3. Choose Animation > Keyframe Assistant > Time-Reverse Keyframes.

The Time-Reverse Keyframes command switches the order of the two Offset keyframes so that the letters are invisible at the beginning of the composition, and then emerge into view.

**4.** Drag the current-time indicator from 0:00 to 3:00 to manually preview the animation you edited.

The letters now fade into, rather than disappear from, the composition.

5. Press U to hide the layer's properties.

6. Press the End key to move the current-time indicator to the end of the time ruler, and then press N to set the end bracket of the work area.

**7.** Choose File > Save to save your project.

Animating with scale keyframes

The text layer was scaled to nearly 200% when you applied the Fit To Comp Width command to it earlier in this lesson. Now, you'll animate the layer's scale so that the type gradually shrinks down to its original size.

1. In the Timeline panel, move the current-time indicator to 3:00.

2. Select the Road Trip text layer, and press the S key to reveal its Scale property.

3. Click the stopwatch icon (⏱) to add a Scale keyframe at the current time (3:00).
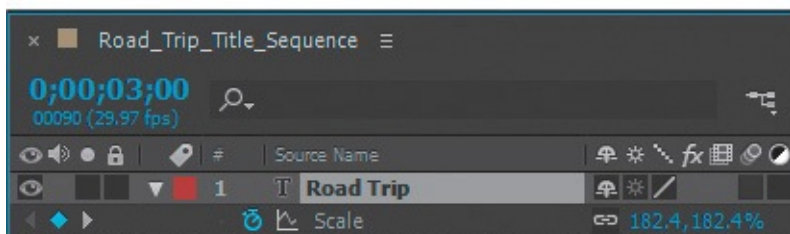

4. Move the current-time indicator to 5:00.

5. Reduce the layer's Scale values to **100**, **100%**. After Effects adds a new Scale keyframe at the current time.
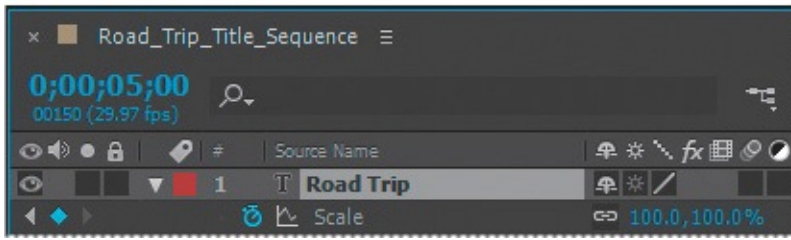
Previewing the scale animation

Now you'll preview the change.

1. Move the current-time indicator to 5:10, and press N to set the end of the work area. The scale animation ends shortly before 5:10.

2. Press the spacebar to preview the animation from 0:00 to 5:10. The movie title fades in and then scales to a smaller size.
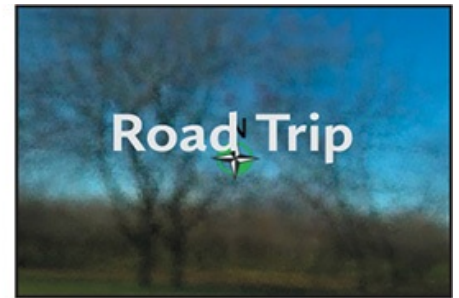

3. Press the spacebar to stop playback after you've viewed the animation.

Adding Easy Ease

The beginning and end of the scale animation are rather abrupt. In nature, nothing comes to an absolute stop. Instead, objects ease into and out of starting and stopping points.

1. Right-click (Windows) or Control-click (Mac OS) the Scale keyframe at 3:00, and choose Keyframe Assistant > Easy Ease Out. The keyframe becomes a left-pointing icon.

2. Right-click (Windows) or Control-click (Mac OS) the Scale keyframe at 5:00, and choose Keyframe Assistant > Easy Ease In. The keyframe becomes a right-pointing icon.
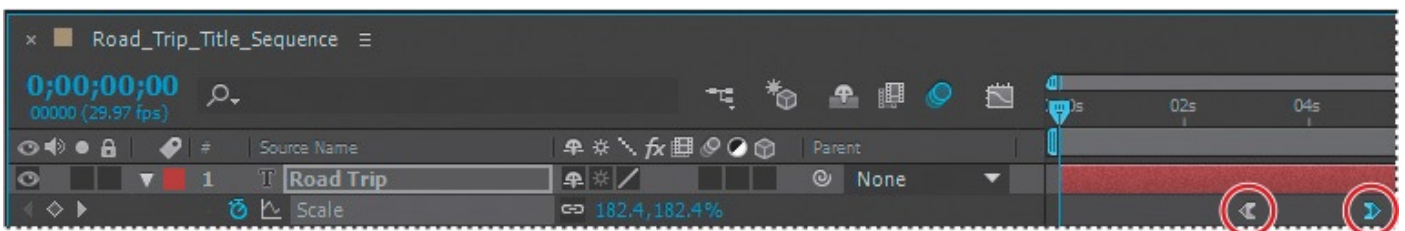

