SETTING UP PRODUCTION FOR POST

The pre-production phase of your project is the basis of your production. It is at this point you decide on the essential parts that make up the whole such as: locations, shoot date and time, cast, crew, equipment, etc. It is almost always advised to put in some work when it comes to pre-production planning to insure a smooth day when its time to record your program.

Often overlooked in the pre-production phase is planning not only for the production phase (the days you actually film your program), but also planning out what will happen during the shoot to be prepared for post-production. There is a saying: "We'll fix it in post." This is something you will never have to say if you fully plan out your show.

Simply previewing what you've filmed on location can cut the post-production time significantly. Watching what you have filmed (also known as watching "dailies") allows you to pick which recording takes you will be most likely to use during editing, and which scene may need to be reshot or fixed due to an error not noticed during the shoot. This is also a good time to name each clip so that everything is easy to find, organized and ready to drop in your timeline.

Plan out your shot list and what you want to see on the screen. During pre-production, you may choose to use one long take. Long takes require the least amount of work during the editing process, but can take a long time to capture and may require multiple run-throughs and a lot of rehearsal to get them just right; even with well-trained talent.

Depending on the situation, it may be easier to do things in shorter takes and edit them together. Although this method takes more time in post-production, normally you have more freedom and are more relaxed on your shoot day. With this method, you can shoot scenes out of sequence from your script. In fact, most productions are shot this way in order to save time. Shoot all the scene's that are in the first location then, move on to the next location. Put them together in post.