

SCREENPLAY FORMAT

by

Keith Blount

Your name

Your address

Your phone number

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FADE IN:

INT. A MESSY LIVING ROOM - DAY

KB sits at his laptop, pondering upon the nature of the screenplay format. The INTERNET helps him.

KB

How does this work then?

INTERNET

We have an imaginary conversation about script format. It's not very sophisticated or imaginative, but you have a hangover.

KB

(embarrassed)

That's true. So it is easy to create a standard Hollywood-formatted screenplay in Scrivener, then?

INTERNET

Fairly. This PDF file was in fact created in Scrivener, using the basic Screenplay project template. The text was typed using Script Mode from the Format > Scriptwriting menu, and then the whole thing was turned into a PDF file using Compile (File > Compile...).

KB

Handy. Right, how should margins be set up, then?

INTERNET

The left margin should be 1.5 inches, all others should be about an inch. Scrivener's standard script elements start half an inch from the left margin in the editor, so if you print or export with one inch margins all around, everything should be dandy.

KB

What about fonts?

INTERNET  
As usual with manuscript  
formatting, the standard is a  
Courier 12-point font.

KB thinks for a moment before continuing.

KB  
What about bold and italics? Can I  
use them?

INTERNET  
Hell no. No bold, no italics;  
nothing fancy.

KB  
Can we go to another scene now?

Suddenly, KB gets sucked into the computer.

INT. INSIDE THE COMPUTER - DAY

KB looks around.

KB  
(looking around)  
What the--

INTERNET (V.O.)  
That was a scene heading. All caps.  
And this is a voice-over, for no  
particular reason.

KB takes a minute to digest that.

KB  
Okay, so this is your basic script  
format, then. Okay. So how do I get  
my script out into Final Draft?

INTERNET (V.O.)  
Just select Final Draft (.fdx)  
format from the Compile dialog  
(File > Compile...).

KB  
And what if I want to get my Final  
Draft script back into Scrivener?

INTERNET  
You could just drag your FDX file  
into Scrivener's binder or use File  
> Import > Files...

KB

Cool. Can I go home now? It's  
teatime.

FADE OUT.

THE END