Karen J Lloyd's
Storyboard Templates & Tip Sheet

Hey, you're on the Storyboard Club Mailing List!

You've got a tip sheet. And a whole whack of templates.
For FREE and everything. Woo hoo!

Now what?

When do you use them? Which one is which?

Gaaa!

Well, I've put together this little guide to show you around and make things
a little clearer for you.
It's not a full labeling guide or anything (but one is coming!).

This just shows you around to make it easier to choose which ones
will work best for your projects.
OK? Cool. And remember if you ever have any questions or comments,
feel free to email me at:
blog@karenjlloyd.com
I'd love to know what you think.

Enjoy!

Another thing.

If you happened to come by this nifty document by it being passed on to you,
that's totally cool. By all means, pass it around.

If you **like it** and want the scoop on future goodies coming from Karen J Lloyd's
Storyboard Blog, come by and sign up for the **Storyboard Club Mailing List**!
Yeah, really. It'll be awesome.

http://karenjlloyd.com/blog/ or http://storyboardblog.com

P.S.: Yes, those are the same site.
P.P.S: The list is for my eyes only and it's spam-free. I promise.

Karen J Lloyd's
"Planning a Reeeeeally Short Film" Tip Sheet
(as in 10 seconds to 5 minutes short)

- Stick to one idea.

- Be able to explain that idea in one or two sentences.

- It's not about you; it's the audience's experience. Tell a story the audience can connect to in some way.

- Showcase your strengths in your film if it's a portfolio piece.

- Big 'epics' don't work in a very short film. And they have been done to death.

- Try to have only one to three characters in the film.

- Strong characters create strong plot. Spend time developing your characters. They can be doing *anything* if they are interesting.

- In really short films, design the characters to help show their character traits.

- You can't go wrong if you make people laugh. (You don't *have to* though).

- Don't rely on voice-over narration to tell your story.

- A strong story will win out over flashy visuals every time.

- Have a great journey or a great ending (or both). No journey or no ending means no story.

- Choose the right shots to show the audience what they *need to see* to understand your story. The shots tell the story.

- If you can cut a scene out of your film and it still makes sense – cut it.

- Learn screen direction and follow the rules. Don't 'lose' your audience.

- Use sound to your advantage but don't depend on it.

- Spend lots of time tweaking your timing. Good timing is everything.

- Don't make your credits longer than the film.

- If this is a personal (not a class) student project, do the whole film yourself.

- Have fun. It's still hard work but it's supposed to be hard work.

- Keep it simple. Keep it short. Do it really well.

Karen J Lloyd's
Storyboard Template Guide

ACTION:

FX:

4:3 (TV) Vertical Film Template | Karen J Lloyd's Storyboard Blog | http://storyboardblog.com
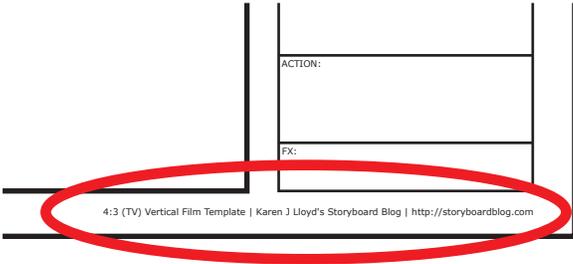
Finding the template's name:

All of the templates are labeled with its screen ratio and name at the bottom right corner.

There are four screen ratios:
- 4:3 for TV
- 16:9 for HDTV
- 1:85 for THEATRE
- 2:35 for THEATRE-WIDESCREEN

SC: BG: PANEL:

SC: SHOT: PANEL:

SLUG:

FX:

The Differences Between 'Animation' and 'Film' Templates.

● **Animation templates have 'SC' (scene), 'BG' (background) and 'PANEL' on frames.**
Everytime you cut to a new scene, the 'SC' number goes higher. If you repeat backgrounds in a new scene, add the original scene number in 'BG' for reference. 'PANEL' refers to how many panels are in a single scene.

