Changing a title's appearance

In the Appearance section of the Essential Graphics panel, there are two main options for improving the readability of text.

- **Stroke:** A stroke is a thin edge added to the outside of the text. It helps to keep text legible over moving video or a complex background.
- **Shadow:** A drop shadow is a common addition to video text because it makes the text easier to read. Be sure to adjust the softness of the shadow. Also, be sure to keep the angle of shadows identical for all titles in a project for consistency.



Just as with the text fill, you can give any color to a stroke and shadow. You will often achieve effective results by choosing a darker shade of the fill color for both.

Note: If you see an exclamation point next to the color you've chosen, Premiere Pro is warning you that a color is not broadcast-safe. This means it can cause problems when the video signal is put into a broadcast television environment. Click the exclamation point to automatically choose the closest color that is still broadcast-safe.

Let's work on the colors for the current title.

- 1 Enable the track output for Video 1.
- **2** Experiment with the options in the Essential Graphics panel to make the text more readable and add more color to the composition.
- 3 Try to match the appearance of the title in this example.



Saving custom styles

If you create a look you like, you can save time by storing it as a style. A style describes the color and font characteristics for text. You can use a style to change the appearance of text with a single click; all the properties of the text update to match the preset.

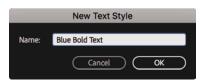
Let's create a style from the text you modified in the previous exercise.

- 1 Continuing to work on the same title, use the Selection tool to select the blue text.
- 2 In the Essential Graphics panel, open the Master Styles menu, and choose Create Master Text Style.



3 Enter the name **Blue Bold Text**, and click OK. The style is added to the Master Styles menu.

The new Master Style also appears in the Project panel. This makes it easy to share text styles between projects.





Select the other text layer, and use the Master Styles menu to apply the Blue Bold Text style.



Note: Titles have a default duration set in the user preferences, iust like other singleframe media.

So far, you have worked with a title that was already created in a sequence, edited one from the Project panel, and created a new one.

In almost all cases, Premiere Pro requires that any item in a sequence also exists in the Project panel. Titles are an exception to this rule.

Remember that White Cloudscape title you edited into the 01 Clouds sequence earlier? Edit a second instance of that title into the sequence (you can easily drag the clip into the Timeline panel).



The changes you made to the title have been applied to the master clip in the Project panel. That's because the title is a Master Graphic.

Master Graphics stay linked, so changes made to one instance will update all other instances. It's a useful option for title backgrounds, where you just intend to update foreground text.

You can convert any title to a Master Graphic by selecting it in the Timeline panel, going to the Graphics menu, and choosing Upgrade To Master Graphic.

A new graphic clip is added to the Project panel that you can easily share between sequences or multiple projects.

Select Next Graphic Select Previous Graphic

Upgrade to Master Graphic

Export As Motion Graphics Template...

Creating an Adobe Photoshop graphic or title

You can create titles or graphics for Premiere Pro in Adobe Photoshop. While Photoshop is known as the premier tool for modifying photos, it also has many capabilities for creating elegant titles or logo treatments. Photoshop offers several advanced options, advanced formatting (such as scientific notation), flexible layer styles, and even a spellchecker.

To create a new Photoshop document from inside Premiere Pro, follow these steps:

- Choose File > New > Photoshop File.
- The New Photoshop File dialog appears, with settings based on your current sequence.
- 3 Click OK.
- 4 Choose a location to store your new PSD file, name it, and click Save.
- 5 Photoshop opens, ready for you to edit the file. Photoshop automatically displays safe action and safe title zones in the form of guides. These guides won't appear in the finished image.
- 6 Select the Text tool by pressing T.
- Draw a text block, and by dragging, draw from the upper-left corner of the title-safe area to the lowerright corner. This creates a paragraph text box to hold the text. As in Premiere Pro, using a paragraph text box in Photoshop allows you to precisely control the layout of text.
- 8 Enter some text you'd like to use.
- Adjust the font, color, and point size to taste using the controls in the Options bar across the top of
- 10 Click the Commit button \checkmark (in the Options bar) to commit the text layer.
- 11 To add a drop shadow, choose Layer > Layer Style > Drop Shadow. Adjust to taste.

> Tip: If you have disabled guides in the Photoshop View options, you can enable them by choosing View > Show > Guides.

When you're finished in Photoshop, you can save and close the file. It will already be in your Project panel in the Premiere Pro project.

If you'd like to edit the title in Photoshop, select it in the Project panel or Timeline and choose Edit > Edit In Adobe Photoshop. When you save changes in Photoshop, the title updates automatically in Premiere Pro.

