



OUR FAVORITE TIPS

SORA CINEMATIC STYLE GUIDE

curious refuge

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- 
- A portrait of a young Black man with short, dark hair. He is wearing a light-colored, possibly beige or tan, blazer over a dark green button-down shirt. He is looking upwards and slightly to his right with a neutral expression. The background is a plain, light-colored wall. In the lower right foreground, there are large, dark green tropical leaves, partially obscuring the wall.
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SORA Prompt Guide

Ideal Prompt Style:

Start your prompt with "A Cinematic Video of [Describe Characters, Action, and Setting], [Describe Shot Type and Composition], [Describe Style or Atmosphere]".



Example: A cinematic video of a woman walking along a deserted beach at sunrise, wide-angle shot, in the style of an epic fantasy film. The golden sunlight reflects on the water, and soft waves gently crash against the shore.

Note: The less you write, the more SORA will fill in the details. The more you write, the more SORA will try to adhere to your directions. It's about finding balance and clarity in your prompts.

Avoid Overly Abstract Requests

- Bad prompts often describe ideas that are difficult to visualize or overly complex (e.g., "dragons vomiting clouds" or "giraffe-flamingo hybrid creature eyes.").
- Stay grounded in plausible or easily depictable scenarios.

01

Incorporate Emotional or Atmospheric Cues

- Strong prompts convey mood or atmosphere. For example:
 - "A serene desert landscape at sunset... peaceful and calming atmosphere."
- Adding emotional depth helps SORA create videos that resonate better. Also, adding lighting helps similarly to understand the environment and atmosphere.

Below are some ideas for different types of lighting to help you when prompting for specific environments.



A close-up portrait of a woman's face, looking directly at the viewer. The lighting is dramatic, with strong highlights on her forehead, nose, and cheekbones, while the rest of her face and the background are in deep shadow. Her eyes are dark and intense.

SORA SYLE GUIDE

LIGHTING

curious refuge



Hard Key Light in the Shape of a Circle



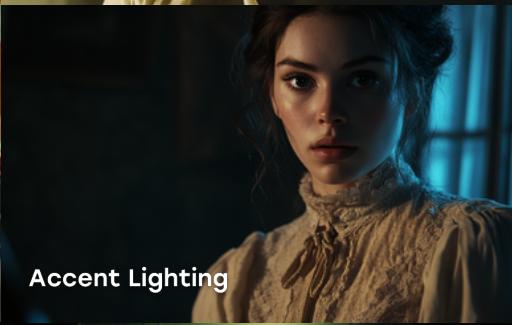
Natural Lighting



Dramatic Lighting



Foggy Lighting



Accent Lighting



Color Gel Lighting



Silhouette Lighting



Sun Beam Lighting



Split Lighting



Moonlight

Lighting



- SILHOUETTE LIGHTING
- AMBIENT LIGHTING
- LOW-KEY LIGHTING
- HIGH-KEY LIGHTING
- EDGE LIGHTING
- REMBRANDT LIGHTING
- RING LIGHT LIGHTING
- OVERHEAD LIGHTING
- UNDERLIGHTING
- SIDE LIGHTING
- HARD KEY LIGHT IN THE SHAPE OF A CIRCLE
- SPLIT LIGHTING
- GOLDEN HOUR LIGHTING
- OVERCAST LIGHTING
- MOONLIT LIGHTING
- SUNBEAM LIGHTING
- WINDOW BACKLIGHTING
- WINDOW LIGHTING
- MORNING LIGHTING
- TWILIGHT LIGHTING
- UNDERWATER LIGHTING
- HIGH NOON LIGHTING
- HARSH LIGHTING
- TUNGSTEN LIGHTING
- HARD KEY LIGHT

Be Specific with Visual Details

- Good prompts include precise descriptions of shot type and composition, settings, characters, and actions. For instance:
 - "Depict a medieval battlefield at dawn, with a lone warrior emerging through a thick, low-hanging mist. Use Panavision anamorphic lenses..."
- Use terms like "cinematic," "hyperrealistic," and specific lighting conditions (e.g., "golden sunlight," "soft golden light") to shape the video's aesthetic.

