Make editing

Top rated on Upwork in 90 days



Hi,

This is a short sample of the book as such all the links are not fully functional but these few pages and especially the table of contents should give you a good idea of what the full book contains. With nearly 600 links it is one of the most comprehensive resources for those interested in pursuing a media career or expanding their current one. If you would like access to a copy of the book to review for a week please send a request with your name, job title and email address to

id@idfreedman.net to receive a link to a copy of the book.

Thanks,

JD Freedman

"As someone who started from scratch at the age of 21 and has since put in over 40 years of working successfully in the film business, I think this book is an invaluable resource for anyone that wants to make a living working in film and video. Whether they are just getting started or for experienced people that want to find new income streams."

-Bob Gorelick, SOC

I'm impressed with how this book is packed with practical ideas of how to get into and stay in the post-production business as an individual artist/contractor. I like the inspirational style which makes one feel he/she can really do it

- Boris Yamnitsky, CEO Boris FX

I appreciate all the value instilled in this book. I think it will be an important resource for those embarking on an editing career. As a College Professor, I appreciate what this book does in spades, which is to teach how to get into the industry and sustain a career. Congratulations on such a thorough, useful and timely book. Very impressive.

Dan Lowenthal

I have never read a book that so thoroughly covers everything you would want to know about how to manage and be successful in post production. It would literally take YEARS to gather all this information that is now presented in a very digestible form.

<u>Don Packer</u> Owner – Wild Puppy Productions

SwiftStudy Guide #1 Make Money Editing Video

Introductory Video

SwiftStudy Guide #1 Make Money Editing Video Top Rated on Upwork in 90 Days By

JD Freedman

Published by BrandCom TV

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FORWARD

The information presented in this book is intended to benefit editors across the spectrum, with a wide range of experience levels. As such, not every passage will be equally relevant to all readers. Editors at different stages in their careers may find certain sections more pertinent than others. Additionally, including all the online data available through the provided links, there is more information here than any one person will probably ever need. This approach ensures that each individual should be able to find the information they need to help advance their career. Don't feel compelled to read the book cover to cover. Instead, use it as you would a dictionary or encyclopedia, focusing on the sections that are relevant to you at the moment. This broad range of content ensures that the book remains a versatile and comprehensive reference, offering useful insights for everyone, regardless of where they are on their career path.

The book has links (over 580) that function as:

1. Summaries to save the time involved with taking notes.

- 2. Step by step cheat sheets to complete recommended tasks.
- 3. A way to access info faster than reading every page.
- 4. Links to sites that can boost your earning potential.

Some of these are affiliate links, which means I may receive a small commission at no additional cost to you. I only include links to services or products I truly believe in. (full disclosure)

Currently every link works but as a connection to the live and constantly evolving internet some of these links may change or expire over time which could involve some additional exploration on your part. Just google the same phrase. Editors are usually good researchers.

Through my long and varied career, I've always focused on creating value for my clients. That was the guiding principle with this book. I wanted to create value for - you - the reader. If you feel well-served by this effort, please recommend this book to others or leave a positive review here review link. You can also let us know if you want to get the next book in this series or other products we offer. I hope this book makes the achievement of your career goals swifter and is a good start to a rewarding journey. Make sure to join the community on the SwiftStudy Guides Facebook page for exclusive content that is an additional benefit of this book.

PREFACE

It was 2020. I was holed up in the wilds of West Virginia, house sitting for a friend. Covid had shut down the entire film industry. But I'd been "working" the internet every day, searching for a new income stream. That's when I found Upwork.com, and saw that some people had raked in hundreds of thousands of dollars editing video remotely, so I thought- "Why not?"

I found free editing software and training online, learned how to use it and registered on Upwork. Within two months I was booked solid, had received good reviews and snagged my first "big job". It wound up taking almost a month to complete. The client was happy. He more than doubled the original fee and added a \$2,500 tip! That same week I achieved top rated status on Upwork just 90 days after I first joined. Now, years later I've maintained a 100% satisfaction rating from my Upwork clients and working online affords me a freedom I've never known before.