Working with shapes and logos

When building titles, you'll likely need more than just words to build a complete graphic. Fortunately, Premiere Pro offers the ability to create vector shapes as graphic elements. Many of the title properties you worked with for text also apply to shapes. You can also import completed graphics (like a logo) to enhance your title.

Creating shapes

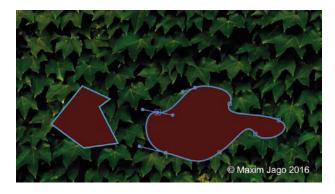
If you've created shapes in graphics-editing software such as Photoshop or Adobe Illustrator, you'll find creating geometric objects in Premiere Pro similar.

Select the Pen tool, and click multiple points in the Program Monitor to create a unique shape.

You can also use the Pen Tool submenu to select the Rectangle tool or Ellipse tool. Using either tool, drag in the Program Monitor to create a new shape.

Try these steps to draw shapes in Premiere Pro (this exercise is just for practice):

- 1 Open the sequence 03 Shapes.
- 2 Select the Pen tool, and click multiple points in the Program Monitor to create a shape.
 - Each time you click, a new control point is added.
- Complete the shape by clicking the first control point.
 - Note: Remember, new shapes will have the same appearance you last selected in the Essential Graphics panel. You can easily change the settings.
- Try changing the fill color and stroke color while the shape is selected.
- Create a new shape with the Pen tool. This time, instead of just clicking, drag each time you click.



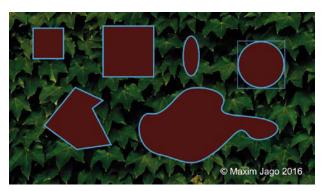






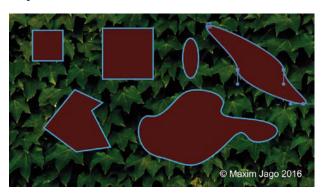
Dragging when you click creates control points with Bezier handles; these are the same handles you experimented with when setting up keyframes. These handles give you precise control over the shape you have created.

- **6** Click and hold the Pen tool to give access to the Rectangle tool.
- 7 Use the Rectangle tool to create rectangles. Hold the Shift key as you drag to create squares.
- 8 Now try the Ellipse tool. The Shift key allows you to create perfect circles.



These kinds of random shapes are unlikely to win any design awards, but they should give you an idea of the flexibility of these shape tools.

9 Select the Pen tool, and drag a series of control points to create a free-form shape.



The Pen tool allows you to adjust any existing shape. You can even click to add control points for more complex shapes.

- 10 Press Ctrl+A (Windows) or Command+A (macOS), and then press Delete to make another clean slate.
 - You can also select layers in the Essential Graphics panel and delete them.
- 11 Experiment with the different shape options. Try overlapping them and using different colors, with different levels of opacity.

Adding a graphic

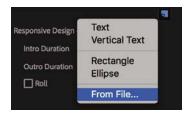
You can add image files to your title designs using common file formats, including vectors (.ai, .eps) and still images (.psd, .png, .jpeg).

Let's try this with an existing title.

1 Open the sequence 04 Logo. This is a simple sequence with space in the graphic for a logo.



- **2** Select the "Add a logo" title clip in the sequence.
- 3 In the Essential Graphics panel, in the Edit pane, open the New Layer menu, and choose From File.



- 4 Browse to the file logo.ai in the Lessons/Assets/Graphics folder, and click Import.
- 5 With the Selection tool, drag the logo to position it where you want it in the title. Then adjust the size, opacity, rotation, or scale of the logo.



Making text roll and crawl

You can easily make rolling text for opening and closing credits and crawling text for items such as headline bulletins.

Try this now at the end of the 04 Logo sequence.

- 1 Use the Program Monitor Settings menu to disable the transparency grid. For this exercise, you'll use the black background of the Timeline.
- **2** Using the Type tool, click in the Program Monitor to add point text.
- 3 Type some text in the box that you would like to use as a credit roll, pressing Enter (Windows) or Return (macOS) after each line.

For the purposes of this exercise, don't worry about the precise words.

Type enough text to more than fill the screen vertically.

You'll find it difficult to add many lines of text without constantly repositioning it. It's often easier to have the text ready in a document so you can copy and paste it into Premiere Pro.

- 4 Use the Essential Graphics panel to format your text as desired.
- 5 Deselect the text layer (by clicking the background of the Program Monitor with the Selection tool).

This reveals the graphic properties in the Essential Graphics panel, including the option to create a title roll.

