



TRANSFERABLE TELEVISION SKILLS and other useful advice

Over the last few months there's been some great talks and posts about transferable skills and what exactly we can take from our TV careers to a new job. Below is a list I've collated which is by no means exhaustive as its mainly from a production point of view. Every role will have its own unique skills.

I also highly recommend you look at fellow TVSU admin, Michelle Wood's recent post on LinkedIn, outlining her skills as an exec. A fantastic list that shows in non-Tv terms a wealth of knowledge. This inspired me to put together this post in the first place.

https://www.linkedin.com/posts/michelle-woods-88174929_transferableskills-tv-content-activity-7241847757848604673-Zq7U?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop

People are often surprised at how versatile and multi-skilled we are when they see it all written down. Then its just a question of us proving we can do that specific job. If that's in an interview situation. Then the Star method is very popular in non-Tv interviews. You can look at that here <https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk/careers-advice/interview-advice/the-star-method>

Skills List

1. Content Creation & Storytelling

- **Storytelling:** Crafting compelling narratives that resonate with broad audiences is essential for freelancers, especially in fields like marketing, content creation, and journalism.
- **Content Production:** Skills in producing, shooting, editing, and publishing engaging content across various media platforms (television, social media, podcasts, etc.).
- **Copywriting:** Writing factually correct, compelling scripts and content tailored to specific audiences.

2. Communication & Relationship Management

- **Pitching & Expressing Ideas:** Essential for freelancers to communicate project ideas, negotiate deals, and maintain clarity with clients.

- **Building Relationships:** Ability to work with diverse people, from high-profile clients to team members, helps freelancers manage client relations and build strong professional networks.

3. Project & Team Management

- **Managing Teams:** Experience in leading teams, delegating tasks, and collaborating with stakeholders is transferable to freelance project management.
- **Staff Coordination & Team Building:** Useful for managing remote teams or subcontractors on larger freelance projects.
- **Problem Solving & Multi-tasking:** Handling multiple clients or projects, often simultaneously, while troubleshooting issues efficiently.
- **Event Management** – finding locations, negotiating access, setting up schedules and hiring equipment. Finding key specialists and consultants to add to the story, all part of creating events in the UK and abroad.

4. Complex Logistics & Scheduling

- **Logistical Planning:** Coordinating intricate schedules, especially in event planning or content production, translates well to freelance work involving tight deadlines and resource management.
- **Travel & Event Logistics:** Planning travel or event arrangements (national/international) is beneficial for freelancers handling conferences, shoots, or client meetings abroad.
- **Health and Safety and Risk Assessments** – understanding events and filming challenges and risks. Leading H&S advice and responsible of crew and contributor care.

5. Marketing & Public Relations

- **Social Media Management:** Managing social media accounts, creating promotional content, and engaging audiences.
- **Press Releases & Public Relations:** Drafting official communications, including marketing materials and press releases, is crucial for freelancers offering marketing, PR, or communication services.

6. Financial & Administrative Management

- **Budgeting & Financial Management:** Managing project budgets, processing invoices, and ensuring financial compliance is essential for freelancers managing their own businesses.
- **Administrative Support:** Experience in office management, filing, and administrative duties is transferable to organizing freelance operations efficiently.

7. Adaptability & Resilience

- **Working Under Pressure:** Ability to adapt quickly in fast-paced, changing environments (e.g., live broadcasts) is valuable in any freelance role where client demands and deadlines fluctuate.

- **Legal & Compliance:** Knowledge of compliance, contracts, and risk assessments helps freelancers ensure they meet legal obligations in their work.

8. Technical & Creative Skills

- **Technical Proficiency:** Skills in camera operation, post-production, and using software like Microsoft Office, Excel, PowerPoint, and editing tools are vital for technical freelancers (e.g., videographers, editors).
- **Mentoring & Training:** Sharing expertise and mentoring others can create opportunities for freelancers to diversify their services, such as offering workshops or consultancy.

Also these skills can be adapted to each job. For instance an administrative role you could tweak it all to read:

Office Management | Administrative Support | Travel & Logistics Management

- Efficient organization of office operations, ensuring smooth workflows and adherence to company policies. Working in close-knit teams and happy to be flexible, versatile and handle any requests. Proficient in Microsoft Office Suite – Excel and PowerPoint
- Comprehensive experience in scheduling, filing, and handling administrative duties. Adept at troubleshooting office and project issues to ensure timely resolution. Experience in managing budgets, processing invoices, and ensuring financial compliance.
- Experience leading teams and collaborating with senior leadership and external partners.
- Skilled in coordinating national and international travel arrangements, including complex event logistics. Setting up risk assessments and detailed knowledge of health and safety.
- Drafting official correspondence, reports, and internal communications; managing press releases.
- Successfully planned and executed high-pressure events, coordinating resources and personnel.

