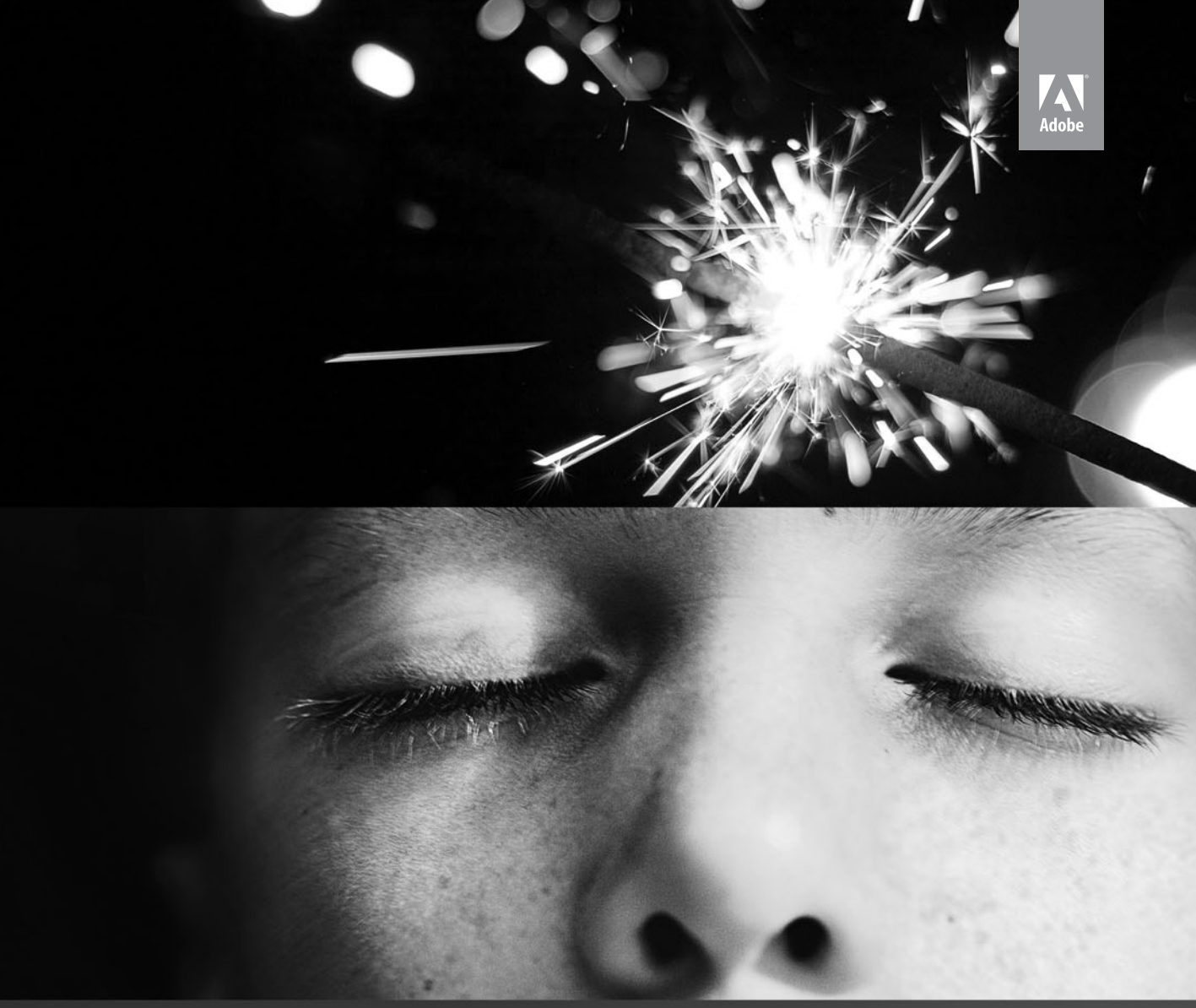
Adobe® Premiere®
Elements 11

CLASSROOM IN A BOOK®

The official training workbook from Adobe Systems

DVD-ROM Included for Windows and Mac OS



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Adobe® Premiere® Elements 11 Classroom in a Book®

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Printed and bound in the United States of America

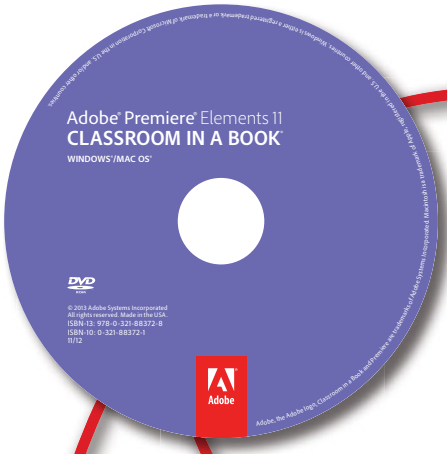
ISBN-13: 978-0-321-88372-8
ISBN-10: 0-321-88372-1

9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

WHAT'S ON THE DISC

Here is an overview of the contents of the Classroom in a Book disc

The *Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book* disc includes the lesson files that you'll need to complete the exercises in this book, as well as other content to help you learn more about Adobe Premiere Elements 11 and use it with greater efficiency and ease. The diagram below represents the contents of the disc, which should help you locate the files you need.

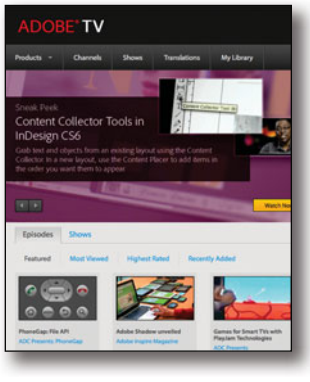


Lesson files

Each lesson has its own folder inside the Lessons folder. You will need to copy these lesson folders to your hard drive before you can begin each lesson.

Online resources

Links to Adobe Community Help, product Help and Support pages, Adobe Press, Adobe certification programs, Adobe TV, and other useful online resources can be found in a handy HTML file. Just open it in your web browser and click the links, including a special link to this book's product page where you can access updates and bonus material.



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ADOBE PRESS

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Find information about other Adobe Press titles, covering the full spectrum of Adobe products, in the Online Resources file.

CONTENTS

WHAT'S ON THE DISC iii

GETTING STARTED 1

About Classroom in a Book 1
Prerequisites 2
Installing Adobe Premiere Elements 11 3
Copying the Classroom in a Book files 4
Additional resources 4

1 THE WORLD OF DIGITAL VIDEO 6

How Adobe Premiere Elements fits into video production . . . 8
The Adobe Premiere Elements workspace 9
Working in the Organizer 11
What's new in Adobe Premiere Elements 11 23
Review questions and answers 27

2 GETTING READY TO EDIT 28

Setting your startup preferences 30
Setting up a new project 31
Working with project preferences 40
Customizing the Workspace 43
Review questions and answers 45

3 VIDEO CAPTURE AND IMPORT 46

Capturing video with Adobe Premiere Elements 48
Capture interfaces 49
Using the Video Importer 50
Capturing tape-based or live video 55
Capturing with the Capture panel 59

Importing content from your hard drive 64
Review questions and answers 93

4 ORGANIZING YOUR CONTENT **66**

Getting started 68
Viewing the completed movie before you start 68
Working in the Project Assets panel 69
Tagging in the Organizer 75
Review questions and answers 93

5 EDITING VIDEO **94**

Getting started 96
Viewing the completed movie before you start 96
Working in the Monitor panel 97
Editing in Quick view 101
Using the Split Clip tool in Quick view 107
Working in Expert view 109
Editing in Expert view 111
Using the Split Clip tool in Expert view 119
Working in Smart Trim mode 122
Review questions and answers 127

6 WORKING WITH EFFECTS **128**

Getting started 130
Viewing the completed movie before you start 130
Using effects 131
Working with Smart Fix 135
Perfecting your clips 137
Fixing backlighted video 143
Copying effects from one clip to another 146
Working with Time Remapping 149
Changing playback speed 157
Creating a Pan & Zoom effect 158

Working with keyframes 163
Creating a Picture-in-Picture overlay 171
Compositing two clips using Videomerge 173
Exploring on your own 175
Review questions and answers 176

7 CREATING TRANSITIONS 178

Getting started 180
Viewing the completed movie before you start 180
Working with transitions 181
Exploring on your own 196
Review questions and answers 197

8 ADDING TITLES AND CREDITS 198

Working with titles and title-editing mode 200
Getting started 200
Viewing the completed movie before you start 201
Titles and text overview 201
Creating a simple full-screen title 203
Modifying text 206
Superimposing a title over video clips 214
Using graphics 217
Creating a rolling credit 219
Exploring on your own 222
Review questions and answers 223

9 WORKING WITH SOUND 224

Getting started 226
Viewing the completed movie before you start 226
Quick view or Expert view? 227
Workflow overview 228
Creating background music with SmartSound 228
Adding narration 231
About waveforms 232

Adjusting audio volume 233
Volume, gain, or Normalize? 236
Adjusting project volume with Smart Mix 237
Exploring on your own 244
Review questions and answers 245

10 CREATING MENUS **246**

Getting started 248
Understanding DVD, Blu-ray, and AVCHD discs, plus web DVDs 249
Manually adding scene markers 251
Creating an auto-play disc 254
Automatically generating scene markers 255
Creating a disc with menus 257
Modifying Scene Marker buttons 261
Working with submenus 264
Customizing menus with video, still images, and audio ... 267
Animating buttons 270
Changing menu button text properties 272
Creating web DVDs 275
Burning DVD, Blu-ray, and AVCHD discs 278
Review questions and answers 282

11 SHARING MOVIES **284**

Sharing and exporting video 286
Getting started 286
Viewing the completed movie for the first exercise 287
Uploading to YouTube 287
Sharing on your personal computer 289
Exporting to mobile phones and players 294
Exporting a frame of video as a still image 296
Review questions and answers 298

12 WORKING WITH ADOBE PHOTOSHOP ELEMENTS **300**

Viewing the completed movie before you start 302
Getting started 302
Creating a new Photoshop file optimized for video 306
Customizing a title in Adobe Photoshop Elements 307
Editing a Photoshop image in Adobe Photoshop Elements 312
Review questions and answers 315

INDEX **316**

Lesson Files and Media Page 338

GETTING STARTED

Adobe® Premiere® Elements 11 delivers video editing tools that balance power and versatility with ease of use. Adobe Premiere Elements 11 is ideal for home users, hobbyists, business users, and professional videographers—anyone who wants to produce high-quality movies and DVDs.

If you've used earlier versions of Adobe Premiere Elements, you'll find that this Classroom in a Book covers the updated interface that Adobe Systems introduced in this version, plus new advanced skills and features. If you're new to Adobe Premiere Elements, you'll learn the fundamental concepts and techniques that will help you master this application.

About Classroom in a Book

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book is part of the official training series for Adobe graphics and publishing software developed by Adobe product experts. Most lessons in this book include self-paced projects that give you hands-on experience using Adobe Premiere Elements 11.

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book includes a DVD attached to the inside back cover. On the DVD, you'll find all the files used for the lessons in this book. You will almost certainly get the most benefit from working on the lessons in the order in which they occur in the book.

As an overview, in the first two lessons, you'll learn your way around Adobe Premiere Elements' and the Adobe Organizer's interfaces, how to set up a project in Adobe Premiere Elements, and how to customize critical preferences.

In Lesson 3, you'll learn how to capture and otherwise import video into Adobe Premiere Elements. Starting with Lesson 4 and continuing through Lesson 12, you'll open projects on the DVD or create your own from contents on the disc, and learn how to convert your raw, captured clips into a polished movie.

Note that the project files had to be created separately for Mac and Windows computers, and were created using pre-release software and content. For this reason, there may be some minor differences between the screens in the book

and what you might see onscreen when you're using Adobe Premiere Elements. Inside the book, we tried to identify the most likely places for this to happen but want to apologize in advance for any differences or inconvenience.

Prerequisites

Before you begin working on the lessons in this book, make sure that you and your computer are ready.

Requirements for your computer

You'll need a maximum of about 4.3 gigabytes (GB) of free space on your hard drive for the lesson files and the work files you'll create. For some lessons, you'll need to have 2 GB of RAM installed on your computer. Note that the lessons assume that you have installed all templates and associated content available with the DVD version of Adobe Premiere Elements 11 and via download. If you see a template that's not installed on your computer, you should be able to simply choose another template and continue with the lesson.

Required skills

The lessons in this *Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book* assume that you have a working knowledge of your computer and its operating system. This book does not teach the most basic and generic computer skills. If you can answer *yes* to the following questions, you're probably well qualified to start working on the projects in these lessons:

- Do you know how to use the Microsoft Windows Start button and the Windows task bar? On the Mac, do you know how to run applications from the Dock or in the Applications folder? In both operating systems, can you open menus and submenus, and choose items from those menus?
- Do you know how to use My Computer, Windows Explorer, Finder, and/or a browser—such as Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, or Safari—to find items stored in folders on your computer, or to browse the Internet?
- Are you comfortable using the mouse to move the pointer, select items, drag, and deselect? Have you used context menus, which open when you right-click items in Windows or Mac OS, or Control-click items on the Mac if you're working with a single-button mouse?

- When you have two or more open applications, do you know how to switch from one to another? Do you know how to switch to the Windows or Macintosh desktop?
- Do you know how to open, close, and minimize individual windows? Can you move them to different locations on your screen? Can you resize a window by dragging?
- Can you scroll (vertically and horizontally) within a window to see contents that may not be visible in the displayed area?
- Are you familiar with the menus across the top of an application and how to use those menus?
- Have you used dialogs (special windows in the interface that display information), such as the Print dialog? Do you know how to click arrow icons to open a menu within a dialog?
- Can you open, save, and close a file? Are you familiar with word-processing tasks, such as typing, selecting words, backspacing, deleting, copying, pasting, and changing text?
- Do you know how to open and find information in Microsoft Windows or Apple Macintosh Help?

If there are gaps in your mastery of these skills, see the documentation for your operating system. Or, ask a computer-savvy friend or instructor for help.

Installing Adobe Premiere Elements 11

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 software (sold separately) is intended for installation on a computer running Windows XP, Windows Vista, or Windows 7, or Mac OS 10.5*x* or later. For system requirements and complete instructions on installing the software, see the Adobe Premiere Elements 11 application DVD and documentation. To get the most from the projects in this book, you should install all the templates included with the software. Otherwise, you may notice "missing file" error messages.

Copying the Classroom in a Book files

The DVD attached to the inside back cover of this book includes a Lessons folder containing all the electronic files for the lessons in this book. Follow the instructions to copy the files from the DVD, and then keep all the lesson files on your computer until after you have finished all the lessons.

Copying the lesson files from the DVD

1. Insert the *Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book* DVD into your DVD-ROM drive. Open the DVD in My Computer or Windows Explorer (Windows), or in the Finder (Mac OS).
2. Locate the Lessons folder on the DVD and copy it to any convenient folder on your computer. Just remember where you copied it, because you'll be opening the lesson files frequently throughout the book. In the Lessons folder, you'll find individual folders containing project files needed for the completion of each lesson.
3. When your computer finishes copying the Lessons folder (which could take several minutes), remove the DVD from your DVD-ROM drive, and store it in a safe place for future use.

Additional resources

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Classroom in a Book is not meant to replace documentation that comes with the program or to be a comprehensive reference for every feature. Only the commands and options used in the lessons are explained in this book. For comprehensive information about program features and tutorials, please refer to these resources.

Adobe Community Help: Community Help brings together active Adobe product users, Adobe product team members, authors, and experts to give you the most useful, relevant, and up-to-date information about Adobe products.

To access Community Help: To invoke Help, press F1 or choose Help > Premiere Elements Help.

Adobe content is updated based on community feedback and contributions. You can add comments to both content and forums, including links to web content. Find out how to contribute at www.adobe.com/community/publishing/download.html.

See community.adobe.com/help/profile/faq.html for answers to frequently asked questions about Community Help.

