
Overview

This Standard is about your ability to produce script breakdowns and budgets for physical special effects in line with script and production requirements. You will need to liaise with heads of department, suppliers, health and safety representatives and any other relevant organisations in order to confirm that effects can be achieved safely. This will usually involve taking into account the parameters of period, location and authenticity. It assumes you have a full knowledge and awareness of the materials, labour and resources required to produce specific physical special effects. This knowledge is key when preparing a breakdown and budget for production. This Standard is for you if you research, design and plan physical special effects.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

1. research and prepare budgets in sufficient detail for effects to be designed, created and implemented
 2. break down scripts to ascertain the details of required effects in accordance with production requirements
 3. provide a brief, supported by storyboards, and visualisations when required, that is documented in line with production requirements
 4. confirm that the required level of insurance is in place to create and deliver the effect
 5. confirm with relevant people that effects can be achieved in compliance with health and safety legislation and that certificates and licenses are current and valid
 6. consult appropriate individuals and companies about documented briefs to make sure designs are possible and appropriate
 7. document all aspects of risk management in required formats, providing this to others when required
 8. identify articles and materials most appropriate for each effect
 9. use reliable information about location and cost of identified articles and materials to assess impact upon production budgets and schedules
 10. specify what is needed to design, build, test and execute effects

SKSPSFX01

Prepare script breakdowns and budgets for physical special effects



to meet production requirements

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

1. how to read a script and production requirements to consider when producing script breakdowns, including safety, the period of the script, location and required authenticity of articles and materials
 2. how to liaise with relevant production personnel to ensure designs are safe, possible and appropriate
 3. the different types of materials and resources needed to produce physical special effects
 4. how to source or manufacture appropriate articles and materials and how this impacts on production budgets and schedules
 5. how the production process works and how elements within this are achieved
 6. how other departments interact with physical special effects, in particular camera, stunts, hair and make up, costume and visual effects
 7. how to work in collaboration to achieve effects
 8. when it is appropriate to provide storyboards, visualisations and drawing aids and how to provide them
 9. how to budget all elements of designs, including labour, resources and manufacture, ensuring that appropriate insurance is included

10. risk assessment processes and management

Developed by	ScreenSkills
Version Number	3
Date Approved	01 Mar 2017
Indicative Review Date	01 Mar 2020
Validity	Current
Status	Original
Originating Organisation	Creative skillset
Original URN	skssfx01
Relevant Occupations	Arts, Media and Publishing, Special Effects Trainee, Special Effects Technician, Special Effects Senior Technician, Special Effects Supervisor
Suite	Physical Special Effects
Keywords	Physical special effects; Scripts; Design; Plan; Breakdown; Budget