GoPro: Professional Guide To Filmmaking [covers The HERO4 And All GoPro Cameras]
Synopsis

WHERE INSPIRATION MEETS TECHNICAL CRAFT, this guide to professional filmmaking with a GoPro is packed with hundreds of beautiful photos and interactive links to videos created by professional athletes, filmmakers, and inspired GoPro users around the world. As the only book to cover the art and technique of advanced filmmaking by the team at GoPro, youâ€™ll get a unique insiderâ€™s look at GoProâ€™s history, all the different camera modes and settings, standard and experimental mounts, shooting principles, and editing techniques. Compelling stories from users such as Kelly Slater, Shaun White, and Kevin Richardson offer a rare view into an incredible world of athleticism, artistic beauty, and storytelling. Whether youâ€™re a professional filmmaker, top athlete or an aspiring enthusiast, youâ€™ll get all the inspiration and instruction you need to capture and create your own engaging edits to share with the world. â€œThis book is an invaluable window into Bradford and Brandonâ€™s creative thinking and summarizes their years of experience. Hopefully it serves as a spark for you just as the authors have done for GoPro.â€ From the foreword by Nicholas Woodman, founder of GoPro

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

When I first saw that GoPro was coming out with a filmmaking guide book, I immediately wondered if it would be worth the $20+  had it priced at. The answer to that question is yes, absolutely. The book is organized into a few major sections: 1. Forward, Preface, and History of GoPro: These sections are interesting if you want to hear some of the story and inspiration for GoPro cameras. I
enjoyed this section, though some people might want to skip it and head straight into the meat of the book.  

2. GoPro Primer: This section is where you learn about the basics of using the cameras. What resolution should you use? What mode should you use? How should you adjust the camera settings for the optimum picture/video quality? All these questions and more are answered in this section. I think this is one of the most useful sections in the entire book and one worth revisiting often.  

3. Mounts: This section covers some of the basic mounts that you will want or need for getting point of views. Most of the mounts covered in this section can easily be researched just by searching on or Youtube. However, the book does include a section on experimental mounts. The experimental mount section will definitely be more useful for those who are more experienced GoPro users. This section also covers “film-maker” toys like drones and gimbals. The information is by no means extensive but because of the general layout of the book, which includes links to videos, this section could prove to be very inspirational. Lastly, there is a section that covers Multi-Camera set ups like Dual and 3D as well as array and spherical.  

4. Angles by Activity: The function of this section is to provide a quick reference guide. If you plan to use your GoPro for a lot of different activities you will especially like this section since it guides you on what mounts and corresponding camera modes are best for capturing a specific activity.  

5. Capturing a Story: This section is simply awesome. The authors tell you how to prepare to tell a story with your video. This is one of the things that makes GoPro cameras unique. You have to plan out what you want to record and how you want to tell your story. This section provides an excellent guide on how to do that. It also has a list of “essentials” that the GoPro production staff always take with them when they go out to capture a story. This list is particularly useful as a guide to what you “go bag” should eventually have.  

6. Art of Editing: Editing is what makes GoPro videos particularly awesome. If you haven’t figured out by now that you will have to do some video editing to produce epic videos, let this be your memo! Editing is a huge part of the creative process. During this section they cover everything from organizing to time manipulation (slow motion, fast motion, etc.)  

7. Story Analysis: This section is all about the story. They give you examples of how GoPro uses all the tools at its disposal to tell a story. Its a theoretical section in the sense that it is breaking down videos into sections and how they contribute to the videos as a whole, what type of video it is, and examples of well made videos. It tells you how to tell a kind of story.  

8. Share your world: This section is all about inspiration. It tells you how you can share your own content, how to get access to more content, how to export your content, forums, and epic people you should be following for more inspiration. Overall, this book provides a wealth of information in terms of the scope of what is covered. It doesn't go into great depth on any particular section, though I think that if it did, it would take away from the book. This book is meant to give you
a good idea of where to start, then you just gotta get out there and try stuff. Even professionals may find this book extremely useful, if for the inspiration alone. The book is loaded with amazing pictures. Almost every single page has a QR Code/link you can follow to view a youtube video of an example of whatever it is they are talking about in that page. Its packed with visual content. Also, every picture in the book has a description of what camera settings and mount were used to capture it. The only thing I don't like about the book is that some pages don't have a page number, which can be a little annoying as you're trying to find a particular section. That is really the only complaint I have. I plan to come back and edit this review to include additional information as I read and become more familiar with the book. It is so much information it might take a while, but at least you now have an idea of what content the book has. Definitely get this book if you're a newbie looking for inspiration and more know-how. It will make the learning curve a lot faster.

I have several other GoPro books and might be a bit biased because I have read much of this information already. When I read "professional guide" in the title I was hoping for a bit more. But if you don't have any other GoPro books, this one will certainly cover pretty much all you need to know until your own experience teaches you advanced tricks and tactics.

I'm loving this book! As a long time Gopro fan I've often wondered how they got certain shots using their cameras and this book explains how they got them! From swivel mounts on helmets, to torpedo like devices towed behind boats or parasails it explains just "how they did it". It also includes a few pages that tells the story of how gopro started and where it is today as a company. It's chapters are great and cover all of their mounts, their cameras resolutions and aspects, and even a great few chapters on filmmaking and editing from tips for planning your shoot to the equipment you should bring. While the book is 300 pages, you could read it fairly quickly (I'm almost finished after reading it for three days) as most of the pages are for showing some of the beautiful shots taken with gopro cameras.

This is a rather unique hybrid. It's an encyclopedia of techniques and accessories that can be employed with a GoPro, with lots of concise explanations of mounts and accessories an dhow to use them, It is magnificently illustrated and has tons of print and QR links to external examples and other resources. There's some, but not much explanation and discussion of GoPro techniques, a limited glossary and, in all, not much beyond very general instruction. But, overall, because it is a grab bag of this and that, the book is beautiful, informative and tremendously inspiring - if someone
else can do it, so can I. I love this book and will be coming back to it many times. Excellent value.

Jerry

This is a nice book that reads well, is written well and looks great. The book is not what I expected or wanted. It really is a high level book focused on the concepts and theories of GoPro film making. It is not a detailed instruction manual on GoPro software or hardware. A lot of it is a historical review of GoPro. Interesting and well done but I wanted the how to nitty gritty.

This is a well-written, well-organized book. There is a lot of information in here that helps you put videos together that don't suck! The recommendations for each resolution and FOV are spot-on. About the only complaint I have is that the book focuses on the HERO4 Black. I have the HERO 4 Silver and a Session and can't get the some of the settings the author recommends. Other than that, this is the best book out there on film-making.

This book was a gift for my son. He posts his outdoor activity videos on You Tube, (fishing, kayaking, snowboarding, mountain biking, etc.). He has been using a GoPro for quite some time. He really liked this book. It is dog-eared, and the cover is bent from use. I find it laying around the house in odd places, like he carries it around with him. When asked he said it is a good book. Coming from him is like someone else jumping up and down and screaming, THIS IS A GREAT BOOK! I notice his videos look a lot more complex and sophisticated now, and believe that tips he found in this book are the reason So, I'd say that GoPro users would find a lot of useful information in this book, though I have not personally read it myself.

"GoPro: Professional Guide to Filmmaking" by Bradford Schmidt, was given, along with "How to Photograph Absolutely Everything: Successful Pictures from Your Digital Camera" by Tom Ang. The recipient has a GoPro camera and is very interested in photography. He was happy with both of the books and said there was plenty of information which he could use with both his digital and GoPro. He read both books soon after they arrived which, I think, speaks highly for the readability and content.

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