

Adobe After Effects CS4: Level 1

Course Length: 2.0 day

Course Description

You've probably worked with some design or video editing applications to create imagery, either static or animated. However, you now need to create more sophisticated video clips than you have before, either for broadcast or for the web. In this course, you'll use Adobe After Effects Course Objective: You will create 2D compositions with sequenced media clips, layers with animation, transparency, and effects, and will render the output for either broadcast or Internet distribution.

Target Delegate:

A person who wishes to work in the video field or who currently works in the field, or an Adobe application user looking to expand his or her skills by adding effects to video projects. Some delegates may be mainly interested in creating video primarily for the web, and others for film, but the majority are preparing more for work in broadcast video.

Prerequisites:

Before taking this course, delegates should be familiar with the basic functions of their computer's operating system, such as creating folders, launching programs, and working with windows. Delegates should also have basic Windows application skills, such as copying and pasting objects, formatting text, saving files, etc. Delegates typically have experience using a video editing application, such as Adobe Premiere or Apple Final Cut Pro, as well as at least basic experience in graphics applications, such as Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator.

Performance-Based Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course, delegates will be able to:

create a composition with media clips that play in a sequence.

apply motion and animated effects to overlaying media elements.

control the sequence and duration of footage items, as well as nested compositions within a composition.

create transparency in layers with track mattes, masks, and stencils.

integrate After Effects with other applications.

render a project as a single file, with the settings that you choose.

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Lesson 1 Getting To Know The Workflow

Creating a project and importing footage
Creating a composition and arranging layers
Adding effects and modifying layer properties
Animating the composition
Previewing your work
Optimizing performance in After Effects
Rendering and exporting your composition
Customizing the workspace
Controlling the brightness of the user interface
Finding resources for using After Effects
Checking for updates

Lesson 2 Creating A Basic Animation Using Effects And Presets

Importing footage using Adobe Bridge
Creating the composition
Working with imported Illustrator layers
Applying effects to a layer
Applying an animation preset
Previewing the effects
Adding transparency
Rendering the composition

Lesson 3 Animating Text

About text layers
Creating and formatting point text
Using a text animation preset
Animating with scale keyframes
Animating using parenting
Animating imported Photoshop text
Animating text using a path animation preset
Animating type tracking
Animating text opacity
Using a text animator group
Cleaning up the path animation
Animating a nontext layer along a motion path
Adding motion blur

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Lesson 4 Working With Shape Layers

- Adding a shape layer
- Creating custom shapes
- Creating stars
- Incorporating video and audio layers
- Applying a Cartoon effect
- Adding a title bar
- Using Brainstorm to experiment

Lesson 5 Animating A Multimedia Presentation

- Animating the scenery using parenting
- Adjusting an anchor point
- Masking video using vector shapes
- Keyframing a motion path
- Animating additional elements
- Applying an effect
- Creating an animated slide show
- Adding an audio track
- Zooming in for a final close-up
- Sending the project to reviewers

Lesson 6 Animating Layers

- Simulating lighting changes
- Duplicating an animation using the pick whip
- Animating movement in the scenery
- Adjusting the layers and creating a track matte
- Animating the shadows
- Adding a lens flare effect
- Animating the clock
- Retiming the composition

Lesson 7 Working With Masks

- About masks
- Getting started
- Creating a mask with the Pen tool
- Editing a mask
- Feathering the edges of a mask