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Jon M. Garon

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By rofder909 First chapter I read was on budgeting. All chapters since then have been the same: this is one of the best and most informative books I've ever read. I have the Kindle version, and am constantly bookmarking pages or highlighting specific information. Union / guild issues are also clearly covered in great detail. What you need to know is here - whether or not you will be partially working as an independent or fully doing so, the knowledge shared in these pages is invaluable.
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Every Film Maker needs this valuable book.
By Chase Bailey I read Jon's first edition around 2005 or so and it has been so valuable to me. It details step by step the process of film making for the independent film maker. Legal, rights, crew, cast, etc. Everything. I use the current edition as my bible each time I start my film making process. Don't make any mistakes that will cost you everything. This is the guide book, the trail blazer. Use it!
0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. A very enlightening read!
By Matthew Pietropaoli I haven't had much chance to REALLY crack into this book, but that's only because there is so much to cover! The first chapter alone makes the purchase worth it with the loads of information it offers. I had no idea how to even begin as an independent filmmaker as far as the business side of things go, but this book proves to be invaluable every time I pick it back up.

Today's explosion of independent and digital filmmaking demands a brass-tacks guide to the business and legal aspects of the process. What fundraising options are available to a filmmaker? When should a filmmaker establish a corporation or limited liability company? How do screenwriters protect their work? What are a director's legal obligations to the producer, cast, and crew--and what are their obligations in return? And why must the filmmaker pay special attention to products and artwork that might appear in the background of a shot? This indispensable resource addresses the legal, financial, and organizational questions that an independent or guerrilla filmmaker must face, and the problems that will doom a project if left unanswered. It demystifies issues such as founding a film company, obtaining financing, preparing a budget, securing locations, shooting, granting screen credits, and distributing, exhibiting, and marketing a film. Newly updated and expanded, this second edition explores concepts such as executing a digital distribution strategy through the use of YouTube and webisodes, the importance of international distribution, and legal issues particular to documentaries. Six handy appendixes provide sample contracts, copyright circulars, Documentary Filmmakers Statement of Best Practices in Fair Use, studio contact information, and more.

"An easy to follow and a valuable resource for those interested in being behind the scenes of a production." Buzzine