● **Film templates have 'SC' (scene), 'SHOT' and 'PANEL' above the frames.**
Use the 'SC' number to refer to the scene number in the script. Use 'SHOT' to indicate the shot number/letter within each scene. Use 'PANEL' to indicate the number of panels within each shot.

● **Animation templates** have 'SLUG' under the 'ACTION' box. This is where you put your timing notes for your animation.

● **Film templates** have 'FX' under the 'ACTION' box. You can indicate any special sound or visual FX here.
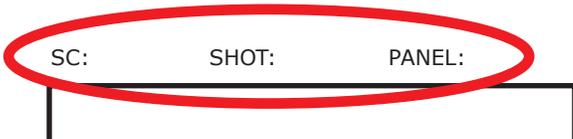
Storyboard Template Guide
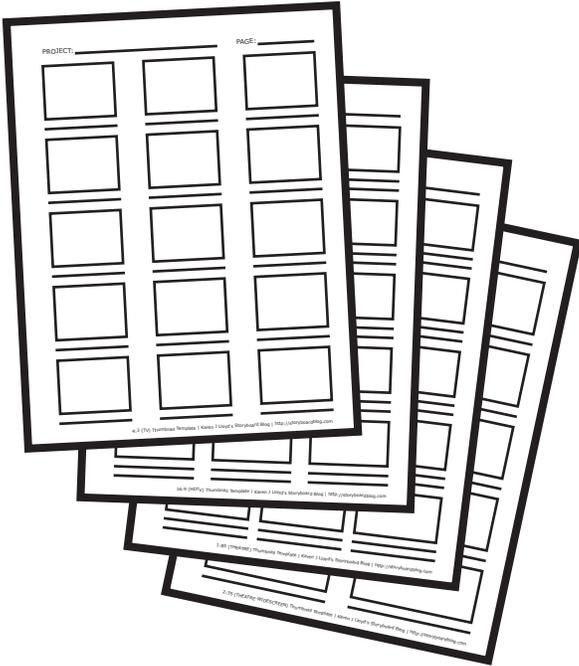
4 Thumbnail Templates

- 4:3 for TV
- 16:9 for HDTV
- 1:85 for THEATRE
- 2:35 for THEATRE-WIDESCREEN

After deciding which format your finished storyboards will be, choose the matching thumbnail template.

Print one out, write in your project title and photocopy them. Write the page numbers as you go.

(This little tip obviously applies to every template. I won't insult your intelligence by repeating it.)
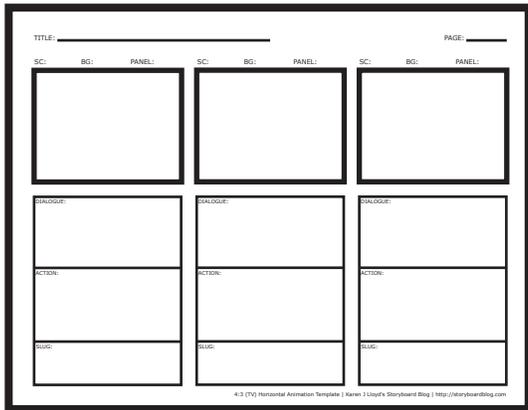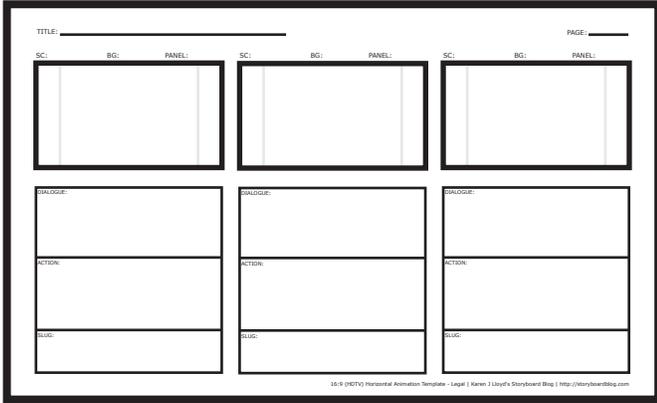
4:3 (TV) Horizontal Animation Template

