# 2c – Camera angles

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| Shot name | Abbreviation | Description | Example |
| Over the shoulder shot | OS | The camera is placed over the shoulder of a character in a conversation with another character. This is the most common way to get coverage in a conversation. | Photograph of over the shoulder shot. Image looking over the boys shoulder at the mother. |
| Reverse over the shoulder shot | ROS | As above, but you are covering the other character in conversation.  OS and Reverse OS are also known affectionately as ‘roundy roundies!’ | Photograph of reverse over the shoulder shot. Image of the boy looking from over the mothers shoulder. |
| Eye level | EL | The camera is placed roughly in line with the subject’s eyes. This is a neutral angle. | Photograph example of eye level shot. Image looking directly into the face of a woman. |
| High angle | HA | The camera is placed above the subject, looking down.  This is used for a specific effect, to make the subject seem smaller or give a point of view. | Photograph example of high angle shot. Image looking down at mother and son. |
| Overhead  Bird’s eye | OBE | The subject is shot from directly above. This is used for a specific effect. Overhead shots of table settings are a common example and allows for a strong aesthetic/ compositional choice. | Photograph example of overhead bird's eye shot type. Image taken from above of a chopping board with vegetables being cut. |
| Low angle | LA | The camera is placed below the subject’s eye-line, looking up. This is used for a specific effect, to make the subject seem larger or give a point of view. | Photograph example of low angle. Image looking up at young boy. |
| Extreme low angle or Worm’s eye | ELA | The camera is placed extremely low and looks almost directly up. This is used for a specific effect or to give a point of view. | Photograph example of extreme low angle. Image looking up at the ceiling. |
| Tilt or  Dutch angle | T | The camera is tilted at an unusual angle. It is used for a specific effect and usually connotes disorder or disruption, or a character’s point of view. Generally, these should be used very sparingly. | Photograph example of tilted Dutch angle. Image taken of building front on diagonal angle. |
| Point-of-view | POV | This angle is used for specific effect to give a subject’s perspective. This may be used as a variation on an over the shoulder shot. For example, to show a first-person view of someone texting or writing. It could be taken to an extreme to show a whole scene or film from a first-person perspective. | Photograph example of point of view angle. Image of four women character is addressing from perspective of main character. |
| Compartment shot | CS | Placing the camera in a container like a fridge, cupboard or suitcase, which opens to reveal the subject as they open the container. | Photograph example of compartment shot. Image taken from inside cupboard as a glass is being retrieved. |

Attributions:

* Genevieve Clay-Smith (2017) [Inclusion makes the world more vibrant](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a6sTlJkkmhs) [video stills] accessed 21/07/2022
* Mahbub Hasan. [Overhead view of a woman slicing raw cucumber on cutting board](https://schoolsnsw.sharepoint.com/sites/CAVASecondaryEd/Shared%20Documents/Projects/KLA/Stage%205%20Film%20Project/Student%20guide%20complete%20docs/Worksheets/a%20href=%22https:/www.vecteezy.com/free-photos%22%3eFree%20Stock%20photos%20by%20Vecteezy%3c/a) [image] accessed 02/06/2022. Image example in ‘overhead birds eye’ row.
* Marco Verch (2018) [Tilted shot of theatre royal drury lane in london](https://www.flickr.com/photos/149561324@N03/41628657492/) [image] accessed 02/06/2022. Image example in ‘tilt or dutch angle’ row.