

My iMovie®



que®

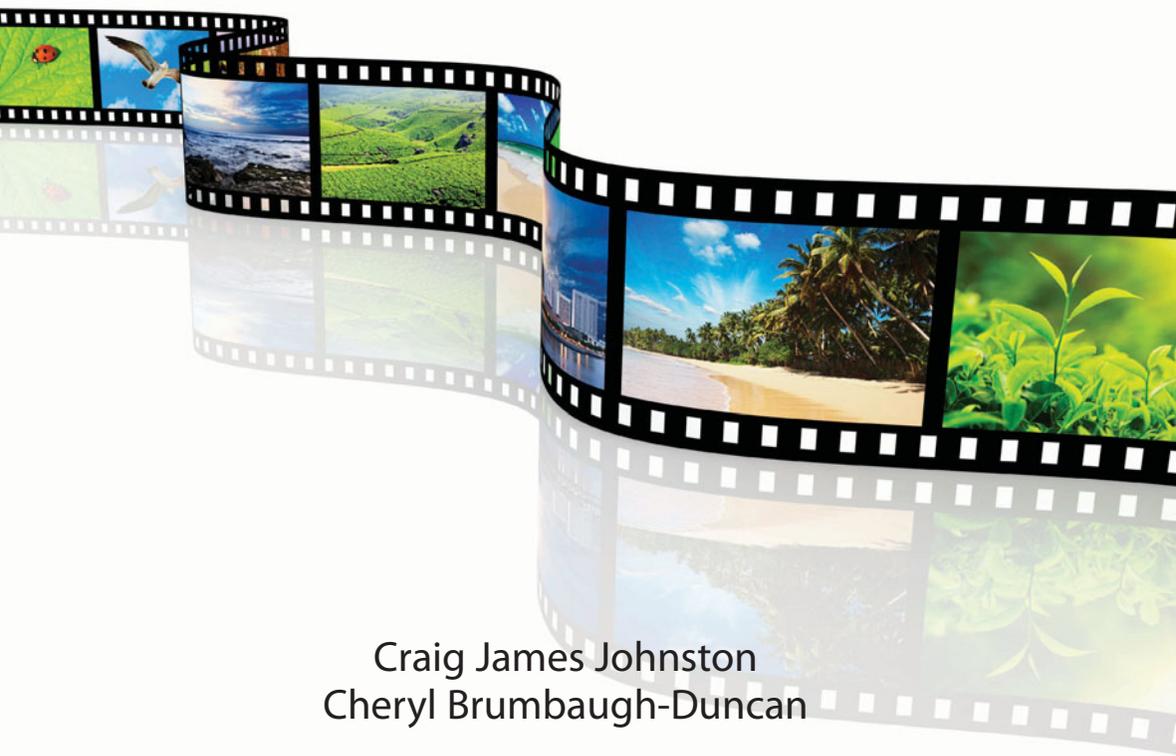
Craig Johnston
Cheryl Brumbaugh-Duncan

FREE SAMPLE CHAPTER



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My iMovie®



Craig James Johnston
Cheryl Brumbaugh-Duncan

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My iMovie®

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About the Authors

Craig James Johnston has been involved with technology since his high school days at Glenwood High in Durban, South Africa, when his school was given some Apple][Europluses. From that moment, technology captivated him and he has owned, supported, evangelized, and written about it.

Craig has been involved in designing and supporting large-scale enterprise networks with integrated email and directory services since 1989. He has held many different IT-related positions in his career ranging from sales support engineer to mobile architect for a 40,000-smartphone infrastructure at a large bank.

In addition to designing and supporting mobile computing environments, Craig cohosts the CrackBerry.com podcast as well as guest hosting on other podcasts, including iPhone and iPad Live podcasts. You can see Craig's previously published work in his book *Professional BlackBerry*, and many books in the *My* series, including books covering BlackBerry, Palm, Nexus, HTC, DROID, and Samsung devices.

Craig also enjoys high-horsepower, high-speed vehicles and tries very hard to keep to the speed limit while driving them.

Originally from Durban, South Africa, Craig has lived in the United Kingdom, the San Francisco Bay Area, and New Jersey, where he now lives with his wife, Karen, and a couple of cats.

Craig would love to hear from you. Feel free to contact Craig about your experiences with *My iMovie* at <http://www.CraigsBooks.info>.

All comments, suggestions, and feedback are welcome, including positive and negative.

Cheryl Brumbaugh-Duncan is committed to education and technology. For more than 15 years Cheryl has run her own company, Virtually Global Communications - VGC, a Web design and development company with a focus in education. Armed with a Master's degree in Education, as well as being an expert in web design and development, she has been developing cutting-edge websites and mobile Internet applications, and teaching individuals and companies about computers, technology, and web design and development.

Combining web technologies and education strategies, Cheryl has developed and authored books, instructor-led training curriculum, and online education courses for clientele that include QWEST, Que, Alpha Publishing, New Riders Publishing, ADIC, Dell, Virtual Training Company–VTC, and Sun Microsystems.

Cheryl has been an avid Apple Computer enthusiast for years, ever since Apple captured the education market back in the 1980s. From that time until today, she has used Apple products for her work and personal use. She has authored and taught training classes on Apple products and has used the Apple iLife suite of software since it was introduced—this includes the iMovie software product.

Cheryl currently teaches college classes in web development and design. Her commitment to the combination of education, technology, and various delivery methods for communicating information keeps her very busy in this ever-changing world. Please visit her website at www.virtuallyglobal.com to learn more about Cheryl and her company Virtually Global Communications.

Dedication

“Human beings, who are almost unique in having the ability to learn from the experience of others, are also remarkable for their apparent disinclination to do so.”

—Douglas Adams

I would like to dedicate this book to my Mom & Dad—my guiding stars!

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—Cheryl

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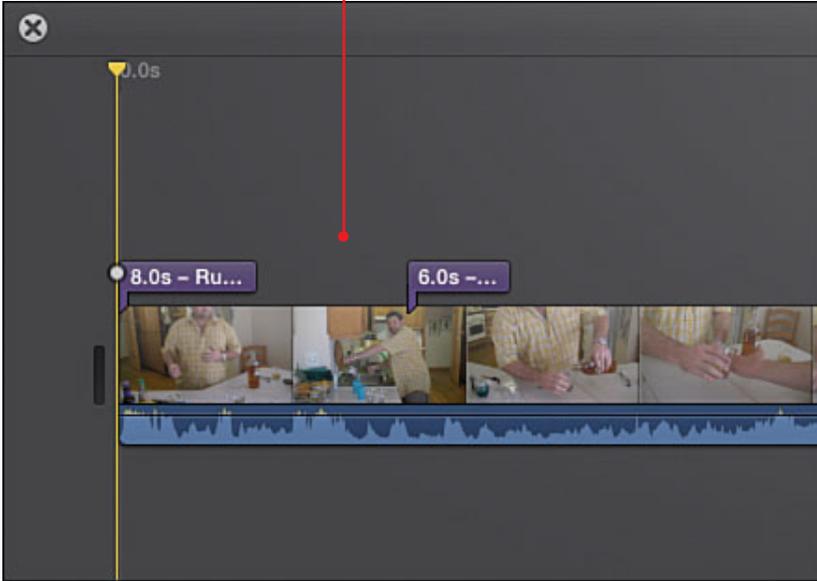
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Movie timeline



In this chapter, you become familiar with the iMovie screen layout, what each part of the screen does or is for, and some general iMovie concepts and terminology. Topics include the following:

