

WHY WIDESCREEN?

a BASIC introduction to widescreen video.

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Have you ever wondered while watching a film on TV, VHS, or DVD why it begins with this disclaimer?

This film has been modified from its original version. It has been formatted to fit your TV.

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Well here's what that disclaimer really means: **This film has been cut down in size. You will not be seeing as much as 50% of its original image just so it will completely fill your TV Screen.**

4

This "modification" of a film is called Pan and Scan (sometimes also called Full Frame). **The term Widescreen simply refers to the original unmodified film as composed by the filmmakers.**

Take a look at the two examples on the right. They are from the same film frame and are displayed as they would be on your TV. Look closely and you'll see how much of the original picture is lost due to Pan and Scan!

Although the Pan and Scan version does appear larger it is at a great cost! **In this example roughly 40% of the image is discarded!** The results are quite drastic! A character is completely missing and the overall feeling of the composed frame is extremely cramped! **This is definitely not what the filmmaker's intended as they carefully composed each scene!**

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Widescreen Advocate believes Pan and Scan only video releases are not acceptable and would like to see all future DVD releases preserved in the film's original format.

Wider is better - get the whole picture!

To learn more about Widescreen Advocate and the Why Widescreen? education campaign please visit: www.widescreenadvocate.com



"The Mummy" Widescreen version



"The Mummy" Pan and Scan version