

Two Types of Screenwriting Software

There are two types of screenwriting software:

Story structure software.

This will lay out the story / plot structure for you. It will tell you what to write.

The best is Kal Bashir's analysis of the 510+ stage Hero's Journey, though this is not software, more an iteration of the stages of successful screenplays in pdf and worksheet form. See <http://www.clickok.co.uk/index4.html>

[Kal says that software is an illusion as it suggests automation – you have to understand the underlying principles before you can use any software – a valid point].

Formatting software.

This will space the words for you, correctly space voiceover, sluglines etc. See <http://www.finaldraft.com/>

Of the two, story structure software is the most valuable – it tells you what to write and helps overcome blocks.

Good formatting software is two a penny: for example, see BBC Writers Room ScriptSmart software: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/writersroom/scriptsmart/>