

PRODUCTION ON A BUDGET

cutting cost but not quality

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Guild of Television Cameramen

www.urbanfox.tv

Guild of TV Cameramen

- Help & support broadcast cameramen
- Magazine (2) and newsletter (4)
- Free workshops for members
- Cameraman's forum
- Member's discounts
- www.gtc.org.uk
- Talk to us on our stand

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UrbanFox Ltd

All of this presentation is on my website

www.urbanfox.tv/seminar

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Reducing costs

- General advice - to help you make some good cost effective decisions
- Some specific kit ideas
- More kit advice at <http://tinyurl.com/c6rk6>

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Retailer Recommendations

- They sell for a good price
- Not necessarily the cheapest
- Good after sales service
- Most can do repairs and routine maintenance on-site
- I've bought from them or a trusted friend has recommended them

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Second hand Camera?

- Lots of cheap PD150 and PD170s
- Tried and tested
- Good quality pictures
- Good enough to be broadcast most nights

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What to check

- Drum run hours.....bigger = cheaper
- 200 x10Hr = 2,000 hours = retirement age
- Check bodywork
- Check side handle for wear and tear
- Ask what has the camera been used for
- Put in a tape and record something

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Where to buy used cameras

- www.visuals.co.uk
- www.mitcorp.co.uk
- www.shootingpeople.org

- www.eBay.co.uk
- www.mcdauctions.co.uk

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But, but, but...

- PD150s ceased production 3 years ago - so, probably no warranty
- PD150 and PD170s are 4:3 - broadcasters don't want 4:3
- For the price of a second hand PD150 you could have a brand new HDV camera

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HVR-A1

- HDV, DVCAM and DV
- 16 x 9
- Single CMOS chip
- £1,375 (£1,615)



Type HVR-A1E into <http://froogle.google.co.uk/>

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Bigger budget?

- Future proofed
- 16:9
- 3 CCDs
- HDV or DVCPRO HD
- Lightweight
- Good quality pictures

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Sony HDR-FX1



<http://tinyurl.com/88bby> - <http://tinyurl.com/9xmct>
These sites list the differences between FX1 and Z1

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Sony HVR-Z1



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JVC GY-HD100/101



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Canon XLH1



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Panasonic HVX200



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Comparing all four...

- Adam Wilt's article on www.dv.com



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Comparing all four...

"All the 1/3" cameras clustered together more tightly than we expected. Each camera excelled at some aspect of image rendering, but all of them were more alike than different; none stood out as being clearly superior all around.

We came away convinced ... that the choice of camera should be made more on features and ergonomics than on image quality."

Adam Wilt www.dv.com

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Buy the Sony Z1 if....

- You are a big fan of the PD150/170
- You intend to make documentaries
 - shoot interlaced (50i)
- You want to work for the BBC or London based production companies
- You want a good value - all round camera

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Buy the JVC HD100/101 if

- You're shooting a low budget movie
- You love progressive (film look) pictures
- Interchangeable lenses are important to you (and you can afford them)
- You intend to do a lot of hand held /on the shoulder camera operating

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Buy the Canon XLH1 if...

- You own a studio - but also need a location camera
- You have the kit to handle HD-SDI output
- You love interchangeable lenses
- You're confident/geeky enough to change the colour matrix, gamma, black stretch
- You've always loved Canon's XL range

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Buy the Panasonic HVX200 if...

- You believe the cost of P2 cards will drop
- Money is no object ;-)
- You intend to go fully tapeless
- You want the faster workflow of DVCPRO HD (compared to slow HDV)
- You shoot fast moving subjects (music and sport) and are worried about mpeg artifacts
- Want to use green screen effects (4:2:2)

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Where to buy a camera...

- Prokit www.prokit.co.uk
- PEC www.pec.co.uk
- Mitcorp www.mitcorp.co.uk
- Visual Impact www.visuals.co.uk
- Top Teks www.top-teks.co.uk

- www.bhphotovideo.com (New York)

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Hire or Buy?

Sony Z1 @ 1 weeks hire = £400

9 weeks hire = 1 new Z1

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What tape should you buy



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What Sony tape should you buy

Premium.....£2.50

DVCAM.....£8.50

HDV Master..£10.50



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Where to buy tape

- www.carousel.uk.com
- www.first4media.com
- www.protape.co.uk
- www.feltech.co.uk
- www.cva.co.uk

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EVALUATED & RECYCLED

- www.cva.co.uk Creative Video Associates
 - Bulk erase
 - Remove old labels (and add new ones)
 - Remove loose iron oxide
 - Evaluate for defects
 - Include defect readout

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Evaluated Tape

- I know....
- How many defects there are
- Where they are

DEFECT LOCATIONS	
MINUTE	DEFECT
00:00	x
00:02	x
00:04	x
00:05	x
00:08	x
00:10	x
MINUTES	DEFECTS
62:44	06
DV	FORMAT

Recycled miniDV costs...

- 60 minute tape...
- 50p - cleaned and erased
- £1.47 - cleaned, erased and evaluated

Ex VAT

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Need an edit deck?

- HVR-M10E
- £2,000 ex VAT
- £2,350 inc VAT



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How about an edit deck with a camera attached?

- HVR-A1
- £1,375 ex VAT
- £1,615 inc VAT
- = £700 saving



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Buy a really good tripod

- Spend as much as possible (£250 - £1,000)
- Weight (carbon fibre is expensive)
- Robust - outlive the camera
- Don't get a photographic tripod
- Buy a video tripod with a leveling bowl

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Alternative Support

- Monopod (Manfrotto 682)
- Magic arm with Superclamp



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Lighting kit

- Lights are tools. You need the correct light to do a specific job well.

SO...

- Please don't buy three identical lamps

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Interview kit

- Hard light
 - Dedo aspheric2 (150W)
- Soft Light
 - Lowell Rifa 44 (300W)



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Interview Kit

- £870+VAT Prokit



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Lighting Kit Extras

- RCD
- Circuit tester
- Good training course



Editing

Buy a Mac

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- Either wait for the new Intel models
- or
- Buy a refurbished Mac - every Wed am <http://tinyurl.com/22z8t>

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GarageBand

- IPR
- Performance rights



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RAM

www.crucial.com

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Copyright

What is in your contract?

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Future Earnings

“The ideal contract (from a copyright owners perspective) is one which *licenses* your work and involves the purchaser having to pay royalties for *each and every* future use of your work.”

Kate Fox - Thompsons Solicitors

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Stock footage

- Your pension fund
- Real assets
- Value will yo-yo

- But you must own the copyright

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Postcard

Training contact details

UrbanFox Ltd

DV and HiV camera training

Editing training

One-to-one camera training for freelancers

Group training for employees or colleagues working on a project

www.urbanfox.tv

W.A.F.F.L.E mnemonic

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Any questions?

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Please, don't forget this presentation is at
www.urbanfox.tv/seminar

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