Storyboards

As you run through each scene in your mind, you can capture these imaginings, and turn them into practical video making, by preparing a *storyboard* as you go. The storyboard is simply a series of rough sketches, which help you to visualize and to organize your camera treatment. It shows how you hope to arrange the *key shots* for each scene or action sequence.

Imagine your way through the first scene, roughly sketching the composition for each shot in turn. You don't have to be able to draw well to produce a successful storyboard. Even the crudest scribbles can help you to marshal your thoughts, and show other people what you are aiming at. If the action is complicated, you might need a couple of frames to show how a shot develops.

The storyboard will also help you to think about how one shot is going to lead into the next. You start to face practicalities.

To practice storyboarding, rent a film or videotape a TV show. Check through it carefully, making a sketch of each key shot. This will help you get into the habit of thinking in picture sequences, rather than in isolated shots.

Note: One storyboard sheet is not enough! Make copies of the attached storyboard or create one of your own.

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