EDITORS! And frankly many of us too could find this useful ...

A few weeks ago I put together a few thoughts for editors who don't have production experience but have a wealth of technical know-how, editorial decision making, crafting visually brilliant films and handling all manner of staff, clients and broadcasters.

EDITORS TRANSFERRABLE SKILLS

1. **TRANSFERABLE SKILLS** – you may have been working remotely but that still takes skills.

Here are a few to get you started for your Non-Tv CV:

Technology skills (Avid, CMS systems, Windows / macOS) / Using mixed media in all its forms in many projects for many different clients / Communicating and liaising with colleagues, executives and clients / Maintaining good relationships with Clients / Training staff / Versatile / Flexible / Identifying Customers Needs / Acting on detailed feedback / Working with Music, Audio, Pictures, and Graphics / Working under pressure/ generating creative ideas and problem solving / Working to deadlines, fixed schedules and budgets / Proficiency in learning new software / Project management / Planning timetables / Editing vast amounts of material to get the best stories / Delivering technically detailed projects for huge audiences worldwide.

- 2. CREATE A NEW CV** – Turn your TV CV into a non-TV CV. Some editors in this group have already done so – reach out, ask for advice in the group and look at the talks. Also Grainne Phillips did a great TVSU talk on CVs. So do check out her link or even get in touch as she runs a CV service.

SWITCH UP YOUR CV WITH GRAINNE PHILLIPS

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ey_Gxf7CrXIDVW4fBzxluwMpH0dslg1V/view?usp=drive_link

And absolutely do use ChatGPT. Literally type in ‘please turn this CV into a branded content editor’ or whatever job you want, then attach your Tv CV and see what it says...use that as a start...then edit it. These AI results will save you leg work. Try out alternatives ‘media content editor’, ‘brand marketing’, ‘graphics editing’, ‘digital marketing’.

- 3. TRAINING** - AI is going to grow and editors will be great as you have the visual eye, the technical know-how, its really nerdy and a lot of you have been ‘fixing it in post’ for a few years anyway. Watch our podcast talk (see newsletter for links) and play around, try it out and see what you can do. Google and use LinkedIn, network with searches on AI producers, ideas, jobs...you don’t have to leave your ‘edit caves’ just yet, its all online! But you’ve got to do some leg work. Again for an interesting plunge into AI we had a great talk by Colin Byrne

AI FOR BEGINNERS WITH COLIN BYRNE

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1kwNv3oUwZMQGLFZ2_8PS2Nd5ocvSJSh4/view?usp=drive_link

- 4. GAMING INDUSTRY** – this is not my area but the gaming industry is huge. It has a UK turnover of £11.3 BILLION. They must need editors. Who is making, producing and editing this genre – do some research. There must be jobs. (PS if anyone in this group is in the gaming industry please come and talk with us at TVSU).

5. **PODCASTS** – a huge growing industry and just a brief look on LinkedIn brought up a few jobs. David Bodycombe did a detailed TVSU talk on how Podcasts can work.

MAKING PODCASTS PAY WITH DAVID BODYCOMBE

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wAELmwTp0wdaeE9AASKO1L_gS9qFPdQZ/view?usp=drive_link

Do a bit of research – there are jobs and companies that just specialise in audio. Think of your career as freelancing with several different jobs. We cant risk putting our eggs in one basket. Podcast editing could be one. There are a few jobs being advertised YOUTUBE VIDEO PODCAST MANAGER

<https://jobs.theguardian.com/.../youtube-video-podcast...>

6. **LinkedIn** – spruce up your LinkedIn profile. Get some tips from Kimberley of Talented People's TVSU talk on LinkedIn. Do use the LinkedIn search button to see what editing jobs are out there and to look into side industries.

ARE YOU LINKEDIN-ENOUGH WITH KIMBERLEY GODBOLT OF TALENTED PEOPLE

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Cch5t7vVZzktWCsQBcJ9ML1jQs-_oEFM/view?usp=drive_link

7. **EDUCATION/ACADEMIA** – they may not advertise much but film schools do need editors to train their students. Search on www.jobs.ac.uk regularly. Don't expect the same pay as TV but the holidays are good!

Finally....

