.

Resolution

- Standard definition DVD: 720×480,
- High-definition video starts at the **720p** standard and goes up from there.
 - 720p is 1280×720.
 - There is also 1080p and 1080i, which are each 1920×1080.
- The **i** and the **p** in these formats stand for **interlaced** and **progressive**.
 - An interlaced video is one where each frame actually contains a split image of two separate frames.
 - This method is used to save bandwidth.
 - Progressive scan imagery uses full-frame transmissions.

Aspect Ratio

- measure of height in relation to width of the screen
- The standard television aspect ratio is 4:3,
 - for every four horizontal pixels, there are three vertical ones.
- Widescreen video used in widescreen televisions is 16:9, or sixteen horizontal pixels for every nine vertical ones.
- The **anamorphic** formats 1.85:1 and 2.39:1.
 - The term anamorphic refers to using a wide lens to record onto normal 35mm film, which is traditionally formatted to capture a standard 4:3 image.
 - This is why when you watch an unedited widescreen film on a regular television you see black bars above and below the picture;