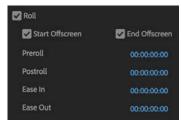
6 Check the box to add a Roll effect.

When you enable the Roll effect, a scroll bar appears in the Program Monitor. Now, when you play through the clip, it will roll on and off the screen.

You have the following options:

- **Start Off Screen:** This sets whether the credit begins off-screen and rolls in or whether it begins where you placed it in the Program Monitor.
- **End Off Screen:** This indicates whether the credits roll completely off the screen or end on the screen.







- **Preroll:** This sets the number of frames to delay before the first words appear on-screen.
- **Ease-In:** This specifies the number of frames at the beginning to gradually increase the speed of the roll or crawl from zero to full speed.
- **Ease-Out:** This specifies the number of frames to slow down the speed of the roll or crawl at the end.
- **Postroll:** This specifies the number of frames that play after the roll or crawl ends.

The length of a rolling or crawling title on the Timeline defines the playback speed. A shorter title will roll or crawl faster than a long one.

7 Play through your rolling title.

Working with template titles

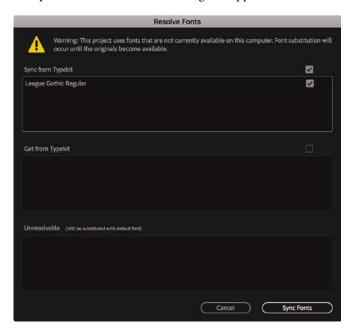
The Browse pane of the Essential Graphics panel includes many prebuilt template titles you add to your sequences and modify to suit your projects. Many of the presets include motion, so they are referred to as Motion Graphics templates.

The templates are divided into categories. Drag a chosen template into a sequence to add it.

Some templates may have a yellow font warning symbol . This indicates that the template uses a font not currently installed on your system.

If you use one of these templates, the Resolve Fonts dialog will appear.





If a missing font is available from the Typekit service, it appears in this dialog box.

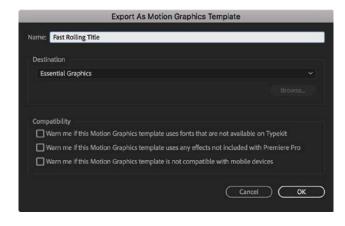
Check the box for the missing font, and it will be automatically installed, ready for use in this title.

Creating a custom template title

You can add your own custom titles to the Browse pane of the Essential Graphics panel. Simply select the title you want to add, click the Graphics menu, and choose Export As Motion Graphics Template.

Choose a name for the new template title and a location in the Essential Graphics panel or on a local drive, and click OK.

If you chose a local drive location, you can import the file on any computer by choosing Graphics > Install Motion Graphics Tem-



plate, or by clicking the button in the Essential Graphics panel Browse pane

This makes it easy to share your custom template titles or store them in a collection for future use.

Introducing captions

There are two kinds of captions you might encounter when producing video for television broadcast and beyond: closed and open.

Closed captions are embedded in the video stream and can be enabled or disabled by the viewer. Open captions are always on-screen.

Premiere Pro allows you to work with either kind of caption in the same way. In fact, you can even convert one kind of caption file to another. However, there is one limitation; closed caption files have a more limited range of colors and design features than open captions. This is because they are actually displayed by the viewer's TV, set-top box, or online viewing software, so controls are in place before you begin.

The following workflow describes working with closed captions, but open captions work the same way—just right-click the imported caption file and choose Modify to access the option to change the file to an open caption or create a new open caption item from the start.

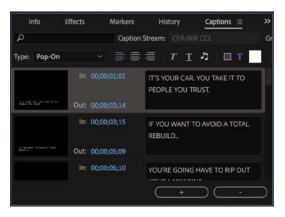
Using closed captions

Video content can be enjoyed by more people when it is accessible. An increasingly used practice is to add closed-captioning information that can be decoded by television sets. Visible captions are inserted into a video file and travel through supported formats to specific playback devices.

Adding closed-captioning information is relatively easy as long as you have captions that have been properly prepared. Caption files are often generated with software tools such as MacCaption, CaptionMaker, and MovieCaptioner.