- Becoming familiar with the iMovie layout
- Examining the project screen layout



P

Getting to Know iMovie General Concepts

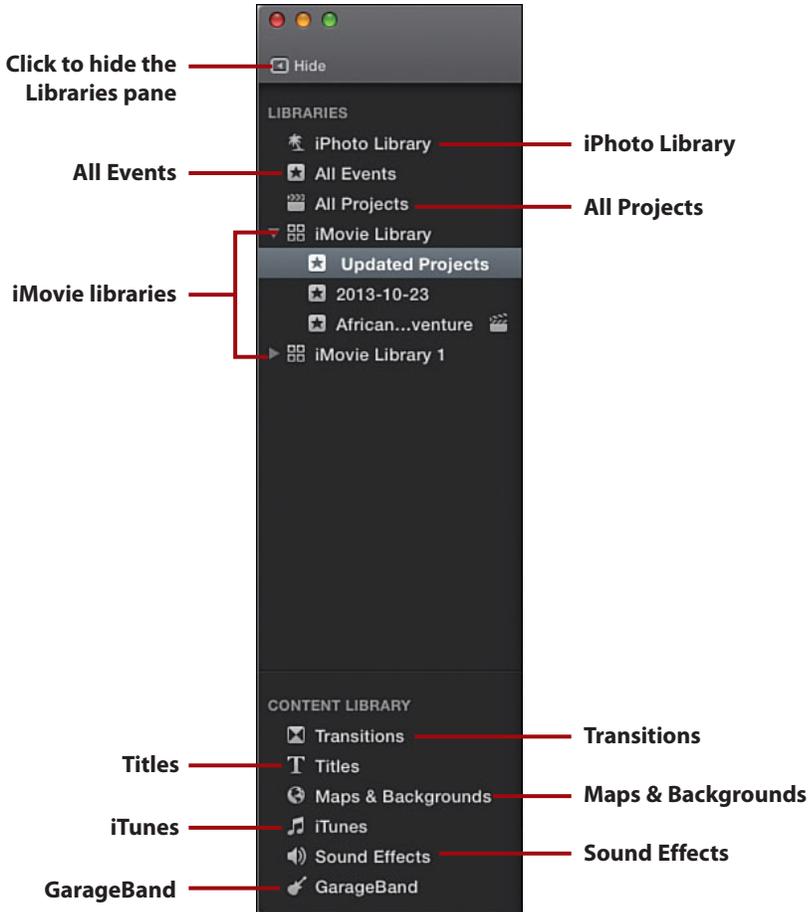
Before you start using iMovie, you should become familiar with the way iMovie looks on your screen, what the different parts of the screen are, and some general terms that are used by iMovie.

iMovie Layout

Becoming familiar with the way that iMovie divides up the screen will allow you to navigate it with ease.

Libraries

On the left of the screen, in the left pane are the libraries. Anything you click on in the Libraries view is displayed in the top-middle pane in iMovie.



- **iPhoto Library**—When you click on iPhoto Library, you see all photos in your iPhoto Library. You can then search for, select, and drag photos into your movie timeline. Learn more about adding iPhoto images in Chapter 3, “Creating a New Movie Project.”
- **All Events**—When you click All Events, you see all iMovie events (which are holder videos you have imported) in all iMovie libraries that you have chosen. You can find video footage in the events to drag to your movie timeline. Learn more about events in Chapter 2, “Importing and Organizing Video, Events, and Movie Clips.”

- **All Projects**—When you click All Projects, you see all iMovie projects in all iMovie libraries that you have chosen. You can then double-click a project to make changes to it. Learn more about projects in Chapter 3.
- **iMovie Library**—iMovie libraries contain events and projects. You may have selected more than one iMovie Library. Expanding an iMovie Library enables you to see only events and projects in that library.

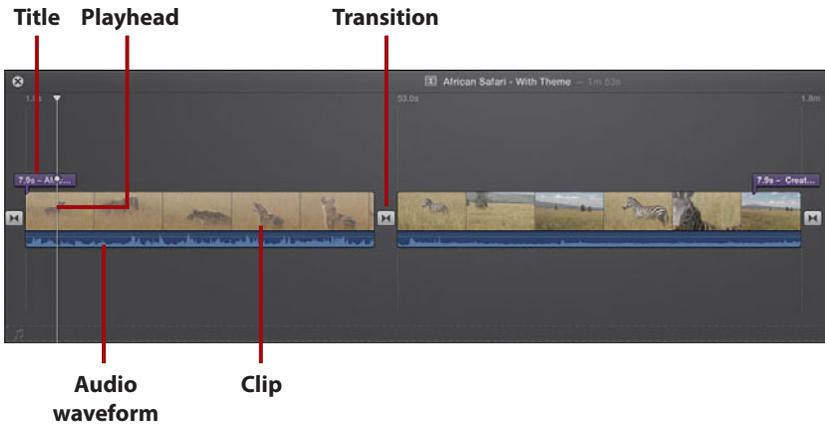
Content Library

The Content Library is only visible when you are editing an iMovie project. Anything you click in the Content Library is displayed in the top-middle pane in iMovie.

- **Transitions**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert transitions between clips by finding them in the Transitions list and dragging them into your movie timeline. Learn more about transitions in Chapter 3.
- **Titles**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert titles between clips or over clips by finding them in the Titles list and dragging them into your movie timeline. Learn more about titles in Chapter 5, “Adding Special Effects and Titles Clips.”
- **Maps & Backgrounds**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert maps and backgrounds between clips or over clips by finding them in the Maps & Backgrounds list and dragging them into your movie timeline. Read more about using maps in Chapter 5.
- **iTunes**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert music from your iTunes library by finding it and dragging it into your movie timeline. Read more about adding music from your iTunes library in Chapter 6, “Adding and Editing Voiceovers, Music, and Sound Effects.”
- **Sound Effects**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert sound effects by finding them and dragging them into your movie timeline. Sound effects are also covered in Chapter 6.
- **GarageBand**—While editing an iMovie project, you can insert music or other audio from your GarageBand library by finding them and dragging them into your movie timeline. Working with audio from GarageBand is covered in Chapter 6.

Movie Timeline

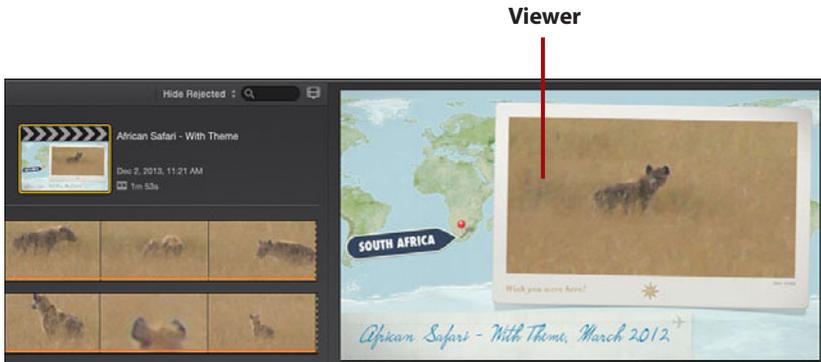
When you create an iMovie project, the movie's timeline is shown in the Timeline view.



- **Title**—This shows where you have titles in your movie. Double-click a title to edit it.
- **Clip**—A clip is a part of your original video footage that you have used in your movie.
- **Transition**—This shows where you have used a transition between two clips. Double-click the transition to edit it.
- **Audio waveform**—This shows a visual representation of the audio that is associated with the clips in your movie.
- **Playhead**—The playhead indicates what part of your movie you are viewing in the Viewer pane. Click anywhere in your movie to make the playhead jump to that location. Press the spacebar to start playing your movie from the playhead. Press the spacebar again to stop playing the movie.

