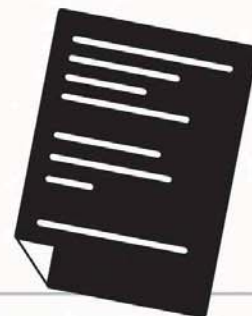




# TV/FILM PRODUCER

## JOB DESCRIPTION

The producer is the linchpin of any TV or film production. The role involves assessing scripts, buying the rights to adapt books for the screen, and securing finance before filming. The producer hires a director and crew, organizes the shooting schedule, and is responsible for ensuring that the project is completed on time and on budget, using a blend of business acumen, creativity, and technical expertise.



### SALARY

Assistant producer ★★☆☆☆  
Experienced producer ★★★★★

### INDUSTRY PROFILE

Most jobs based in large cities •  
Fiercely competitive industry •  
Permanent, salaried jobs becoming rare •  
Growing opportunities in cable and satellite TV

## ▼ RELATED CAREERS

- ▶ **TV/FILM DIRECTOR** *see pp. 44–45*
- ▶ **CAMERA OPERATOR** *see pp. 48–49*
- ▶ **SOUND ENGINEER** *see pp. 50–51*
- ▶ **PRODUCTION ASSISTANT** Acts as a general assistant on a film or TV production, carrying out basic tasks, such as carrying equipment and making deliveries. For hard-working and motivated individuals, this entry-level job can lead to further opportunities in the industry.
- ▶ **PROGRAM RESEARCHER** Contributes ideas for programs, sourcing contacts and contributors. Program researchers also collect, verify, and prepare information for film, TV, and radio productions.

The most successful producers are often paid a percentage of a film's box-office takings.

## AT A GLANCE



**YOUR INTERESTS** Film • TV • Drama • Theater • Photography • Videography • Crafts and design technology • English • History • Arts • Economics



**ENTRY QUALIFICATIONS** There are no defined entry qualifications. A degree in film production or similar is useful, and a showreel of work is essential.



**LIFESTYLE** Producers work long and irregular hours to ensure that projects finish on time. Working during weekends and holidays is common.



**LOCATION** Based in an office, producers need to travel to studios, casting sessions, and to oversee location shoots, some of which may be abroad.



**THE REALITIES** Finding work is tough in this competitive industry. Balancing the creative, practical, and financial aspects of a project can be stressful.

## CAREER PATHS

There is no set path to becoming a film or TV producer, and no defined route for progression. In this industry, dedication and excellent networking skills are key to finding work.

**ASSISTANT** You can gain experience in production work in the role of an assistant. You will perform administrative tasks, working either on set or in an office.



**GRADUATE** Earning a bachelor's degree in film and TV production or media studies may increase your chances of finding work in this competitive field.



**TV/FILM PRODUCER** Working as an associate producer—who performs many of the tasks of a producer, under their direct supervision—can be a stepping stone to becoming a producer yourself. You can then specialize in a particular type of production.



**COMMERCIAL PRODUCER** Produces TV commercials for advertisers, working on every aspect of the project, from writing to shooting and editing.



**CORPORATE VIDEO PRODUCER** Manages the production of videos for a range of purposes, such as business training and conferences, or award ceremonies and industry conventions.



**VIDEO GAME PRODUCER** Handles different aspects of video game development to ensure that it is being produced on schedule and to budget. This role requires an undergraduate degree in game design, computer science, or digital media.



**EXECUTIVE PRODUCER** Oversees the work of a producer on behalf of a studio or a project's backers. Usually focuses on the financial and creative aspects of production, as opposed to technical issues.



## SKILLS GUIDE



Strong organizational skills for managing creative and technical processes on time and to budget.



Excellent communication and interpersonal skills for team work during the production process.



Creative flair to help interpret how a script can be presented through visual images and sound.



Endurance and stamina for dealing with a range of responsibilities, often within tight schedules.



Commercial awareness to manage resources effectively and raise the necessary finance for projects.