

# Crane Techniques

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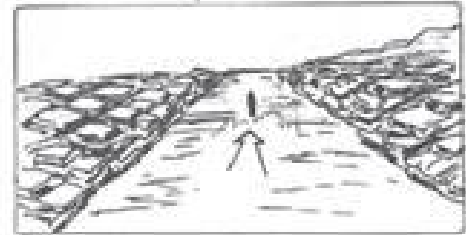
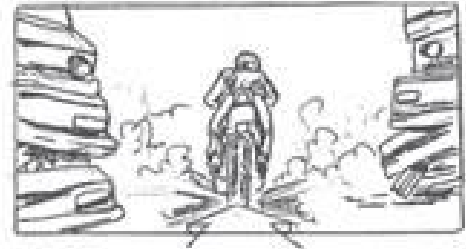
# Overview

- ❖ Cranes are mechanical devices
- ❖ Vary in sizes [ex: in a truck vs. lifted in space]
- ❖ Largest cranes create wide, sweeping movements
- ❖ Usage of cranes add dramatic impact
- ❖ Many different factors involved in crane techniques
- ❖ We all have viewed a million cranes techniques



# Crane Up, Move Away

- ❖ Camera starts at eye level with a scene that contains moving objects
  - For example an actor on horseback
- ❖ As the actor moves away from us, the camera will crane **up**
- ❖ This intensifies the action



*Crane Up, Move Away*

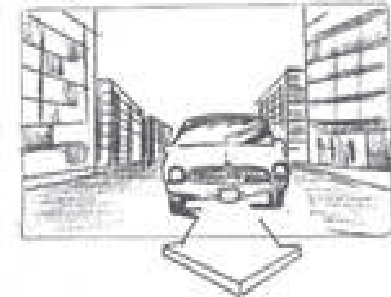
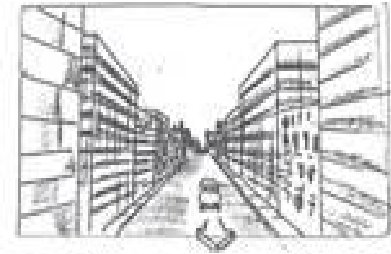
Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 28



# Crane Down, Move Towards

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- ❖ Opposite technique of crane up, move away
- ❖ Subject starts far away from the crane and moves towards the camera
- ❖ As subject gets closer, the crane moves down (usually to ground level)



Crane Down, Move Toward

Image from: Setting Up  
Your Shots p. 28

# Searching Crane

- ❖ As character searches, the camera cranes upwards.
- ❖ Gradual effect that causes viewer to understand the magnitude of the search.
- ❖ Specialized crane technique



Searching Crane

Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 29



# Rise Up

- ❖ Camera rises vertically
- ❖ Rising **toward** something [ex: character close up]
- ❖ Technique generally used to look over an obstruction [railing or fence]
  - Taken from perspective of someone standing

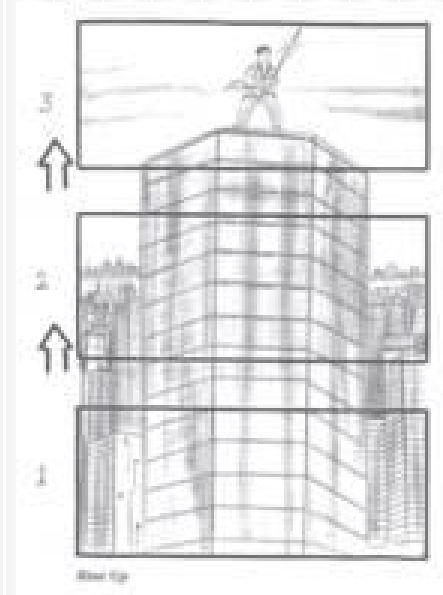


Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 30



# Fall Down

- ❖ Move the camera vertically downward.
- ❖ Used to focus on something on the ground
- ❖ Can create hiding effect
  - When camera cranes vertically behind an object, the audience perceives it as hidden

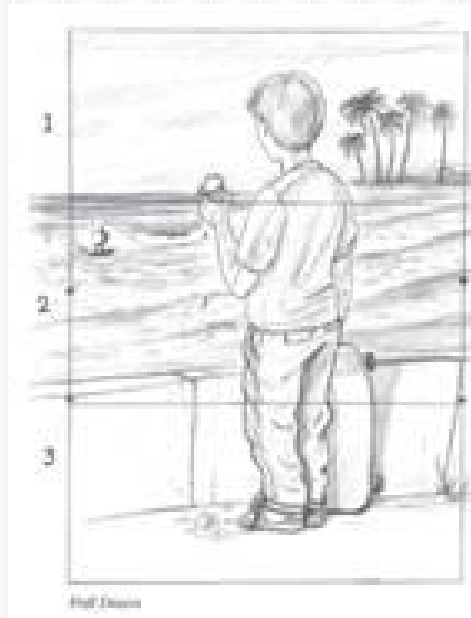


Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 31

# Crane Front-To-Top

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- ❖ Camera begins directly in front of the subject
- ❖ Camera moves forward and rises up at the same time, pivoting downward to keep focus on the subject.
- ❖ Movement is completed when the camera sits directly above the subject.
- ❖ Adds drama and character to the scene