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 Help and Support: Point your browser to www.adobe.com/support/premiereelements where you can find and browse Help and Support content on adobe.com.

Adobe Forums: forums.adobe.com lets you tap into peer-to-peer discussions and questions and answers on Adobe products.

Adobe TV: tv.adobe.com is an online video resource for expert instruction and inspiration about Adobe products, including a How To channel to get you started with your product.

Adobe Design Center: www.adobe.com/designcenter offers thoughtful articles on design and design issues, a gallery showcasing the work of top-notch designers, tutorials, and more.

Adobe Developer Connection: www.adobe.com/devnet is your source for technical articles, code samples, and how-to videos that cover Adobe developer products and technologies.

Resources for educators: www.adobe.com/education offers a treasure trove of information for instructors who teach classes on Adobe software. Find solutions for education at all levels, including free curricula that use an integrated approach to teaching Adobe software and can be used to prepare for the Adobe Certified Associate exams.

Also check out these useful links:

Adobe Marketplace & Exchange: www.adobe.com/cfusion/exchange is a central resource for finding tools, services, extensions, code samples, and more to supplement and extend your Adobe products.

Adobe Premiere Elements 11 product home page: www.adobe.com/products/premiereel.

Adobe Labs: http://labs.adobe.com gives you access to early builds of cutting-edge technology, as well as forums where you can interact with the Adobe development teams building that technology and other like-minded members of the community.

Free trial versions of Adobe Photoshop Elements 11 and Adobe Premiere Elements 11: The trial version of the software is fully functional and offers every feature of the product for you to test-drive (does not include Plus membership). To download your free trial version, browse to http://adobe.ly/NBGbfD.

4 ORGANIZING YOUR CONTENT

Lesson overview

Fast and efficient movie production requires organization before and during the edit. To help you organize your editing work in Expert view, Adobe Premiere Elements' Project Assets panel lets you search for and deploy content already added to your project.

However, when you're working with content from multiple sources and dates, Adobe Organizer is a very powerful tool for categorizing your content and quickly finding video, audio clips, and pictures to use in your projects. In this lesson, you'll learn how to do the following:

- Create Places in the Organizer and associate your content with those places
- Use Smart Events to quickly find content from specific dates
- Create Events in the Organizer and associate your content with those events
- Rate your clips and find clips based on those ratings
- Create and use keyword tags to find your content
- Use the Auto-Analyzer to split your video into scenes and rate it qualitatively
- Transfer clips from the Organizer to Adobe Premiere Elements

This lesson will take approximately two hours.

Geotagging content in the Organizer.

Getting started

Before you start working with the footage, let's review a final version of the movie you'll be creating. Make sure that you have correctly copied the Lesson04 folder from the DVD in the back of this book onto your computer's hard drive. See "Copying the Classroom in a Book files" in the "Getting Started" section at the beginning of this book.

1. Launch Adobe Premiere Elements. If it is already open, choose Help > Welcome Screen in the Adobe Premiere Elements main menu to return to the Welcome screen.
2. In the Welcome screen, click Video Editor, select Existing Project, and click the Open folder.
3. In the Open Project dialog, navigate to the Lesson04 folder you copied to your hard drive. Within that folder, select the file Lesson04_Start_Win.prel (Windows) or Lesson04_Start_Mac.prel (Mac OS) and then click Open. If a dialog appears asking for the location of rendered files, click the Skip Previews button.

   Your project file opens.
4. Choose Window > Restore Workspace to ensure that you start the lesson with the default panel layout.

Viewing the completed movie before you start

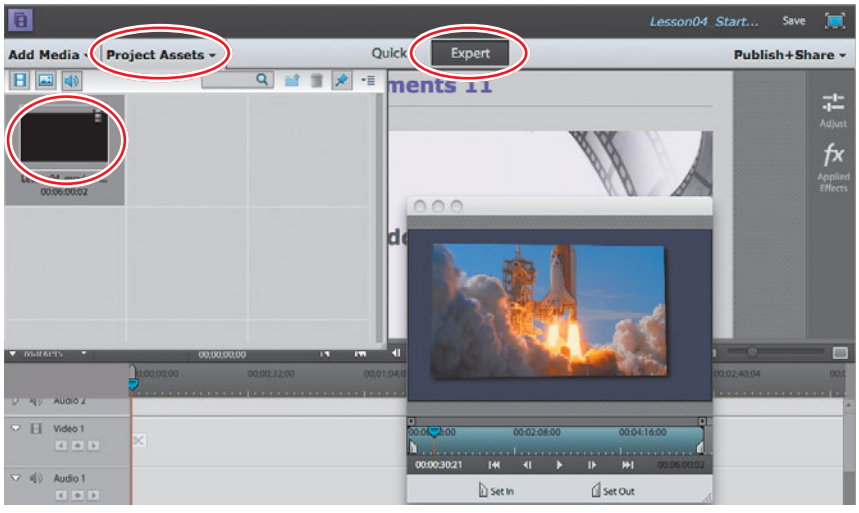
To see what you'll be creating in this lesson, you can take a look at the completed movie. You must be in Expert view to open the Project Assets panel to view the movie; if you are not, click Expert on the top of the Monitor panel (

) to enter that view.

1. On the upper-left side of the Adobe Premiere Elements interface, click the Project Assets button (

) to open that panel. Locate the file Lesson04_Movie.mov (which should be the only file), and then double-click it to open the video into the preview window.

2 Click the Play button ( ) to watch the video about powering the Space Shuttle (all footage was graciously provided by NASA), which you'll build in this lesson.



3 When you're finished, close the preview window.

Working in the Project Assets panel

The Project Assets panel contains all the content that you've input into your project and is only available in Expert view. As with all panels, you click the Project Assets button (Project Assets) to open it and then click the button again to close it.

The Project Assets panel's role is to help you organize and find files using different search methods. Let's load some files into the project so you can work with them in the Project Assets panel. Again, if you don't see the Project Assets panel, click Expert on the top of the Monitor panel (Expert) to enter that view.

1 Click Add Media (Add Media) to open the Add Media panel.

2 Click Files and folders ( ) to open the Add Media dialog.

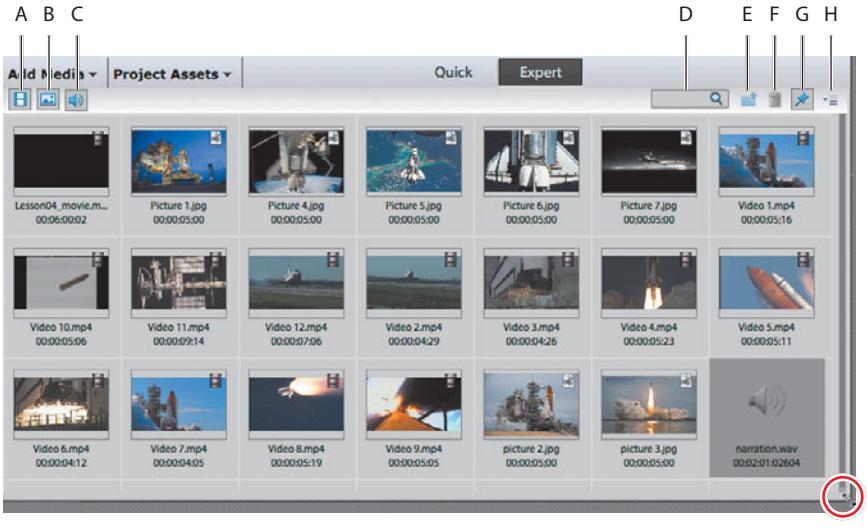
3 Navigate to the Lesson04 folder. While pressing the Ctrl key (Windows) or Command key (Mac OS), select the movie clips Video 1.mp4 to Video 12.mp4, all digital pictures from Picture 1.jpg to Picture 7.jpg, and the single audio clip, narration.wav. Then click Open (Windows) or Import (Mac).

Controls in the Project Assets panel

You can also use controls in the Project Assets panel to create titles, black videos, bars and tones, and color mattes. In this short section, you'll learn how to use the basic tools in the Project Assets panel to find the desired file.

You can perform the following activities in the Project Assets panel to view your files:

- Grab the handle on the extreme lower right of the panel to expand it vertically and horizontally.
- Browse through the entire catalog by using the scroll bar at the right side of Project Assets panel.

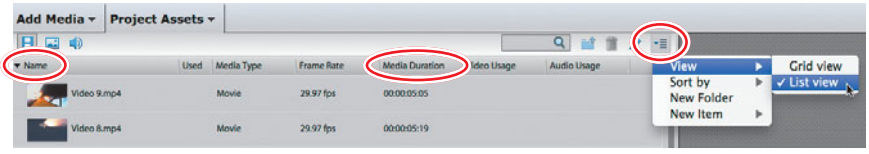


A. Show/Hide Video
B. Show/Hide Still Image
C. Show/Hide Audio
D. Search box
E. Go up one folder level
F. Clear
G. Pin view
H. Project Assets menu

Let's work through some of the most common functions of the Project Assets panel.

1 On the upper left of the Project Assets panel, experiment by clicking the Show/Hide Video (), Show/Hide Still Image (), and Show/Hide Audio () buttons. For example, click the Hide Still Image and Hide Audio buttons so only video files appear in the Project Assets panel. This is a very simple technique for quickly finding the video content that you're looking for.

2 From the Project Assets panel menu, choose View > List view to display the content in this view. Once in List view, click and drag the bottom-right corner to expand the window so all the columns are visible. You can sort your content by clicking the column head of any column. The arrow in the column you choose shows whether the data is sorted in ascending order or descending order. For example, click the Name column head to see how it sorts the content, and then click the Media Duration column head.

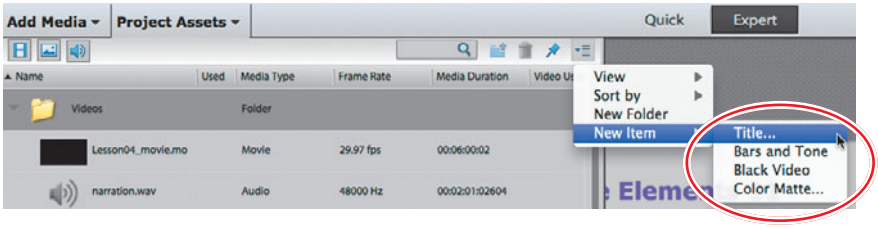


3 In the Project Assets panel menu, choose New Folder to create a folder to organize your videos. Adobe Premiere Elements creates a folder named Folder 01 with the text highlighted so it's easy to change the name. Type in the word **Videos** and press Enter or Return, replacing the text Folder 01.

4 Select all files and drag them into the new folder. Click the disclosure triangle next to the Videos folder to close it. Your Project Assets panel is a whole lot tidier. When you're working with large projects with multiple video, still image, and audio files, creating folders is the best strategy for organizing your content and making it easy to find.

Note: On Windows, you can also create a Universal Counting Leader, a vestigial feature typically used only when writing video back to analog tape.

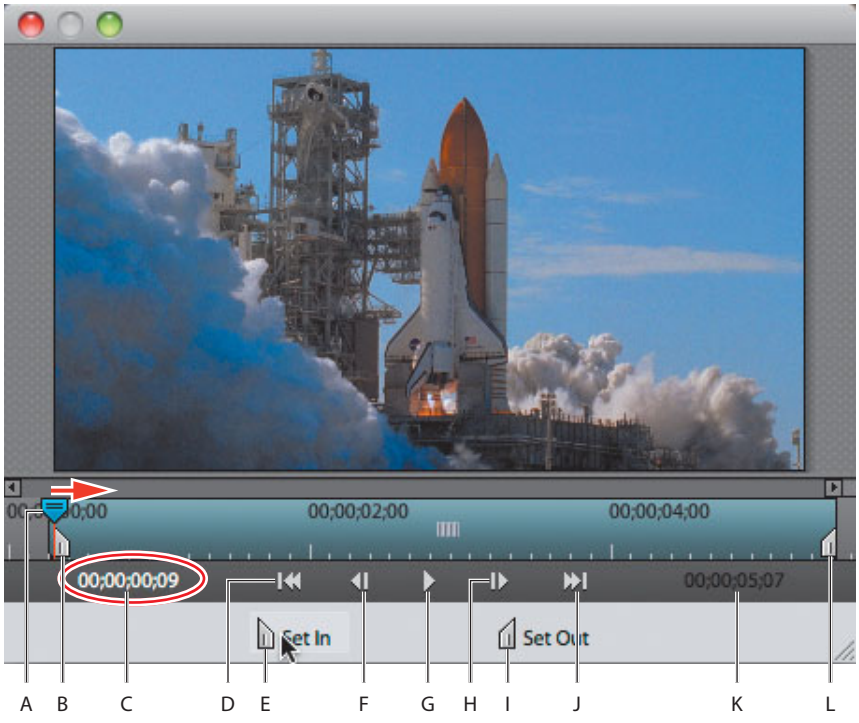
5 From the Project Assets panel menu, choose New Item to view the new items that you can create from this menu. We'll cover titles in Lesson 8. Bars and Tone is a vestigial concept that is useful for analog projects but has little application for most digital video-based projects. Creating black video and color mattes are useful when you need colored or black backgrounds for titles or other movie elements. Select any of these items and Adobe Premiere Elements will open a format-specific dialog for creating the content and inserting it into the Project Assets panel.



6 Double-click Video 1.mp4 in the Videos folder of the Project Assets panel to open it in the preview window. (If necessary, click and drag the bottom-right corner of the Project Assets panel to make the preview window visible.) The preview window lets you play your content using VCR-like controls before you add it to your project. You can also trim frames from the start and end of the video before adding it to your project. Although you can also trim frames in the timeline, you may prefer to do this in the preview window.

7 Let's trim some frames from the clip. In the Preview window, drag the current-time indicator to the right until the timecode beneath the video reads 00;00;00;09 (see figure on following page), which is nine frames in from the start of the clip and the point at which you can just start to see flames beneath the Space Shuttle's solid rocket boosters. Note that you can also use the left and right arrow keys on your keyboard for precise positioning of the current-time indicator.

8 Click the Set In icon to set the In point, or press the letter I on your keyboard. In essence, you've told Adobe Premiere Elements to ignore the first nine frames when you add the clip to the project and start at frame 10. Of course, the edit is *nondestructive*, so you haven't actually deleted any frames from the video file on your disk. You can always undo this later and show the frames that you just trimmed.

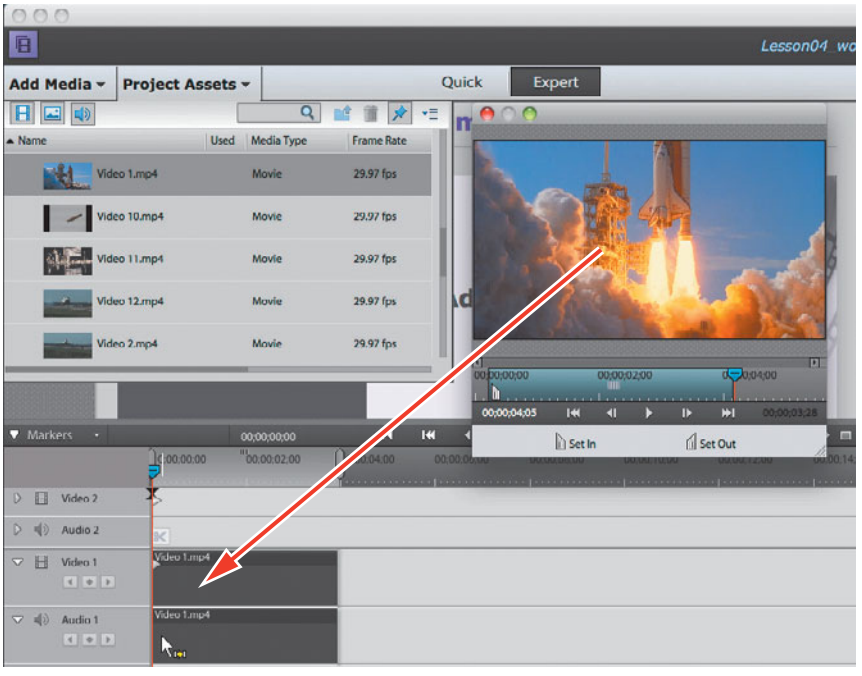


A. Current-time indicator
B. In point handle
C. Current time in movie
D. Rewind
E. Set In point (I)
F. Step Back (left arrow key)
G. Play/Pause toggle (spacebar)
H. Step Forward (right arrow key)
I. Set Out point (O)
J. Fast-Forward
K. Clip duration
L. Out point handle

Note: Rather than moving the current-time indicator to the desired location and choosing Set In point or Set Out point, you can simply drag the In point handle or Out point handle to the desired location.

