



Props Branch Rates 2021

This document outlines the democratically agreed rates for those working in props department grades on productions within the London Production Division.

This guidance should be used to negotiate rates of pay for any productions starting after 1 February 2021. Rates will be increased on 5 April 2022 by 2.5% or by RPI inflation rate, whichever is higher.

Below are two tables: one which presents the rates for TV drama, the other for Major Motion Picture.

Before interpreting the rate guidance, please take some time to read the FAQs below.

Why are there two numbers?

For each production and grade there are two numbers (e.g. £310 / **£350**).

The first number is the minimum daily rate – this is the rate which our members should under no circumstances accept less than. Should a production insist on rates less than this number they should be urgently reported to the Props committee or a Bectu official.

The second number **in bold** is the standard daily rate – this is the rate which members should be regularly achieving. Before accepting a job, each member should insist on a sum equivalent or higher to the standard rate. Negotiations between

members and productions/prop masters always seek to go beyond the standard rate.

As the Bectu/PACT TV agreement specifies both a 10hr and 11hr day, rates for both options have been included on the TV drama rate guidance.

What are the different types of working days?

For film crew, the working day may comprise any of the following (each of which should be paid as an 11hr day):

- a) a Standard working day (SWD) – where the shooting day comprises 11 hour worked with 1 hour for lunch;

- b) a Continuous working day (CWD) - where the shooting day runs for 10 working hours without a break for lunch
- c) a Semi-Continuous Working Day (SCWD) – where the shooting day runs for 10.5 working hours with a 30-minute break for lunch.

For TV crew, the working day may comprise of the following:

- a) Standard Working Day (SWD). E.g. 10 shooting hours with one-hour unpaid meal break, for example 8am-7pm (to be paid at 10hrs). Or, 11 shooting hours with one-hour unpaid meal break, for example 8am-8pm (to be paid at 11hrs).
- b) Continuous Working Day (CWD). shooting hours without a formal break, for example 8am-5pm (to be paid at 10hrs). Or, 10 shooting hours without a formal break, for example 8am-6pm (to be paid at 11hrs).

How do I calculate my overtime?

For film crew, overtime is calculated at 1.5x your hourly rate (your contractual weekly rate divided by 55). This is payable in 30 minute increments and subject always to the maximum overtime rate (£81.82 per hour). You should charge overtime for every half hour you work in excess of your working day (see above for different types of working days).

For TV crew, overtime is calculated as the greater of £35 per hour or 1.5x your hourly rate, subject to a cap of £45 per hour. Overtime accrues in 30 minute increments for the first hour each day, thereafter overtime will be payable on an hourly basis.

What about 6th and 7th continuous days?

For film crew, any 6th consecutive day or night worked will be paid at 1.5x for actual hours worked, with a minimum guarantee of 6 hours for non-shooting crew and 8 hours for shooting crew. Any 7th consecutive day worked will be paid at 2x for actual hours

worked, with a minimum guarantee of 6 hours for non-shooting crew and 8 hours for shooting crew.

For TV crew, and 6th continuous day or night worked will be paid at the normal daily rate. Where a worker works seven consecutive days at the Producer's request or prior approval as above, the worker will be paid at 2x their regular daily rate.

Prep and Wrap

Some productions insist that workers in film and TV work for a time unpaid at the beginning and end of the day; this is known as prep and wrap.

The use of unpaid prep and wrap in the props department is not acceptable and should be universally rejected. Any time worked outside of a normal working day as outlined above should be charged as overtime. If a production insists on including unpaid prep and wrap in your contractual terms, please report this to lpd@bectu.org.uk.

Box Rental

Box rental may also be referred to as 'kit fees' or 'kit rental' or 'equipment rental'. This is when the production pays you a fee for the use of your equipment on the job you are doing. You should ensure that the box rental you are paid is in line with what is stated on the rate guidance below.

Meals

When unable to access the catering provided to shooting crew, meals are charged at £5 for breakfast and £5 for lunch, unless alternative provisions are made.

The majority of productions you will be engaged to work on are covered by the two Bectu/PACT agreements. To read these in full please visit www.bectu.org.uk/get-involved/agreements-grading-schemes. If you have any questions or concerns about the rate guidance please send an email to lpd@bectu.org.uk.

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Film

	Higher than £30m budget	Less than £30m budget	Box Rate
Property Master	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable
Assistant Property Master	Negotiable	Negotiable	Negotiable
Supervising Standby Props	£395 / £430+	£375 / £410+	Negotiable
Storeman	£330 / £360+	£290 / £350+	£15+
Assistant Storeman	£290 / £330+	£250 / £300+	£15+
Supervising Chargehand	£350 / £400+	£330 / £380+	£15+
Chargehand	£320 / £350+	£280 / £330+	£15+
Standby Props	£320 / £350+	£280 / £330+	£15+
Prop Hand/ Dressing Prop	£275 / £310+	£260 / £290+	£15+
Junior Prop Hand	£200 / £250+	£180 / £220+	£15+
Trainee Prop Hand	£132 / £165+	£132 / £165+	£0+
Co-ordinator	£275 / £310+	£260 / £290+	£15+

£ = Minimum daily rate
Do not accept less than this per day

£ = Standard daily rate
Bectu members should regularly achieve this



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Television

	TV Band 3 £3m+		TV Band 2 £850,001-£3m		TV Band 1 Up to £850k		Box Rate
	10hr day	11hr day	10hr day	11hr day	10hr day	11hr day	10/11hr day
Property Master	Negotiable		Negotiable		Negotiable		Negotiable
Assistant Property Master	Negotiable		Negotiable		Negotiable		Negotiable
Supervising Standby Props	£375/ £410+	£412/ £451+	£350/ £390+	£385/ £429+	£330/ £370+	£363/ £407+	Negotiable
Storeman	£290/ £330+	£319/ £363+	£280/ £310+	£308/ £341+	£270/ £300+	£297/ £330+	£15+
Assistant Storeman	£280/ £320+	£308/ £362+	£260/ £290+	£286/ £319+	£250/ £280+	£275/ £308+	£15+
Supervising Chargehand	£310/ £350+	£341/ £385+	£300/ £340+	£330/ £374+	£290/ £330+	£319/ £363+	£15+
Chargehand	£290/ £330+	£319/ £363+	£280/ £310+	£308/ £341+	£270/ £290+	£297/ £319+	£15+
Standby Props	£310/ £350+	£341/ £385+	£280/ £310+	£308/ £341+	£270/ £290+	£297/ £319+	£15+
Prop hand/ Dressing Prop	£270/ £310+	£297/ £341+	£260/ £280+	£286/ £308+	£250/ £270+	£275/ £297+	£15+
Junior Prop Hand	£160/ £200+	£186/ £210+	£150/ £190+	£165/ £209+	£150/ £190+	£165/ £209+	£15+
Trainee Prop Hand	£120/ £150+	£132/ £165+	£120/ £150+	£132/ £165+	£120/ £150+	£132/ £165+	£0+
Co-ordinator	£270/ £310+	£297/ £341+	£260/ £280+	£286/ £308+	£250/ £270+	£275/ £297+	£15+

Please note: Budgets above apply to one (1) broadcast hour of television (excluding breakage)

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