A useful contact list to remind us to keep contacting and networking across the industry..

Ive added a few contacts and organisations but the majority of this list was by Jason Mitchell – Founder and Exec Producer at TV production Company The Connected Set
Published on LinkedIn 09/07/24

Training resources, schemes and mentoring

- Screenskills: <https://www.screenskills.com/> (great for advice, free courses and funding offered for some paid courses)
- NFTS: <https://nfts.co.uk/> (you can apply for funding directly and via Screenskills (50% discount for Scotland based freelancers [details here](#))
- TalentManager Events & Courses: <https://www.thetalentmanager.com/events-courses/academy>
- TV Collective: <https://thetvcollective.org/>

- Women in Film and TV Mentorship Scheme: <https://www.wftv.org.uk/mentoring>
- Leaders of Tomorrow (HETV): <https://www.screenskills.com/bookings/high-end-tv-leaders-of-tomorrow-2024/dd4d5b38-746b-4400-9134-1b53e1607843/>
- Look Beyond The List: <https://www.lookbeyondthelist.com/talentlists> (resources for under represented groups)
- Bloody Norah TV: <https://www.bloodynorah.com/bloodynorahnews/short-courses-in-tv-production>
- Dream Big! entry level children's TV: <https://www.screenskills.com/bookings/dream-big-2024-25/>
- TRC Media: <https://trcmedia.org/> (training programs)
- Wonder Women Tv www.wonderwomentv.com
- BAFTA 'Develop Your Career': <https://www.bafta.org/develop-your-career>
- RTS (entry level): <https://rts.org.uk/education-and-training-pages/entry-level-training>
- 4Skills (entry level): <https://careers.channel4.com/4skills>
- ITV News Academy Traineeship: <https://careers.itv.com/teams/media-entertainment/itv-news/itv-news-apprenticeship>
- ITV Entry level jobs/work experience: <https://careers.itv.com/teams/early-careers>
- YouMakeIt: class inclusion mentoring scheme for women: <https://you-make-it.org/>
- Mission Accomplished: <https://www.mission.guru/>
- New Writers Collective: <https://www.thetvfestival.com/tv-foundation/new-writers-collective/>
- Changemakers (climate change storytellers): <https://www.thetvfestival.com/tv-foundation/changemakers/>
- AI Academy (AI training for people in TV): <https://theaiacademy.tv/>
- Directors UK <https://directors.uk.com/>
- Directors Charitable Foundation - <https://www.directorscf.org/>

Meetups and Networking

- **TV Mindset Freelancer and Talented People Hubs** (UK wide free meetups): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/thetvmindset> for updates
- **TV Switch Up and Telly Mums Network** – both have local meetup groups <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tvswitchup> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tellymumsnetwork>
- **Sheffield Documentary Festival** <https://www.sheffdocfest.com/>
- **SDI Scottish Docs** <https://www.scottishdocinstitute.com/>
- **Shooting People** <https://shootingpeople.org/>
- **Bafta Crew Connect** <https://www.bafta.org/supporting-talent/bafta-connect>

Recruitment and job posting sites

- The Talent Manager (jobs board and profiles): <https://www.thetalentmanager.com/> (you can search for jobs with their free subscription)
- Talented People (recruitment specialists): www.talentedpeople.tv/jobs

- Production Hive (jobs board): <https://www.production-hive.co.uk/>
- Thrive (media executive search): <https://www.thr-v.com/>
- Practically Perfect Productions (recruitment and production management support): <https://www.practicallyperfectproductions.com/>
- Facebook Group 'People Who Know People in TV': <https://www.facebook.com/groups/peoplewhoknowpeopleintv/>
- Facebook Group 'People in TV: Jobs': <https://www.facebook.com/groups/135566593191347>
- Facebook Group: Production Management & Co-ordinators: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1376488252637062>
- Facebook Group: TV Jobs for Freelancers: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tvfreelancerjobs>
- Facebook Group: I Need An Editor UK: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/169304303254437/>
- Facebook Group: Crew Me Now: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/crewmenow>
- Regional Facebook Group for Bristol/South West: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1798794337052645>
- Promo Peeps: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/promopeepsnetwork> (shortform/promo opportunities)
- Facebook Group for TV Runners: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tv.runners/>
- Mama Youth: Job support for 18-25 year olds from under-represented groups: <https://www.mamayouth.org.uk/>
- Creative Diversity Network: career placement and development for people from under-represented groups: <https://creativediversitynetwork.com/>
- BBC Careers: <https://careers.bbc.co.uk/>
- TriForce Creative Talent Pool: <https://jobs.thetcn.com/jobs/Careers>