9 In the preview window, drag the current-time indicator to the right until the timecode beneath the video reads around 00;00;04;05, which is where the Shuttle's nose touches the top of the video frame. Click the Set Out icon to set the Out point, or press the letter O on your keyboard. You've just set the Out point, essentially trimming out all video frames to the right of that point of the video.

10 Click and drag Video 1 in the preview window to the start of the Video 1 and Audio 1 tracks on the timeline as shown in the figure and release. You've just added the trimmed video to the timeline. Click No if Adobe Premiere Elements asks if you want to fix any quality issues in the clip or any other questions.

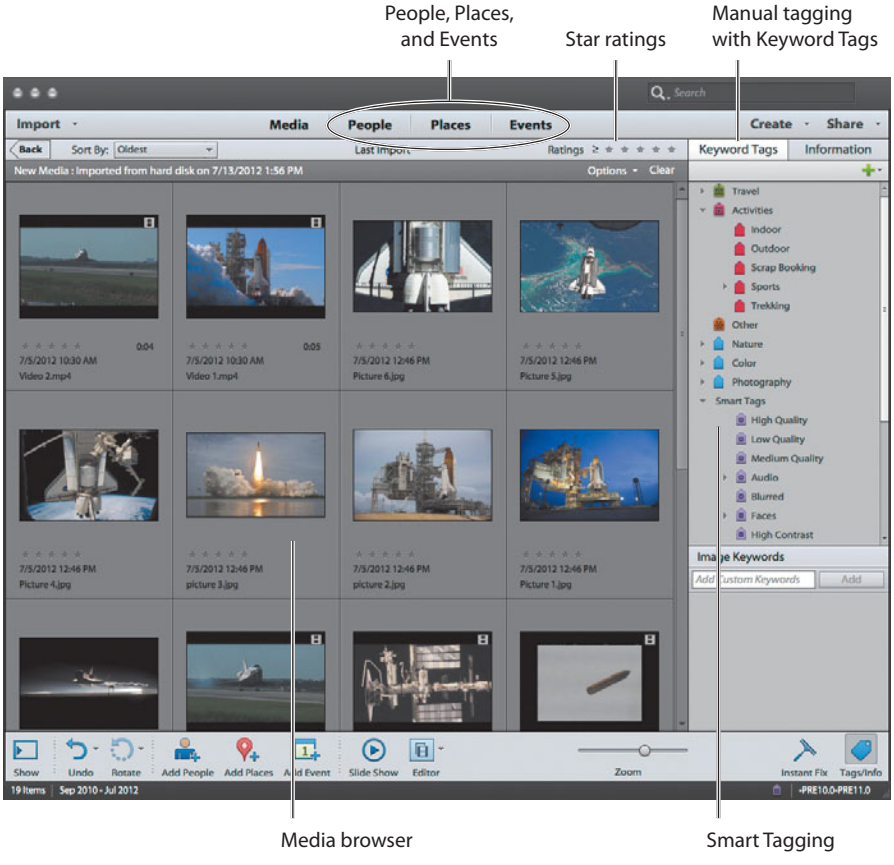


11 Close the preview window, and then click the Project Assets (Project Assets) button to close the Project Assets panel. Make sure that the current-time indicator in the timeline is at the start of the clip, click anywhere in the timeline, and then press the spacebar to play the clip. Note that it starts and ends on the trimmed frames.

Note: When you set In and Out points in the preview window, they're automatically applied prospectively when you drag the clip into the timeline. But these In and Out points aren't retroactively applied to clips already in the timeline. You'll learn how to trim clips in the timeline in the next lesson.

Tagging in the Organizer

The Project Assets panel is great for quickly finding clips, but the Organizer is Adobe Premiere Elements' best tool for serious organization and search-and-retrieval work. You can open the Organizer by clicking the Organizer icon ( ) in Adobe Premiere Elements' Action bar. This exercise details how to perform manual and Smart Tagging in the Organizer, and then how to search for clips using those tags in the Organizer.



As shown in the figure, there are three ways that the Adobe Organizer helps you organize your clips: by categorizing them into People, Places, and Events; by giving them star ratings on a scale from 1 to 5; and by manually tagging them with keywords and via smart tags. Let's take a quick look at each technique in this introductory overview, and then you'll learn how to use them.

In Adobe Premiere Elements 11, the Organizer's interface has been optimized for three views, as shown on the top toolbar: People, Places, and Events. By associating your video clips with one or more of these categories, you can easily find all clips associated with a person, place, or event. I'll demonstrate how to associate

your clips with a place or an event, but not a person, primarily because face recognition—a great feature that the Organizer uses to automate the process of people tagging your still images—is not available for video.

The star ratings system allows you to review and rate all your clips on a scale from 1 to 5; you can later search for only those clips that you rated 4 or higher, for example—an easy way to find high-quality clips and eliminate poor-quality clips. Keyword tags allow you to tag a clip by person, location, event, or other tags and includes customizable categories.

When you run the Auto-Analyzer on a clip, Adobe Premiere Elements analyzes the video to detect scenes based on content and rates the content qualitatively, a process known as Smart Tagging. This allows you to hunt for scenes with faces and identify scenes that are out of focus, shaky, underexposed, or overexposed. Using this qualitative data, Adobe Premiere Elements then categorizes all clips as high, medium, or low quality. This serves a valuable triage function that you can later use to search for the best clips for your movie. This analysis is also used for features like Smart Trimming, which you'll learn in Lesson 5, and Smart Fix, as discussed in Lesson 6.

For example, if you shot an hour of video on your last vacation, Smart Tagging allows you to identify medium-quality-and-higher clips containing faces (presumably family members) and produce a movie containing only these clips. What would literally take you hours to accomplish manually, Smart Tagging can produce in a few moments.

Using all these tags in any combination, you can hunt for clips to manually add to your projects or create an InstantMovie, which is a professional-looking edited movie complete with titles, soundtrack, effects, and transitions. You'll create an InstantMovie in the last exercise in this lesson.

Tagging clips in the Organizer

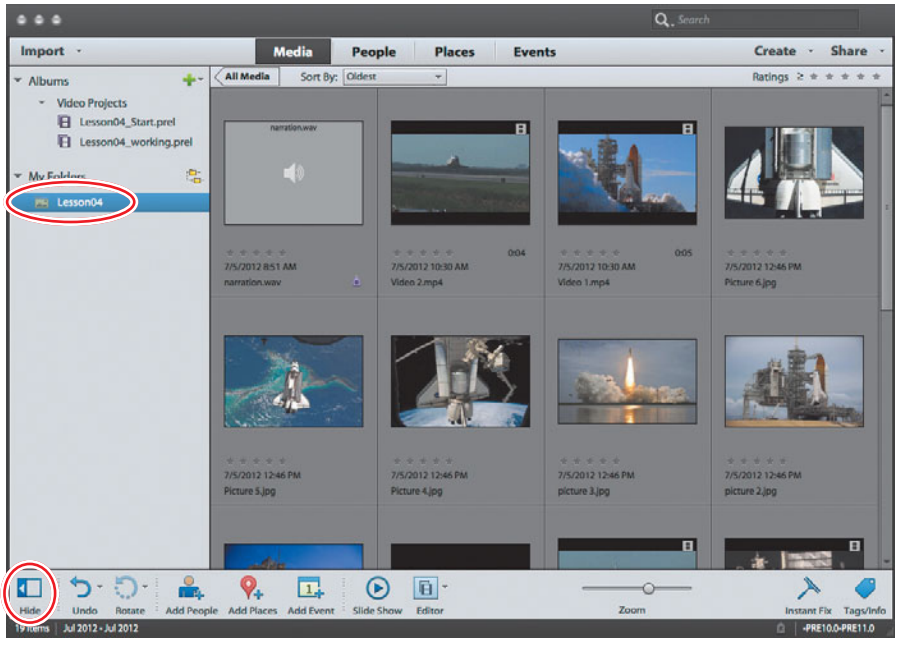
Let's dive into tagging clips in the Organizer, starting with Places and Events. If you've been following along, your Organizer should just have the content loaded from the Lesson04 folder. To ensure that we're all looking at the same thing, let's reload that content.

1. On the bottom-left corner of the Organizer, click the Show button ( ) to open the panel. The Show button toggles to the Hide button ().
2. If necessary, click the disclosure triangle next to My Folders to reveal that content. Then click Lesson04. If Lesson04 isn't there, return to the "Working in the Project Assets panel" exercise and load the content as described. Then return to this exercise; the Lesson04 folder should be there.

3 Take these steps to make sure your Organizer looks the same as the figure.

- In the Organizer menu, choose View > Media Types. Make sure photos, video, and audio are all selected.
- Choose View > Details, View > File Names, and View > Grid Lines to show these elements.
- In the Sort By list box on top of the Organizer's Media browser, make sure Oldest is selected.

Note: If you've been working with Adobe Premiere Elements and the Organizer for a while, you'll likely have multiple projects and folders in the panel. Find and click the Lesson04 folder; the content in the Organizer should be close to what you see in the figures.



Note: You can play any video file in the Organizer or view any still image in the Organizer by double-clicking the video or still image in the browser and then clicking the Play button in the preview window that appears. Close the window to return to the Media browser. Still images are displayed in an expanded window in the Media browser; click Grid (Grid) on the left of the toolbar immediately above the image to return to the Media browser.

Now that we're all looking at the same screen, let's start tagging.

Note: The Adobe Organizer can display all clips in a Timeline view (in Media view, click View > Timeline) that displays content by data, which can be a convenient way to find some clips. You just move along the timeline, click any clumps of sequential clips in the timeline, and they appear in the Media browser. Of course, you need clips in the Organizer to create the clumps, so until you populate the Organizer, this view won't provide that much value.

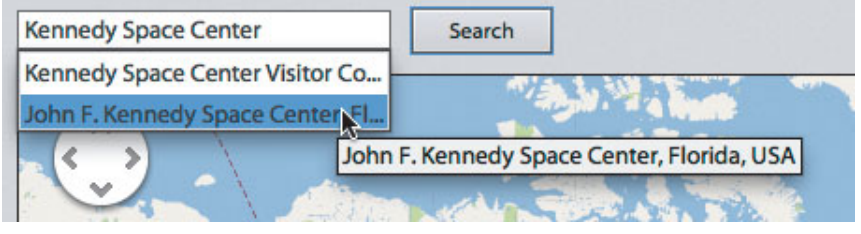
Note: Your screen may not match perfectly what's shown on the page, but the minor differences shouldn't keep you from completing any exercises.

Tagging clips to Places

The NASA clips we're using in this book took place in two basic places: The launch occurred at Kennedy Space Center in Florida, and the other location is somewhere in outer space that, as near as I can tell, Google hasn't yet incorporated into Google Earth. Give it time. Even though the launch and landing took place at Kennedy Space Center, because over 50 Shuttle landings have occurred at Edwards Air Force Base in California and we want to tag two different places in this exercise, we'll tag the landing at Edwards Air Force Base.

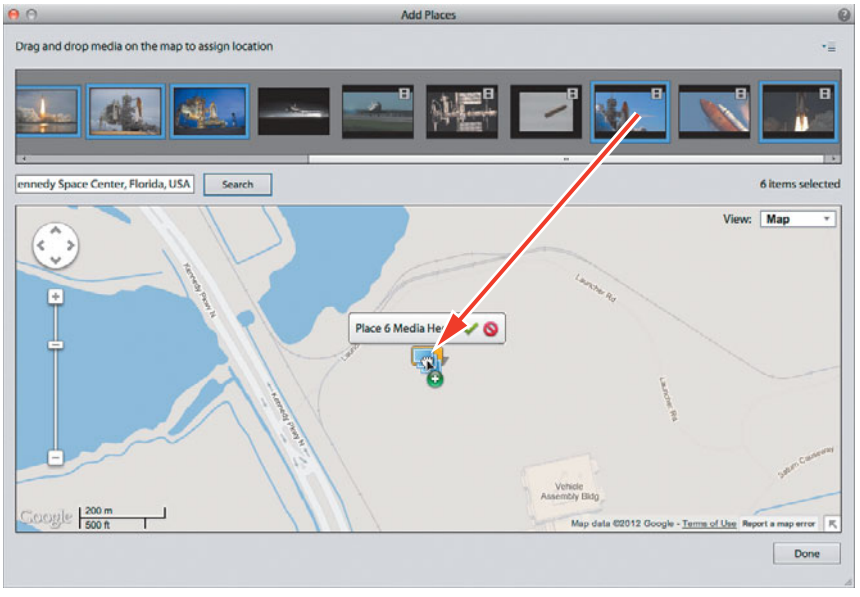
At a high level, you'll create two Places in the Organizer—one for launch and one for landing—and then associate some clips with each place. Then, working from the Organizer's Google Maps view, you can click a place and see all clips associated with that place. Let's jump in.

1. On the Organizer's top toolbar, click Places (Places).
2. On the Organizer's bottom toolbar, click Add Places ( ).
3. In the Add Places Search field, type **Kennedy Space Center** and click Search. Note that if you were typing in a street address, you would type in the address as you would on an envelope. For example, if you shot video at the White House in Washington, DC, you could either type in **The White House** or **1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500**.
4. If Google Earth finds two locations, click John F. Kennedy Space Center, Florida, USA, not the Visitor Center. The Organizer will create a placeholder into which you will drag all media shot from that location.



5. Hold down the Ctrl key (Windows) or Command key (Mac OS) and click all the pictures and video in the media bar atop the Add Places dialog associated with that location. Our selections don't have to match precisely, but I selected all take-off related pictures and videos that showed the Shuttle on or near the ground, and didn't select space or landing shots. This totaled six videos.

6 Release the Ctrl key (Windows) or Command key (Mac OS), click any of the selected pictures or video, drag them all to the icon beneath the Place 6 Media Here text box, release the pointer, and click the green checkmark. Adobe Premiere Elements will associate the selected content with that place.

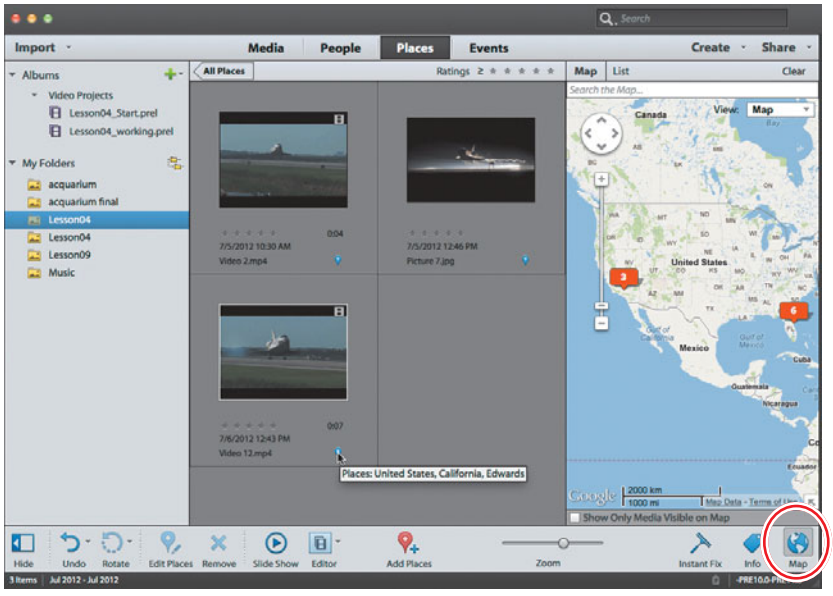


7 On the bottom right of the Add Places dialog, click Done. The Organizer creates the place.

8 Repeat the process with the landing shots. Click Add Places again, type **Edwards Air Force Base** in the Search field, and click the location that the Organizer finds. Ctrl-click (Windows) or Command-click (Mac OS) the three landing shots (two similar landing videos and one still-frame night landing), release the Ctrl key (Windows) or Command key (Mac OS), and drag the selected content into the icon. Click Done when you're finished.

