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# Introduction to DaVinci Resolve

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## DaVinci Resolve

DaVinci Resolve is a free and versatile video editor, one that can support most if not all the same tasks as other similar software. It can be used with Windows, Mac, Linux, and most other operating systems.

### Downloading DaVinci Resolve:

To download DaVinci Resolve, click on the "[DaVinci Resolve download link](#)", choose the "free download now" option, choose your operating system, and then follow the instructions to download and install the software.

### DaVinci Resolve 101

- The first thing you'll see booting up is your project manager page, where your saved files can be found. Files can be saved locally or on the Blackmagic Cloud (requiring a Blackmagic account).
- Import media (video and audio files) by dragging and dropping them from any folder into the "Media" workspace. If files don't appear on the Media workspace, they may not be supported.
  - You can download media from YouTube by pasting the URL into a video downloader. This allows for conversion into MP4 video or MP3 audio files.
- Go to the "edit" workspace and drop media files into the project timeline. You can adjust how the project timeline looks with "timeline view options" on the top left of the timeline.
- Click and drag clips to move them in the project timeline. This is what creates a video sequence. Videos containing audio will produce separate video and audio tracks that are automatically linked together.
  - If video clips overlap in time in different tracks, the top track takes precedence and will be shown on the video preview.
  - If one video clip is placed over another on the same track, this will automatically cut the latter to insert the former.
  - Edges can be shortened or lengthened to adjust the length of individual clips.

- Right- or control-clicking clips will provide a range of options: adjusting the clip's speed, reversing it, etc.
- The blade tool can be used to split a clip anywhere along the track, creating two separate clips.
- The Inspector Panel on the top right of the screen can enhance clips in various ways; rotating them, zooming in or out, panning from one point on the clip to another, etc.
- Audio clips can be edited individually as well; selecting one gives you access to volume control, pitch control, an equalizer, and other options.
- The effects panel at the top allows for the inclusion of text, transitions, and other visual inclusions over each clip. This is how you can add titles, subtitles, or special transition effects like fades to black.
- Once your video is ready, open the "deliver" workspace on the far right of the workspaces at the bottom. Choose where to save your video and what kind of rendering you'd like to export with.

### DaVinci Resolve for TikTok 101

- For TikTok, you want your video to be vertical rather than horizontal. Horizontal videos can still be uploaded, but will end up with blank space at the top and bottom. A 9:16 aspect ratio would work well.
- To make your horizontal video appear vertical: go to your media workspace. Here, right- or control-click a clip and create a new timeline using selected clips. As you name your new timeline, click "Use Custom Settings." Here, change the custom resolution to 1080x1920 and then click "Create." Now you can see the preview window has a vertical aspect ratio.
- When importing media onto your timeline, you'll see that horizontal clips feature the blank spaces at the top and bottom. You can fill these blank spaces out by selecting a clip and zooming in.
  - Keep in mind that this will cut some of the image out of the frame, so make sure to keep your subject centered! The preview image can be panned side to side for this purpose during editing.
- When exporting this kind of file, make sure to restrict the quality to 20000 Kb/s. This will keep the video from appearing compressed.
- Currently, TikTok only allows users to upload videos that are 10 minutes or less, so keep this in mind while editing!

## Helpful Videos and Sources:

- [Link to DaVinci Resolve for Beginners](#)
- [Link to DaVinci Resolve for TikTok](#)
- [Link to YouTube video downloader](#)

## Key Terms

- **Workspaces:** Menus where video clips are added into storage, managed within a Timeline, and edited along the Preview. Found in the bar at the bottom of the screen.
- **Timeline:** Where you insert video and audio clips from the Media workspace so that they can be edited to build a final product. This space is split up vertically by parallel "tracks" that contain files and show their length relative to each other.
- **Track:** A single video or audio channel or stream. When multiple clips run parallel on their tracks, they will play out at the same time, though only the clip on the highest track will be visible on the Preview..
- **Clips:** Your video or audio files shown in the form of blocks in the project timeline. They visually represent how long these files last in relation to each other.
- **Preview:** The central screen that shows how clips will be seen and heard by viewers once the video is exported.
- **Cut:** Switching from one clip to another in the timeline by either positioning a clip on the track above another clip or by inserting that clip after another on the same track.
- **Aspect Ratio:** The dimensions of a video, written as a formula of width to height (i.e. 16:9, or sixteen to nine).
- **MP4 File:** The most general video file format. Others include MOV, WMV, and AVI.
- **MP3 File:** The most general audio file format. Others include WAV and AAC.

## Fair Use, Copyright, and Public Domain Resources

The safest way to avoid copyright infringement when uploading to a public platform is to upload videos that you shoot yourself. Aside from this, you can find many public domain clips and music on YouTube.

Here are some resources for finding creative commons and public domain media. Don't forget to provide credit!

- [Link to Free Music Archive](#)
- [Link to BBC Sound Effects](#)
- [Link to Internet Archive Audio library](#)

## Digital Integration Teaching Initiative

- [Link to Partners in Rhyme](#)
- [Link to The Public Domain Review](#)
- [Link to Musopen](#)
- [Link to CC Mixer](#)
- [Link to Creative Commons Search](#)
- [Link to Free sound effects](#)

### For more information:

- [Link to Copyright and Fair Use Handout](#)
- [Link to Copyright and Primary Sources](#)
- [Link to Fair use guidelines](#)