By following the basic business practices in this book, I hope you can achieve the same "overnight success" that I did. These principles should work just as well for cameramen as they do for editors. To be successful in this field, in person or online, people must "Know, Like and Trust you!" I got that advice years ago from a close friend named Bob Gorelick, who is one of the most successful people I know in the movie industry. I think it's great advice. It's certainly worked well for him! If you have a positive attitude there is nothing you can't achieve. The "SwiftStudy Series" covers every step of the process required to become successful in this field.

"Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work."

 Steve Jobs (Co-founder of Apple).

Introductory Video

How to Use This Book

The book's interface works better on Safari or Firefox. Chrome is not a preferred browser.

If you're an established editor, you could access new income streams in less than an hour. Skip ahead to Chapter 4.

<u>O 12 Lists</u> provides links to online resources that can expand your potential and increase your income.

This book's internal links lead to lists. At the beginning and the <u>very end</u> of every lettered section, you'll find a "return" arrow (to bring you back to where you were last reading. When a link appears more than once in this book note the page # before you click away and choose the <u>"P #"</u> at the top of that lettered section to return to that page. Clicking links is only an option. If you prefer to just read straight through the book without distraction all those lists are accessible from the table of contents.

If a link doesn't connect, right click on it and choose "Hyperlink>Open Hyperlink".

For those who are new to the world of post-production this book is a short cut to all the inside information it took me years to learn. If you take the time to fully explore the sites in these lists, you may find more to offer than you expect. See <u>A1 Vimeo</u> as an example.

"You have to believe in yourself and what you're doing. I'm much happier when I feel like I'm creating something that I love."

- Sofia Coppola (Director)

CHAPTER 1

Overview of the Editing Market

In this dynamic, ever evolving industry there are many ways to cut up the "pie" but for the sake of simplicity we'll divide the video editing market into 3 broad categories based on the approach used to find work.

1. Mainstream Media

Includes: Movies, TV Series, Streaming content, and other

large-scale productions.

Approach: Typically involves networking, industry connections, and formal job applications often through studios, production companies, or media networks.

2. Self-made Content

Includes: YouTube, Instagram, Training/Coaching videos,

and other personal or small-scale online content.

Approach: Often requires building a personal brand, leveraging social media, and directly engaging with your audience. Opportunities may arise through self-promotion, collaborations, and audience growth.

3. Client-based Editing

Includes: Sales & promo videos, commercials, corporate videos, and other commissioned work.

Approach: Involves client outreach, freelance platforms, and direct marketing to businesses. Establishing a portfolio and maintaining client relationships are key for securing projects.

Let's take a moment to consider how choosing one or the other might strongly influence a range of other choices from where you live to which editing interface you commit to.

Location

Say you chose Category A because you want to work on Feature Films. While those films shoot on location just about everywhere the three biggest markets for production in the USA are Los Angeles, New York and Atlanta. When they go on location, producers from these markets will usually bring key personnel (that they know, like and trust) with them. So, if you want to work on "the big shows" your best bet would be to move to one of those major markets, try to start finding work as an assistant editor and work your way up through the ranks.

Quick note ∨

Remember when you click on a link there is a return button at the beginning and <u>very end</u> of each lettered section to bring you back to where you were reading. For links like Q 12 that occur more than once in the book note the page # before you click away and you'll find P# links at the beginning of the section, in addition to the at the end.

There are many advantages to being in a thriving production community with networking opportunities like those found in lists 2, 3 & 4 O 12 Lists. These communities have many

different media organizations, resources, seminars, and schools so countless opportunities may arise due to the enormous amount of local production.

But you may have reasons for not wanting to move to one of the top three markets. Here is a list of the top 25 markets B Top 25 Places like these that have an established production community can still offer opportunities while also being less competitive and perhaps more affordable. The point is that larger productions of this type usually require a great deal of resources and personnel that you only find in certain places. Obviously, these types of communities aren't exclusive to the USA. When I lived in New Zealand I worked on a feature film in Auckland where there is a thriving production community. The same is true in other countries like England where London, Bristol and Manchester are the production centers. Search online to find the local production centers in your country. To work on movies, you must become part of an active filmmaking community. If you live near one of the cities in that Top 25 list, use the provided links along with the tips in Chapter 9 to find a way to become an active member of the local production community. Getting established takes time, which makes it difficult to move to another market so choose the one where you'll want to be based for years to come.

