

Module 4.3 – Camera Movement & Shot Types

Add Energy Without Confusion

Use movement **only when it adds meaning**.
Still shots are powerful. Moving shots are intentional.

1. First Rule: Still Is Not Boring

Before adding movement, ask:

Does this shot need to move?

If the answer is no → **keep it static**.

Static shots are perfect for:

- Talking head videos
 - Tutorials
 - Explanations
 - Emotional moments
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2. Basic Camera Movements (Start Here)

Pan

What it is: Camera rotates left or right

Use it to: follow movement, reveal information

- ✓ Start and stop slowly
 - ✓ Keep speed consistent
 - ✗ Avoid fast, shaky pans
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Tilt

What it is: Camera moves up or down

Use it to: show height, reveal details

- ✓ Tilt slowly
 - ✓ Use it to guide attention
 - ✗ Don't tilt randomly
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3. Moving With the Subject

Tracking Shot

What it is: Camera moves with the subject

Use it to: create flow, bring viewers into the scene

- ✓ Move smoothly
- ✓ Match subject speed
- ✓ Keep camera close to your body

Great for:

- Walk-and-talks
 - Vlogs
 - Behind-the-scenes clips
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Arc Shot

What it is: Camera moves in a gentle curve around the subject

Use it to: add emotion or drama

- ✓ Small arcs work best
 - ✓ Keep distance consistent
 - ✗ Avoid full circles unless intentional
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4. Push-Ins & Pull-Outs

Push-In

Camera moves closer to the subject
Creates intimacy or emphasis

Pull-Out

Camera moves away
Creates distance or reveals context

- ✓ Move slowly
- ✓ Don't zoom unless intentional

👉 *Physical movement feels more natural than zooming.*

5. Handheld vs Stabilized

Handheld

Feels:

- Real
- Immediate
- Personal

Best for:

- Vlogs
 - Behind-the-scenes
 - Emotional moments
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Stabilized

Feels:

- Clean

- Cinematic
- Controlled

Best for:

- Walkthroughs
- Product shots
- Polished content

👉 *Both are valid — choose based on feeling.*

6. Static Shot (Often the Best Choice)

Locked-off shots:

- Feel confident
- Reduce distractions
- Are easiest to edit

- ✓ Use a tripod or solid surface
 - ✓ Let action happen inside the frame
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7. Movement Mistakes to Avoid

- ✗ Moving without purpose
 - ✗ Shaky starts and stops
 - ✗ Overusing movement
 - ✗ Zooming instead of stepping closer
 - ✗ Mixing too many movement styles
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8. Quick Movement Decision Check

Ask:

- What emotion do I want?
- Does movement help or distract?
- Would stillness be stronger?

If unsure → **don't move.**

Pro Reminder

Movement should support the story,
not show off the camera.