You should now have at least two places identified and content associated with each. Let's see how this will help you find your content for future projects.

In the Organizer's top toolbar, click Media (Media) to exit Places view, and then click Places (Places) to return to that view. If the Map isn't displayed on the right, click the Map icon ( ) in the lower-right corner of the Organizer interface.

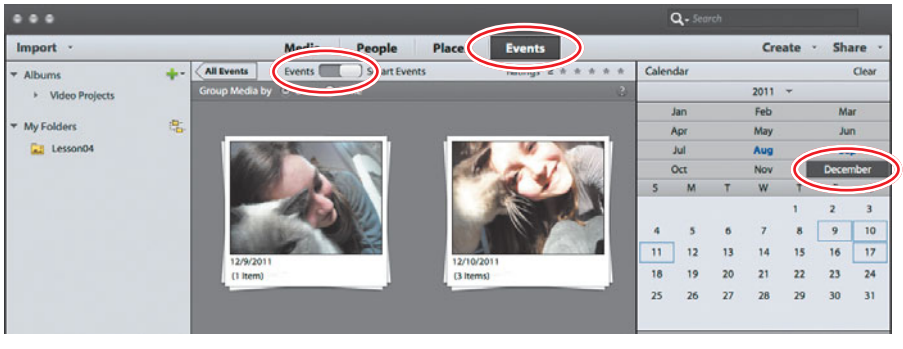


Note: Note that Places has a Map view, shown in the previous figure, and a List view, which might provide better precision for certain search functions.

You may have to adjust the navigational and sizing controls on the upper left of the map, but you should be able to approximate the view shown in the previous figure. Double-click either icon, and the Organizer will display the content from that location in the Media browser, as shown in the figure above. Single-click the icon, and the Organizer will display all content with the content from that location highlighted. If you hover your pointer over the blue icon in each video or still image, you'll notice that it's been tagged to the respective places.

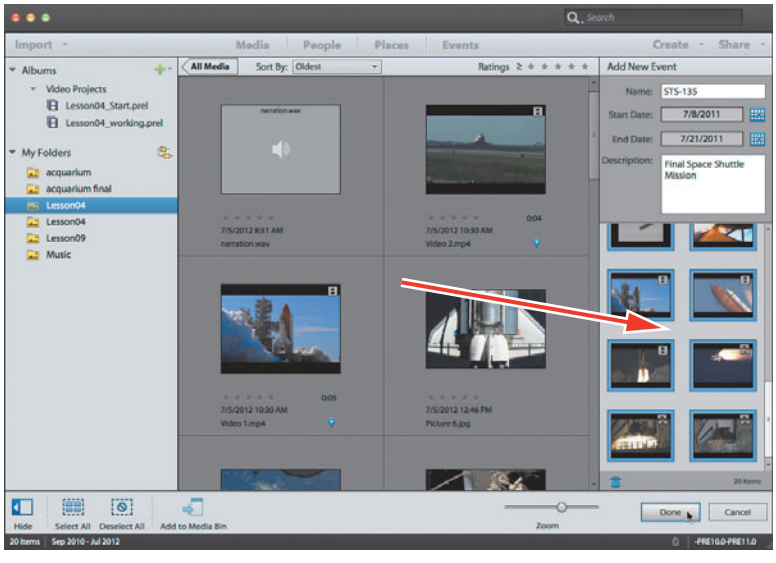
Tagging clips to Events

The Organizer has a Smart Events feature that you can use to find content without any tagging on your part. To see this function in action, click Events (Events), and then choose the Smart Events toggle in the Events top toolbar. This shows all content grouped by date in the Media browser, which you can navigate through using the vertical scroll bar on the right of the Media browser. Or, you can narrow your search by choosing a year, month, and/or day using the calendar on the right.



Sometimes, however, you'll want to manually organize clips into Events—perhaps because like the Shuttle flight, the event took place over multiple days. Or, perhaps you shot video and pictures at more than one event on a particular day and need to break them into multiple events, like a wedding ceremony and wedding reception. Here's the procedure for manually creating Events with the Adobe Organizer. For the purposes of this exercise, though our clips were gathered from multiple missions, I'll assume that the Space Shuttle mission was STS-135, the last mission flown.

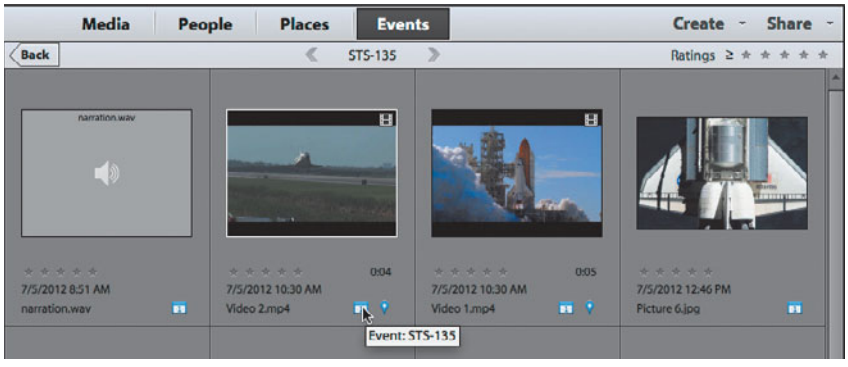
1. Click Events (Events) to enter Event view. Make sure Events is selected in the top toolbar, not Smart Events.
2. On the Organizer's bottom toolbar, click Add Event ( ). The Add New Event dialog appears on the right.
3. Complete the information in the Add New Event dialog.
   - In the Name field, type **STS-135**.
   - Use the calendar controls to input a Start Date of 7/8/2011 and an End Date of 7/21/2011. It's easiest if you choose the year first and then the date.
   - In the Description field, type **Final Space Shuttle Mission**.
4. Assuming that you still have Lesson04 selected in the panel on the left, all content in the Media browser should relate to this mission. Click anywhere in the media window to select that window, and then press Ctrl+A (Windows) or Command+A (Mac OS) to select all the content in the Media browser, drag it into the window beneath the description, and release your pointer. The Organizer adds this content to the mission event.



Note: While these missions actually occurred and the videos were shot in 2011 and before, the media files that we're using were created from NASA sources in 2012. So don't let the dates in the figure confuse you.

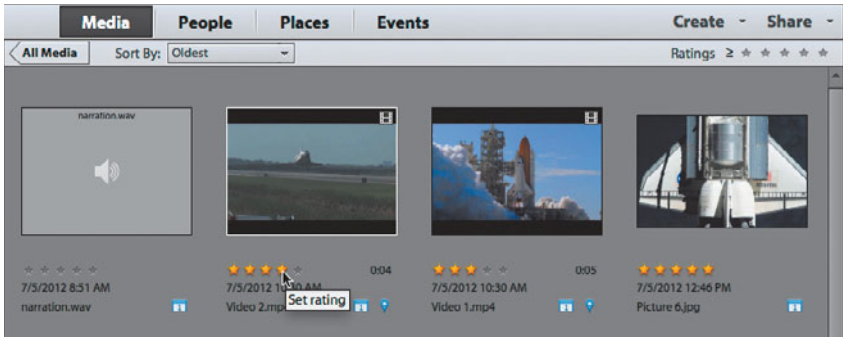
5. On the bottom right of the Add New Event dialog, click Done. The Organizer creates the event.

Let's see how this will help you find your content later on. In the Organizer's top toolbar, click Media (Media) to exit Events view, and then click Events (Events) to return to that view. You should see the STS-135 event in the Media browser window. If you double-click it, the clips that you associated with the event will appear in the Media browser. If you hover your pointer over the calendar icon for a particular clip in the Media browser, you'll see the event with which it has been associated.



Working with star ratings

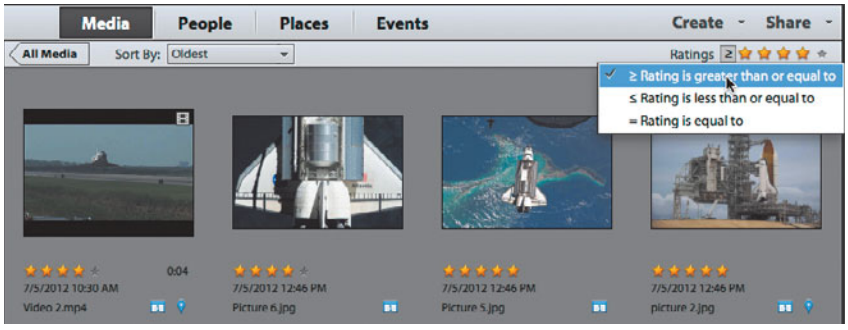
As mentioned earlier, star ratings allow you to manually rate your clips on a scale from 1 to 5 and then search for clips based on those ratings. Follow these procedures to apply and delete star ratings, and to search for clips based on the star ratings. Ratings range from 1 (on the extreme left) to 5 (on the extreme right).



1. Click Media to return to Media view. If you don't see the star ratings for your clips, choose View > Details in the Organizer menu.
2. Hover your pointer over the star ratings beneath any clip, and click the star that corresponds to the desired rating for that clip. Go ahead and rate a few clips so you can sort by rating in step 5. These are all five-star clips as far as I'm concerned, but go ahead and rate some across the board.
3. To change a rating, use the same procedure and choose a different rating.

4 To delete the star rating, click the last selected star on the right (the fourth star in a clip rated four stars).

5 To find clips based on their assigned ratings, click the number of target stars in the star Ratings bar on the top right, and in the drop-down list beneath the ratings, choose how to apply the rating. For example, in the next figure, we elected to show all clips with a four-star rating or higher.



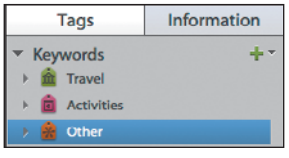
6 To stop sorting by star rating and show all clips in the Organizer, delete the star rating on the upper right by clicking the last selected star.

Working with Keyword Tags

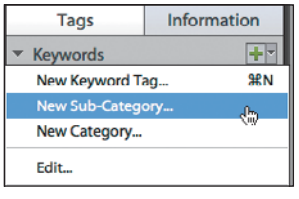
Adobe Premiere Elements includes general categories of Keyword Tags that you can apply as is or customize with your own categories or subcategories. In this lesson, you'll create and apply a custom keyword in the Organizer, and then search for clips based on that keyword. To ensure that you're looking at the same content as appears in this book, make sure you've selected the Lesson04 folder in the My Folders section of the Albums and Folders panel on the left of the Organizer. See the first few steps of the earlier section "Tagging clips in the Organizer" to accomplish this.

1 On the bottom right of the Organizer, click Tags/Info ( ) to open the Tags/Information panel.

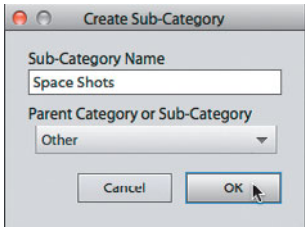
2 Below Keyword Tags in the Organizer, click Other.



3 Below Keyword Tags, click the Create New button ( ) and choose New Sub-Category.



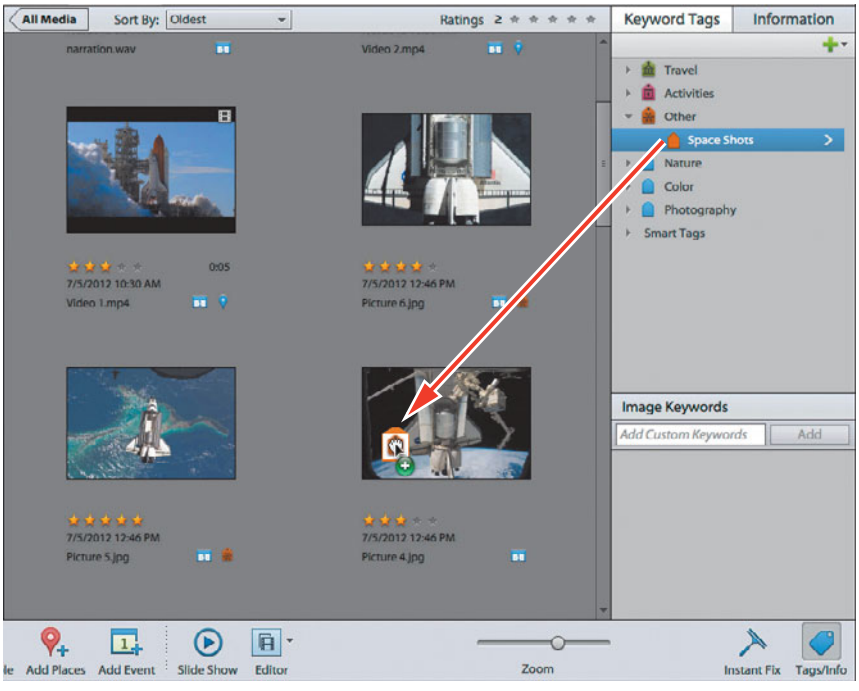
4 In the Create Sub-Category panel, type **Space Shots** in the Sub-Category Name field. Then click OK.



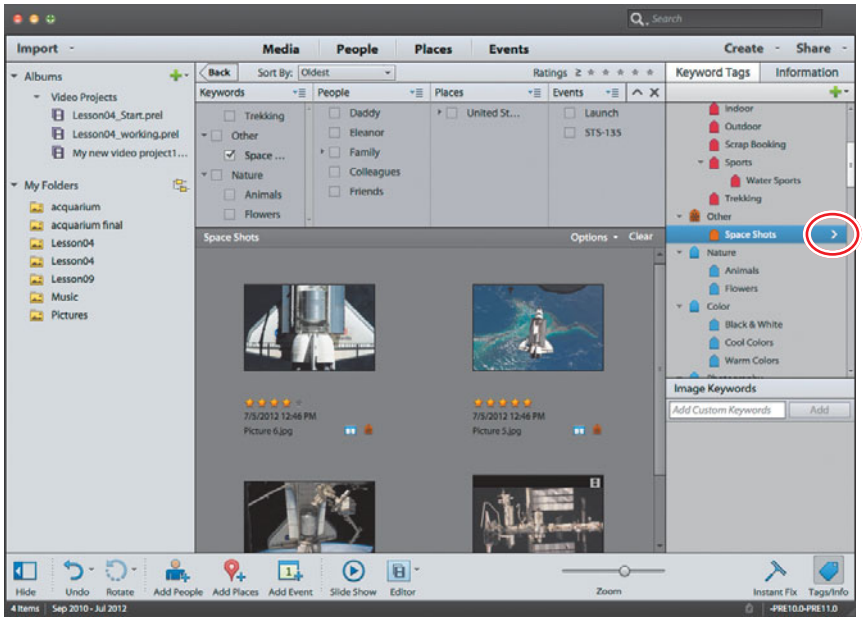
Adobe Premiere Elements creates the new subcategory.

5 Click the orange tag next to Space Shots and drag it onto any of the still images or videos that show the Space Shuttle in space. In the following figure, I've already applied the tag to Picture 6.jpg and Picture 5.jpg and am applying it to Picture 4.jpg.

Note: The screen on your computer may different slightly from what's shown in this screenshot, but the differences shouldn't interfere with completing the lesson.