Software Considerations

Avid, Premiere Pro, and Boris FX were among some of the first digital post systems to become popular. Their software has become firmly entrenched in the professional film and television industry. Avid's strong support for high-end post-production workflows makes it a favorite for complex large-scale projects like feature films and episodic

TV shows. Premiere Pro's easy integration with other Adobe Creative Cloud applications like After Effects and Photoshop combined with its wide acceptance make it a strong choice for pro editors on everything from feature films and TV commercials to corporate video. Boris FX, known for its powerful plugins like Sapphire, Continuum, and Mocha, provides essential tools for visual effects and compositing, widely used alongside major editing software.

Even though there are many affordable full-featured editing options available today, major studios, networks, and other large corporations with legacy systems in place usually prefer to work with editors who can easily integrate into the existing workflows they have set up for Avid, Adobe Systems, or Boris FX.

DaVinci Resolve has been the long-standing choice for color correction of major feature films. It has expanded its capabilities into a fully integrated suite of post-production tools, to become an excellent alternative for content creators and editors working outside the realm of studio films and TV shows and it's my personal favorite. Final Cut Pro X is another popular alternative, largely used outside of the feature film world.

While each software can be adapted to various uses, market trends generally align with these categorizations.

Category A: Movies/TV and Other Presentations

Avid Media Composer: Highly dominant.

Adobe Premiere Pro: Widely used.

Boris FX: Widely used for high-end visual effects and motion graphics.

Da Vinci Resolve: Growing in popularity, especially for color grading.

Final Cut Pro X: Less common but still used.

Category B: Content Creators (YouTube, Training/Coaching, Personal Brands)

Adobe Premiere Pro: Very popular. Final Cut Pro X: Highly favored.

Boris FX: Popular for adding professional visual

effects and enhancements

Da Vinci Resolve: Increasingly popular. **Avid Media Composer**: Less common.

Category C: Corporate, Sales, Promotional Videos, TV and Web Commercials

Adobe Premiere Pro: Widely used. Final Cut Pro X: Common choice.

Boris FX: Frequently used for visual effects and

compositing in promotional content **Da Vinci Resolve**: Widely used.

Avid Media Composer: Less common.

If you're just starting as a video editor, you may want to choose the software that most closely aligns with your longterm career goals.

Postproduction is an ever evolving and highly competitive field where rivals vie for position at the cutting edge of technology. The rapid integration of AI has sent seismic tremors across the industry. The significance of its long-term impact could be so great that we have devoted the third book of this series to an in-depth examination of Artificial Intelligence in the postproduction world.

If self-made content (Category B) is your preferred category, then location isn't as much of a limiting factor as it once was. Thanks to the numerous and varied means of production and distribution it seems that anything is possible. "Possible" doesn't mean "easy". But hey! One thirteen-year-old kid started uploading videos to YouTube and now at 26 he has turned the whole paradigm upside down. "Mr. Beast" (Jimmy Donaldson) has created his own "community" without ever leaving his hometown of Greenville, NC. YouTube has been so successful for him that he's built his own \$14 million studio complex that spans over 100,000 square feet, just to support the production of his YouTube content.

Becoming a Content Creator takes a lot more than just editing but having worked in many capacities during the decades I've been involved in film and video production I can tell you that editing is where it all comes together. So, if your long-term goal is to become a Content Creator, editing would be a good place to start. You may find mentors, collaborators and an audience for your content by engaging with others through the portals found in lists 5, 8, 9, 10, and 11 in O-12 Lists.

For those who are looking for a side gig with the potential of growing it into a full-time income you might find that seeking work as an editor in Category C is a flexible alternative. It's just a matter of putting in the time and effort.

"A hero is an ordinary individual who finds the strength to persevere and endure in spite of overwhelming obstacles"

- Christopher Reeve

CONCLUSION

Putting It all Together for Editing Success

Congratulations! By reading this book, you've taken an important step towards building an exciting and rewarding career. You've learned about the essential elements needed to thrive in this dynamic industry. You now understand the importance of choosing a specialized niche, whether it's social media marketing, or reality TV. By becoming an expert, you'll be able to command higher rates and attract clients who value your specialized skills.

