

A script page typed with standard margins looks like this:

1

⁹14.

⁸21 ²EXT. BATTLEFIELD - DAWN ⁸21

³The sun rises crimson over the fallen soldiers. Ragged children move among the dead, searching for survivors. Or a serviceable pair of boots.

⁵UNION CAPTAIN

⁴You younguns, git!

⁶(turning to his men)

Ever'body knows his job. Let's git to it!

The men start reluctantly across the field.

⁷CUT TO:

22 EXT. GRANT'S HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT 22

A fire burns outside a dirty canvas tent. Officers mill. Everyone seems to be waiting for something to happen.

Standard single-camera film format margins

Standard single-camera film format margins are as follows:

1. **Paper** is 3-hole punched 8.5" x 11" white 20 lb. bond.
2. **Shot headings:**
 Left margin is 1.7"
 Right margin is 1.1"
 Line length is 57 characters
3. **Direction:**
 Left margin is 1.7"
 Right margin is 1.1"
 Line length is 57 characters

4. **Dialogue:**
Left margin is 2.7"
Right margin is 2.4"
Line length is 34 characters

5. **Character name over dialogue:**
Left margin is 4.1"
Note that the character name over dialogue is not centered. It begins at the same fixed point (4.1" from the left edge of the page) no matter how long it is.

6. **Parenthetical character direction:**
Left margin is 3.4"
Right margin is 3.1"
Line length is 19 characters

7. **Scene transitions:**
Left margin is 6.0"

8. **Scene numbers:**
Left scene number goes 1.0" from the left edge of the page
Right scene number goes 7.4" from the left edge of the page
Note that scene numbers should not be added by the writer. Scene numbers are added by the production office when a script goes into active preproduction.

9. **Page numbers:**
Go at 7.2", .5" below the top edge of the page.

10. **Font:**
Courier or Courier New 12 point (or equivalent fixed-pitch serif font)

11. **Page length:**
A maximum of 57 lines (which allows for .5" margin at the top and 1" margin at the bottom of each page)

These 57 lines include one line at the top of each page for the page number, followed by a blank line and the text of the script.

See page 28 for a sample with standard single-camera film margins. Use it as a template against which to compare the margins of your own pages.