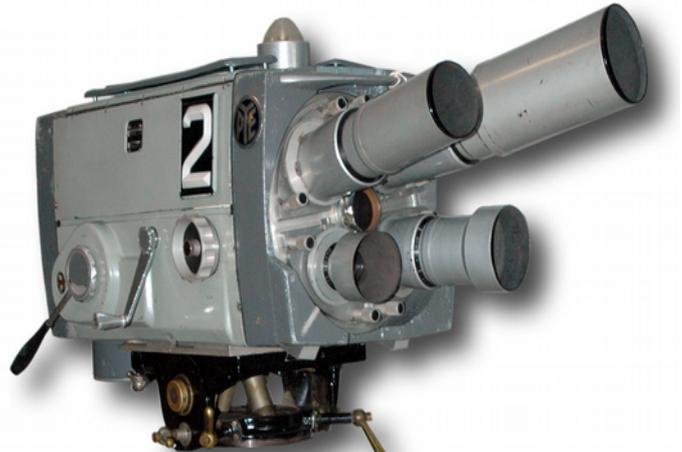


# PYE MK4 television camera from 1959

**Please do not touch**

This camera, the 4<sup>th</sup> generation of Pye broadcast cameras used a 3 inch Image Orthicon tube, like it's predecessor. The 3 inch I.O. tube offered good results for studio and outside broadcasts. It had a high sensitivity so that events could still be covered when the light was poor.



The tube is key to the design of the camera and together with the four station lens turret sets the basic size of the camera. A wide range of fixed focal length lenses could be fitted or even one of the new zoom lenses!

The cameraman's controls are all conveniently located on the right side of the camera. From the back; Focus control, Turret lens change, and Filter wheel with 5 choices. The fixed viewfinder has a 7 inch (diagonal) screen. A simple viewfinder hood or the more complex "periscope" viewfinder hood could be used with it. The Periscope viewfinder hood enabled the cameraman to see the viewfinder when the camera was used at low or high angles.



*The CCU partly withdrawn from its case*

In order to keep the camera size and weight to a minimum, the camera had just 4 plug-in modules and most of the camera's valves and electronics were in the camera control unit (CCU) and the power supply unit (PSU).

A multi-way cable connected the CCU to the camera. It carried all the power and controls, the talk-back, cue light, and the cameras picture output. The cable had 37 wires!

Unlike today's cameras that are fully automatic with no, or almost no controls, it was very different in 1959! The camera required constant attention with an operator controlling the picture quality and adjusting settings from the CCU. There were many front line controls and the CCU could be withdrawn from its case to access the second line controls.

This camera is similar in appearance to the PYE Mk6 cameras as used in MCR21

The camera is from the collection of the Television Camera Museum [tvcameramuseum.org](http://tvcameramuseum.org)

**Please do not touch**