3. Watch another preview. Press the spacebar to stop it when you're done.

4. Choose File > Save.

Animating using parenting

The next task is to make it appear as if the virtual camera is zooming away from the composition. The text scale animation you just applied gets you halfway there, but you need to animate the scale of the compass as well. You could manually animate the compass layer, but it's easier to take advantage of parenting relationships in After Effects.

1. Press the Home key, or drag the current-time indicator to the beginning of the time ruler.

2. In the Timeline panel, click the Parent pop-up menu for the compass layer, and choose 1. Road Trip.

This sets the Road Trip text layer as the parent of the compass layer, which in turn becomes the child layer.
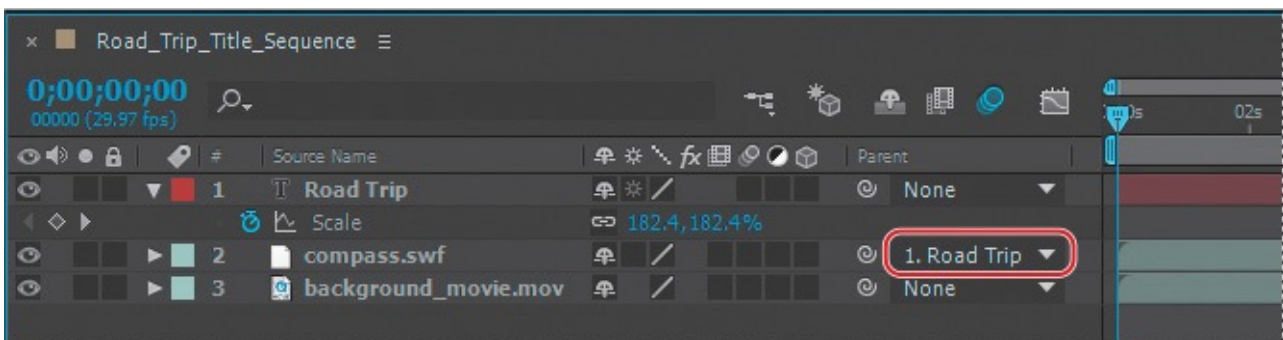

As the child layer, the compass layer inherits the Scale keyframes of its parent layer (Road Trip). Not only is this a quick way to animate the compass, but it also ensures that the compass scales at the same rate and by the same amount as the text layer.

3. In the Timeline panel, move the compass layer above the Road Trip text layer.

> ● **Note**
>
> When you move the compass layer, its parent becomes 2. Road Trip, because Road Trip is now the second layer.

4. Move the current-time indicator to 9:29, so you can clearly see the compass in the Composition panel.

5. In the Composition panel, drag the compass so that its anchor point is over the dot in the letter *i* in the word *trip*. Alternatively, you can select the compass layer in the Timeline panel, press P to reveal its Position property, and then enter **124**, **–62**.
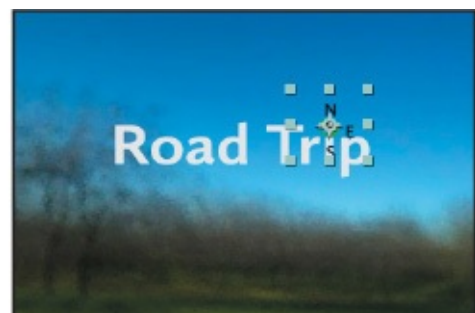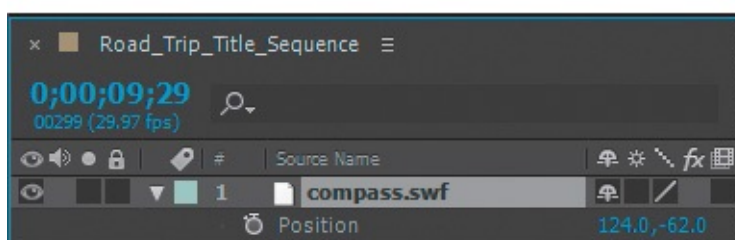
6. Move the current-time indicator from 3:00 to 5:00 to manually preview the scaling.