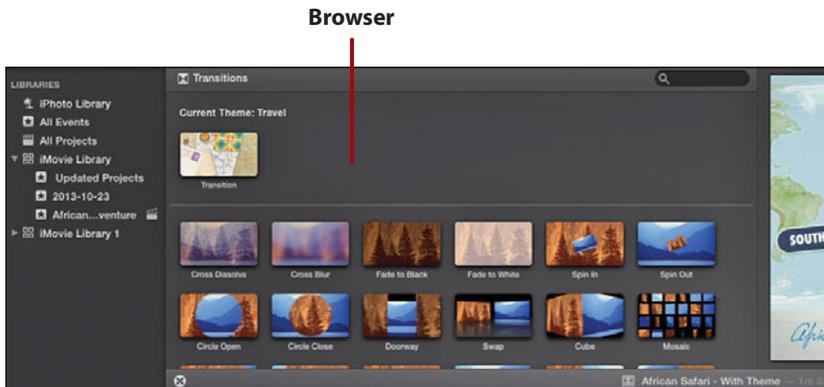
Viewer

The Viewer pane, which is on the top right of the screen, shows your movie when you are playing it, but also doubles as the area where you make all of your edits.



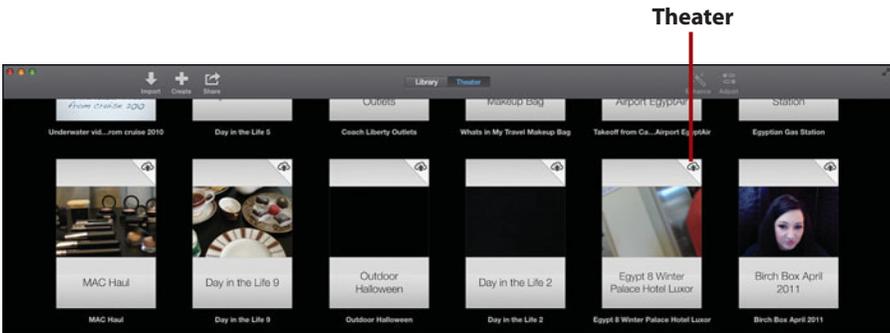
Browser

The Browser window allows you to browse content that you select in the Libraries list. This would be your raw video footage or a list of projects or events. In this example, we are browsing the transitions.



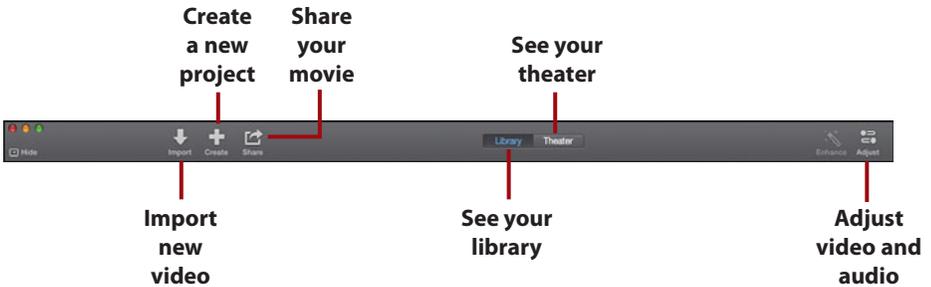
Theater

After you have finished creating your movie, you can save it to the iMovie Theater. Once there, you can easily access it in iMovie, or if you have allowed your theater to synchronize with your iCloud account, you can access the movies on any Apple device (including Apple TV) that is connected to that iCloud account.



Toolbar

The iMovie toolbar allows you quick access to commonly used functions.



- **Create a new project**—Click here to create a new iMovie project. You will be able to choose whether your project uses a theme, and after it has been created, you will be able to drag movie clips into it.
- **Import new video**—Click here to import new video into iMovie so that you can use it in your movies. The video can come from memory cards or from your Mac's hard disk. You can also use cameras connected to your Mac (including the FaceTime camera) to import video in real time.

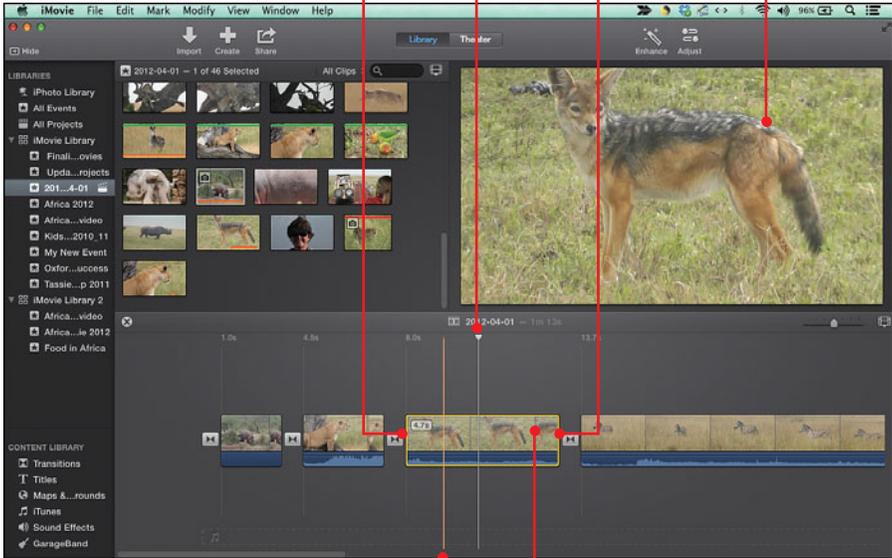
- **Share your movie**—Click here to share your movie project with others. iMovie offers many different ways to share your movie.
- **See your library**—Click to see your iMovie Library. This is the default view in iMovie and enables you to work on your movie projects.
- **See your theater**—Click to see your iMovie Theater, which contains all completed movies that you have chosen to import.
- **Adjust video and audio**—When you select all or part of a clip, you can use the Adjust menu to make changes not only to the look of the clip, but also to the way it sounds.

Starting
frame

Playhead

Ending
frame

Image of video
based on location
of playhead or
skimmer



Skimmer

Selected clip
in timeline

In this chapter, you find out how to modify your clips in a movie project by editing and correcting the clips in their duration or orientation as well as correcting video that is shaky or blurry. Topics include the following:

- Trimming clips
- Adjusting starting and ending frames with the Clip Trimmer
- Using the Precision Editor
- Correcting video that is shaky or blurry
- Splitting a movie clip into two clips
- Deleting clips
- Rotating clips

4

Editing and Correcting Movie Clips

As you develop your movie project in iMovie, you'll find that you need more control over the clips in the movie timeline. iMovie has advanced editing tools that enable you to precisely control the duration and orientation of the clip and to correct problems with the recorded video. You can quickly delete or rotate clips in the timeline and split a movie clip into two clips. iMovie can also correct shaky or blurry video caused by the camera being moved too quickly when recording the video.

Trimming Movie Clips

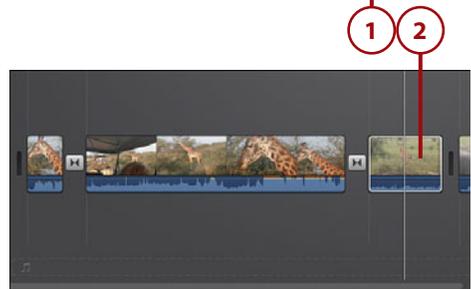
When you adjust the starting and ending frames of the movie clips in the timeline, you are trimming a clip. iMovie lets you zero in on a frame-by-frame view of your video so that you can precisely set your starting and ending frames for each clip in the movie timeline.

