

STOP MOTION ASSIGNMENT

Assignment requirements: you will work in groups of (up to) two people, creating a 15-30 second animated stop motion video using still images, shot with a digital camera. Your stop motion movie will have a soundtrack, titles and credits. (See the assignment for student examples.

STORY REQUIREMENTS

Your story needs a beginning middle and an end. Your movie is a little narrative. It doesn't have to be an epic motion picture, but it does need a storyline.

1. Example: Magic Room Storyline -Your room is messy. Clothes and stuff scattered everywhere; then, before the viewers' eyes, objects gradually move back into place –video ends with a clean room.

EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS

1. Use one of our DSLR cameras NO SMARTPHONE CAMERAS!

2. A TRIPOD! You should use a tripod to keep the camera still while photographing your subject. Otherwise your animation will look choppy and shaky.

IMAGE REQUIREMENTS

1. Shoot lots and lots of photos. Video is usually played at 30 frames/sec. Stop motion is usually shot at 10-15 frames sec. Although this is far fewer images than traditional video, you still need to shoot lots of photos. The more images you shoot the smoother the stop motion animation will be.

•**To give you a rough estimate of the number of shots you'll need, a 15 second animation would need about 150-225 images. A 30 second animation would need 300-450 images.**

CREATING THE VIDEO

1. EDIT YOUR PHOTOS Using Bridge

- Open your file of images in Bridge.
- Use it to delete the bad photos (overexposed, or out of focus) and to put your images in the proper sequence.

2. BATCH RESIZE YOUR IMAGES USING PHOTOSHOP

- Images shot with a DSLR are too big to use in a stop motion video. You don't want to resize all your images individually, luckily, you can create a Photoshop "action" to "batch resize" your images all at once.

•Here is a brief YouTube video that explains [How To Batch Resize in Photoshop](#)

3. CREATE YOUR VIDEO USING iMOVIE on your desktop computers.

To create your stop motion, watch this [iMovie Stop-Motion Tutorial](#)

- Add audio:** music, sound effects, etc
- Add titles**

4. EXPORT YOUR iMOVIE AS A FILE ON YOUR DESKTOP

- Use the "share" icon to save your project as a "File" then use the pulldown to select the resolution 1080p setting. **Name your video:** your initials stopmotion.

NAME _____

NAME _____

PERIOD _____

STOP MOTION BRAINSTORMING EXERCISE

This exercise is to get you thinking creatively as you explore your concepts.

1) Talk with your partner and discuss two ideas for a stop motion movie project. You are not committed to these ideas, this is merely a starting point to get you thinking about your possibilities.

2) Write down your stop motion movie ideas, and some of the techniques you might use to create your movie. (location, camera angle, framing, actors)

3) Use the back of this paper to fully explore your ideas.

a) Once you have decided on a theme for your movie, illustrate that concept by drawing a "storyboard" on the back of this page.

b) This storyboard is just a frame-by-frame sketch –think "animae" that communicates the highlights of your storyline. Use stick figures for your drawings.

c) Describe camera angles, and types of shots you will be using...