You now have access to a wealth of affordable online courses and resources to empower you. From mastering the latest editing software to staying current with industry trends, these tools will help you become indispensable to your clients. Crafting a compelling online presence with your demo reel, website, and freelance platform profiles is crucial. Potential clients want to see your work and understand your unique value proposition. By showcasing your skills and passion, you'll be able to build trust and land more lucrative projects.

Finally, we've emphasized the significance of building your network. Connecting with others, both online and in person, opens the door to new opportunities, and referrals. Always remember KLT (Know, Like &Trust). It's often not just what you know, but who you know. After all, people can't hire you if they don't know you.

As you embark on your career journey, remember to stay dedicated, adaptable, and passionate about your craft. The road ahead may have its challenges, but with the knowledge and strategies outlined in this book, you are well-equipped to turn your video editing dreams into a thriving reality. But knowledge alone isn't enough. The key is to <u>take action</u>. Start today:

Cut a reel Featuring the best work in your chosen niche. Contact potential clients in your target market. Join online communities in your specialty. Develop your skills, expand your network

Remember, even today's most successful video editors likely had humble beginnings. The difference between those who succeed and those who don't, often comes down to persistence and a positive attitude. There will be challenges along the way but view them as opportunities to learn and grow.

Finally, don't forget why you chose this path. Editing is more than just a job. Video is a powerful medium for storytelling, for moving people, for making a difference. Whether you're crafting a tear-jerking wedding video or a compelling documentary, never forget the power this medium has to inform and inspire.

I've met more than one person in my career (some of them quite successful) who were so moved by a single film that it changed the course of their life. Think about that for a moment. Appreciate the transformative power your work could have to literally change the world (or one small part of it). How many people can make that claim from a "day at the office"? You have an amazing opportunity with unlimited potential. And now you hold ALL the tools you need to realize your dreams right here in your hands.

As you move forward, stay passionate about your craft. Let your enthusiasm shine through in every project you undertake. Clients and employers aren't just hiring your skills; they're investing in your vision and dedication.

Don't wait for somebody else to give you permission to move boldly forward with confidence, achieve your dreams and live life to its fullest with no regrets for past actions or remorse for lost opportunities. Remember –

"...Boldness has genius, power and magic in it."

Do it! Do it now.

"All our dreams can come true

... if we have the courage to pursue them"

- Walt Disney

A- Vimeo Income Streams



Like many other editors, I use Vimeo as a way of displaying a work in progress to clients. It has the convenient option of enabling the client to download the final edit master from the same link upon approval. But did you know Vimeo offers several ways for video creators to earn money through its platform? This is an example of the way that many of the sites we've listed have much more to offer than is first apparent once you do a deep enough dive to appreciate their full potential. Here's a detailed explanation of the various earning opportunities on Vimeo, along with direct links:

1. Vimeo On Demand

Vimeo On Demand allows creators to sell their videos directly to their audience. This can include movies, series, documentaries, tutorials, and more. Creators can set their own prices, offer rentals, purchases, or subscriptions, and keep 90% of the revenue after transaction fees.

Vimeo On Demand Overview:

https://vimeo.com/ondemand

Start Selling: https://vimeo.com/ondemand

2. Vimeo OTT (Over-The-Top)

Vimeo OTT is a comprehensive platform for launching your own subscription-based video service. This is ideal for creators who want to build a library of content and charge viewers a recurring fee to access it. Vimeo provides tools to create branded apps for various devices, manage subscriptions, and track performance.

Vimeo OTT Overview: https://vimeo.com/ott

OTT Channel: https://help.vimeo.com/Vimeo-OTT

3. Vimeo Live (Live Streaming)

Vimeo Live allows creators to monetize live streams. You can charge for access to live events, webinars, and workshops. Vimeo provides high-quality streaming services, ticketing, and viewer engagement tools.

Vimeo Live Overview:

https://vimeo.com/features/livestreaming

Live Streaming:

https://vimeo.com/enterprise/solutions/live-streaming

4. Vimeo Stock

Vimeo Stock is a marketplace where creators can sell stock footage. This is a great way for video creators to monetize unused or extra footage by making it available for other creators and businesses to purchase and use in their projects.

Vimeo Stock Overview: https://vimeo.com/stock
Sell Stock Footage: https://vimeo.com/features/stock

5. Video Collaboration Services

Vimeo provides tools for video collaboration and review, which can be a source of indirect revenue. While this doesn't directly pay you, it enhances your professional services by making it easier to work with clients and partners, potentially leading to more paid projects.