This template is a good choice for slide and/or video presentations and animated films being shown on traditional computer and/or television screens.
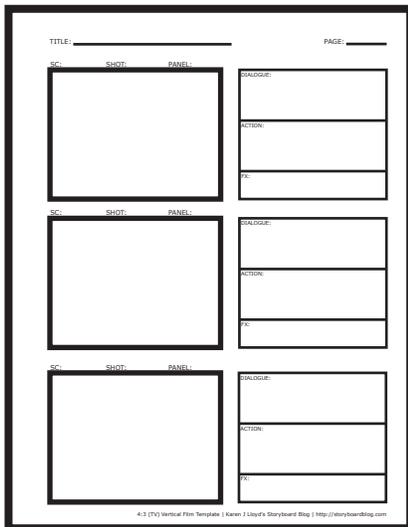
4:3 (TV) Vertical Film Template

This template is a good choice for slide and/or video presentations, live-action or 3D animated films being shown on traditional computer and/or television screens.

Storyboard Template Guide

### 16:9 (HDTV) Horizontal Animation Template - Legal Size Paper

This template is a good choice for animated films and television shows being shown in HDTV and video sharing sites that support HDTV.

The light grey lines are the 'safety zone' in case your project is viewed on 4:3 TV.
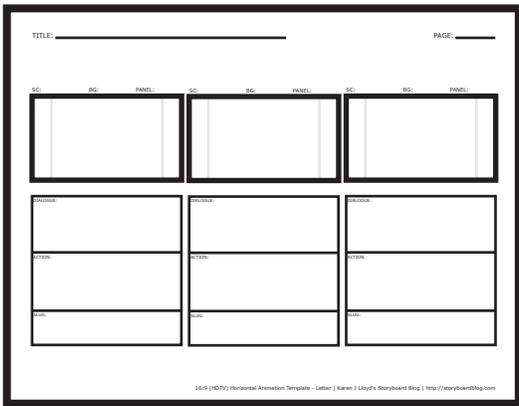
16:9 (HDTV) Horizontal Animation Template - Letter Size Paper

This template is a good choice for animated films and television shows being shown in HDTV and video sharing sites that support HDTV.

The light grey lines are the 'safety zone' in case your project is viewed on standard 4:3 TV.
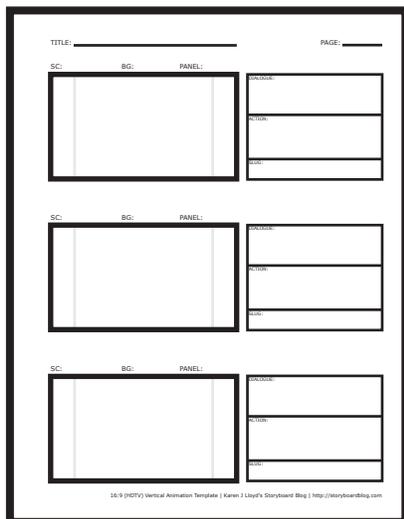
16:9 (HDTV) Vertical Animation Template

This template is a good choice for animated films and television shows being shown in HDTV and video sharing sites that support HDTV.

Using the horizontal or vertical version is your own personal preference.

The light grey lines are the 'safety zone' in case your project is viewed on standard 4:3 TV.

Storyboard Template Guide
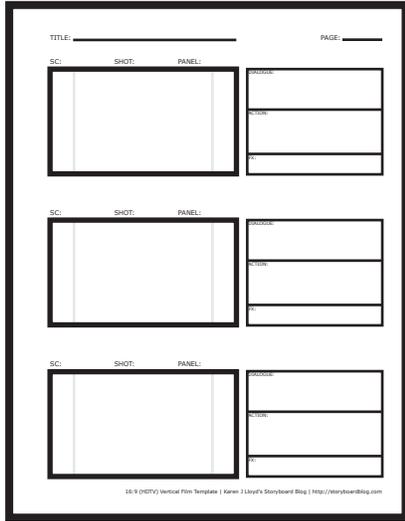
16:9 (HDTV) Vertical Film Template

This template is a good choice for live-action or 3D animated films being shown in HDTV and video sharing sites that support HDTV.

