Overview

The Screenstyler XP is a document template for Microsoft Office XP and Word 2002. It utilizes the style sheet function and shortcut keys to make screenplay formatting almost automatic. The following key combinations are used to manually activate the various styles:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Keys</th>
<th>Style</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alt + S</td>
<td>Scene Heading</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + A</td>
<td>Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + C</td>
<td>Character Name</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + D</td>
<td>Dialog</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alt + P</td>
<td>Parenthesis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Most transitions between elements, however, are automatic. Scene Heading is always followed by Action, Action by Character Name, and Character name by Dialog. The shortcut keys are needed primarily to insert parentheticals, additional action, or to begin a new scene.

Note that Screenstyler XP doesn't provide any special functions for camera angles, scene numbering, dual dialog, or other advanced options that might be considered inappropriate for a spec script submitted to an agent or producer. We are aiming for a clean script with a clear story told in a simple format that never leaves the reader wondering about technicalities.

Toolbar

The styles can also be reached from the Screenstyler XP toolbar that is launched when you create a new document or edit an existing one.

The toolbar also includes buttons for the three functions DialogList, PrintEdit, and SceneList, which perform calculations on the active screenplay, transforming a copy of it into a new format for editing or overview.

Specs

The Screenstyler XP default font is black Courier New 12 pt, and default page margins 1.5" (left) and 1" (top, right, bottom).

The special characteristics of the various styles are as follows:

| Script Title | Character Name |
ALL CAPS
Align: Centered
Space After: 12 pt

Scene Heading

ALL CAPS
Space Before: 24 pt
Keep with next, keep lines together

Action

Space Before: 12 pt

Dialog

Indent: 1.5" left (38.1 mm)
Indent: 1" right (25.4 mm)
Keep lines together

Parenthesis

Indent: 2" left (50.8 mm)
Indent: 1.5" right (38.1 mm)
Keep with next, keep lines together

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