When you select a clip in the timeline, iMovie displays a skimmer and a play-head for previewing and playing the video. Use the skimmer to preview your clips frame-by-frame, and then set the exact starting and ending frames for your clip and trim the clip. iMovie has a few different ways to trim a clip. One way is to trim the clip directly in the movie timeline.

Trimming a Clip in the Timeline Doesn't Affect Linked Clip in Event

When you add a clip to the timeline, it maintains a link to the original clip that is grouped in an event in the Library list. Any trimming of the video is only to the clip in the movie timeline; the original video is still intact where it is stored on your computer. If you want to trim the original video, you need to do this on the recording device where the video was first recorded.

1. Add a clip from the Event Browser to the movie timeline by double-clicking a clip to select it in the Event Browser, and then dragging it into the movie timeline.
2. In the movie timeline, select the clip to trim by clicking it.



3. Move your mouse pointer anywhere in the selected clip and the skimmer displays. Move your mouse pointer left or right (don't click and drag) to skim through the video. The Viewer displays the video as you skim through the video of the clip.

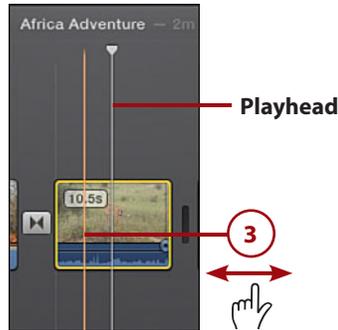
Using the Arrow Keys to Skim Through a Clip

Click to set the playhead at a specific location in the selected clip. Then press the left- or right-arrow keys on your keyboard to advance one frame at a time through the video.

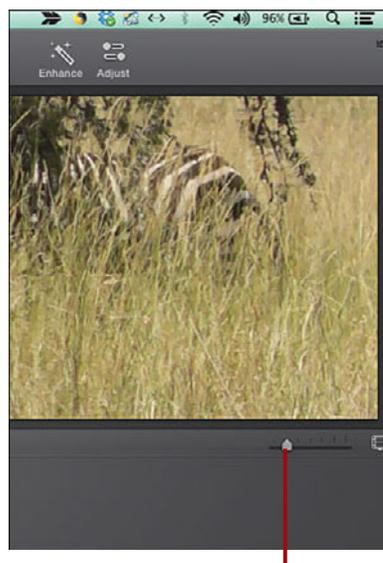
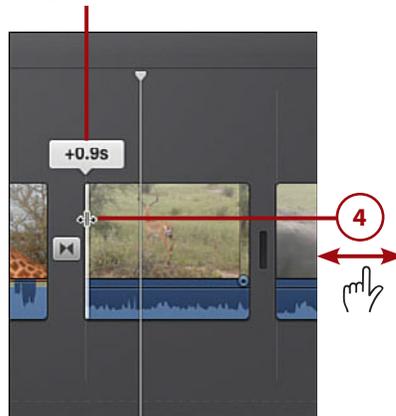
4. To adjust the starting or ending frame of the movie, position the mouse pointer on the left or right border of the clip. The pointer becomes the Trim tool, as indicated by the double-headed arrow. Click and drag to the left or right to adjust the starting or ending frame of the clip. A time adjustment displays indicating the amount of time you are deleting or adding.

Adjusting the Clip Display Size for More Precise Trimming

Use the Zoom In or Out on Clips slider in the Project Browser to increase the view of the clip you are trimming for more precise edits to the video in a clip.



Time adjustment

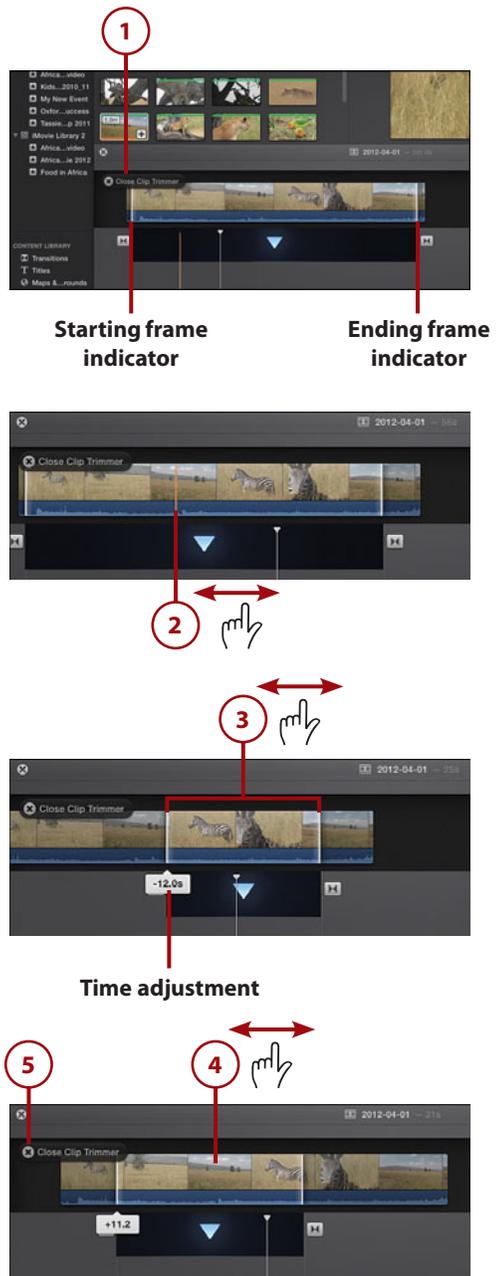


Zoom In or Out on Clips slider

Use the Clip Trimmer

To precisely edit a clip in the movie timeline, iMovie has the Clip Trimmer tool. The Clip Trimmer edits clips frame-by-frame so you can set exact starting and ending frames for your video.

1. Double-click a clip in the Project Browser to display the Clip Trimmer.
2. Skim the video of the clip by moving the mouse pointer to the Clip Trimmer so the skimmer displays. Move the pointer left or right to skim the video of the clip. The Viewer displays the video.
3. Position the mouse pointer on either the left or right border of the clip. This displays the Trim tool. Click and drag left or right to adjust the starting or ending frame of the clip.
4. To adjust what video is shown in the trimmed clip, move your mouse to the center of the trimmed clip, then click and drag left or right to reposition the clip's video to the new duration created by the starting and ending frames. Your pointer turns to a double-arrow filmstrip tool.
5. When you have the clip trimmed as you want, close the Clip Trimmer by clicking the Close Clip Trimmer button.



- The movie timeline displays the trimmed clip.

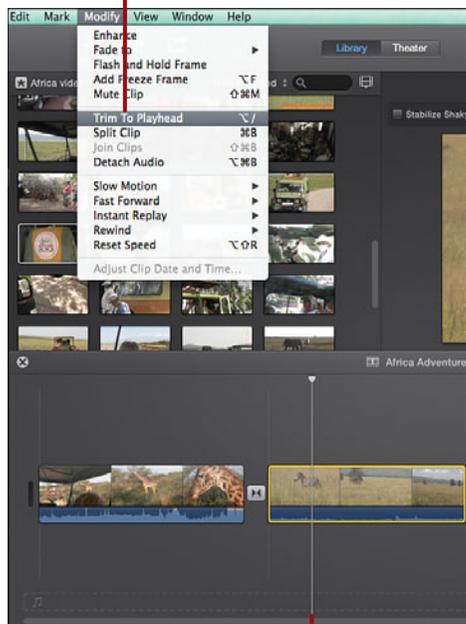
Trimming a Clip to the Playhead

You can trim a clip in the timeline based on the location of the playhead. Position the playhead where you want the movie to start and then choose Modify, Trim to Playhead.



