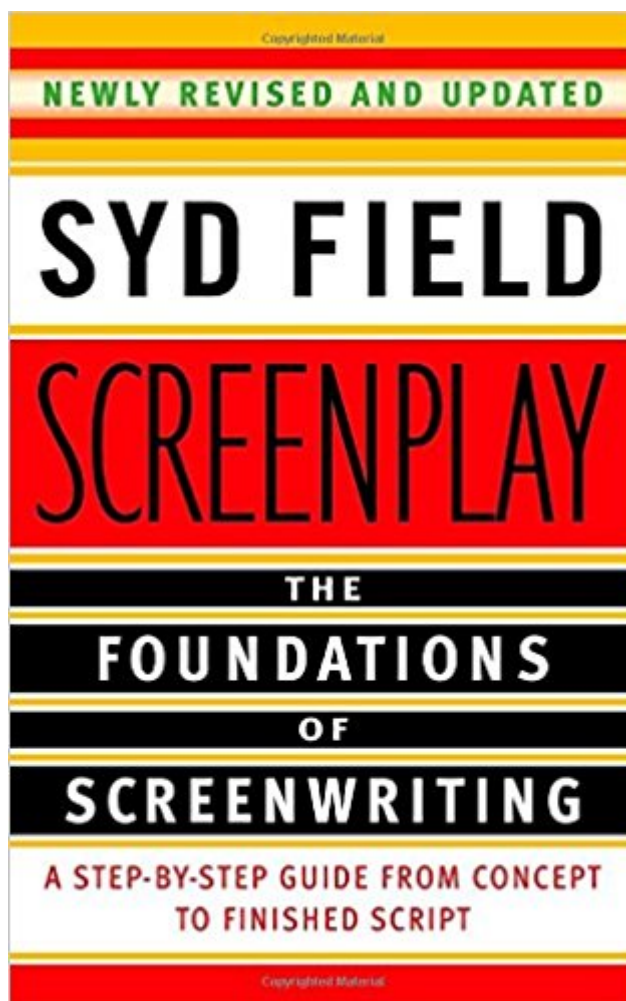


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# Screenplay: The Foundations Of Screenwriting



## Synopsis

A generation of screenwriters has used Syd Field's bestselling books to ignite successful careers in film. Now the celebrated producer, lecturer, teacher, and bestselling author has updated his classic guide for a new generation of filmmakers, offering a fresh insider's perspective on the film industry today. From concept to character, from opening scene to finished script, here are easily understood guidelines to help aspiring screenwriters—from novices to practiced writers—hone their craft. Filled with updated material—including all-new personal anecdotes and insights, guidelines on marketing and collaboration, plus analyses of recent films, from *American Beauty* to *Lord of the Rings*—*Screenplay* presents a step-by-step, comprehensive technique for writing the screenplay that will succeed in Hollywood.

Discover:

- Why the first ten pages of your script are crucially important
- How to visually “grab” the reader from page one, word one
- Why structure and character are the essential foundation of your screenplay
- How to adapt a novel, a play, or an article into a screenplay
- Tips on protecting your work—three legal ways to claim ownership of your screenplay
- The essentials of writing great dialogue, creating character, building a story line, overcoming writer's block, getting an agent, and much more.

With this newly updated edition of his bestselling classic, Syd Field proves yet again why he is revered as the master of the screenplay—and why his celebrated guide has become the industry's gold standard for successful screenwriting.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

“Screenplay is one of the bibles of the film trade and has launched many a would-be screenwriter on the road to Hollywood.”  
•Library Journal  
“Syd Field is the preeminent analyzer in the study of American screenplays.”  
•James L. Brooks, Academy Award-winning writer, director, producer

From concept to character, from opening scene to finished script.. Here are easily understood guidelines to make film-writing accessible to novices and to help practiced writers improve their scripts. Syd Field pinpoints the structural and stylistic elements essential to every good screenplay. He presents a step-by-step, comprehensive technique for writing the script that will succeed. -Why are the first ten pages of your script crucially important? - How do you collaborate successfully with someone else? -How do you adapt a novel, a play, or an article into a screenplay? -How do you market your script?

Very useful for a beginner who is considering this branch of literature. It is not the book's fault that so far I have not won an Oscar. Author and reader.

This book was assigned for an online film writing course at Madison College in Madison, Wisconsin. But judging by the reviews, it is a bible for aspiring writers as well as for many big-name Hollywood writers. Like a finely crafted screenplay hooking and deeply touching an audience without a wasted word or scene, each inspiring chapter tells stories that share Field's wisdom accumulated through his own screenwriting practice and by interviewing many screenwriters. By referring to many excellent movies, Field elucidates the craft and highlights the persistence necessary to write and market better movies.

I just finished reading this book and highly recommend it for beginner to successful screenplay writers and anyone in between who wants to learn the art. It's the best book I've read on the subject, well-written and easy to understand, the reader is able to grasp and apply the methods Mr. Field recommends for a great story on screen. You won't be sorry purchasing this book. There's something on every page for everyone no matter what level they are at. This book will help you obtain your goals by showing weakness and strengths of a screen play. I loved it from page one through to the end. Thank you Mr. Field for the time and thought you spent on helping others reach their dreams.

An excellent guide including the advice on legal and financial aspects. I liked the repetition for emphasis; it was good for a novice such as me. The writing style is easy and quite readable. The only place I had trouble was in following his screenplay examples since I hadn't seen most of the films. But, if I took it upon myself to see them, I'm sure his remarks would make a lot of sense.

A great resource for aspiring screen writers

Tons of good information in here. Valuable tips. Outlines what you need to know and gives lots more details and examples. Great read.

Not my first recommendation but not a bad book either

A bunch of people at Francis Ford Coppola's Virtual Studio website recommended this thing, and there was nothing here that I didn't learn under his brother's program, August Coppola. I won't call it a waste of time, but I think it's the kind of book that a novice would benefit from who is looking for more insight into the craft of screenplay writing. The truth is that screenplay writing is not a technical exercise, and involves a lot of self examination and insight into the human soul. I won't spill it all out here, because, hey, I did spend gobs of thousands to learn the craft, but I will say that you could go wrong than to buy this book. But don't expect it to enlighten you if you don't have the talent in the first place.

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