

Diner of Darkness Shot List

Diner of Darkness, here's a detailed master shot list tailored to capture the over-the-top humor, physical comedy, and character dynamics within the short runtime of ~2 minutes.

The list is designed to maintain a fast pace, emphasize key visual gags (e.g., Mackerel's Batman mask, blacked-out eyes, and dramatic poses), and highlight the contrast between Peter's restrained reactions and Mackerel's chaotic energy.

The shots are broken down by scene and location, with notes on framing, movement, and timing.

Master Shot List for Diner of Darkness

INT. DINGY DINER - DAY

Establishing Shot (Wide)

- Description: Full view of the dingy diner interior—flickering neon lights, greasy counter, scattered tables. Squigie flips pancakes behind the counter. Peter and Mackerel sit in a booth, table cluttered with coffee cups and half-eaten waffles.
- Framing: Wide angle to show the rundown ambiance and character positions.
- Duration: 5-7 seconds.
- Notes: Use a slightly shaky handheld feel to enhance the sleazy vibe. Highlight Mackerel's blacked-out eyes and wild grin in a subtle zoom.

Two-Shot (Medium, Booth)

- Description: Peter (adjusting tie, forced calm) and Mackerel (leaning in with a Keaton-esque growl) at the booth. Peter delivers his line about the board meeting pitch.

- Framing: Medium shot, centered on both actors, capturing Peter's discomfort and Mackerel's intensity.
- Duration: 8-10 seconds.
- Notes: Cut to a close-up of Mackerel's face during "thwack!" for dramatic effect. Add a faint bat-flap sound effect.

Close-Up (Peter)

- Description: Peter chokes on his coffee, stifling a laugh, wiping his mouth with a napkin after Mackerel's "plunged deep" line.
- Framing: Tight on Peter's face, showing his strained composure.
- Duration: 5 seconds.
- Notes: Quick cut to emphasize his reaction; add a subtle coffee splatter for comedy.

Over-the-Shoulder (Mackerel to Peter)

- Description: Mackerel winks sinisterly, delivering the "tied up at home" line.
- Framing: OTS from Mackerel's perspective, focusing on Peter's widening eyes.
- Duration: 6-8 seconds.
- Notes: Slow zoom on Peter's shocked expression; include a faint whip-crack sound for innuendo.

Wide Shot (Diner Action)

- Description: Peter slams his coffee down, laughing strainedly, as he yells for more coffee. Squigie yells from the counter about "Fifty Shades."
- Framing: Wide to show the booth, table spill, and Squigie's position.
- Duration: 8-10 seconds.

- Notes: Capture coffee splashing; quick pan to Squigie waving the spatula for physical comedy.

Close-Up (Mackerel)

- Description: Mackerel pulls out the crumpled Batman mask, slipping it on with dramatic flair, delivering the “I am vengeance!” line.
- Framing: Tight on Mackerel’s face and hands as the mask goes on.
- Duration: 7-9 seconds.
- Notes: Use a low-angle shot to exaggerate his heroic pose; add a dramatic wind effect (even indoors).

Two-Shot (Booth, Dynamic)

- Description: Mackerel leans closer with the “batarang” line as Peter buries his face, laughing uncontrollably and banging the table.
- Framing: Medium two-shot, slightly off-center to show the table chaos (spilled coffee).
- Duration: 8-10 seconds.
- Notes: Quick cut to a top-down angle of the table for the spill; add a bat-themed sound effect.

Wide Shot (Confrontation)

- Description: Squigie storms over, waving the spatula, yelling to stop the “innuendo orgies.” Mackerel strikes a heroic pose with the mask askew.
- Framing: Wide to include Squigie, the booth, and Mackerel’s pose.
- Duration: 10-12 seconds.
- Notes: Slow pan across Squigie’s outrage to Mackerel’s absurdity; capture the mask slipping for comedy.

Tracking Shot (Exit)

- Description: Peter drags Mackerel out, still laughing, as Mackerel booms about rejecting rules.
- Framing: Follows the pair from the booth to the door, medium-wide.
- Duration: 8-10 seconds.
- Notes: Add a quick zoom on Mackerel's dramatic exit pose; include a "whoosh" sound effect.

EXT. DINER - DAY

Establishing Shot (Wide)

- Description: Exterior of the dingy diner, neon sign flickering. Peter and Mackerel stumble out, Peter doubling over with laughter.
- Framing: Wide to show the diner facade and the pair exiting.
- Duration: 6-8 seconds.
- Notes: Use natural daylight with a slight filter to match the greasy interior vibe.

Two-Shot (Medium, Outside)

- Description: Peter gasps "You're a menace!" as Mackerel chuckles and takes off the mask.
- Framing: Medium shot, capturing both actors' expressions and the mask removal.
- Duration: 7-9 seconds.
- Notes: Focus on Peter's tears of laughter; add a subtle Batman theme hum in the background.

Tracking Shot (Walk-Off)

- Description: Peter shakes his head as Mackerel hums the Batman theme. They walk off, fading into laughter.
- Framing: Follows them from behind, medium-wide, as they move away.
- Duration: 10-12 seconds.
- Notes: Gradual fade-out with the hum growing fainter; end on a still of the diner sign.

Additional Notes

- Total Runtime: Approximately 1:50-2:00 minutes, aligning with the script's intent. Adjust shot durations slightly during editing for pacing.
- Visual Style: Embrace a gritty, low-budget aesthetic with exaggerated lighting (e.g., neon flickers) and quick cuts to match the over-the-top tone.
- Props & Effects: Key props include the Batman mask, coffee cups, spatula, and waffles. Use sound effects (bat flaps, whooshes, whip cracks) to amplify innuendos and comedy.
- Actor Direction: Encourage Peter to play up restrained panic, Mackerel to channel Michael Keaton's quirky intensity, and Squigie to deliver lines with gruff exasperation.

This shot list ensures the script's humor, visual gags, and character dynamics are fully realized within the short runtime, staying true to the sleazy yet broadcast-friendly tone outlined in the notes. Let me know if you'd like adjustments or a storyboard sketch!