6

Trim to Playhead command

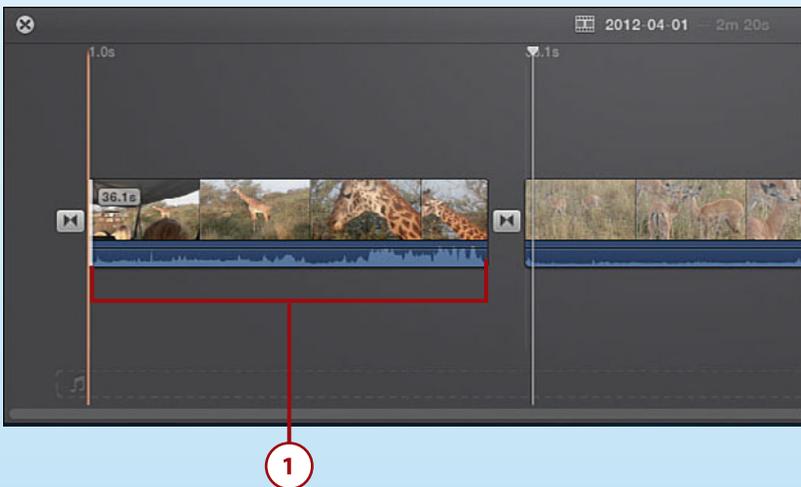


Playhead

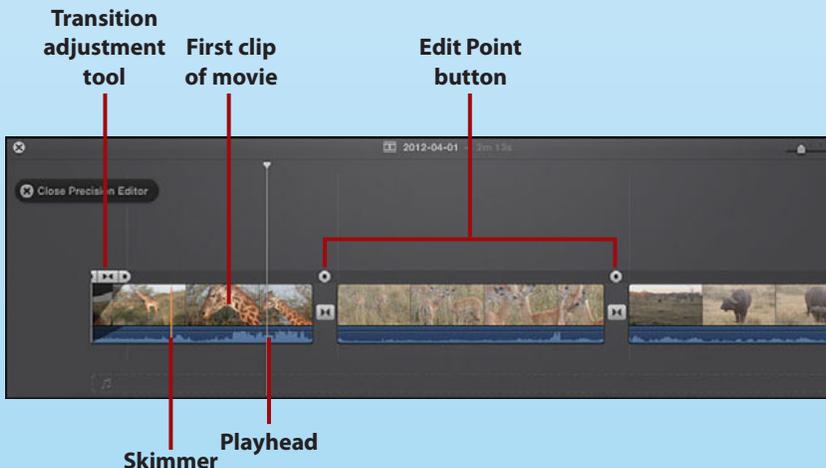
Use the Precision Editor

iMovie also has the Precision Editor for making frame-by-frame edits to a clip to set a precise duration of the video for the clip. It is similar to the Clip Trimmer as it lets you fine-tune the starting and ending frames of your movie but with even more precision as you can overlap the outgoing clip with the incoming clip for a nice transition between clips. It also lets you adjust the starting and ending frames of a transition between clips.

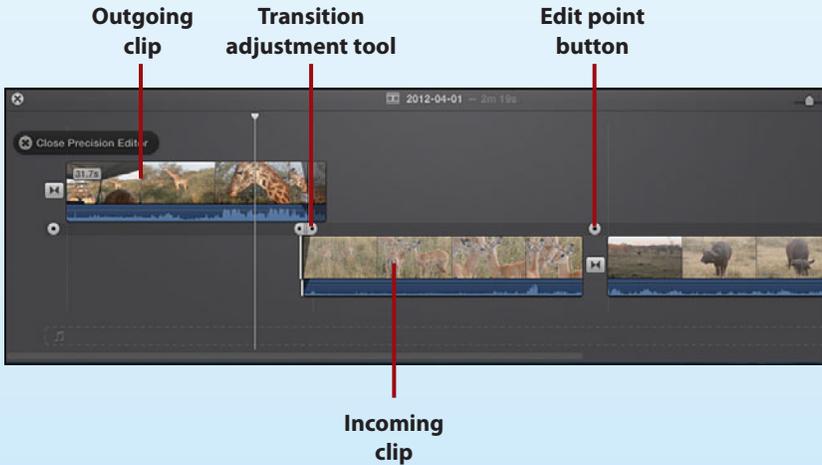
1. Double-click either the left or right border of a clip in the timeline. The Precision Editor opens. Based on whether you choose the first clip or a clip in the middle of the movie timeline, the Precision Editor displays a little differently:



- Display of first clip in the timeline opened in the Precision Editor



- Display of any clip other than the first clip in the movie timeline opened in the Precision Editor. In the figure, the Precision Editor displays the starting frame of the incoming clip and the ending frame of the outgoing clip in the movie project.



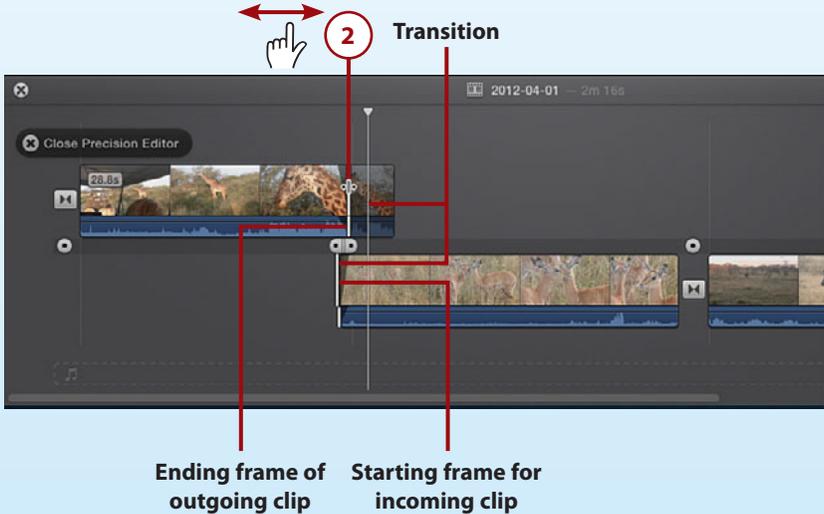
Use a Command to Open the Precision Editor

You can also open the Precision Editor by selecting the movie clip in the timeline and then choosing Window, Show Precision Editor.

Show Precision Editor command

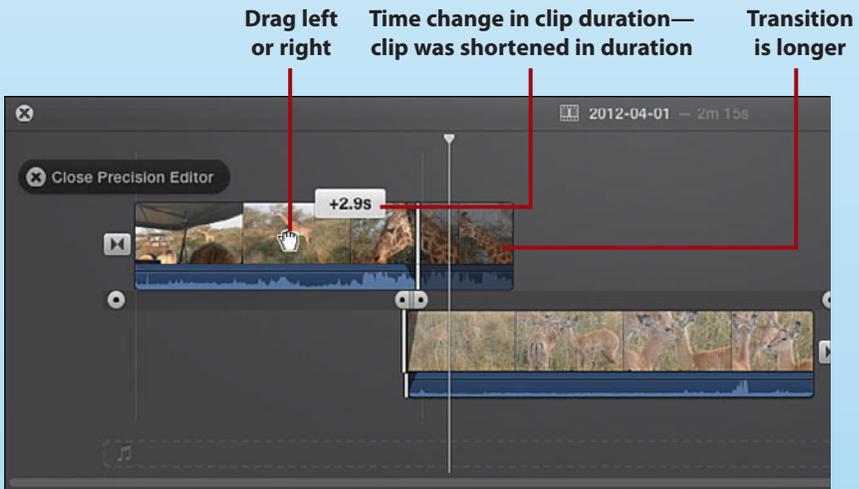
Window	Help
Minimize	⌘M
Minimize All	
Zoom	
Go to Library	1
Go to Theater	2
Hide Adjustments Bar	3
Hide Libraries	⇧⌘1
Content Library	▶
Show Clip Trimmer	⌘\
Show Precision Editor	⌘/
Sports Team Editor	
Record Voiceover	V
Movie Properties	⌘J
Swap Project and Event	
Revert to Original Layout	
Bring All to Front	
✓ iMovie	
Enter Full Screen	⇧⌘F

- Even though the display is a little different based on what clip you are editing, the tools of the Precision Editor work the same. To edit the starting or ending frames of a clip, click and drag the left or right border of the active clip in the Precision Editor.