The light grey lines are the 'safety zone' in case your project is viewed on standard 4:3 TV.
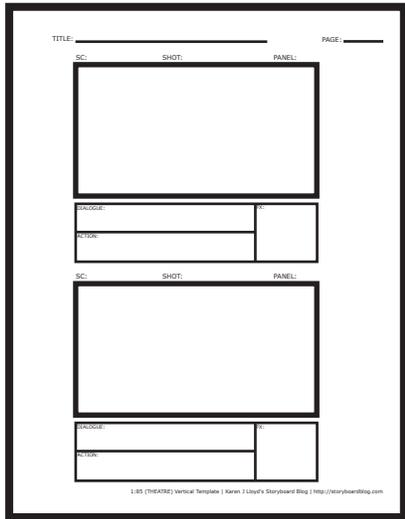
1:85 (THEATRE) Vertical Template

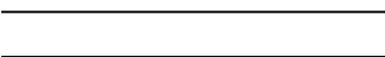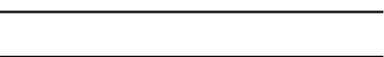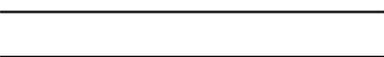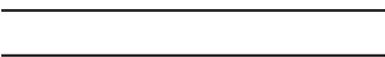This template is a good choice for live-action or animated films being shown on movie theatre screens.
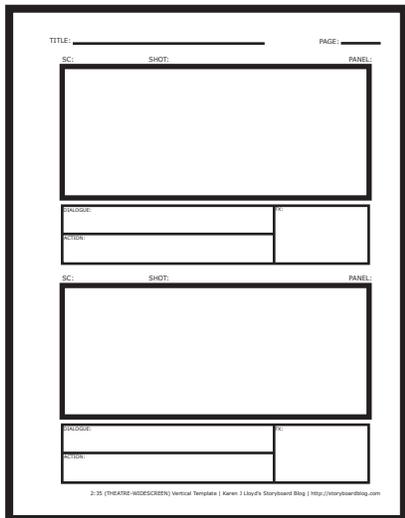
2:35 (THEATRE-WIDESCREEN) Vertical Template

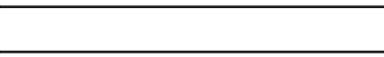This template is a good choice for live-action or animated films being shown on widescreen movie theatre screens.

