



Format: Super 16mm

The Super 16mm format was designed to provide the greatest possible picture area on a 16mm original for enlargement onto 35mm for wide screen theatrical presentations. It is now, also the film medium for HDTV.

Super 16mm achieves a wide screen format on single perforated 16mm camera film by extending the picture area into the unperforated area of the camera original. The Super 16mm aperture produces an original image with an aspect ratio of 1.66:1. The blowup from this image can be cropped slightly in projection to yield the 1.85:1 aspect ratio.

The increase in the useful picture area of a Super 16mm frame results in a substantial increase in the image quality obtainable in a 35mm wide screen blowup. To optimize image quality, when shooting Super 16mm color negative for blowup to 35mm, follow the same recommended exposure practices as when shooting regular 16mm color negative for blowup to 35mm.

Super 16mm is a complete system requiring appropriately modified laboratory, editing and screening facilities as well as a modified camera. Cameras are available which have been specifically designed for Super 16mm and some conventional 16mm cameras can also be modified for Super 16mm.

Lenses should be carefully chosen to be sure that they provide a wide enough coverage to accommodate the wider frame. Many wide-angle 16mm lenses cause vignetting in the Super 16mm frame.

Editing and projection equipment must be modified to display the entire Super 16mm frame.

When composing image in the Super 16mm camera for a 35mm blowup, allow for slight vertical cropping at 1.85:1 projection (Figure 1.).

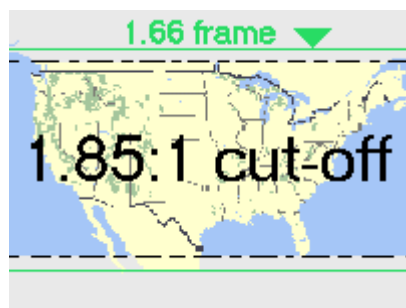


Figure 1. Composing for widescreen.

NOTE: Super 16mm film sent to the laboratory should be clearly identified so it can be handled properly. Contact The Cinema Lab for more information about the Super16 format, 303-783-1020.