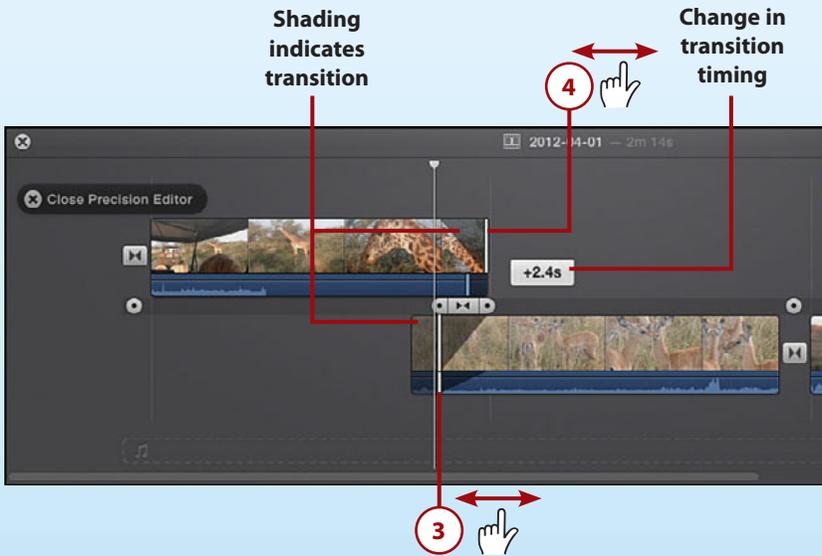


Changing the Clip Duration by Dragging

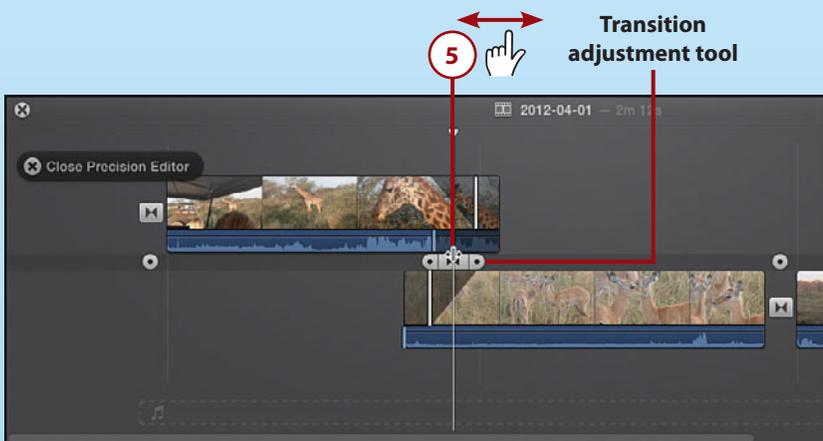
Another way to lengthen or shorten a clip in the Precision Editor is to click and drag from the center of the clip, left or right. The entire clip moves and the clip is either shortened or lengthened in its duration based on the direction you drag. You need to adjust the transition duration as it becomes longer, as you make the clip duration shorter; conversely, the transition becomes shorter as you make the clip longer in duration.



3. To change the incoming clip transition, drag the incoming clip transition start frame to the left to shorten or to the right to lengthen the transition.
4. To change the outgoing clip transition, drag the outgoing clip end frame to the right to shorten the transition or to the left to lengthen the transition.



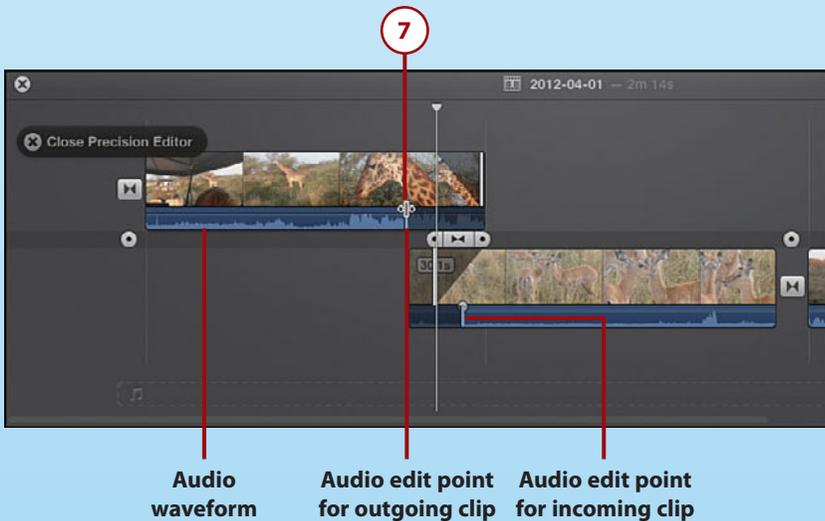
5. To modify the transition starting and ending frames in both the incoming and outgoing clip, click the Starting/Ending Frame button in the middle of the Transition Adjustment tool and drag left or right. The incoming and the outgoing transition lengthen or shorten based on the direction you drag.



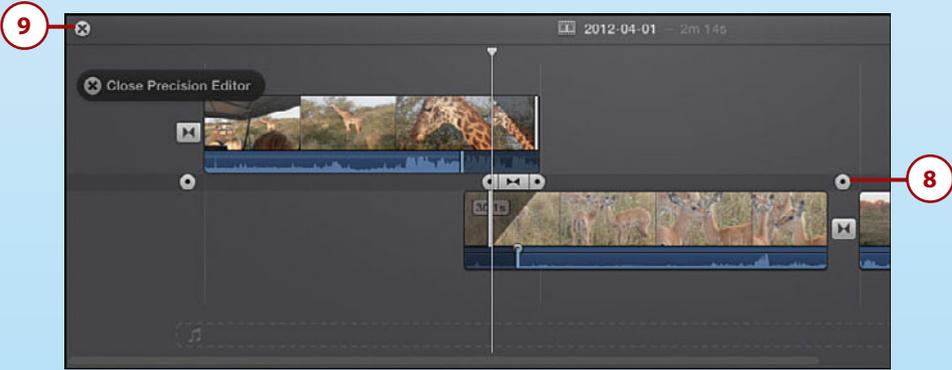
6. You can also adjust the audio track of the incoming and outgoing clips so that the audio ends or begins where you want it or overlaps between the two clips. Make sure you have your audio waveforms displayed by choosing View, Show Waveforms.



7. To adjust the audio starting and ending frames, position your mouse pointer on the audio edit point in the audio waveform, the pointer becomes the double-headed arrow. Click and drag the audio edit point left or right for either the incoming or outgoing clip.



- To edit different incoming and outgoing clips in your movie timeline, click a different edit point button in the Precision Editor.



- To close the Precision Editor, click the Close Precision Editor button or press Return on your keyboard.

