

PRODUCT UPDATE

Content Testing for Horror Series & Films

November 2025



BACKGROUND

- Ormax's philosophy towards testing and analyzing fiction content has traditionally been genre-agnostic, with OPR (Ormax
 Power Rating) drivers designed to measure viewer gratification that applies universally across films or series, irrespective of their genre
- This approach has served us well across theatrical and streaming content, because it focuses on why audiences respond to stories, not just what those stories are
- However, as our testing universe has expanded, we have seen that the horror genre operates with audience expectations
 so distinct, and so codified, that applying a generic driver framework limits our ability to decode their true performance



BACKGROUND

- Multi-year data across theatrical and streaming releases shows audiences evaluate horror very differently from other genres,
 and conventional fiction drivers do not yield accurate or actionable insights
- These findings justified developing dedicated horror drivers, creating a more precise framework that helps platforms and creators better understand and optimise the impact of horror content, especially at the content testing stage (Ormax Moviescope or Ormax Stream Test)
- Eight drivers of the horror genre have been identified using our extensive category work over the last few years, and detailed in this product update deck hereafter



OPR DRIVERS

HORROR (FICTION) GENRE

Atmospheric Dread

Inventive Concept

Realistic Treatment

Mythical & Cultural Roots

Forbidden Themes

Plot Twists

Shock & Surprise

Narrative Richness



ATMOSPHERIC DREAD

Definition

The slow, creeping fear created through haunting sound design, spooky visuals, unsettling silences, and ambience

Keywords

Creepy

Haunting

Suspense

Eerie

Unsettling

Silence









INVENTIVE CONCEPT

Definition

Original idea that break away from tropes - novel ghosts, unexpected premises or neverbefore-seen formats

Keywords

Fresh

High concept

Unique ghost

Unique setting

Original thinking

Innovative









REALISTIC TREATMENT

Definition

Horror that feels disturbingly real through authentic characters, believable settings, and high-production realism

Keywords

Authentic

Looks real

Believable

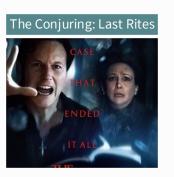
High-quality VFX

Scary visuals

Real-looking aesthetics









MYTHICAL & CULTURAL ROOTS

Definition

Horror inspired by mythology, folklore, superstition or religious rituals that feel culturally anchored

Keywords

Rituals

Legends

Beliefs & Superstitions

Black Magic

Local Culture & Mythology

Familiarity









FORBIDDEN THEMES

Definition

Horror that confronts uncomfortable, socially or morally taboo subjects, such as abuse, lust, religion, or death

Keywords

Dark truth

Taboo

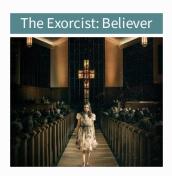
Societal stigmas

Sin

Lust/Greed/ Abuse

Guilt









PLOT TWISTS

Definition

Unpredictable and suspenseful plot movements that sustain audience interest through constant uncertainty

Keywords

Suspense

Twists & turns

Tension

Anticipation

Didn't see that coming!

Misdirection









SHOCK & SURPRISE

Definition

Sudden, intense moments designed to jolt the viewer, through jump scares, gore, or disturbing twists

Keywords

Jump scare

Gore

Unexpected

Graphic

Violence

Disturbing









NARRATIVE RICHNESS

Definition

A layered story with meaningful backstories, character arcs, and emotional or moral complexity

Keywords

Backstory

Trauma

Revelations

Social commentary

Character origin stories

Depth of storytelling









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