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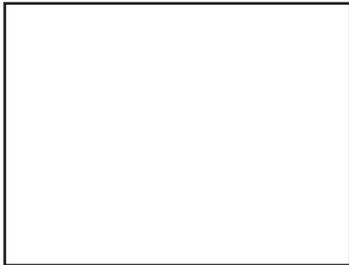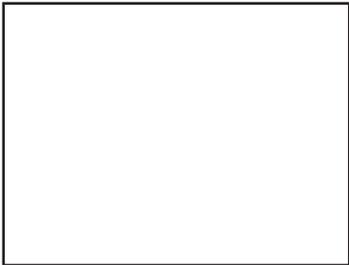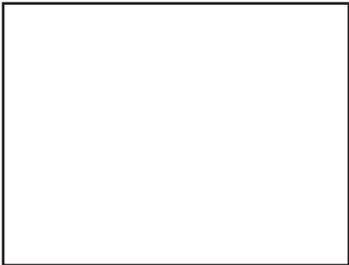
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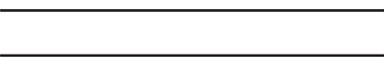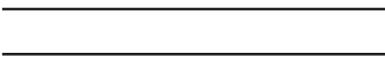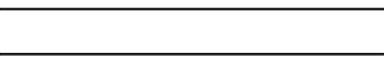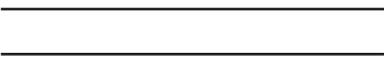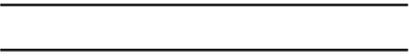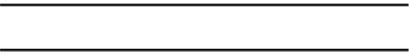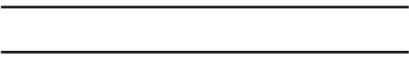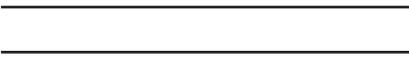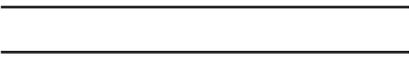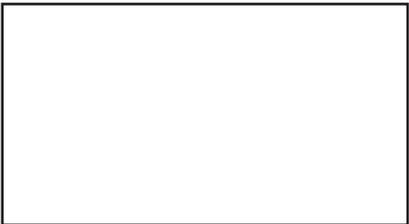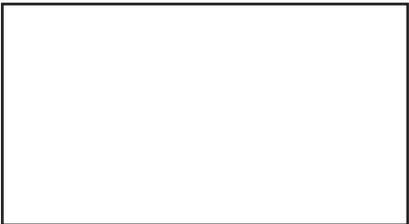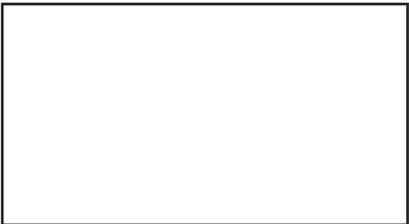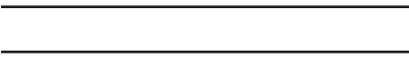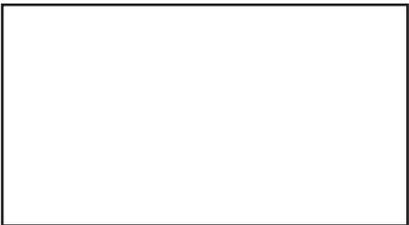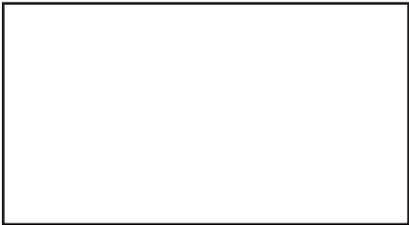
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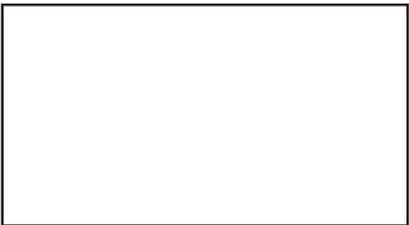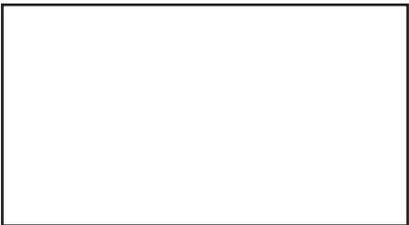
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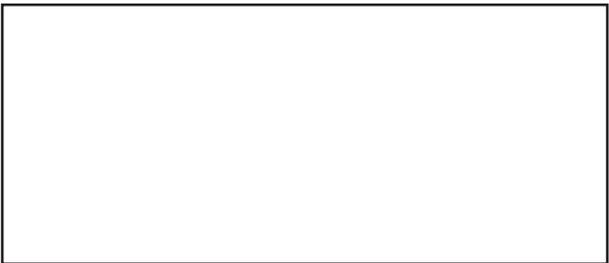SLUG: SLUG: SLUG:
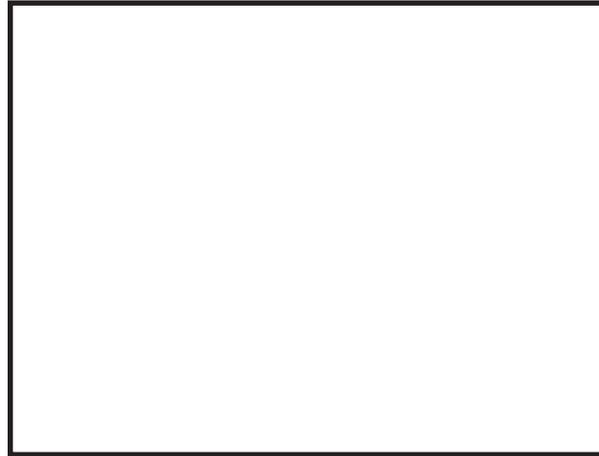
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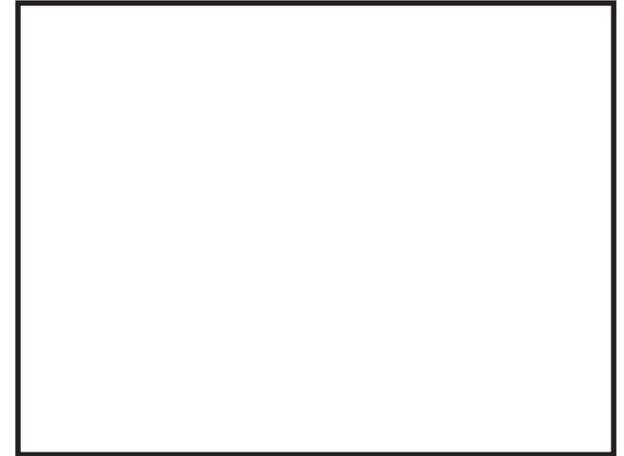