Check out the next couple of pages, where we listed out some important types of camera movements to help you when prompting.



SORA STYLE GUIDE

SHOT TYPE / COMPOSITION



Extreme Close-Up



Zoom In



Low Angle Shot



Medium Shot



Medium Long-Shot



Static Shot



Blocked Off Shot



Tilt Shot



Drone Shot



Over the Shoulder Shot

Shot Type / Composition



- HIGH-ANGLE SHOT
- DUTCH ANGLE (TILTED SHOT)
- DETAIL SHOT
- POINT-OF-VIEW (POV) SHOT
- EXTREME LOW-ANGLE SHOT
- REFLECTION SHOT
- TRACKING CLOSE-UP
- EXTREME HIGH ANGLE (GOD'S EYE VIEW)
- SILHOUETTE SHOT
- SPLIT DIOPTER SHOT
- SHADOW SHOT
- PROFILE SHOT
- BACKLIT SILHOUETTE
- CLOSE-UP WITH FOREGROUND BLUR
- NEGATIVE SPACE COMPOSITION
- TEXTURAL CLOSE-UP
- DETAIL SHOT
- ESTABLISHING SHOT
- HANDHELD SHOT
- PUSH IN
- LOW ANGLE SHOT
- CRANE SHOT
- DOLLY SHOT
- GIMBAL SHOT
- ZOOM IN
- PAN LEFT
- PAN RIGHT
- DRONE SHOT
- TRACKING SHOT
- STATIC SHOT

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04

Use Moderate Complexity

- Avoid overwhelming the AI with excessive detail, but include enough for clear direction.

For example:

"A majestic albino jaguar drinks from a crystal-clear stream in a snowy forest."