6 To view the clips that you've just tagged, click the greater than (>) icon to the right of Space Shots, which opens the Tagging Search window that shows Keywords on the upper left and the clips that you just tagged in the Media browser. This window shows all tags created via keywords as well as the People, Places, and Events that you've entered into the system. You can select any check boxes in any of these categories or combination of categories to include content from these sources in the Media browser. You can even apply star ratings to further refine your search.

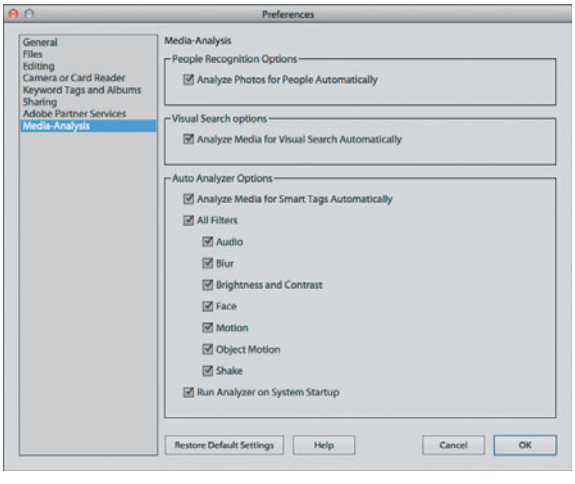


7 In the upper-left toolbar in the Tagging Search window, click the Back button (Back) to close that search window.

About the Auto-Analyzer

As mentioned earlier, the Auto-Analyzer analyzes your video clips for content and quality, and is integral to a number of functions, including Smart Tagging, Smart Trimming, and creating InstantMovies, which you'll learn to do later in this lesson. You can run the Auto-Analyzer manually, as you'll learn in the next section, or run it as a background process. In fact, by default, the Auto-Analyzer will run on clips that you import anytime your system is running and idle.

To access this preference, in the Organizer, choose Edit > Preferences > Media-Analysis (Windows) or Adobe Elements 11 Organizer > Preferences > Media Analysis (Mac OS). In the default setting, Adobe Premiere Elements will work in the background with imported media, so when you're ready to edit, you won't have to wait for the Auto-Analyzer to run.

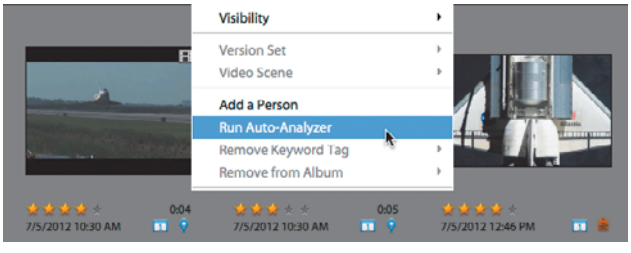


In most instances on most computers, background operation should work just fine. On older, less-powerful computers, and those configured with the minimum RAM, background operation may cause a noticeable drag on foreground operations, particularly when you're working with H.264-based, high-definition formats like AVCHD and video shot by DSLRs. If you notice any sluggishness in your foreground operations after importing footage or experience any system instability, try disabling the Auto-Analyzer as a background operation by deselecting the Analyze Media for Smart Tags Automatically check box.

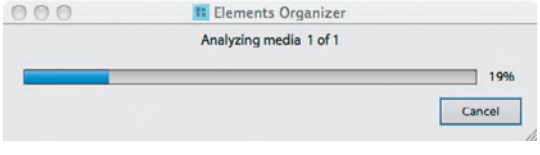
Running the Auto-Analyzer manually

To manually run the Auto-Analyzer and apply Smart Tags to the project clips, follow these steps. Again, to ensure that you're looking at the same content that appears in the book, make sure you've selected the Lesson04 folder in the My Folders section of the Albums and Folders panel on the left of the Organizer. See the first few steps of the earlier section "Tagging clips in the Organizer" to accomplish this.

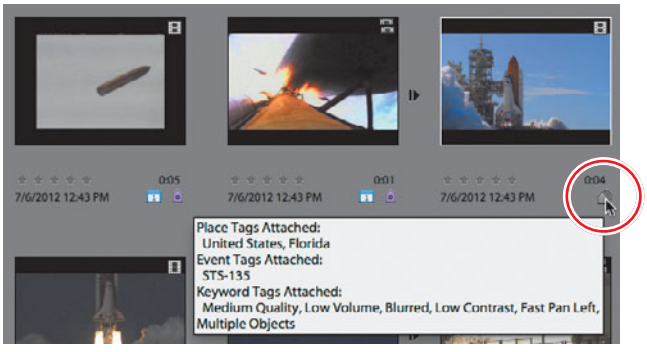
1. If the Organizer isn't open, click the Organizer icon (Organizer) in the Action bar to open the Organizer. If it's already open, press Alt+Tab (Windows) or Command+Tab to switch to the Organizer.
2. Press Ctrl+A (Windows) or Command+A (Mac OS) to select all clips, and then right-click and choose Run Auto-Analyzer. This can take a while, so you might want to try one or two clips first.



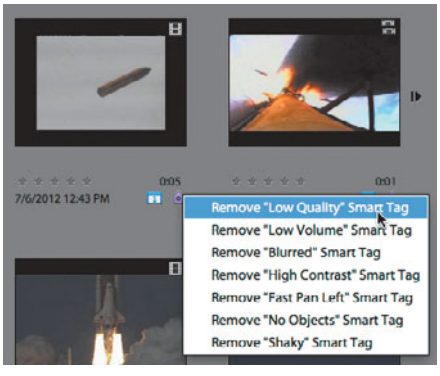
3. The Organizer starts analyzing the clips and displays a progress bar. The duration of the process will vary by clip length, clip format, and the speed of your computer. After completion, Adobe Premiere Elements will display a status message letting you know that the analysis is complete.



4 In the Organizer, if necessary, press Ctrl+D (Windows) or Command+D (Mac OS) to display file details. A purple tag beneath the clip's thumbnail indicates that Smart Tagging has been applied, and if there are multiple tags (), you can hover your pointer over the tags to see which quality-related tags were applied.



5 To remove a tag, right-click the tag in the Organizer and choose Remove. Repeat as necessary for other tags.

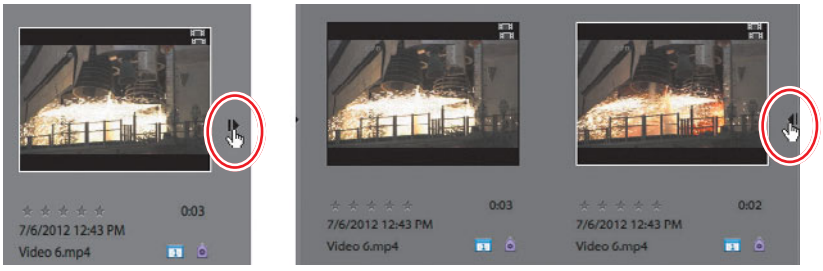


Working with clips after Smart Tagging

Let's take a moment to understand what happens to clips after Smart Tagging. To review, during Smart Tagging, Adobe Premiere Elements breaks the clip into different scenes based on content changes (as opposed to timecode, like DV files); finds different types of content, like faces; and rates the quality of each clip based on factors like exposure, focus, and stability.

In the Organizer, you'll know that the clip has been split into multiple scenes if there is a Step Forward icon () on the right of the clip. Click that icon, and Adobe Premiere Elements displays all scenes separately in the Organizer surrounded by a border that's a different shade of gray from the rest of the Organizer. This lets you know that all the scenes are part of a single clip.

You should see separate scenes in clip Video 6.mp4, although the clip is so short that the difference between the scenes is minimal. With most longer, real-world clips, you'll see more distinct scenes and find that scene detection is quite useful.

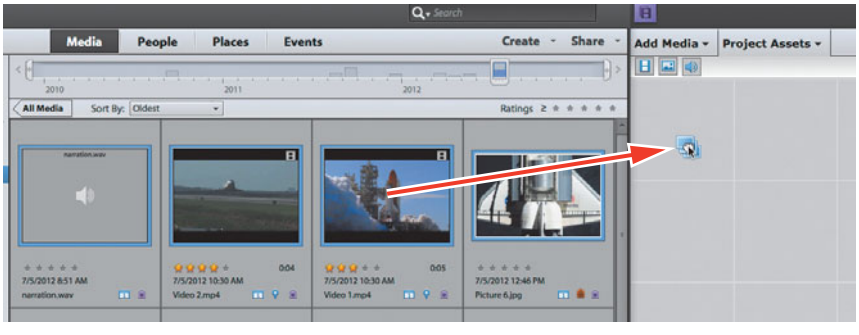


In the Organizer, you can treat each scene as a separate clip—for example, double-clicking it to play it in the preview window. You can consolidate all scenes back into a single frame by clicking the Step Backward icon to the right of the final scene ( ).

From the Organizer to Adobe Premiere Elements

After you've collected the clips you want to use in the Organizer, you have multiple options for transferring them to Adobe Premiere Elements. These options include the following:

- Send them all to Adobe Premiere Elements to start a new project or for insertion at the end of the timeline in an open project. The high-level procedure is to select the desired clips, right-click, and choose Edit with Premiere Elements Editor. Note that you can select complete clips or segments of clips identified by the Auto-Analyzer. The full procedure is documented in "Working in the Organizer" in Lesson 1. This option works well for simple projects because it adds all content to the timeline quickly.
- Drag the clips into the Project Assets panel. You must be in Expert view for the Project Assets panel to be available. Again, the high-level procedure is to select the desired clips, and then drag them into the Project Assets panel. This option gives you the most flexibility because you can add the content to the timeline in any order and at anytime.



- Create an InstantMovie from the content by selecting it in the Organizer and sending it to Adobe Premiere Elements to create the InstantMovie. This is the option explored in the next exercise.

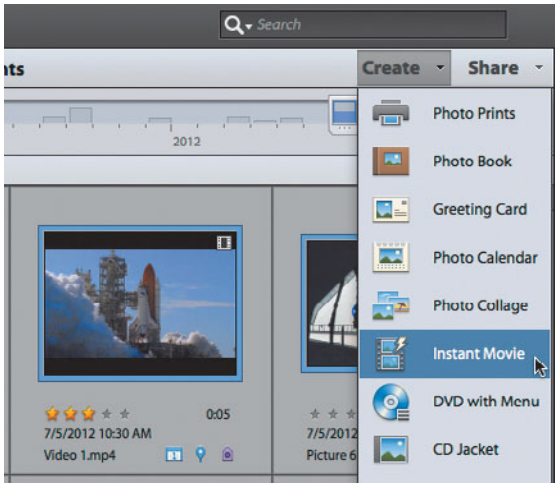
Creating an InstantMovie

In this exercise, you'll create an InstantMovie from the Space Shuttle clips that you tagged in a previous exercise. Again, an InstantMovie is a professional-looking edited movie complete with titles, soundtrack, effects, and transitions that you'll create by following a simple wizard.

You'll start in the Organizer, using the video clips you've been tagging from the Lesson04 folder. Follow the first two steps in "Tagging clips in the Organizer" to make sure these clips are the only ones present in the Media browser. In addition, close Adobe Premiere Elements to start with a clean slate in that program. Do not overwrite the file Lesson04_Start_Win.prel (Windows) or Lesson04_Start_Mac.prel (Mac OS): If you want to save your work, please save it under a different name.

1 Let's start by removing audio and photos from display in the browser. Choose View > Media Types > Photos and then choose View > Media Types > Audio to remove these media types from the Media browser.

2 Press Ctrl+A (Windows) or Command+A (Mac OS) to select all clips in the Media browser, click the Create button (Create) in the upper-right corner of the Organizer, and choose InstantMovie ( ).



3 Adobe Premiere Elements launches. If the Format Mismatch dialog opens, click Yes to change the project preset to match the clips.

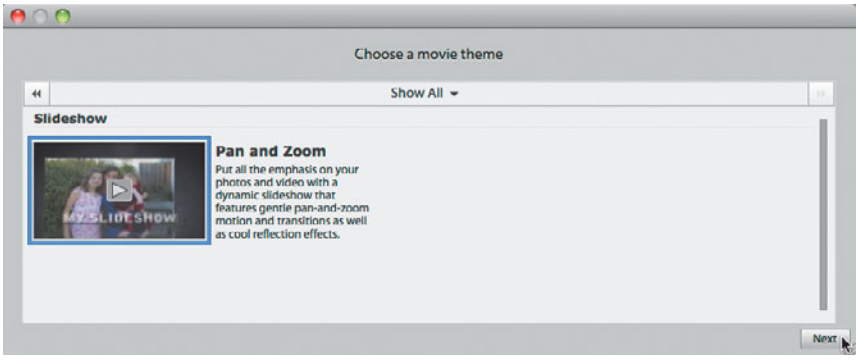
4 If a Save Project dialog opens, name the file **Lesson04_InstantMovie.prel** and save it in the Lesson04 folder.

Note: You can create InstantMovies from within Adobe Premiere Elements by adding the desired clips to the timeline in either Quick or Expert view and clicking the Instant Movie button on the Action bar. From there, the procedure is virtually identical to what's described here. Note that when creating an InstantMovie, Adobe Premiere Elements removes all effects, transitions, and titles that you've added to the project, so trim the excess content from your clips, but don't add these elements because they will all be eliminated.

5 If a dialog opens asking if you want to fix problems in the clips, click No.

6 In the "Choose a movie theme" dialog, choose Pan and Zoom and click Next. If this theme is not available, choose another theme.

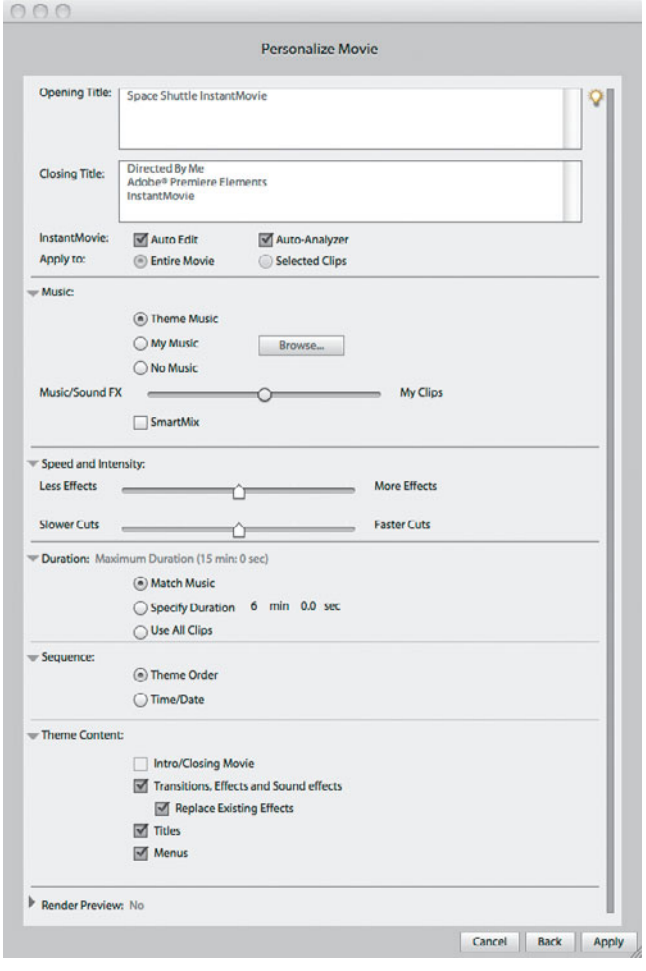
Note: The "Apply to" radio buttons become active only when you apply a theme to clips already inserted into the timeline, not when you create an InstantMovie from the Organizer.