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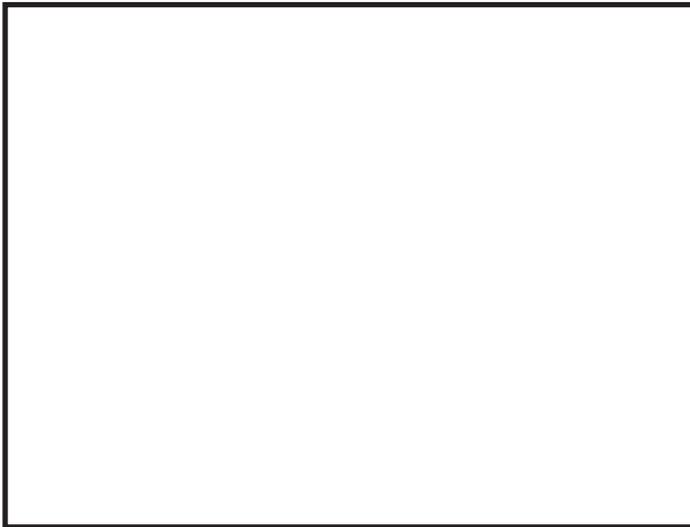
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Karen J Lloyd's Services Page
Feedback: Need it? Get it!

So you're all set!

Pick your template size and print or photocopy a stack of them.
Then go draw some awesome storyboards already!

Need some storyboarding tips?
Visit Karen J Lloyd's Storyboard Blog for lots of free advice.

Got a question?
Email Karen at: blog@karenjlloyd.com

Is your story as strong as it could be?

Not sure?
I can help you with story feedback and storyboard mentoring to make sure it is.
I offer One-On-One Consultations by Skype (or phone) and webcam.
We dive in and find solid solutions for any story-stuckness you may have.

Want to start smaller? No problem.
I also offer Mini Storyboard Critiques by email.
Great for the budding storyboard artist on a budget!

Check out Karen J Lloyd's Storyboard Blog for more details.

There's more cool stuff in the works!

If you're on the **Storyboard Club Mailing List**, you'll get **reduced prices**
on eBooks, Webinars and Online Courses I'll offer.
Yup, you'll get **first dibs**, before I announce it anywhere else!
Thanks for signing up, keep in touch and I'll see you in the blog comments.
~K