Helpful sites for working parents and job sharers

- Telly Mums Network: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/tellymumsnetwork> (also on Instagram: @Tellymumsnetwork)
- Share My Telly Job: <https://www.sharemytellyjob.com/>
- Media Parents: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/361712127460>

Some websites we think are helpful for freelancers

- The Watercooler: <https://tvwatercooler.org/>
- Directors UK <https://directors.uk.com/>
- We Are Doc Women <https://wearedocwomen.co.uk/>
- Talented People <https://talentedpeople.tv/>
- Media Parents: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/361712127460>
- Women in TV: <https://www.wftv.org.uk/>
- Film and TV Charity: <https://filmtvcharity.org.uk/> (excellent mental and financial support resource)
- Bectu: <https://bectu.org.uk/>

Support/training for new and emerging indies

- IndieLab: <https://weareindielab.co.uk/>
- BBC Small Indie Fund: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/commissioning/small-indie-fund>
- Channel 4 Indie Growth Fund: <https://www.channel4.com/corporate/about-4/indie-growth-fund>
- ITV Amplify (currently closed for applications): <https://www.itv.com/commissioning/articles/amplify-the-regions>
- Channel 4 Emerging Indie Fund (currently closed for applications): <https://www.channel4.com/4producers/indie-support/emerging-indie-fund-2023>

Sources of industry news

- RealScreen (UK and US news): <https://realscreen.com/> (free if you register)
- Televisual (UK): <https://www.televisual.com/> (free)
- C21Media (global formats): <https://www.c21media.net/> (not free but you can get headlines/newsletter)
- Broadcast (UK): <https://www.broadcastnow.co.uk/> (not free but you can get headlines/newsletter)
- The Drop - digital/shortform focused (UK): <https://www.dropmedia.co.uk/> (free)

Podcasts for industry professionals

- TellyCast: <https://www.tellycast.com/podcast/>
- The Media Podcast with Matt Deegan: <http://www.podfollow.com/themediapodcast>
- The Imposter Club from TalentedPeople: <https://www.theimposterclub.com/>
- Unscripted and Unprepared (US unscripted TV): <https://uandu.podbean.co>
- The Town (Hollywood focus): <https://open.spotify.com/show/4uXizLZjshw7nyDPocta2>

Funded conference placements

- Fast Track at Edinburgh TV Festival (2+ years experience) - reopens 2025: <https://www.thetvfestival.com/talent-schemes/the-network/>
- The Network at Edinburgh (entry level) - reopens 2025: <https://www.thetvfestival.com/talent-schemes/the-network/>
- Reconnect at Edinburgh (for career returners) - reopens 2025: <https://www.thetvfestival.com/tv-foundation/reconnect/>
- Banijay Funded Bursary for Sheffield Doc Fest (current closed but may return): <https://sheffdocfest.com/news/banijay-uk-emerging-talent-bursary>

TV Conferences (many have streaming options):

JAN: NATPE GLOBAL, CONTENT AMERICAS, REALSCREEN SUMMIT

FEB: MIPLONDON/LONDON TV SCREENINGS, EUROPEAN FILM MARKET, FOMEX, BERLINALE

MARCH: BROADCAST INDIE SUMMIT, IPXCHANGE

APRIL: CREATIVE CITIES

JUNE: CMC, SHEFFIELD DOC FEST, NEM, CONECTA FICTION & ENTERTAINMENT,
NATPE BUDAPEST, CONTENT WARSAW

JULY: K-CONTENT EXPO

AUG: EDINBURGH TV FESTIVAL, BCWW, COPENHAGEN TV FESTIVAL, SCREEN
HELSINKI

SEPT: UNIFRANCE RENDEZ-VOUZ, MIPAFRICA, CONTENT CANADA, NIFS TV TORONTO,
IBC, IPXCHANGE, HEART OF EUROPE, ACE FAIR

OCT: NIFSTV LONDON, MIA MARKET, MIPCOM, NIFSTV LAGOS, TIFFCOM

NOV: CONTENT LONDON, NIFS LOS ANGELES, DIGITAL TV, K-CONTENT EXPO
BELGIUM, K-EXPO THAILAND, MIPCANCUN, DICM, CONTENT IP MARKET, TELLYCAST
DIGITAL CONTENT FORUM, BROADCAST AI SUMMIT

DEC: ATF, NEM ZAGREB