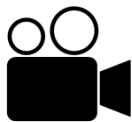


Essential Equipment List – Buying Economy

There's no getting away from it you will need to invest in some equipment if you want to make a film. However it doesn't mean you have to spend a fortune! This is our guide to the **basic equipment** you will need to Shoot and Edit your film.



Shooting

This is a vital part of your process, but there are tools out there for free that will allow you to edit your footage.

Camera

We used a number of cameras in the creation of our material, but to get you going a smart phone is a great starting point. iPhones particularly have a massive online resource for shooting video.

Pros: Cheap to get hold of and good image quality

Cons: Small lens, short battery life, poor on board Mics and no optical zooms

Tripod

This is an essential bit of equipment. If you are using a phone make sure you are using a suitable adaptor. We had 2. One a small desktop tripod and the second a larger floor standing item.

Microphone

Onboard mics are poor with phones. So you'll need to enhance it buy buying an additional external mic such as directional and lapel 'lavalier' mics. Amazon and eBay are obvious places to look for these.

Recommended

We would recommend you have a minimum of a Tripod and a HD capable smart phone.



Editing

This is a vital part of your process, but there are tools out there for free that will allow you to edit your footage.

PC

Microsoft has Windows Movie Maker which has very simple editing tools capable of making short films with a reasonable level of control. We used the 2011 version that came on your Windows 7 computer.

Pros: Free, simple to use, High Def and Standard Def supported. Available for XP through to Windows10. Works even on low spec'd PC's.

Cons: Limited controls & long edits hard to work on.

Mac

Apple has long shipped iMovie with most of its OSX platforms. This is a great tools to use and has the added value of built in Sound Effects and more advanced video effects.

We used version 9.0.3 on a Mac Mini .

Pros: Simple to use and has great extended tools to control your edit.

Cons: There's very little not to like about this software.

Speakers

Invest in some good powered speakers or better still headphones, to use with your computer

Recommended

We would recommend iMovie for its more advanced features if you have a Mac available to you.

Essential Equipment List – Budgeting

Here's a simple guide to what equipment you could use and what we think you would expect to pay for it.



Low Cost – Sub £400

Here's a list of kit you need for the course at bargain prices through the likes of eBay.

Camera - £75/\$100

You'll be hard pressed to beat the iPhone 4s with 16Gb of storage for use as a HD camera. They litter eBay for as little as £75 / \$100. The Lumia phones are cheap & a better size to hold.

Tripod - £15/\$20

A small to medium size tripod can be found with phone adaptor from as little as £15 / \$20 in stores and the likes of eBay or AliExpress.

Microphone - £30/\$45

Directional and wired Lavalier Mics for smart phones can be had for as little as £30 / \$50 again from eBay or Amazon.

Edit - £200/\$300

This is where most of your budget will go, so choose carefully. Go for either a Mac Mini or late iMac 20" running OSX 10.6.8 with Intel Duo Cores and 4GB RAM. These can be had from as little as £200 / \$300.

NLE Software - £15 / Free

iMoive is obvious choice here.



Money to burn - £1k+

Got more to spend? Have a look at the luxury list of equipment below.

Camera - £400/\$600

A Canon 100D is fantastic camera, offering interchangeable lenses and microphone input. Second hand 700Ds are also good value too.

Tripod - £300/\$400

Go for a fluid head tripod such as the Manfrotto MVH500A Fluid Drag Video Head with MVT502AM Tripod. This is a great package and designed for DSLR and even larger cameras .

Microphone - £200 / \$300

The Rode VideoMic Pro or the Sennheiser MKE 400 are popular for the DSLR user and you'd be hard pressed to beat them. Your camera will need a mic input though!

Edit - £1500/\$2000

On a Mac platform we would go for the 27-inch iMac with Retina 5K display! An for a PC we like the HP Z230 Towers coupled with a 24" display.

NLE Software - £25 p.m.

The best value and performance software has to be Adobe Creative Cloud which would give you Adobe Premiere pro too.

Recommended extras

- External speakers or good headphones (£30-£150) to listen to your edit in greater detail is a sensible buy.
- Find a kit bag to get all your equipment into, so you can keep it safe and secure and move it easily.
- Additional shooting kit can become an obsession but look at lighting kit and reflectors for a start. The rest is bound to follow.