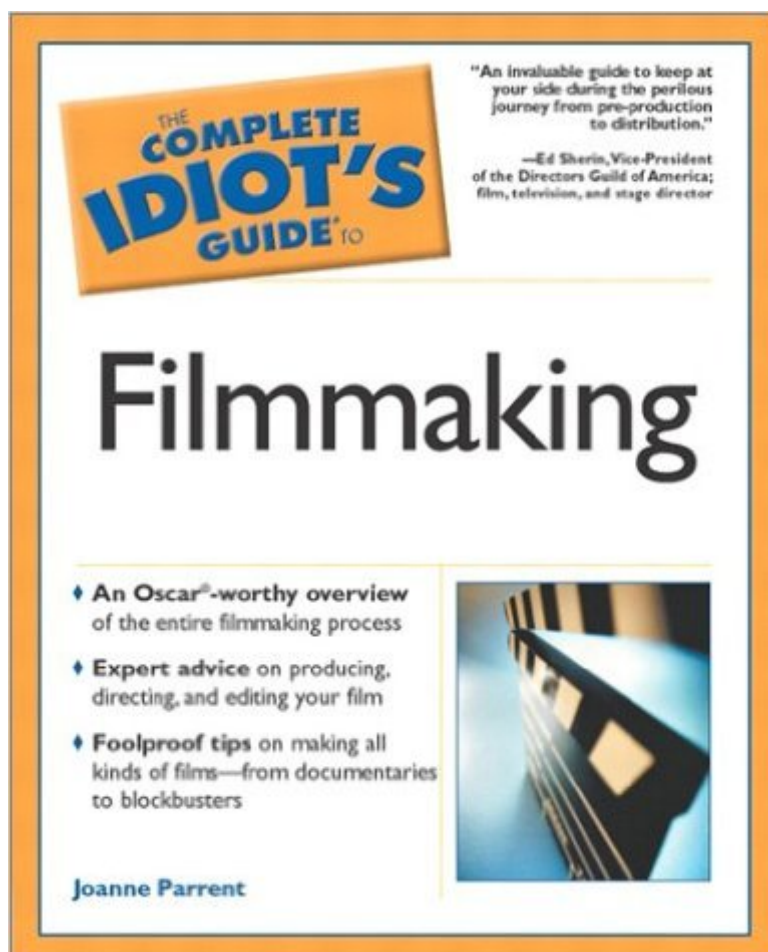


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# The Complete Idiot's Guide To Filmmaking



## Synopsis

The most comprehensive introduction to film making. Some how-to books on filmmaking focus on making specific types of films, such as short dramatic films or documentaries. Others focus on one aspect of filmmaking, such as directing or editing. Still others focus on a particular medium, such as digital filmmaking.

## Book Information

Series: The Complete Idiot's Guide

Paperback: 341 pages

Publisher: Alpha; 1st edition (March 7, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0028643402

ISBN-13: 978-0028643403

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 7.3 x 0.9 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 3.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,640,619 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #30 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Amateur Production](#) #1371 in [Books > Business & Money > Industries > Sports & Entertainment](#) #1885 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment > Movies > Video > Direction & Production](#)

## Customer Reviews

This book was an enormous help for me. As an (former) amateur in the 'biz', there were techniques contained within that helped me put my script into shape for presentation. The top ten reasons why scripts get rejected inspired me to rethink my structure before I submitted it for representation. I made quick changes, and actually obtained representation by an agent who was impressed with my work. Had I not consulted this manual, I probably would have been rejected....again. By keeping things simple and readable for a low level audience, the author keeps the perspective on the basic fundamentals of writing and shooting for beginners. This book will not provide you with equipment, motivation, or experience, you have to provide your own. The chapter on directing, and in particular the areas of creating movement and the rules of three, were valuable tools for me when I shot my first short. Since I did not go to USC film school, nor is my family in the 'biz', these tips really helped me out and were crucial in my completing a competent product that I was able to submit to Slamdance. Now I can save the \$20,000.00 I would have spent at film school and shoot another

short, and gain more hands-on experience. I was puzzled by a previous bitter review of this book. This text is only a guide for beginners, and clearly not meant for the seasoned, well established professional. If you have knowledge of, and access to, complex and sophisticated equipment, along with the skills to operate it, you obviously don't need this manual. I did.

As an aspiring filmmaker, I have found the opening sections, describing the history of the film industry, the basics of film theory, and production basics, the most helpful. Joanne Parrent provides an ideal springboard. Even a budding film critic will find these chapters informative and necessary. The latter sections of the book describe scriptwriting, production schedules, budgeting, editing, post-production, and distribution. Clearly, Parrent intends this book to be kept at the filmmaker's side during each stage of production of her first film-and subsequent films. It will be at my side.

Joanne Parrent plagiarized an article I wrote in 2000 called "Film Festival Strategy: Guerilla Marketing" and published it in this book under her own name. I contacted Mike Saunders, the editor of the book, and he admitted that she had used my work without permission. I sued them but lost, they had much better attorneys than I did. Anyway, you can enjoy my writing in this book if you decide to purchase it. I agree with the other reviewer that said the book was a "wanna be's dream and a professional's nightmare". Except the part I wrote, can't remember which pages they were but just look for the word for word copy of my article. You can Google my version and compare and contrast.

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