

WRITE WITH PRODUCER MINDSET!

By Hank Orion

Checklist Before Writing An Independent Film:

1. What genre do you want to make? (horror, comedy, drama etc)
2. How much can you afford to spend on your film? (\$500, \$1.000, \$5.000, \$100.000? if you want to raise money traditionally for your film then ignore this document and delete it)
3. How fast can you shoot it? (one day, two days, maybe a week?)
4. How many lead characters do you want to tell your story?
5. What locations can you use for your film?
6. When do you want to shoot it? (at least month, without deadlines you will procrastinate)
7. Are you going to write a traditional script or are you going to “90s” it? (either way works, but decide now)
8. Who will be shooting it? (do you need to hire a DP or will you shoot it yourself?)
9. Do you have camera and sound gear to shoot it or do you need to hire it? (this comes to the cost, if you will need to hire then you'll have less for locations, props etc)
10. Who will edit your film? (once again, can you edit or will you need to hire an editor?)
11. Who is your intended audience? (are you going to just put your movie on youtube, or send to festivals? Maybe you want to target specific niche? You need to decided now)

Can you answer those questions above? Great! Now you can get to work on your movie. Why? Because now you know details that will help you make your movie cheap, on time, on budget and most importantly help you work on a story better story. Even if you're restricted by locations or budget, work on better scenes that add production value.

Do not start writing your script before you can answer those 11 simple questions.