

An Overview of the Post-Production Process

Dailies

The day's footage is converted to video for viewing and editing; digital video might need transcoding to a different format for post work.

Location-recorded audio is often synced with picture at this stage; sometimes a guide track is used until picture lock.

Creative Editing

Director and Editor collaborate to edit the footage.

The final edit is referred to as "locked."

Visual FX

CGI (Computer-Generated Imagery)

Graphics and titles

Audio Post-Production

Cleanup of location sound

Addition of background sound and sound effects

Score composition and recording; selection, licensing and editing of additional music

Final mix – original language and foreign version for dubbing

Finishing

Color correction – coherence between shots, artistic effects, etc.

Incorporation of all video work into the completed product

Audio print master completed and married to final picture

Final Deliverables

Domestic and international versions (can vary in both visuals and audio)

Surround (5.1) sound, stereo and mono mixes

DVD, Blu-Ray, output to film, Digital Cinema Package and broadcast master — all have different specs

Cue sheet (detailed list of music used) and clearance documentation

Many other requirements are possible depending on the distribution specifics