7 Customize the theme as desired. Accept the options as is, *or do any or all of the following:*

- Customize the Opening and Closing Titles.
- Select the Auto Edit check box to have Adobe Premiere Elements analyze your clips and edit them to fit the selected theme, which is recommended. If you don't select Auto Edit, Adobe Premiere Elements uses the clips as is and doesn't edit them. Also, choose whether or not to apply the Auto-Analyzer to clips that you haven't previously analyzed.
- Click the disclosure triangle next to Music to open the Music box. In the Music box, choose the Theme Music radio button to use the background music from the selected theme, or choose the No Music radio button. To use your own background music, click the My Music radio button, and then click the Browse button to choose the song you want. Then drag the Music/Sound FX slider to the desired setting: Drag to the right to prioritize audio captured with the video clips and to the left to prioritize the selected background music. If you have dialogue in your project that you want to retain (which these clips don't), select the SmartMix check box and Adobe Premiere Elements will reduce the volume of the music track when it detects dialogue.
- Click the disclosure triangle next to Speed and Intensity to open the Speed and Intensity box. In the Speed and Intensity box, adjust the Effects and Cuts sliders as desired.
- Click the disclosure triangle next to Duration to open the Duration box. In the Duration box, choose the desired option. Match Music produces a movie that matches the duration of the selected music and is recommended. Or, you can specify a duration or choose Use All Clips, which uses all clips at their original duration with no background music.

- Click the disclosure triangle next to Sequence to open the Sequence box. In the Sequence box, choose Theme Order (recommended), which allows Adobe Premiere Elements to use clips as they best match the theme, or choose Time/Date, which uses the clips in the order that they were shot.
- Click the disclosure triangle next to Theme Content to open the Theme Content box. In the Theme Content box, choose the content to incorporate into the InstantMovie and whether to replace any existing content with theme-based content. If a content type is grayed out (like the Intro/Closing Movie for the Pan and Zoom theme), it is not included in that theme.
- Click the disclosure triangle next to Render Preview to open the Render Preview box. In the Render Preview box, click Yes to render a preview of the InstantMovie after completion or No to preview it in real time from the timeline (recommended).



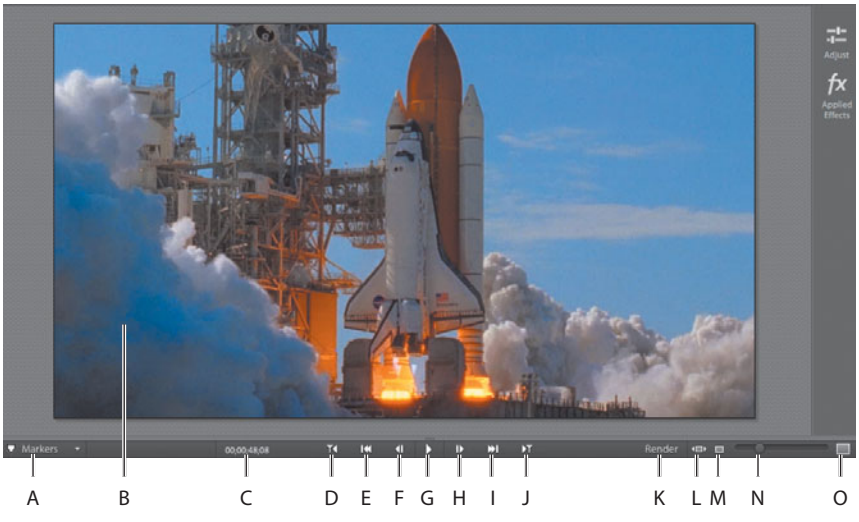
8 After selecting your options, click Apply to create the InstantMovie.

- Click No when the InstantMovie dialog opens and asks if you want to select more clips.
- Click Yes if a dialog opens and asks if you want to replace user-applied effects.
- Click No when Adobe Premiere Elements asks if you want to render the movie.

Adobe Premiere Elements creates the InstantMovie and inserts it into the timeline.

9 Adobe Premiere Elements adds the InstantMovie to the timeline in consolidated form. To separate the InstantMovie into its components to edit them, click to select the new InstantMovie in the timeline, right-click, and choose Break apart InstantMovie.

10 Use the playback controls in the Monitor panel to preview the InstantMovie. If Adobe Premiere Elements asks if you'd like to render effects before playing the movie, click Yes if you'd like to see a perfect rendition, although this may take a good bit of time, depending on your system. Click No if you have a fast system and/or just want to get a quick feel for how the movie looks.



A. Preview area
B. Add Marker
C. Current time
D. Go to Previous Edit Point (Page Up)
E. Rewind
F. Step Back (left)
G. Play/Pause toggle (spacebar)
H. Step Forward (right)
I. Fast-Forward
J. Go to Next Edit Point (Page Down)
K. Render timeline
L. Fit to Visible timeline (\)
M. Zoom Out (–)
N. Zoom control
O. Zoom In (=)

Review questions

1. What view must you be in to see the Project Assets panel?
2. What's the difference between the Organizer that ships with Adobe Premiere Elements and the Organizer that ships with Adobe Photoshop Elements?
3. What are the three main content categories in the Organizer?
4. What is Smart Tagging? Are there any situations in which you wouldn't want to apply Smart Tagging?
5. After creating an InstantMovie, how do you break up the movie to edit it further?

Review answers

1. You must be in Expert view. The Project Assets panel does not appear in Quick view.
2. This is a trick question; there is no difference. If you have Adobe Premiere Elements and Adobe Photoshop Elements installed, both programs can insert content into the same shared database and sort through and retrieve data from that database.
3. The main content categories in the Organizer are People, Places, and Events.
4. When you apply Smart Tagging to a clip, Adobe Premiere Elements analyzes the clip to detect scenes based on content; searches for specific content types, like faces; and ranks the quality of your clips. Other than processing time, there's very little downside to applying Smart Tagging. Your video clips will be divided into useful scenes, and you can find high-quality clips much faster than you could manually.
5. Click the clip with your pointer to select it, and then right-click and choose Break apart InstantMovie.

INDEX

SYMBOLS AND NUMBERS

, (comma key), for adding clips, 113
\ (backslash) key
  Quick view and, 13
  showing entire project, 237
  in SmartFix, 136
  spreading images with, 305
  in timeline, 192
4-pin IEEE 1394 400 connectors, 55–56
6-pin IEEE 1394 400 connectors, 55–56
9-pin IEEE 1394 800 connectors, 55–56

A

action-safe margins, 205, 208
Add Media panel
  capturing video and, 48, 49
  importing from hard drive in, 64
  importing image file with, 311–312
  in Quick view/Expert view, 15–16
Add menu markers automatically for me check box, 256–257
Add New Event dialog, tagging clips and, 81
Add Places dialog, in Organizer, 79
Adjustments panel
  adding visual content in, 268–269
  adjusting size of, 44
  applying effects from, 132
  changing text properties in, 272–275
  creating titles and, 204–205
  modifying text in, 206–207
  in Quick view/Expert view, 17–18
  Volume adjustment in, 227
Adjustments tool, 21
Adobe Flash Video format for distribution, 293
Adobe Photoshop Elements 11
  creating video-optimized file, 306
  customizing title in, 307–311
  importing file into Premiere Elements, 311–312
  sending photos from Organizer, 303–306
  trial version of, 5
Adobe Premiere Elements 11
  choosing project settings and, 35–36
  Classroom in a Book, overview, 1–2
  editing Photoshop image within, 312–314
  home page/trial versions of, 5
  images imported from Organizer to, 303–306
  new features in, 24–26
  software installation, 3
Adobe resources, 4–5
AIFF files, SmartSound creating, 230
Align Objects commands, 210
Alignment options, in Transition Adjustments dialog, 187
Amount slider, in Applied Effects panel, 164–165
analog video, converting to digital, 54
Anchor Point, in Motion effect, 155
animated thumbnail scene buttons, 270–271
animating effects
  in Expert view, 17
  with keyframes, 163–165
Animation tab, in Adjustments panel, 213
Anti-Aliasing quality, in Transition Adjustments dialog, 189
Anti-flicker Filter, in Motion effect, 155
Apple iPod/iPad/iPhone, exporting video to, 294–295
Applied Effects panel
  adjusting keyframes in, 169–170
  adjusting size of, 44
  applying effects from, 132–133
  applying fade-ins/fade-outs in, 211–212
  configuring Audio Effects in, 244
  creating fade-outs in, 166–169
  in Quick view/Expert view, 18
  Shadow/Highlight effect in, 144, 145
Apply to all Marker Buttons button
  animating buttons and, 271
  modifying button text and, 274
Arrange commands, stacking order and, 210, 216

artistic effects, 135
At Each Scene radio button, 256–257
audio
adding narration, 231
adding to menus, 269
adjusting for multiple clips/ fades, 237
adjusting gain, 235–236
adjusting in Expert view/Quick view, 227–228
adjusting volume, 233–234
adjusting with SmartMix, 237–239
Audio Mixer tool for, 241–243
Beat Detect Settings for, 243
distortion of, Normalization for, 236
importing from hard drive, 64
with SmartSound, 228–230
sound effects and, 244
varying with keyframes, 239–241
waveforms and, 232–233
Audio Codec list, for custom preset, 291
Audio Effects in Expert view, 244
Audio file format, exporting audio and, 294
Audio Mixer tool
adjusting volume/balance, 241–243
in Tools panel, 22
Audio Transition Default Duration
adjustments to, 40
for default transitions, 191–192
Audio/Video track, Quick view, 97
Auto Edit check box, for InstantMovie, 90
Auto Fix button, lighting problems and, 139
Auto Save
preferences adjustments, 41
value of, 42
Auto-Analyzer
accessing, 85–86
manually running, 86–87
Smart Tagging and, 76
automatic marker settings, in Menu Theme panel, 255–257
Automatic mode, in Smart Trim Options window, 125
Automatic Playback quality, previewing effects and, 140–141
auto-play discs, 254–255
AVCHD camcorders
capturing video from, 49–50
Video Importer and, 51–53
AVCHD discs
burning, 278–281
creating with menus, 257–260
creating without menus, 254–255
disc quality options, 281
format for distribution, 293
formats for, 250–251
understanding, 249–250
AVI format for distribution, 293

B

Background audio track, 97
background images, customizing menus and, 269
background music track
with SmartSound, 228–230
waveforms showing, 233
backlighting, Shadow/Highlight effect for, 129, 143–145
Backslash (\) key
Quick view and, 13
showing entire project, 237
in SmartFix, 136
spreading images over timeline, 305
in timeline, 192
Basic Settings box, in Export Settings dialog, 291
Beat Detect Settings dialog, synchronizing music and, 243
Between clips option, for transition alignment, 187
Bitrate Settings, in Export Settings dialog, 291
Black Video option, in Project Assets panel, 72
Blu-ray Discs (BDs)
adding scene markers to, 251–253
burning, 278–281
creating with menus, 257–260
creating without menus, 254–255
disc quality options, 281
formats for, 250–251
understanding, 249–250
bonus video clip, creating button for, 265–266
Border color option, in Transition Adjustments, 188–189
Border width option, in Transition Adjustments, 188
Break apart InstantMovie option, 92
Browser pane, Organizer, 11–12
Burner Location menu, in Publish+Share panel, 280
burners
compatible, 280
DVD or Blu-ray Disc, 250
burning DVD/Blu-ray/AVCHD discs
disc quality options, 281
steps for, 278–281
buttons, menu
changing text properties of, 272–275
customizing size/location, 271–272
overlapping, 272
buttons, Scene Marker
changing text properties of, 272–275
modifying, 261–263
buttons, thumbnail scene
animating, 270–271
modifying, 261–263

C

calendar, in Media browser, 80
Capture panel, 59–61
capturing/importing video
capture options, 57–59
Capture panel for, 59–61
connecting devices for, 55–57
converting analog to digital, 54
debugging device control issues, 62–63
device control for clips, 59
from hard drive, 64
interfaces for, 49–50
overview of, 48
with Video Importer, 50–53
Center Text icon
in Adjustments panel, 206
for rolling credits, 219
Change Settings dialog, 37
Change Text Color button, 274
Change Text dialog, customizing movie titles and, 259
Check the Build in Progress screen, web DVD and, 277
Choose a movie theme dialog, InstantMovie and, 90

Choose Name dialog, for custom presets, 292
Classroom in a Book
copying lesson files from, 4
overview, 1–2
prerequisites for, 2–3
Clear existing menu markers check box, 256–257
Clip Gain dialog
adjusting audio gain in, 235–236
decreasing volume on multiple clips in, 237
clip-based import
Capture panel for, 59–61
device control for, 59
live video capture vs., 49–50
clipping, waveforms and, 235–236
clips
adding in Expert view, 112–113
adding in Quick view, 101–103
adding to menus, 267–269
after Smart Tagging, 87–88
applying default transition to multiple, 191–193
applying FilmLooks effect to, 170–171
applying Smart Tags to, 86–87
copying and pasting effects from, 146
creating InstantMovie from, 89–92
creating split edits, 126
deleting in Expert view, 115–116
deleting in Quick view, 104
gain control for multiple, 235–237
Keyword Tags for, 83–85
merging two, 173–175
moving in Expert view, 114–115
moving in Quick view, 103–104
Organizer tool for, 75–76
perfecting with effects, 137–138
reframing with Motion effect, 153–155
Split Clip tool functions with, 107–108, 119–120
star ratings for, 82–83
suboptimal, Smart Trim and, 122–125
superimposed, 171–173
superimposing titles over, 214–217
tagging. *See* tagging clips
Time Remapping tool and, 149–151
Timeline view of, 77
transferring to Premiere Elements, 88–89
trimming in Expert view, 116–118
trimming in Project Assets panel, 72–74
trimming in Quick view, 105–107
Collapse-Expand video track, 109
Color (RGB) Adjustment panel, 138–139
Color Matte option, 72
Color Picker dialog
modifying menu button text in, 274
for transition borders, 189
Color Properties dialog
changing text color in, 209–210
in creating overlay titles, 215–216
comma (,) key, for adding clips, 113
Commit Current Operation check mark, image adjustment and, 307
Community Help, Adobe, 4–5
compatibility, of recordable disc formats, 251
compositing clips, Videomerge and, 173–175
compressing video, 278–279
computer prerequisites, 2
connector line, fading to black and, 166–169
Constant Power audio transition, 192
Constrain proportions, in Motion effect, 155, 172
Content-based scene detection, 57–59
Copy option
in Applied Effects panel, 146
for transitions, 186
crawls, 219
Create button, for InstantMovie, 89
Create panel, 11, 12
Create Slideshow option, 120–122
Create Sub-Category panel, in Keyword Tags, 84
Create Warped Text icon, on Type Tools panel, 311
credits, rolling, 219–222
Cross Dissolve transitions, for multiple clips, 191–193
curative effects, 134
Current Time field, in Monitor panel, 116
current-time indicator (CTI)
adding clips in Expert view, 113
adding clips in Quick view, 102
in Monitor panel, 97, 98, 99
placing transitions and, 182, 184, 185
in Project Assets panel, 72, 73
in rendering Work Area, 142
in Time Remapping tool, 151–153
in trimming clips, 105–107, 116–118
custom keywords, Keyword Tags for, 83–85
custom presets, for sharing video, 289–292
Customize Mix button, in SmartSound, 230
Cut option, 104
cuts, defined, 181

D

default durations, 40
Default Roll title templates, 219
default still image durations, 305
Default Text title templates
in creating overlay titles, 214
in Titles & Text panel, 204
default transitions, for multiple clips, 191–193
defragmentation, video import and, 57
Delete and close gap option
in Expert view, 120
in Quick view, 104
Delete audio option, 104
Delete effect icon, 145
Delete option for transitions, 186
Design Center, Adobe, 5
Developer Connection, Adobe, 5
device control
for capturing clips, 59
debugging problems with, 62–63
digital video production. *See* video production
digital video, converting analog to, 54
Dip to Black transition, 190
disc burners. *See* burners
Disc Burning Panel, 255

