How to use the Trim Monitor

The Trim Monitor is a great way to do precise ripple and rolling edits. Its value is its large preview screens, detailed controls, and informative timecode displays.

Using the Trim Monitor

To complete this task, you need three video clips you can edit in a logical order. A sequence of matching shots works well.

To use the Trim Monitor:

1. Start Adobe Premiere Pro, start a new project, and import three video clips.
2. Drag the three clips to the sequence in the Timeline panel in a suitable order and adjacent to each other (**Figure 1**).
3. Place the current-time indicator (CTI) at the cut line between the first and second clips.
4. Check that the Video 1 track is targeted (the header is highlighted).

   It should be targeted by default, but if not, click its header. You make this selection because the Trim Monitor displays clips on the targeted track. That comes into play more frequently when you start editing video clips on more than one video track.
5. Select Window > Trim Monitor.

   The Trim Monitor opens with the Out point of the first clip in the left preview screen and the In point of the second clip in the right preview screen (**Figure 2**).

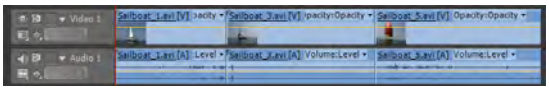

Figure 1 Three-clip sequence

Figure 2 Trim Monitor

6. Hover the pointer over the left preview screen until it turns into a left-facing Ripple Edit tool. Drag the Ripple Edit tool left or right to create a new Out point (**Figure 3**).
7. Use the same ripple-edit method to trim the right clip's In point.
8. Click the Play Edit button (below the left preview screen) to review your work (**Figure 4**).
9. Click the Go To Next Edit Point button, below the right preview screen (**Figure 5**).

   The Timeline panel CTI jumps to the cut line between the second and third clips, and the Trim Monitor displays the Out and In points of those two clips in the preview screens.
10. Use the Ripple Edit tool to trim the Out and In points of those two clips.
11. Preview your edit by clicking the Loop button and then the Play Edit button (**Figure 4**).

    The Play Edit button changes to the Stop button and the video plays.
12. When you've seen the edit more than once, click the Stop button.
13. Hover the pointer between the two preview screens.

    It changes into the Rolling Edit tool (**Figure 6**).
14. Drag the Rolling Edit tool left or right to change the Out and In points of the left and right clips, respectively.

    Note: As you make rolling and ripple edits, note how the Out Shift and In Shift timecodes change. In addition, look at the five timecode displays below the preview panes. From left to right, those numbers represent:

    - Outgoing clip duration
    - Outgoing clip Out point
    - Edit point (cut line) position
    - Incoming clip In point
    - Incoming clip duration

Figure 3 Ripple Edit tool

Figure 4 Play Edit (left) and Loop buttons

Figure 5 Go To Previous/Next Edit Point buttons

Figure 6 Rolling Edit tool

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15. Click the left preview screen to make it active.

A light-blue line appears above and below the screen.

16. Use the precision trimming tools to move the left clip back and forward one frame—or five frames—at a time to fine-tune your edit (**Figure 7**).

Note: You can do this with the right clip as well.

17. Click Play Edit.

18. Close the Trim Monitor.

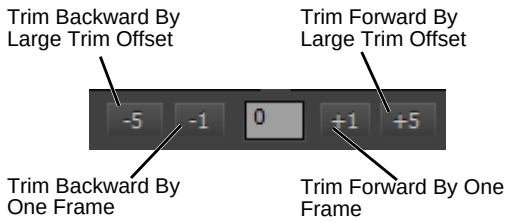

Figure 7 Precision trimming tools