Apple doesn't let bad guys use iPhones on screen

Rian Johnson, the director of Star Wars: The Last Jedi, has lifted the lid on a secret in the

world of product placement — Apple will not allow its kit to be used by a villainous character on

screen.

villainous 罪恶的

pivotal 关键的

"Apple, they let you use iPhones in movies but, and this is very pivotal, if you're ever

watching a mystery movie, bad guys cannot have iPhones on camera, "Johnson revealed in a

video recorded for Vanity Fair.

Johnson let the secret slip as he took viewers through an *anatomy* of a scene in his latest

film, the whodunnit Knives Out.

anatomy 解剖

"Every single film-maker who has a bad guy in their movie that's supposed to be a secret

wants to murder me right now, "Johnson added.

Apple has long cultivated an immaculate brand image and it strictly controls how its

products are used on the big and small screen. An article from Wired as long ago as 2002 pointed

out that all the good guys in the long-running thriller 24 use Macs, while all the villains were

seen using Windows PCs.

immaculate 完美的; 洁净的

villain 坏人;恶棍

Guidelines advise that Apple phones, computers and other kit bearing the trademark should

be seen "in the best light, in a manner or context that reflects favourably on the Apple products

and on Apple Inc, " according to the site MacRumors.

favorably 顺利地;亲切地

But Apple is far from alone in attempting to *dictate* the types of content and characters brands are willing to be associated with. "All brands have *stipulations* for how they want to be used and seen on screen, " says Darryl Collis, director of product placement specialists Seesaw Media.

dictate 命令

stipulation 规定