Vimeo Review Tools: https://vimeo.com/video-review

6. Vimeo Enterprise Solutions

For larger-scale businesses, Vimeo offers enterprise solutions that include advanced video hosting, marketing, and monetization tools. This is ideal for agencies, media companies, and large creators looking to monetize at scale. Vimeo Enterprise Overview:

https://vimeo.com/enterprise

Request a Demo:

https://vimeo.com/enterprise/contact

By leveraging these various services, video creators on Vimeo can find multiple streams of revenue, from direct sales and subscriptions to live event monetization and stock footage sales.

This is just one example of the great variety and depth of opportunities you can access from the lists in this book.



B - Top 25 Media Markets



1. Los Angeles, CA (\$58.1 billion)

California Film Commission Website: film.ca.gov

Unions: IATSE Local 600 <u>icg600.com</u>

Editors Guild Local 700: editorsguild.com

Local Networking Groups:

FilmLA: filmla.com

Women in Film Los Angeles: wif.org

Schools: USC School of Cinematic Arts: cinema.usc.edu

UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television: tft.ucla.edu

2. New York, NY (\$58 billion)

New York State Office of Motion Picture/TV:

https://esd.ny.gov/industries/tv-and-film

Unions: IATSE Local 52 iatse52.org

SAG-AFTRA New York Local: https://www.sagaftra.org/NY

Local Networking Groups:

Made in NY: nyc.gov/film

New York Women in Film & Television: nywift.org

Schools: NYU Tisch School of the Arts: tisch.nyu.edu

Columbia University School of the Arts Film Program:

arts.columbia.edu/film

3. Vancouver, BC (\$3.4 billion CAD)

Creative BC Website: <u>creativebc.com</u>

Unions: IATSE Local 891 <u>iatse.com/locals/891</u>

UBCP/ACTRA: ubcp.com

Local Networking Groups:

Vancouver Film Commission:

https://vancouvereconomic.com/

Cineworks Independent Filmmakers Society: cineworks.ca

Schools: Vancouver Film School: vfs.edu

Simon Fraser University School for the Arts:

sfu.ca/sca



Q1 Freelance/Fulltime Platforms

return

P6 P9 P13 P43

1. Upwork: www.upwork.com

How it Works: Freelancers bid on client-posted projects. Upwork

charges 10% commission. Client Feedback: Yes

Founded: 2015 User Base: Over 12 million freelancers

Revenue: \$698 million in 2023.

Description: Upwork is one of the largest freelance platforms, offering a wide range of video editing jobs from TV commercials to YouTube videos. The competition is high due to the vast number of freelancers, but the platform is user-friendly with robust filtering and bidding systems. Clients range from private individuals to major corporations, with budgets varying significantly from small projects to large-scale productions. Freelancers can expect to find thousands of video editing jobs each month, making it a comprehensive platform for those seeking diverse opportunities.

2. Fiverr: https://go.fiverr.com/

How it Works: Freelancers create service "gigs" starting at \$5. Fiverr

takes a 20% fee Client Feedback: Yes, with a rating

Founded: 2010. User Base: Over 3 million active buyers.

Revenue: \$361.4 million in 2023.

Description: Fiverr allows freelancers to offer predefined services known as "gigs," with prices starting at \$5. The platform is highly user-friendly, enabling easy creation and management of gigs. Freelancers face moderate to high competition due to the large user base. Video editing jobs include social media content, promotional videos, and personal projects. Clients vary from small business owners to individual users, with budget ranges generally lower compared to other platforms. The site attracts a substantial number of video editing job postings monthly

3. Freelancer: www.freelancer.com

How it Works: Freelancers bid on projects. Charges 10% fee Client Feedback: Yes, with a rating system.Founded: 2009. User Base: Over 50 million users.Revenue: \$51.8 million in 2020. Description:Massive user base, high competition among freelancers. User-friendly, with straightforward bidding and project management. Video editing jobs span a wide array, from corporate videos to event highlights. Clients include both private individuals and businesses of all sizes. Budget are varied, making it possible to find both low-budget and