Here's how to add captions to an existing sequence:

- Close the current project, and open Lesson 16 02.prproj.
- Save the project as 16_02 Working.prproj.
- Open the sequence NFCC_PSA.
- Choose File > Import, and navigate to the Lessons/Assets/Closed Captions folder. Import the file NFCC_PSA.scc (.scc and .mcc formats are supported). The caption file is added to the bin as if it were a video clip, with a frame rate and duration.
- Edit the closed captions clip to a track above all the clips in your sequence. In this case, use the V2 track.
- Click the Settings menu button in the Program Monitor \mathbb{R}^3 , and choose Closed Captions Display > Enable.
- 7 Play the sequence to see the captions. If your captions don't display properly, open the Program Monitor Settings menu again, and choose Closed Captioning Display > Settings. Make sure the settings match the file type you're using. In this case, choose the CEA-608 option.
- You can adjust the captions using the Captions panel (Window > Captions). You can adjust the content, timing, and formatting of captions using the panel's controls.



This public service announcement was produced by RHED Pixel and is provided courtesy of the National Foundation for Credit Counseling.

You can also change the timing by dragging the handles for each caption on the Timeline.

You can create your own closed captions right within Premiere Pro.

- Choose File > New > Captions. The New Captions dialog opens.
- The default settings are based on your current sequence. These are fine, so click OK.
- 3 Another dialog opens, asking for advanced settings for broadcast workflows. CEA-608 (also known as Line 21) is the most commonly used standard for analogue broadcast. CEA-708 is for digital broadcast. TeleText is sometimes used in PAL countries. Open captions are always visible and give the maximum flexibility for appearance. For this clip, choose CEA-708.
- The default option of Service 1 from the Stream menu sets this as the first stream of closed captions. Click OK. The closed caption clip is added to the Project panel.
- 5 Remove the existing closed caption clip on the Video 2 track by selecting it and pressing Backspace (Windows) or Delete (macOS).
- **6** Edit the new closed-caption clip onto the Video 2 track. It will be too short for the sequence (by default it is 3 seconds long). Drag the end of the caption to trim it to the duration you need. Select the closed caption clip on the Timeline and go to the Captions panel (Window > Captions).
- 7 Click the Program Monitor Settings menu and choose Closed Captions Display > Settings. In the Standard menu, choose CEA-708, and click OK. Now the Program Monitor will display the caption type you have created.
- 8 Enter text that matches the dialogue and/or narration being spoken and then click the + (plus) button at the bottom of the panel to add another caption.
- 9 Adjust the In and Out durations for each caption in the Captions panel or directly on the Timeline.
- 10 Use the formatting controls at the top of the Captions panel to adjust the appearance of each caption.

If the total caption duration increases, you may need to trim the sequence clip longer to display all of its contents.

Using open captions

You can create, import, adjust, and export open captions in exactly the same way that you would work with closed captions.

The difference is that open captions are always visible, so in many ways they function like titles.

Note: Using the Button Editor, you can customize the Program Monitor by adding a **Closed Captions Display** button for easy access to toggling viewable captions.

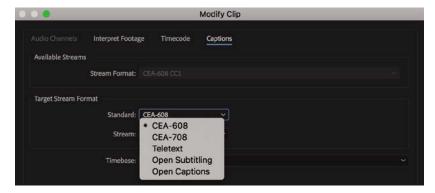
The benefit of working with open captions is that the timing is set in the caption file, or caption clip in Premiere Pro, saving you significant time synchronizing the text with the spoken words.

Another similarity with regular titles is in the broader range of appearance options than you'll find with closed captions.

The reason for the limited range of colors and fonts when working with closed captions is that they're actually displayed by the television set or software player. To be certain of the layout and appearance, universal standards have been set.

No such limitations exist for open captions.

You can modify the captions type by right-clicking a caption's clip in the Project panel and choosing Modify > Captions.



In the Target Stream Format section, you can specify the stream type for this caption clip.

Because of the additional options available for open captions, you can convert a closed-caption clip to an open caption type, but not the other way around.

Review questions

- 1 What are the differences between point text and paragraph (or area) text?
- 2 Why display the title-safe zone?
- 3 How do you use the Rectangle tool to make a perfect square?
- 4 How do you apply a stroke or drop shadow?

Review answers

- 1 You create point text by clicking in the Program Monitor with the Type tool. Its text box expands as you type. When you drag in the Program Monitor with the Type tool, you define a bounding box, and the characters remain within its confines. Changing the box's shape displays more or fewer characters.
- **2** Some TV sets cut off the edges of the picture. The amount lost varies from set to set. Keeping your text within the title-safe margin ensures that viewers will see all your title. This is less of a problem with newer flat-screen TVs and isn't important for online video, but it's still a good idea to use the title-safe zone to frame your titles.
- 3 To create a perfect square, hold down the Shift key as you draw using the Rectangle tool.
- 4 To apply a stroke or drop shadow, select the text or object to edit, and enable the Stroke (Outer or Inner) or Shadow options in the Essential Graphics panel.