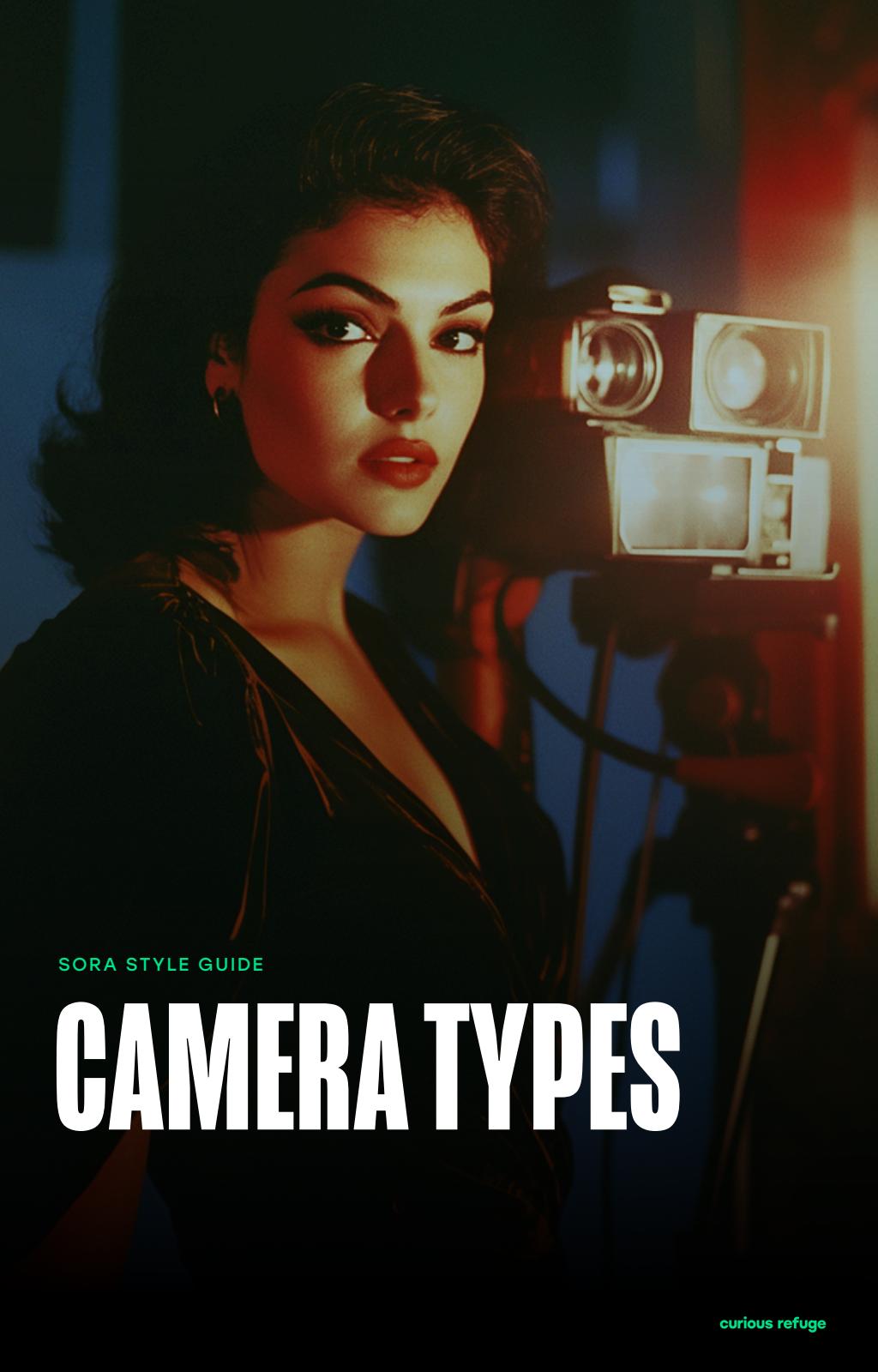
05

Use Cinematic Language

- Good prompts often employ film terminology, such as: "shot on 35mm film, cinema quality" or "dramatic lens flares."
- Incorporating camera angles, lens types, or movements can guide the system toward better adherence.

Check out some different camera types below to help become more educated with common cinematography terms.



A woman with dark hair and dramatic makeup looks over her shoulder at a vintage camera. The scene is lit with warm, low-key lighting, creating a moody atmosphere.

SORA STYLE GUIDE

CAMERA TYPES



Specify Actions

- Including actions like "walking," "drinking," or "swaying" clarifies what should happen in the video.

For instance: "gentle swaying of plants in a light breeze as the sunset progresses."

07

Experiment with Styles

- Use specific art or film styles (e.g., "claymation," "black and white silent style") for a distinct look.
- These terms guide SORA to apply stylistic consistency.

Check out some recommended styles below to help spark some ideas!

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SORA STYLE GUIDE

STYLE GUIDE

Sora does best when you stick to one style. Instead of trying to combine different styles, try sticking to one when prompting.



Claymation



Animation



90's Vintage



Anime



Black and White Film



90s Animation



Old Historical Footage



French Noir



Security Camera Footage



Found Footage

Style Guide



- CLAYMATION
- STOP-MOTION ANIMATION
- 2D CARTOON ANIMATION
- 3D ANIMATION
- VINTAGE AESTHETIC
- SILENT FILM STYLE
- BLACK AND WHITE NOIR
- RETRO FUTURISTIC
- MODERN MINIMALISM
- COMIC BOOK STYLE
- FANTASY ADVENTURE
- SCI-FI AESTHETIC
- CYBERPUNK
- GRUNGE/1990S STYLE
- GOLDEN AGE HOLLYWOOD
- OLD DOCUMENTARY FOOTAGE
- HOME VIDEO STYLE
- FOUND FOOTAGE
- SURVEILLANCE CAMERA PERSPECTIVE
- DREAMLIKE SURREALISM
- HYPERREALISM
- ABSTRACT EXPERIMENTAL
- HISTORICAL EPIC STYLE
- NATURE DOCUMENTARY
- POST-APOCALYPTIC
- ROMANTIC DRAMA
- HORROR GOTHIC
- MEDIEVAL FANTASY
- WESTERN STYLE
- MUSIC VIDEO MONTAGE

Test and Refine

Experiment by modifying prompts based on outputs. Start with a detailed description and simplify or adjust as needed if results aren't ideal.

Just like other AI tools, you won't often get what you are looking for on the first try. Keep experimenting and keep learning!

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