



MURPHY'S DIGITAL VIDEO LAWS

If you have planed your filming for a sunny day, the rain will pour down. Umbrellas do work, but you'll have difficulties find ones large enough for the various scenes.

If you have planed your filming for a rainy day, the sun will burn constantly. Sun block 40+ might come in handy and should be a part of your kit

If you intend to use only the magic hour in morning, you need to get up before noon.

If you intend to use the magic hour in the evening, you can't go to bed 6 pm.

Make sure to give the right location and directions to your crew. Solo filming isn't THAT fun. Crews tend to wonder off without proper directions. Give them a map with clear markings. If any of them can handle a GPS, it might be wise to issue them with one or drive yourself.

Crew works best if they have been fed. In order to avoid unpleasant revolts, have some food prepared or know that you can buy some. Survival films are great – if it's a survival film you are making.....

Coffee breaks are highly valued among the lower people. Every hour on the hour or more – take that into consideration when planning your day.

Obtain the right permits for the location. Landowners might fire their shotguns upon trespassers. If shot, you will bleed.

If you think you'll have a second chance to get the scene right, that will never happen. When you do get that second chance, it's not the second chance. That would be the first chance for the next scene.

Think of the worst that might happen to your scene – and it will.

Think of the best that might happen to your scene – and it won't.

Picture your perfect film in your head and forget about it. Settle with what you get, because that's what you are going to get.

It is possible to get insurance for most things – including insurance for forgetting your insurance. Might save you a couple of bucks – if you have any in the first place.

If you are sure they have enough power sockets on location, you'll suddenly find yourself in need of a generator. Plus a huge bill when making sure the near by town is without power for a couple of hours.

If you think the few sockets available have with the right dimensions, you find yourself in need for a power transformer.



When you think that all the equipment that you are missing can be bought once you figure out what you are missing, think again.

When you think you have charged your battery to the maximum, it's most likely almost empty. Spare batteries don't recharge themselves either. Doesn't matter that it was fully charged when you left them. Either way, your charger will be at your house when you need it in the field.

Most cameras don't like to take baths or get wet in other ways. Proper rain protection WILL come in handy. And if you have a scene under water, use under water cameras or housing.

Make sure to remove your lens cap before you start shooting. Black video isn't very beautiful and hardly anything the public will notice.

When you are sure somebody will remember this and that, nobody will step in and say that somebody has done it. Anybody could have done it, but somebody was supposed to do it. When it's not done, somebody can't be found and nobody has seen him. Get it?

If you are directing – you are in charge (not the best boy). However, your crew will seldom like a directing dictator. Keep that in mind and you will have a happy crew. Or you can raise their pay and do as you like.

If you are the best boy, don't act like you're the director. That will most likely get you fired.

If you are one of the actors, don't mingle with the others on the set. Actors stick to actors and wise versa.

When you are sure you have enough discs or tape for your filming – you don't. Have at least 10 blank ones available at all times. DV-tapes do NOT have two sides.

When filming with HD – the rest of your system will most certainly only accept ordinary digital video.

When you are filming using ordinary digital video, your client will only accept high definition. That will of course be explained to you after you have finished filming and dismissed everyone.

If you have bought the newest software editing package – you have to buy a new computer as well.

After you have bought the new computer, the software is outdated and old.

Digital video is digital video. When you think you don't need a backup – your original video will go blank. Keep a copy in a safe house miles away. Preferably make 4 copies. Stored at 4 locations



When you think it's about time to save your work, your system WILL shut down just as you touch the "SAVE-button".

Remember that your software use reference points on the timeline. If you erase the original film or picture, your video will get that black and empty look.

Neither 4:3 nor 16:9 is the odds for the latest football matches. They are aspect ratios and will determine how your video will look on the TV. If you like fat people, create 4:3 video and display on a 16:9 TV. If you like slim people, make 16:9 video and display on a 4:3 TV.

