

# Digital Video Production Cookbook

By Chris Kenworthy from O'Reilly Digital Studio \$29.95 USD

First Edition November 2005

Pages: 192

ISBN 10: 0-596-10031-0 | ISBN 13: 9780596100315

<http://oreilly.com/catalog/9780596100315/index.html>

## A review by George Hawkins

Digital Video Production Cookbook is a must have book for want-to-be filmmakers. It also provides a cornucopia of information that could be valuable to home videographers. This book provides a comprehensive overview of techniques that produce effects used by professional production studios.

Over 100 professional techniques are described and demonstrated with hints on how to achieve many of them without having to use expensive equipment.

I have observed many of the techniques described in this book in films and television productions without realizing that an effect was being used to simulate actions not actually filmed or to enhance the viewers understanding of the story line.

The techniques are categorized as Lighting Effects, Camera Illusions, Camera Movement, Editing Illusions, Production Effects, Visual Effects, Safe Stunts, Advanced Effects, Night Shoots, Weather, Sound, and Makeup. In addition to the written descriptions, there are ample color pictures to illustrate what is being explained.

Author Chris Kenworthy has written, produced and directed award winning films, and has had extensive experience in the film industry. This excellently written book allows him to share his knowledge and expertise with anyone who wants to improve their video making skills.

My interest in video involves informing, educating and demonstrating concepts and ideas rather than drama. I'll probably be able to use just a few of the techniques described, but being aware of what can be done and how it can be accomplished should contribute significantly to the results I get.