

BBC RADIO FORMAT: SCENE STYLE

by

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Every script should have a title page with one contact address only in the bottom left hand corner. Always include a phone number and an e-mail address if you have one.

If you have an agent, the address and number can go here. A draft number or date is not required on a spec script.

SCENE 1.

SCENE STYLE IS THE BBC'S HOUSE FORMAT
GENERALLY USED FOR DRAMA, PLAYS AND
NON-AUDIENCE COMEDY. TECHNICAL
DIRECTIONS FOR SOUND AND MUSIC APPEAR IN
CAPITALS UNDERLINED TO DISTINGUISH THEM
FROM DIALOGUE. OPTIONAL SCENE NUMBERS
AND HEADINGS INDICATE THE START OF A NEW
SEQUENCE. A SEQUENCE IN A RADIO PLAY
MIGHT BE ONE LINE LONG OR LAST FOR 20
PAGES, AND CAN BE ANYTHING FROM A
MONOLOGUE TO A COLLECTION OF BRIEF
SCENES OR SOUND EFFECTS.

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CHARACTER #1: (V.O.) Voiceover indicates a character who is narrating over sound, music or dialogue.

CHARACTER #2: (D) Distort indicates a character who is speaking via a mechanical device like a telephone or radio.

CHARACTER #1: (LOW) Indicates that the actor should speak quietly, almost in a whisper.

CHARACTER #2: (CLOSE) Indicates that the actor should be in close proximity to their individual microphone giving an intimate feel to the dialogue.

SCENE 4.

DON'T FORGET TO NUMBER ALL OF YOUR PAGES - PAGE ONE BEGINS WITH SCENE ONE, NOT THE TITLE PAGE. AND KEEP ALL YOUR PAGES TOGETHER WITH A SIMPLE PAPER BINDER IN THE TOP LEFT CORNER. UNFASTENED PAGES CAN BECOME SEPARATED FROM THE REST OF THE SCRIPT AND GET LOST! IT IS CUSTOMARY TO SIGN-OFF A RADIO SCRIPT IN THE FOLLOWING WAY:

END