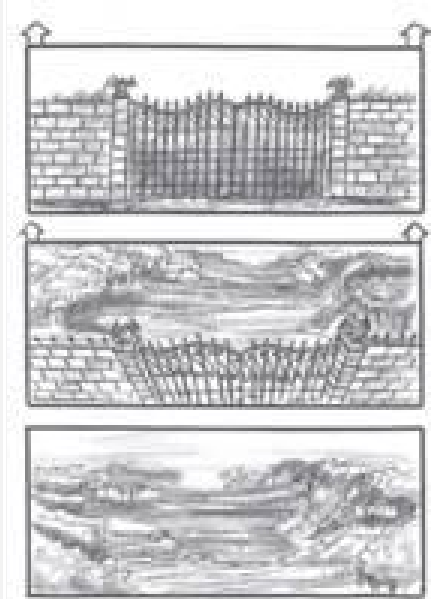
Crane Front-To-Top

Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 32



# Crane Up Entrance

- ❖ Seen in adventure films
  - Used when characters enter a town or village.
- ❖ Camera stops at the entrance and cranes upwards, revealing a view of the entire setting
- ❖ Clues the viewer in on what the characters may face on their journey



Crane Up Entrance

Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 33

A dark, moody landscape of Scotland. In the foreground, a dark, textured field stretches across the frame. In the middle ground, several bare, dark trees stand against a backdrop of rolling hills. In the distance, a small, light-colored building, possibly a castle or a large house, is visible on a hillside. The sky is overcast with dark, heavy clouds. The overall atmosphere is somber and historical.

SCOTLAND. TEN MONTHS EARLIER.

# Crane Up Expression

- ❖ Camera movement that creates an emotional response
- ❖ Crane the camera quickly upward during an emotionally intense scene
- ❖ Can create emotional detachment or expression of the grand nature of life



Crane Up Expression

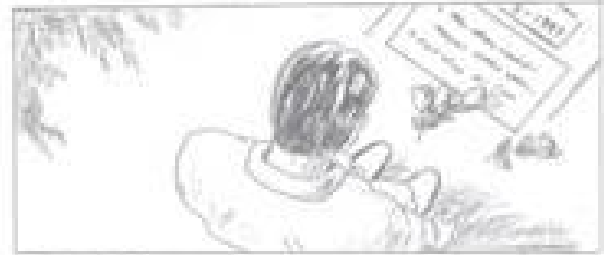
Image from: Setting Up Your Shots  
p. 34



# Crane Up, Look Down

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- ❖ Camera rises above the subject and tilts down
- ❖ Allows the viewer to see what is on the ground below
- ❖ Adds dramatic angle from above



Crane Up, Look Down

Image from: Setting Up Your Shots p. 35



# Crane Down, Look Up

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- ❖ Begins with a level camera angle
- ❖ Camera moves down and tilts up at the subject
- ❖ Adds excitement to a previously static angle

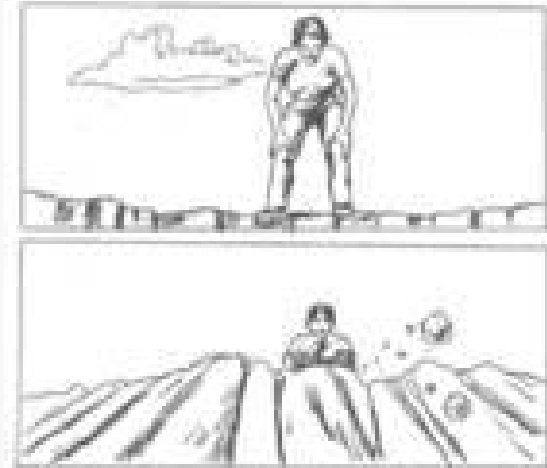
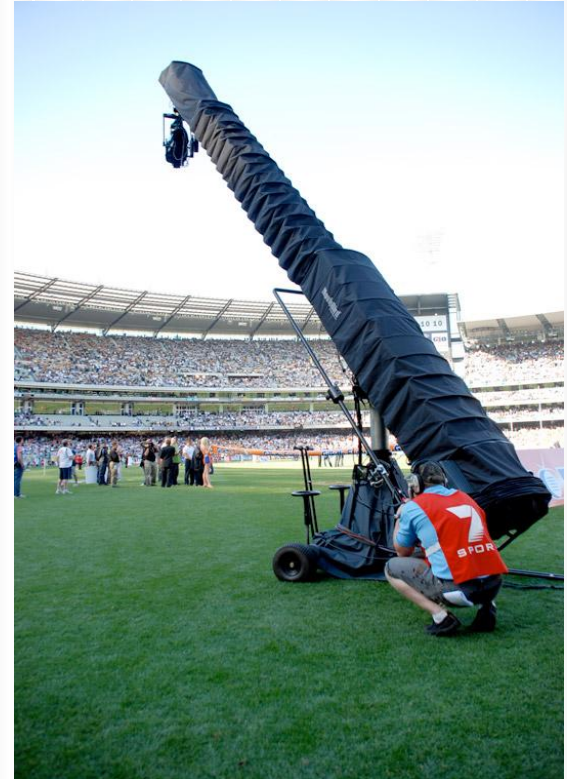


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p. 36



# Conclusion

- ❖ Cranes play a large role in movie production.
- ❖ They create effects and enhance the scenes, allows for diversity within scenes
- ❖ Have the ability to make a scene extremely dramatic and evoke a lot of emotion
- ❖ Allows audience to experience actions and emotions from subject's perspective





# **Thank You**

Sarah Graham, Becca Gonzales, and Eleanor Brow