

# Types of Shots



## Extreme Close-up (ECU, XCU)

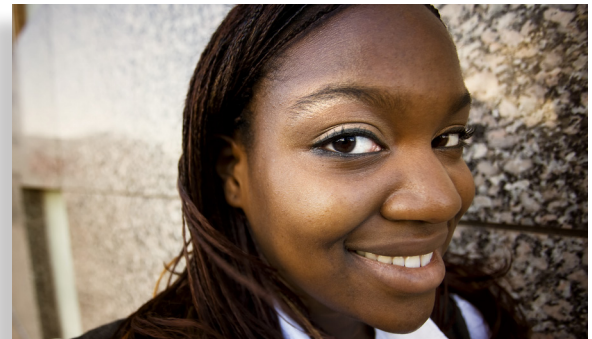
What is it? Subject exceeds the boundaries of the frame.

Why use it? Creates intensity or tension when subject is a person, or gives high detail on object.

## Close-up (CU or “tight shot”)

What is it? Frames a person’s face, cuts off at midneck, usually shows entire head.

Why use it? Shows emotion or shows an object in detail.



## Medium Close-up (MCU)

What is it? Frames head and upper torso, cuts off at mid-chest.

Why use it? Close enough to read facial expressions but gives polite distance; reveals a bit of surroundings.

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## Types of Shots (Continued)

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### Medium Shot (MS)

What is it? Frames a subject from the waist up.  
Why use it? Happy medium between CU and LS. With MCU, the most common type of shot. Zoom from MS to MCU for emphasis or conclusion.



### Long Shot (LS, FS)

What is it? Frames the subject from the feet up or may be slightly further away to show motion.  
Why use it? Subject is the person, environment is clearly visible. Use it for action, not meaning or emotion.

### Wide Shot (WS)

What is it? Camera is far away from the action.  
Why use it? Emphasizes the environment, human subjects are not the point of the shot. Tells the viewer where the story is taking place; can be used to establish a new location (also called an establishing shot).

