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QUICK FILM FORMAT CHECKLIST

These are standard specifications that apply to scripts for feature films, made-for-television movies and one-hour dramas.

Font

- ___ Size is 12 points
- ___ Type is fixed pitch (e.g. Courier, which looks like this)

Paper

- ___ Color is white
- ___ Size is 8 ½" x 11"
- ___ Three-hole punched

Margins

- ___ Left margin for shot headings and direction is 1.7"
- ___ Right margin for shot headings and direction is 1.1"
- ___ Left margin for dialogue is 2.7"
- ___ Right margin for dialogue is 2.4"
- ___ Left margin for parenthetical character direction is 3.4"
- ___ Right margin for parenthetical character direction is 3.1"
- ___ Character name over dialogue begins 4.1" from the left paper edge
- ___ Scene transitions (e.g. CUT TO:) begin 6.0" from the left paper edge

Page numbers

- ___ No number on page 1
- ___ All other pages numbered in top right corner

Page length

- ___ Starting with the line containing the page number, no more than 60 lines

For a full understanding of standard screenplay format, see Christopher Riley's book
*The Hollywood Standard: The Complete and Authoritative Guide
to Script Format and Style.*