Disc Layout workspace
changing menu appearance/buttons in, 271–272
creating menus in, 258–260
modifying Scene Marker buttons in, 261–263
Preview Disc panel in, 257
disc-based playback, MPEG format for, 293
disc-burning for DVD/Blu-ray/AVCHD discs, 278–281
discs, auto-play, 254–255
distortion of sound, Normalization for, 235–237
Drag & Drop an Effect on Clip(s), in My Presets folder, 147
drag-and-drop method, for adding clips, 101–103
drop zone, adding video to menu with, 269
DSLR cameras
capturing video from, 49–50
Video Importer and, 51–53
dual monitor workspace, 44
dual-layer recordable disc formats, 251
Duration option, in Transition Adjustments, 187
DV/HDV camcorders
Capture panel with, 59–61
connectors for, 55–56
device control and, 59
video capture options, 57–59
DVD-Videos
adding scene markers to, 251–253
burning, 278–281
creating with menus, 247, 257–260
creating without menus, 254–255
formats for, 250–251
understanding, 249–250

E

Ease-In, in Roll/Crawl Options, 220, 221
Ease-Out, in Roll/Crawl Options, 220, 221
Easing In/Out check boxes, in Time Remapping tool, 152
Edit Layer Style, in text box, 310, 313
Edit with Premiere Elements status message, 13
Edit, in Photoshop Elements command, 312–314
editing preparation
customizing workspace, 29, 43–44
finding optimal project setting, 32–35
identifying correct setting, 38–40
manually choosing setting, 36–37
opening new project, 31–32
Premiere Elements choosing setting, 35–36
project preferences in, 40–42
project setting options, 31
setting startup preferences, 30
editing video. *See* video editing
Editor icon, Organizer, 12
educators, Adobe resources for, 5
Effects panel
Action bar accessing, 19
applying effects from, 131
Audio Effects in, 244
features of, 134
Halftone Pattern effect in, 308
effects, working with
adjusting keyframes in, 169–170
Adjustments panel for, 132
animating effects, 163–165
Applied Effects panel for, 132–133
categories of, 134–135
changing playback speed, 157–158
choosing/applying, 138–140
copying/pasting on timeline, 146
creating fade outs, 166–169
creating Pan & Zoom effect, 158–162
creating Picture-in-Picture overlay, 171–173
Effects panel for, 134
FilmLooks effect in, 170–171
icons for controlling, 145
overview of, 131
perfecting clips with, 137–138
previewing/rendering, 140–141
reframing clips, 153–155
reframing images, 156–157
rendering Work Area and, 142
saving preset, 147
Shadow/Highlight effect in, 129, 143–145
SmartFix and, 135–137
stabilizing shaky footage, 147–149
Time Remapping tool and, 149–153
toggle on/off, 136
Tools panel for, 133
Videomerge for, 173–175
Elements Organizer. *See* Organizer
End Off Screen, in Roll/Crawl Options, 220, 221
error messages, Capture panel and, 61
Events, tagging clips to, 80–82
Every *X* Minutes radio button, scene marker option, 256–257
Expert view
Add Media/Project panels in, 15–16
adding clips in, 112–113
adding titles in, 202–203
advanced adjustments with, 20
animating effects in, 17, 163–165
Audio Effects in, 244
creating full-screen title in, 203–205
creating slide shows in, 120–122
deleting clips in, 115–116
enabling scene detection in, 57–59
features of, 8
HSL Tuner in, 26
initial movie viewing in, 96
moving clips in, 114–115
Picture-in-Picture overlay in, 171–173
Smart Trim mode in, 122–123
SmartFix in, 135–137
Split Clip tool in, 119–120
timeline, 16–17
transitions in, 184–186
trimming clips in, 116–118
viewing movie in, 68–69
volume adjustments in, 227–228
Export Settings dialog, in Publish+Share panel, 290
exporting video. *See also* sharing movies
to mobile phones/players, 294–295
as still images, 296–297
extra storage capacity, for video import, 57

eye icon
Color (RGB) Adjustment and, 138–139
with Shadow/Highlight effect, 144
toggle effect on/off with, 136
eyedropper icon, for transition border color option, 188

F

Face Frames, in Pan & Zoom effect, 159, 162
Fade Out icon, in Opacity effect, 173
fade-ins
applying to title clips, 211–212
with single-sided transitions, 190
in thought bubble graphics, 219
fade-outs
applying to title clips, 211–212
with keyframes, 166–169
with single-sided transitions, 190
in thought bubble graphics, 219
Faux Widescreen template, in General folder, 269
File Transfer Protocol (FTP), output formats for, 293–294
Film & Video, in Presets list box, 306
FilmLooks effect
applying, 170–171
features of, 25, 135
Filters, in Photoshop Elements interface, 308
Fit Contents to available space check box, 280–281
Fit to Visible Timeline button
creating default transitions and, 192
in Expert view, 112
in Monitor panel, 98, 99
in Quick view, 101–103
focus frames, in Pan & Zoom effect, 159–160
font size, in modifying titles, 206–207
Force selected Project Settings on this project check box, 36, 37
format types, physical media, 250–251
Forums, Adobe, 5
Forward/Reverse toggle, in Time Remapping tool, 151, 152
Frame Blending button, in Time Remapping tool, 153
frames per second
in choosing project setting, 40
full frame rate and, 100
timecode and, 101
frames, exporting as still images, 285, 296–297
Freeze Frame tool
exporting frames and, 285, 296–297
in Tools panel, 21
FTP (File Transfer Protocol), output formats for, 293–294
full-screen titles
adding/editing, 202–203
creating, 203–205

G

gain adjustments, 233, 235–236
Garbage Mattes, in Effects panel, 175
General folder, in Titles & Text panel, 201
General Preferences panel, 40
geotagging, in Organizer, 67, 76–80
Get Media button, for loading videos, 10
Get Photos and Videos from Files and Folders dialog, 10
Go to Next Edit Point button, in Monitor panel, 98, 99
Go to Previous Edit Point button, in Monitor panel, 98, 99
Gradient list box, in Color Properties dialog, 209
Graphics panel
Action bar accessing, 20
adding speech bubbles and, 217–219
green scene marker, in Menu Marker panel, 253

H

Halftone Pattern effect, in Effects panel, 308
hard drive
importing content from, 64
sufficient space in, 57
HD NTSC preset, web DVD and, 276
height of tracks, changing, 110
Help and Support, Adobe, 5
high data transfer rate, 57
Highlight Amount slider, in Shadow/Highlight effect, 144
History panel, 23
Hold Time dialog, Pan & Zoom effect and, 162
Home key
adding clips and, 102
previewing video and, 100
trimming clips and, 105
Horizontal Type Text tool, 308
Horizontal Type tool
in Adjustments panel, 204–205
in changing text color, 209
in creating rolling credits, 219
modifying text with, 206
HSL Tuner, 26

I

IEEE 1394 port, video import and, 55–57
Image file format, 294
image thumbnails
Organizer displaying, 303–304
Scene Marker button, 261–263
In points
for thumbnail videos, 270–271
in trimming clips, 105, 116
Inflate option, in Style drop-down list, 311
Info panel, 22–23
Insert icon, for titles, 202
Insert in Movie option, in Freeze Frame dialog, 296
installation of Adobe Premiere Elements 11, 3
Instant Movie panel, accessing, 19
InstantMovie, creating, 89–92
Insufficient media transition message, 194–195
Interest Level, in Smart Trim Options, 124
interface, Premiere Elements
Action bar and, 19–20
Add Media/Project panels for, 15–16
Adjustments/Applied Effects panels in, 17–18
Adobe Premiere Elements and, 8
for capturing video, 49–50
configuring dual monitors, 44
customizing, 29, 43–44

Info/History panels in, 22–23
Monitor panel in, 17
Organizer for, 11–14
Publish+Share panel in, 22
Quick view/Expert view timelines, 16–17
Tools panel in, 21–22
workspace, 9–10
interlaced format, project settings and, 39
intersecting point, transitions and, 194–195
iPhone cameras, capturing video from, 47, 49–50
iPod/iPad/iPhone, Apple, exporting video to, 294–295

J

J-cuts, 126

K

keyframes
adjusting, 169–170
animating effects with, 163–165
creating fade outs with, 166–169
varying volume with, 239–241
Keyword list box, in SmartSound, 229, 230
Keyword Tags
customizing keywords with, 83–85
organizing videos with, 12

L

Labs, Adobe, 5
L-cuts, 126
Left clip option, for transition alignment, 187
Length box, in SmartSound, 229, 230
Lesson Files folder, copying from DVD, 4
letterboxes
eliminating, 156–157
incorrect project settings and, 33
Limit To Zoom check box, in Applied Effects panel, 148
List view, tagging clips to Places with, 80
Lithos Pro style, in Text tool options bar, 309
live video capture
clip-based import vs., 49–50
connectors for, 55–56
loudness
adjusting, 233–234
decreasing on multiple clips, 237
Normalization of distortion, 236

M

Macintosh computers, output formats for, 293–294
Magnification, Motion effect and, 154–155
Main Menu Marker, Outtake button in, 266
main menu markers, 267
Main menu, from Menu Theme panel, 258–260
Maintain Audio Pitch check box, in Time Stretch tool, 158
manual addition of scene markers, 251–253
manual choice of project settings, 36–37
manual creating of Events, 81–82
Manual mode, in Smart Trim Options window, 125
manual running of Auto-Analyzer, 86–87
Map view, in tagging clips to Places, 80
Marker buttons
animating, 270–271
changing text properties of, 272–275
modifying, 261–263
Marker Type menu, Stop Marker in, 264
Marketplace & Exchange, Adobe, 5
Media browser
content grouped by date in, 80
Sort By list box in, 304
viewing videos/still images in, 77
Media Cache, deleting files in, 42
Media Duration column head, 71
Menu Background Adjustments panel
animating Marker buttons in, 270–271
customizing menus in, 269
Menu Background box, adding visual content and, 268–269
menu buttons
changing text properties of, 272–275
customizing size/location, 271–272
overlapping, 272
Menu Marker panel
green scene marker in, 253
modifying Scene Marker buttons in, 262–263
Stop Marker in, 264–265
menu marker types, 267
Menu Theme panel
creating menus in, 257–260
scene marker options in, 255–257
Menu Titles, changing text properties of, 272–275
menus
adding audio clips to, 269
adding stop markers, 264–265
adding visual content to, 267–269
changing appearance/buttons in, 271–272
creating, 257–260
producing discs without, 254–255
mini-timeline, in Vignetting effect, 164–165
Mismatched Project Settings Preset, Video Editor function and, 13
Missing Disc Menu, 254
Mix button, in SmartSound, 230
mobile phones, exporting video to, 294–295
Monitor panel
adjusting size of, 43–44
centering text in, 207
functions of, 14, 17
images displayed in, 305
playback controls in, 92
previewing effects in, 140–141
title-safe/action-safe margins in, 208
video editing in, 97–100
Motion adjustment, in Applied Effects panel, 18
Motion effect
reframing clips with, 153–155
reframing images with, 156–157
motion effects, 135
Motion Menu Buttons, setting duration of, 270

Movie Menu tool
Outtake button and, 266
in Tools panel, 21
Movie Title Here, in Disc Layout workspace, 259
movies, sharing
choosing targets for, 286
exporting frames as still images, 285, 296–297
output formats for, 293
on personal computers, 289–292
sending to mobile phones/players, 294–295
uploading to YouTube, 287–289
MPEG format for distribution, 293
Music box, for InstantMovie, 90, 91
Music panel
Action bar accessing, 20
for SmartSound, 228
music tracks, with SmartSound, 228–230

N

Name column head, in Project Assets panel, 71
Name field, in Menu Marker panel, 262
names, for theme marker labels, 261–263
narration
adding, 231
Normalized, 235–237
waveforms and, 118, 232–233
Narration tool, in Tools panel, 21
Narration track
adjusting audio gain in, 235–236
adjusting volume in, 233–234
Quick view, 97
Navigational buttons, changing text properties of, 272–275
New Folder option, in Project Assets panel menu, 71
New Frame button, in Pan & Zoom effect, 161
New Item option, in Project Assets panel menu, 72
New Project screen
choosing project settings in, 36–37
options in, 31
Newsreel effect, 170–171
Next Scene control, capturing clips and, 59
Normalization
audio distortion and, 235–236
increasing volume and, 236
volume adjustments and, 234

O

Old Film effect, 171
Opacity controls
in Applied Effects panel, 18
creating fade-ins/fade-outs, 211–212
fading to black and, 166–169
Organizer
after Smart Tagging, 87–88
Auto-Analyzer function in, 85–87
creating InstantMovie in, 89–92
importing video footage and, 10
Keyword Tags in, 83–85
loading videos files in, 9–10
Premiere Elements importing photos from, 303–306
sending videos for editing in, 12–13
setting up, 11–12
star ratings in, 82–83
tagging clips to Events, 80–82
tagging clips to Places, 67, 76–80
tagging techniques in, 75–76
transferring clips from, 88–89
Out points, trimming clips and, 105, 116
Outtake button, in main menu, 265–266
overlapping buttons, 272
overlay edits, 204
overlay effects, 134
overlay titles
adding/editing, 202–203
creating, 214–217
overscan, 208
Owned Titles, in SmartSound, 229, 230

P

Pan & Zoom tool
applying effects from, 133, 134, 158–160
in Choose a movie theme dialog, 90
customizing, 160–162
in Tools panel, 21
Pan Time dialog, 161
Paste Effects and Adjustments option, reframing images and, 157
Paste option
in Applied Effects panel, 146
for transitions, 186
personal computers, sharing videos on, 289–292
Photo Browser, Organizer, 304
Photoshop Elements 11. *See* Adobe Photoshop Elements 11
physical media, format types for, 250–251
Picture-in-Picture (PiP) overlay., 171–173
Places, tagging clips to, 78–80
Play button(s)
changing text properties of, 272–275
in Disc Layout workspace, 259–260
to preview transition, 188
Playback quality, previewing effects and, 140–141
PlayStation Portable, exporting video to, 294–295
Postroll, in Roll/Crawl Options, 221
Preferences dialog, adjustments to, 40–42
Premiere Elements 11. *See* Adobe Premiere Elements 11
prerequisites
computer, 2
skills, 2–3
Preroll, in Roll/Crawl Options, 220, 221
presets
creating customized, 289–292
identifying correct, 38–40
for uploading to YouTube, 288
Presets list box
creating web DVD and, 276
Film & Video in, 306
in Video Importer, 53
Preview Disc window
in Disc Layout workspace, 257
previewing main menu, 260
updated names/thumbnails in, 263

Previous Scene control, capturing clips and, 59
product home page, Premiere Elements, 5
progressive format, in project settings, 39
Project Assets panel
bonus video clips in, 265
creating slide shows in, 120–122
dragging clips into, 88
in Expert view, 15–16
functions of, 70–74
initial movie viewing in, 96
inserting title into movie in, 312
minimizing, 171, 174
opening, 69
video editing and, 111
project preferences, adjustments to, 40–42
project settings
finding optimal, 32–35
identifying correct, 38–40
manually choosing, 36–37
opening new project, 31–32
options for opening, 31
Premiere Elements choosing, 35–36
Publish+Share panel
creating auto-play discs, 254–255
exporting to mobile phones/players with, 294–295
features of, 22
selecting Disc in, 279
selecting web DVD in, 275
sharing on personal computers with, 289–292
sharing/exporting video and, 286
uploading to YouTube with, 288

Q

Quality Level, in Smart Trim Options, 124
Quick view
Add Media/Project panels in, 15–16
adding clips in, 101–103
adding titles in, 202–203
deleting clips in, 104
features of, 7, 8
four tracks in, 97
moving clips in, 103–104
Split Clip tool in, 107–108
timeline, 16–17
transitions in, 182–183
trimming clips in, 105–107
Video Editor function and, 13–14
video effects with, 20
volume adjustments in, 227–228
working in Monitor panel, 97–100
QuickTime format
features of, 294
sharing on personal computers in, 289–292

