

SITE REVIEWS

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SPECIAL FEATURE

Online Help For Filmmakers

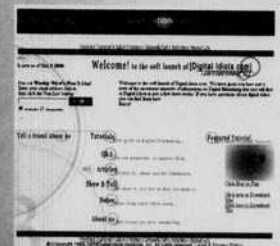
If you've been dreaming of filmmaking success along the lines of *The Blair Witch Project*, but you just don't know how to move beyond lackluster footage of your roommates stumbling around the quad, help is available. Naturally, the Internet boasts dozens of moviemaking web sites—here's a roundup of the best.



The key to getting your movie distributed is getting it seen, and moviemaker.com will tell you how to do it. This web magazine has lists of upcoming festivals plus entry info and tons of informative articles about every-

thing from literary agents to what type of insurance is needed for filmmakers. Makingfilm.com is another weekly mag with feature articles, news, reviews, and message boards for budding filmmakers.

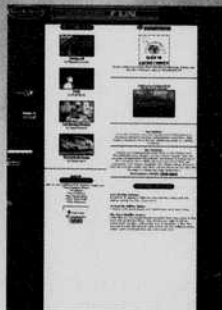
Digitalidiots.com is the go-to site for tech help in digital filmmaking. Though it's still in "soft launch" phase, Digital Idiots is already jam-packed with great resources, including a "personal guru," who will guide you through every step of the digital process. The site has an online multimedia help desk, Q&A pages, and self-lead tutorials for camera work, sound and lighting. There



is also a "show and tell" section, in which digital film directors give behind the scenes insight into their work.

Another place to get great first hand information is invite.to/cineparlance.com, which features interviews with directors big and small. This site is also packed with links for indie filmmakers.

If you have a bunch of shorts lying around, head to minutemovies.com, a free forum for displaying and promoting independent shorts. The site allows viewers to rate and review featured shorts (30 minutes or less) and includes interviews with directors. There's also a great film festival department that lists all the news and highlights from festivals around the world.



As in any other business, success in the film industry is directly related to your ability to stay informed and on top of what's going on in your industry. Sites that let you pick the brains of experienced filmmakers include 2pop.com, which boasts workshops, discussion groups and equipment reviews for digital filmmaking.

You don't have to go to USC to learn your trade, there are plenty of online courses available, including cyberfilmschool.com, where you can guide yourself through classes taught by some of Hollywood's bigwigs. This Internet film school comes complete with chapters, assignments, and yes, exams, complete with streaming video and hints from top directors.

So instead of blindly shooting footage that just ends up stacked in your closet, consult some of these online resources—it could be just the push you need to get your art out there. •



SPORTS

Todayssports.com todayssports.com

Clearly a site for the boys, this sporting news page has decent AP sports coverage. If you're looking for staff writers with a witty edge, you'll have to make do with the models and a professional cheerleader who write the only original articles on the site, the "Spa Report." The site has a modest photo gallery including a daily sports photo, daily cheerleader photo and a weekly celebrity photo. Good for a quick update, or when you just can't wait to find out how the cheerleaders are doing. *MSpilberg*
Content: B- Usability: B

MOVIES

The Hollywood Network hollywoodnet.com

Hollywoodnet.com takes you through the world of 'intertainment' (entertainment on the web). They have short films you can watch with Windows Media Player, links to music broadcast over the net, TV shows, web series—which are commentary series, and slightly outdated movie trailers. The films are entertaining but vary in quality, style, length and cheesiness. This is a fun site to browse when bored, and who knows, you might be visiting weekly for the new Taylor Mead show, or the new tracks on Global House. *TMaor*
Content: B- Usability: B



ZINES

The New York Press nypress.com

The *New York Press* is an unconventional, New York-based weekly paper. But it should appeal to more than just New Yorkers, with political commentary, excellent music and art criticism, and interesting writing on a wide range of subjects. Rightward-leaning readers will especially enjoy the political writing and "Taki's Top Drawer," a