

Video Editing with Final Cut Pro

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Steps to make a movie:

- Shoot video and audio
- Capture in video editing software
- Preview and select clips to use
- Trim and order clips on Timeline
- Add additional audio or video tracks
- Add video or audio effects
- Add transitions and titles
- Insert chapter markers
- Export movie (finished version, or to import into DVD Studio Pro)

Final Cut Pro interface:

- Browser
- Viewer
- Canvas
- Timeline

Tips:

- Be sure you know whether you are working on a clip from the Browser or from the Timeline
- Be conservative with effects and transitions
- Have a reason for everything in your movie – should advance your story or adhere to a theme
- Keep it short for instruction, or split movie into smaller movies or chapters
- Lighting can make or break your video shoots
- Audio can make or break your movie
- Watch TV and/or movies with an eye to when and how they use transitions and effects
- The viewer does not have to see everything – will infer what you have “left out” of the picture
- Shoot extra footage and ambient audio
- Leave handles on captured clips (2 seconds on beginning and end of footage that you want)
- Leave plenty of time for video editing – it will always take much longer than you anticipate
- Know your audience
- Don't use video when audio would suffice
- Have fun!