4. PeoplePerHour: www.peopleperhour.com

high-paying gigs. Thousands of editing opportunities monthly

How it Works: Freelancers bid on projects or offer fixed-price services. There is a 20% fee on the first £250 earned with a client, then 7.5%. Client Feedback: Yes, with a rating system. Founded: 2007. User Base: Over 1.5 million freelancers. Revenue: \$10 million in 2019. Description: Offers both project bidding and fixed-price services. Freelancers face moderate competition. Intuitive platform, tools for managing projects and communication. Jobs range from social media clips to corporate videos. Clients are diverse, including private individuals, small businesses, and larger enterprises. Budgetsvary widely, with numerous job postings available each month.

5. Guru: www.guru.com

How it Works: Freelancers bid on projects. Guru charges a 5%-9% fee depending on membership level. Client Feedback: Yes, with rating Founded: 1998.User Base: 3 million Revenue: Not publicly disclosed. Description: Guru offers a competitive environment for freelancers, with a user-friendly platform featuring detailed project management tools. Video editing jobs on Guru cover a range from marketing videos to personal projects. The client base includes both individuals and businesses of all sizes. The variety of budgets and job types ensures that freelancers can find opportunities suited to their skills and preferences. Hundreds of video editing jobs available each month.

6. Toptal: www.toptal.com

How it Works: Top freelancers. Charges a premium for top talent. Client Feedback: Yes, feedback provided privately. Founded: 2010. User Base: Over 100,000 yearly Revenue: \$200 million in 2019. Description: Toptal is a premium platform known for its rigorous selection process, ensuring top-tier freelancers. The competition is extremely high, but the rewards match the quality of talent. The platform is highly user-friendly, offering personalized support. Video editing jobs include high-end projects like corporate videos and promotional content. Clients are typically major corporations and ell-funded startups, with substantial budgets. While the number of video editing jobs is fewer, the quality and pay are significantly higher.

7. SimplyHired: <u>www.simplyhired.com</u>

How it Works: Job search engine Charges employers for job postings. Client Feedback: No feedback system. Founded: 2003. User Base: Millions of job listings. Revenue: Not publicly disclosed. Description: SimplyHired functions as a job search engine, aggregating listings from various sources. Freelancers will encounter moderate

competition. The platform is easy to use with efficient search and filter options. Video editing jobs include a variety of projects from different industries. Clients range from private individuals to small businesses. The budget for video editing jobs varies, with numerous listings appearing regularly, providing consistent opportunities for freelancers.

8. Thumbtack: www.thumbtack.com

How it Works: Charges on a sliding scale tied to the value of the job. Client Feedback: Yes, with a rating system. Founded: 2008. User Base: Over 250,000 professionals. Revenue: Not disclosed. Description: Thumbtack connects service professionals with clients seeking specific tasks. The competition can be intense due to the wide range of professionals. The platform is user-friendly, focusing on local services. Video editing jobs often include personal projects, promotional videos, and event footage. Clients are primarily private individuals and small businesses. The budget range varies, with plenty of video editing jobs posted each month, making it a good platform for consistent work.

9. FlexJobs: www.flexjobs.com

How it Works: Monthly, quarterly, or yearly subscription fees. Client Feedback: No public feedback system. Founded: 2007.

User Base: Thousands of job listings. **Revenue**: Not publicly disclosed.

Description: FlexJobs specializes in remote and flexible job opportunities. The competition is relatively low due to the subscription model. The platform is easy to navigate, offering high-quality job listings. Video editing jobs include remote positions for various types of videos like commercials, social media content, and more. Clients range from private individuals to larger businesses. Budgets for video editing jobs can vary, with a steady stream of opportunities available monthly.

10. Creativepool

www.creativepool.com

How it Works: Network and job board for creative industries. Free membership, premium plans available.

Client Feedback: Yes, with a rating system. **Founded:** 2002.

Revenue: Not publicly disclosed. User Base: Not specified. **Description:** Creative pool combines networking with job listings for creative professionals. The platform is user-friendly with options for free and premium memberships. Freelancers face moderate competition. Video editing jobs include diverse projects from corporate videos to creative campaigns. Clients range from startups to established businesses. Budgets for video editing jobs vary, with a consistent flow of listings, making it a valuable resource for creatives seeking varied projects.



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