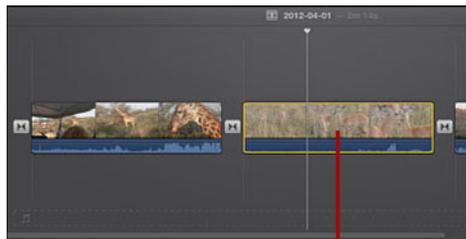
Another Way to Close the Precision Editor

You can also close the Precision Editor by clicking anywhere in a blank area of the Project Browser.

Correcting a Shaky Movie

Due to the nature of handheld video cameras, sometimes you record a movie that has shaky video. iMovie has a fix for this problem by zooming in and cropping the clip to smooth out the video.

- In the Event Browser or the movie timeline, select a clip with shaky video by clicking it.

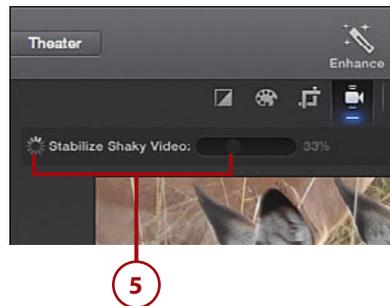
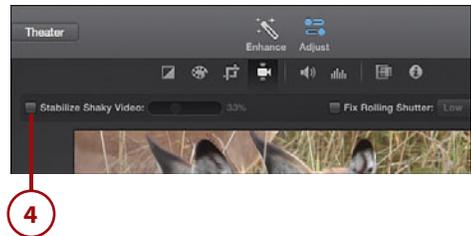
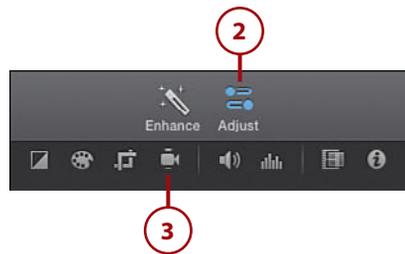


2. Click the Adjust button to display the Adjustment bar above the Viewer. You can also right-click a clip in the movie timeline and choose Adjust from the context menu.
3. Click the Stabilization button to see the Stabilization options.
4. Select the Stabilize Shaky Video check box.

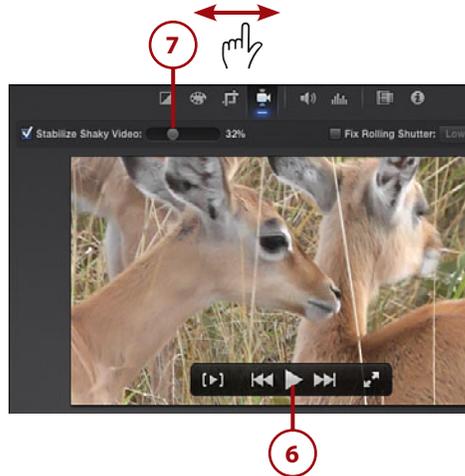
Understanding How iMovie Stabilizes Video

If you are stabilizing the video of a long clip, stabilization can take a long time. iMovie is actually zooming in and cropping your video so that it can focus on just the subject matter in the clip and keep it centered. This gets rid of the shaky video. The more stabilization that you apply, the more zoom and cropping iMovie applies to the clip.

5. While iMovie is stabilizing the video, an indicator shows that work is in progress. When it's finished, the Stabilize Shaky Video check box displays a check mark, and the Stabilize Shaky Video slider displays the amount of stabilization applied to the clip. You can still work with iMovie while the clip is being stabilized, though not with the clip that is being stabilized.

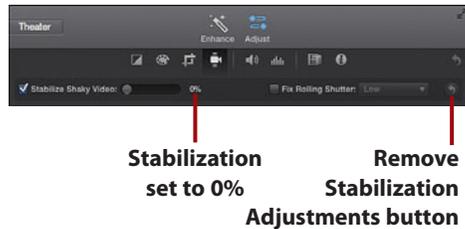


6. Preview the stabilized movie by moving your mouse into the Viewer, which causes the Playback options to display, and then click the Play button.
7. Adjust the Stabilize Shaky Video slider if you need more stabilization applied. The Viewer displays the clip with the new stabilization setting. The more stabilization you apply, the more iMovie zooms in on the clip and the more it crops it, enabling a smoother playback of the video.



Reverting a Stabilized Video to Original Format

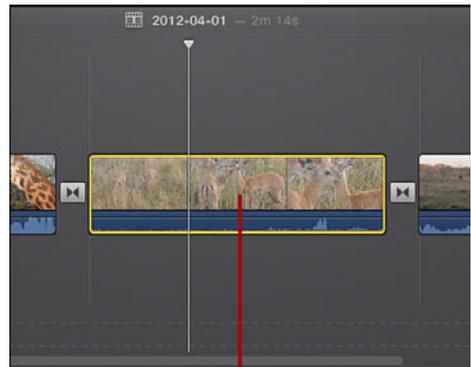
After you apply stabilization to a video, you can revert the video to its original format by adjusting the Stabilize Shaky Video slider to 0% stabilization. You can also click the Remove Stabilization Adjustments button to revert the video to its original recorded state.



Correcting Blurry or Distorted Video

Another problem that can occur when you record video is blurry images caused by quick movements of the camera while recording, which is called rolling shutter distortion. iMovie can reduce this distortion with its Rolling Shutter feature.

1. In the Event Browser or the movie timeline, select a clip with blurry or distorted video by clicking it.
2. Click the Adjust button.
3. This displays the Adjustment bar above the Viewer. Click the Shaky Video button to display the Stabilization options.
4. Select the Fix Rolling Shutter check box. The Fix Rolling Shutter check box displays with a red dash indicating that iMovie is applying this adjustment to the video. Based on the length of the video, this can take some time.
5. When iMovie is done applying the Rolling Shutter adjustment, the Fix Rolling Shutter check box displays with a check mark.



1

3

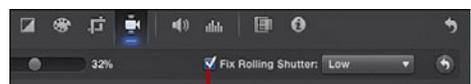
2



4



Indicator that iMovie is
adjusting the video

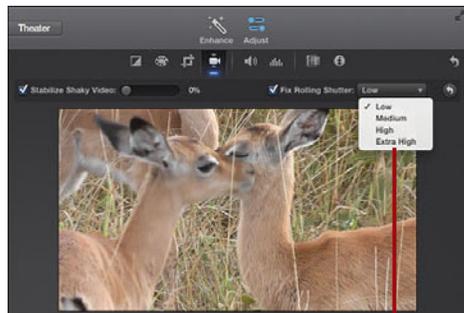


5

6. Preview the adjusted movie in the Viewer by moving your mouse into the Viewer, which causes the Playback options to display, and clicking the Play button to play the movie.
7. To set the amount of Rolling Shutter adjustment to apply, click the Fix Rolling Shutter menu and choose the amount of adjustment you need. iMovie applies the new amount of Rolling Shutter adjustment to the video clip. Preview the movie in the Viewer to see the new setting applied for the Rolling Shutter adjustment.
8. If you want to remove the Rolling Shutter adjustment, click the Remove Stabilization Adjustments button.



6



7



8

Undoing Rolling Shutter Adjustments

You can also remove the Rolling Shutter adjustment applied to a clip by choosing Edit, Undo immediately after applying this stabilization adjustment.

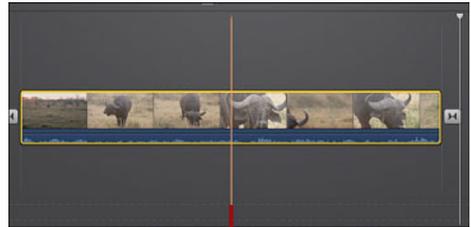
Splitting Clips

Another useful feature iMovie offers is the ability to split a movie clip at any point in the video footage. This lets you take a very large movie clip and divide it into two clips. Then you can fine-tune the starting and ending frames through any of the techniques for trimming a clip covered earlier in this chapter.