R

Ratings bar, in Media view, 82–83
rearrange pointer, moving clips and, 114
reconfiguring transition settings, 185
recordable disc formats, 250–251
reframing clips, 153–155
reframing images, 156–157
Render Preview option, for InstantMovie, 91
Rendering dialog, previewing videos and, 141
replacing transitions, 185
Reset icon, 145
resolution
in choosing project settings, 38–39
options, disc-burning and, 281
uploading to YouTube and, 288
resources, Adobe, 4–5
Reverse check box, in Transition Adjustments dialog, 189
Reverse Speed check box, in Time Stretch tool, 158
rewritable disc formats, 250–251
Right clip option, for transition alignment, 187
rolling credits
changing speed of, 221–222
creating, 219–221
rollover effects, 260
Rotation controls, in Motion effect, 155
Run Auto-Analyzer function, in Browser pane window, 12
Run Auto-Analyzer option, Organizer, 86

S

safe zones, for titles, 208, 259
Save in Version Set with Original check box, 313
Save Preset dialog, in Applied Effects panel, 147
Scale slider, in Applied Effects panel, 172
scaling text boxes, 271
scene detection, video capture options and, 57–59
Scene Marker buttons
animating thumbnails, 270–271
changing text properties of, 272–275
modifying, 261–263
scene markers
automatically generating, 255–257
features of, 267
manually adding, 251–253
Scene Selection menu, from Menu Theme panel, 258
Scenes menu
animating image thumbnails in, 270–271
in Disc Layout workspace, 259–260
scissors icon, Split Clip tool and, 108, 119–120
ScratchDisks preferences, adjustments to, 41
scrubbing through videos, 99
SD card, Video Importer and, 51–53
SD High Quality NTSC preset, web DVD and, 276
SD Medium Quality NTSC preset, web DVD and, 276
Sequence box, for InstantMovie, 91
Set In/Set Out icons, in Project Assets panel, 72, 73, 74
Set Selected as Default Transition, in Cross Dissolve transition, 191
Shadow/Highlight effect, 129, 143–145
Share panel, 11, 12
Share WorkArea Bar Only check box
sharing on personal computers and, 292
uploading to YouTube and, 288

sharing movies
choosing targets for, 286
exporting frames as still images, 285, 296–297
output formats for, 293
on personal computers, 289–292
sending to mobile phones/players, 294–295
uploading to YouTube, 287–289
Sharpen effect, 154
Show Overlapping Menu Buttons, in Disc Layout workspace, 272
Show Safe Margins, enabling, 272
Show/Hide keyframe controls icon, in Applied Effects panel, 18, 133, 164, 165
Show/Hide toggle, for showing Audio, 231
Shuttle control, capturing clips and, 59
single-sided transitions, 190
Size value, in Adjustments panel, 207
Sketch, in Photoshop Elements interface, 308
skill prerequisites, 2–3
slow-motion effects, Time Remapping tool and, 151–153
Smart Events, Organizer, 80
Smart Fix control, in Adjustments panel, 132
Smart Fix dialog, Video Editor function and, 13
Smart Mix tool, 21
Smart Tags
applying to clips, 86–87
features of, 12
of video clips, 76
Smart Trim mode
features of, 122–123
operating modes for, 125
options in, 124
in Tools panel, 21
SmartFix control
in Adjustments panel, 18
in Quick view, 17
utilizing, 135–137
SmartMix, adjusting volume with, 237–239
SmartSound Express Track, 228–230
snapshot export function, 296–297
Sonicfire Pro, 229
Sony PlayStation Portable, exporting video to, 294–295
Sort By list box
in Organizer's media browser, 11
selecting Newest in, 304
sound. *See* audio
sound effects, 244
soundtracks
creating with SmartSound, 228–230
marking beat detection and, 243
source, in choosing project settings, 38
speech bubbles, 199, 217–219
Speed and Intensity box, for InstantMovie, 90, 91
speed controls
applying effects with, 135
Time Remapping tool and, 149–153
Time Stretch tool, 157–158
speed, rolling credits and, 221–222
Split Clip tool
in Expert view, 119–120
functions of, 107–108
split edits, 126
Split Tone effect, 26
Stabilizer effect, 147–149
star ratings, organizing clips by, 82–83
Start Off Screen, in Roll/Crawl Options, 220, 221
Start/end points, in Transition Adjustments dialog, 179
in Transition Adjustments dialog, 188
startup preferences, setting, 30
Step Forward button, in Monitor panel, 98, 99
Still Image Default Duration
in General Preferences panel, 40
titles and, 202
still images
adding to menus, 269
exporting frames as, 285, 296–297
importing into titles, 210–211
from Organizer to Premiere Elements, 305
reframing, 156–157
stop markers
adding, 264–265
features of, 267
stop-motion, 53
stopwatch icon, 145, 164
storyboard-style editing, 101
Style list box, in SmartSound, 229, 230
Style Settings dialog
customizing text with, 310
Select stroke color dialog, 313
Style tab, in Adjustments panel, 206–207
submenus, creating, 264–266
superimposed clips, 171–173
superimposed titles, 214–217

T

tagging clips
after Smart Tagging, 87–88
to Events, 80–82
Keyword Tags for, 83–85
Organizer techniques for, 75–76
to Places, 76–80
Smart Tags for, 86–87
star ratings for, 82–83
Tagging Search window, 84–85
Tags/Info icon
for Keyword Tags, 83
in Organizer's media browser, 11, 12
tape-based camcorders
Capture panel for, 59–61
capturing video from, 49–50
connectors for, 55–56
device control and, 59
video capture options, 57–59
Video Importer and, 51–53
Temperature and Tint adjustments, 25
templates
Default Roll title, 219
Faux Widescreen, 269
menu, modifying titles for, 261–263
text
animations, 213
centering, 207
changing alignment/style/size, 206–207
changing color of, 209–210
customizing in Adobe Photoshop Elements, 308–311
customizing in menus, 271–272
customizing in movie titles, 259
modifying in menu buttons, 272–275

rolling credits as, 219–222
in thought bubble graphics, 218–219
Text tool options bar, Lithos Pro style in, 309
Theme Content box, for InstantMovie, 91
Theme Music radio button, for InstantMovie, 90, 91
Thought and Speech Bubbles category, in Graphics panel, 199, 217–219
Thumbnail Offset section, in Menu Marker panel, 262
thumbnail photos, Organizer displaying, 303–304
thumbnails, Scene Marker button
animating, 270–271
modifying, 261–263
Time Remapping tool
features of, 24, 133, 149–151
in Tools panel, 21
for variable-speed/slow-motion effects, 151–153
Time Stretch tool
changing playback speed, 157–158
in Tools panel, 22
timecode
function of, 101
in Pan & Zoom effect, 161
timecode box, transition duration and, 186
Timecode-based scene detection, 57–59
time-lapse video, 53
timeline
adding stop markers in, 264–265
adding/deleting/changing height of tracks in, 110
adjusting keyframes in, 169–170
copy/paste effects on, 146
creating fade outs in, 166–169
customizing track views in, 111
manually placing markers in, 251–253
Quick view and Expert view, 16–17
rendering Work Area in, 142
selecting still images in, 305
Timeline panel, 14
Timeline view, of clips, 77
TimeZones, Time Remapping tool and, 149–153
Title track, Quick view, 97
Title window, in SmartSound, 229, 230
titles
adding images to, 210–211
adding/editing, 202–203
animating, 213
applying fade-ins/fade-outs to, 211–212
centering elements in, 207
changing text color in, 209–210
creating full-screen, 203–205
creating overlay, 214–217
customizing, 259
customizing in Photoshop Elements, 307–311
importing into Premiere Elements, 311–312
inserting into movie, 312
modifying text in, 206–207
rolling credits as, 219–222
templates for, 201
viewing time for, 211
Titles & Text panel
Action bar accessing, 19
creating full-screen titles in, 204–205
creating overlay titles in, 214–217
creating rolling credits in, 219–222
title templates and, 201
title-safe margins
buttons and titles in, 272
positioning titles and, 205, 208
Toggle animation (create keyframes) icon, 145, 164
Toggle the effect on or off (eye icon)
Color (RGB) Adjustment and, 138–139
with Shadow/Highlight effect, 144
toggle effect on/off with, 136
Tools panel
Action bar accessing, 19
applying effects from, 131, 133
features of, 21–22
Video Editor in, 304
Total Markers radio button, 256–257
track size, in timeline, 166
tracks
adding/deleting/changing height of, 110
customizing views of, 111
Transition Adjustments dialog
choosing preferred location in, 184
configuration options in, 179, 183, 185, 187–189
single-sided transitions in, 190
transition duration, changing, 305
transitions
adding fade-ins/fade-outs with, 190
applying default to multiple clips, 191–193
in Expert view, 184–186
explained, 181
proper utilization of, 193–194
in Quick view, 182–183
trimmed frames for, 194–196
viewing properties of, 186–189
Transitions panel, accessing, 19
trashcan icon. *See* Delete effect icon
trial versions of Premiere Elements/Photoshop Elements, 5
Trim view, in Monitor panel, 106, 112, 117
trimming video
in Expert view, 116–118
in Project Assets panel, 72–74
in Quick view, 105–107
Smart Trim mode and, 122–125
for transitions, 194–195
TV, Adobe, 5

U

Universal Serial Bus (USP) drive, output formats for, 293–294
universal toggle animation button, in Applied Effects panel, 165
Unlink Audio and Video option, for split edits, 126
uploading to YouTube, 287–289
uploading web DVD files, 278

V

variable-speed effects, with Time Remapping tool, 151–153
video capture. *See* capturing/importing video

video clips. *See* clips
Video Codec list box, creating custom presets and, 290
video conversion, from analog to digital, 54
video editing
adding clips in Expert view, 112–113
adding clips in Quick view, 101–103
creating slide shows, 120–122
creating split edits, 126
deleting clips in Expert view, 115–116
deleting clips in Quick view, 104
initial movie viewing, 96
in Monitor panel, 97–100
moving clips in Expert view, 114–115
moving clips in Quick view, 103–104
Smart Trim mode for, 122–125
Split Clip tool in Expert view for, 119–120
Split Clip tool in Quick view for, 107–108
trimming clips in Expert view, 116–118
trimming clips in Quick view, 105–107
Video Editor
function in Organizer, 12–13, 304
opening Existing Project in, 32
Video Importer, 50–53
video production
Action bar and, 19–20
Add Media/Project panels for, 15–16
Adjustments/Applied Effects panels in, 17–18
Adobe Premiere Elements and, 8
Info/History panels in, 22–23
Monitor panel in, 17
Organizer for, 11–14
Publish+Share panel in, 22
Quick view/Expert view timelines, 16–17
Tools panel in, 21–22
workspace for, 9–10
video sharing
choosing targets for, 286
exporting frames as still images, 285, 296–297
output formats for, 293
on personal computers, 289–292
sending to mobile phones/players, 294–295
uploading to YouTube, 287–289
video standard options, disc-burning and, 281
Video Transition Default Duration
adjustments to, 40
for default transitions, 191–193
Videomerge, compositing clips with, 173–175
Videos button, Text subsection of, 273
Vignetting effect
in animating effects, 163–165
features of, 24
volume adjustments. *See also* audio
in Adjustments panel, 227
with keyframes, 239–241
mechanisms for, 233–234

W

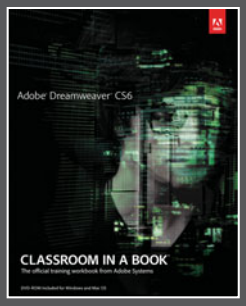
Warp Text dialog, Style drop-down list in, 311
WAV files, SmartSound creating, 230
waveforms
in Narration track, 118
seeing audio files as, 227
viewing/understanding, 232–233
web DVDs
creating, 275–278
understanding, 250
webcams
capturing video from, 49–50
connectors for, 55–56
video capture options, 57–59
websites, format for distributing from, 293
Welcome screen
features of, 9
opening new project from, 30, 35
Windows Media files for distribution, 293
Work Area
rendering, 142
restoring to complete project, 185

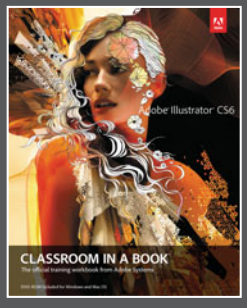
Y

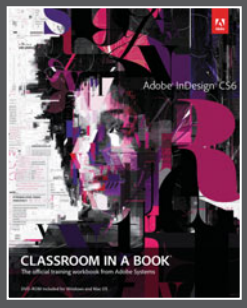
YouTube, uploading video to, 287–289

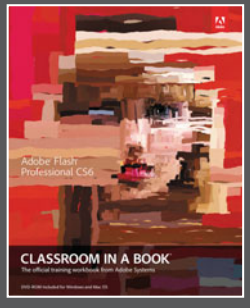
Z

Zoom In button, in Monitor panel, 98, 99, 109
Zoom Out button, in Monitor panel, 98, 100
Zoom slider, in Monitor panel, 98, 100









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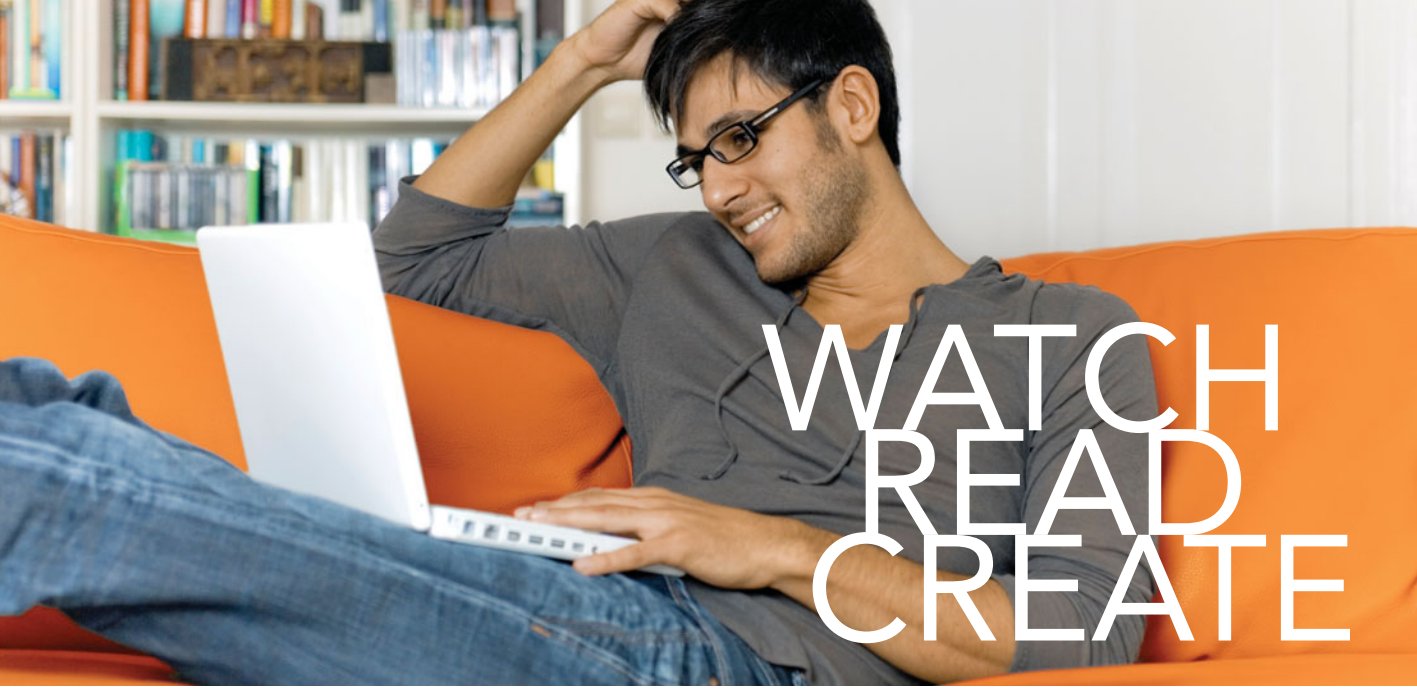

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