



Widescreen vs Full Screen Explained

Several producers in the Train Video world are starting to shoot in *widescreen* or 16:9 aspect ratio format. Highball, Green Frog and soon Pentrex will be offering *widescreen* versions. Some are offered in both *widescreen* and *full screen* (4:3 Aspect Ratio). All future Highball productions will ONLY be available in *widescreen* version.

Will a *widescreen* version play in my regular old TV set?
Will a *full screen* version play in my new "state-of-the-art" *widescreen* TV?

The quick answer to both is YES.

If you play a *widescreen* DVD on a full screen TV, the picture will be shown with black bars on the top and the bottom of the screen. The size of the bars will vary based on the aspect ratio of the DVD

If you play a *full screen* DVD on a *widescreen* TV, the picture can either be stretched to fit the screen (making people look fatter than they are), or it can be shown with the full screen format with 2 black bars on the right and the left of the screen.

The most important thing to remember is that if the particular title is offered in *widescreen* mode, that means it was shot in *widescreen* mode. If you elect to purchase the *full screen* version, portions of the video will be CHOPPED OFF to accommodate the *full screen* ratio.



Widescreen DVD
on Full Screen TV



Full Screen DVD
Shot in Widescreen mode
on Full Screen TV. Note sides chopped off!



Full Screen DVD
on a Wide Screen TV

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