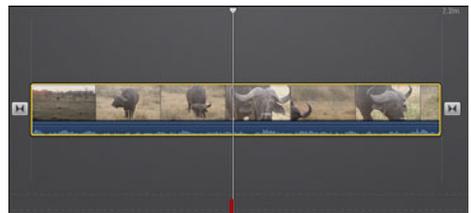
1. Click and select the movie clip that you want to divide into two clips in the movie timeline.
2. Move your mouse pointer over the clip to display the skimmer, and skim through the video by moving the mouse pointer left or right. Position the skimmer at the frame in the video that you want to split the clip.
3. Click to set the playhead at that frame.
4. Right-click the clip in the movie timeline and choose Split Clip from the context menu.



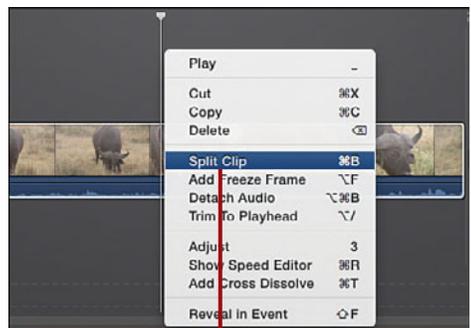
1



2



3

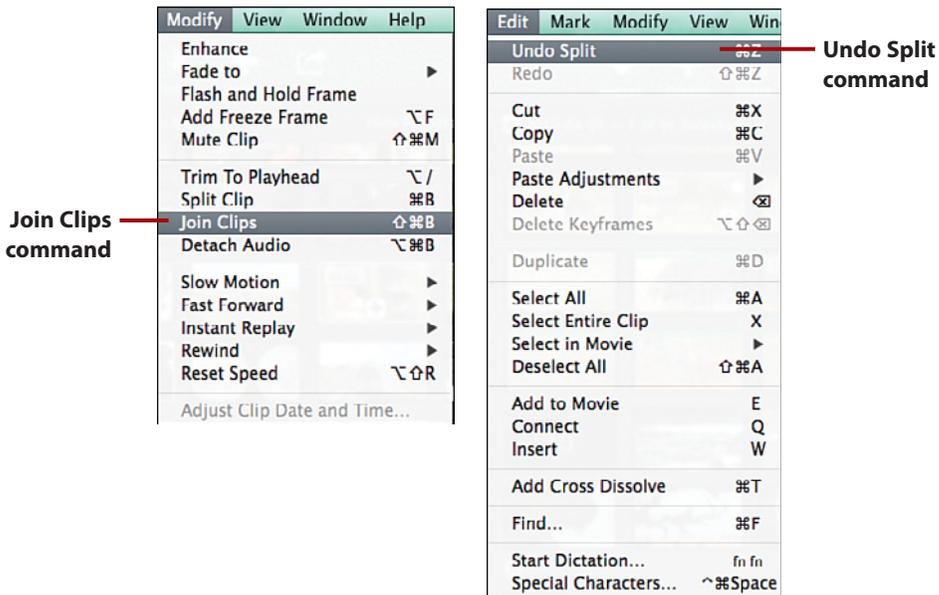


4

Joining Split Clips Back into One Clip

You can join the two clips created when you split a clip in the movie timeline. Select both clips in the movie timeline by shift-clicking them and selecting Modify, Join Clips.

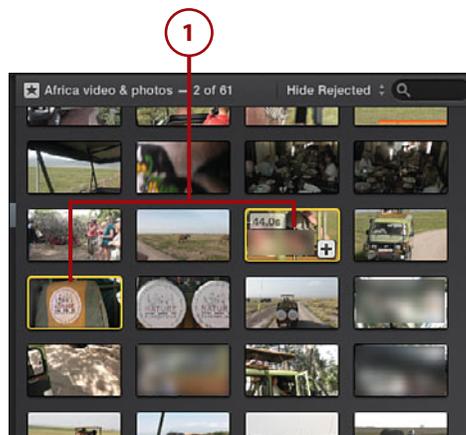
You can also undo the split immediately after you split the clip by selecting Edit, Undo Split.



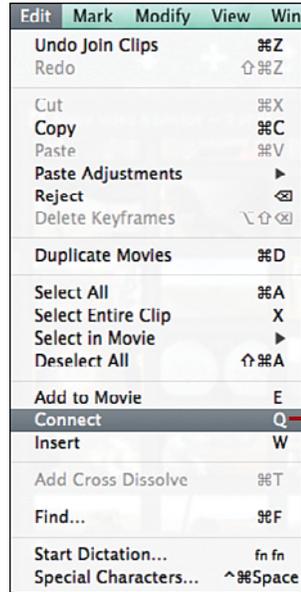
Merge Movie Clips

You can merge clips, but you can't do it in the movie timeline. To merge movie clips, you need to work in the Event Browser.

1. Select the movie clips you want to merge by double-clicking a clip in the Event Browser and then hold the Command key on your keyboard while you click any other clips you want to merge.



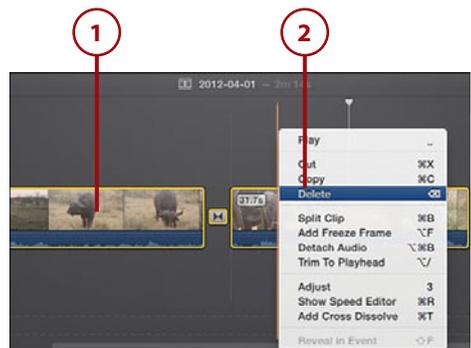
2. Select Edit, Connect. This connects the clips into one clip.



Deleting Movie Clips

If you find that a clip just does not work with your movie project, you can delete it from your movie timeline in the Project Browser.

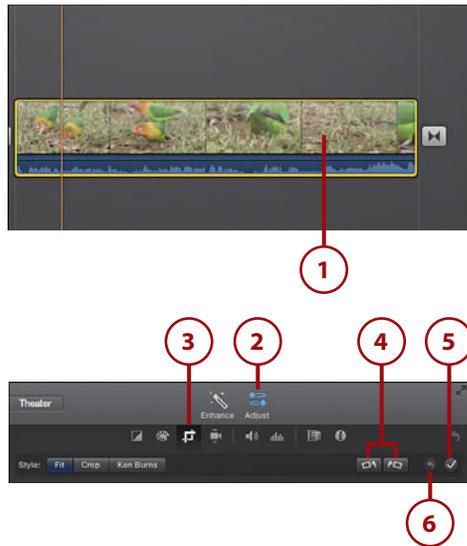
1. Select the movie clip to delete it from the movie timeline.
2. Press the Delete key on your keyboard or right-click and choose Delete from the context menu. iMovie deletes the clip from the movie timeline, but the clip still exists in the library and event in which it is grouped.



Rotating a Movie Clip

One final editing technique that can enhance a clip in your movie project is to rotate the movie clip. iMovie lets you rotate clips in their orientation by 90-degree increments.

1. Select the movie clip that you want to rotate from the movie timeline.
2. Click the Adjust button.
3. Click the Crop tool.
4. The Crop controls are displayed. You can rotate the clip clockwise by 90 degrees by clicking the Rotate the Clip Clockwise button. You can rotate the clip counterclockwise by 90 degrees by clicking the Rotate the Clip Counterclockwise button. Click multiple times to rotate the clip by 90-degree increments.
5. To apply the rotate adjustment to the movie clip, click the Apply Crop Adjustment button.
6. If you want to remove the rotate adjustment, click the Remove Crop Adjustment button.



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