

# ADOBE PREMIERE PRO FOR COMPLETE BEGINNERS

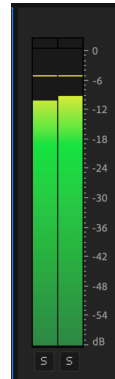
by Navin Kulshreshtha, Lead Instructor at LearnPremiere.com

## WEEK 4 SUMMARY

### AUDIO

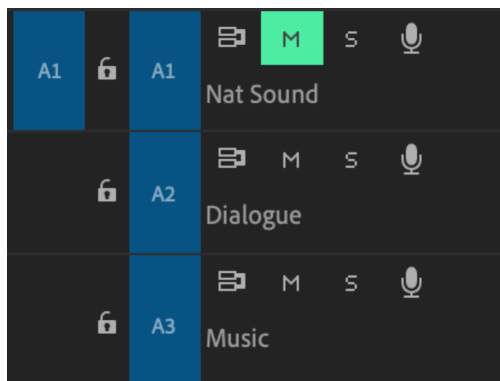
#### Audio Meters

- Pay close attention to the **Audio Meters** next to the Timeline.
- Volume is measured in decibels (db).
- A simple rule to keep in mind is that the volume can get close to 0, but never go above 0.
- **Clipping** occurs when the volume goes above 0, and the lights at the top of the Audio Meters will flash red.



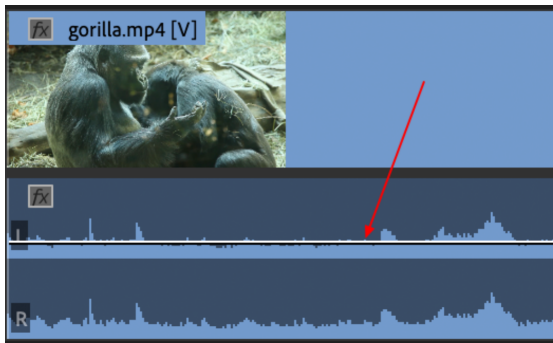
#### Rename Tracks

- It is a best practice to assign a purpose to each audio track and to give it a meaningful name.
- To rename a track, simply **right-click** on its name (such as Audio 1) and choose a different name.
- If you can't see the track name, expand the track height until you can see it. You can do this by double clicking the empty space in the track header.
- We named our tracks as follows:
  - Nat Sound
  - Dialogue
  - Music
- Other common track names: Ambient, Interviews, SFX.



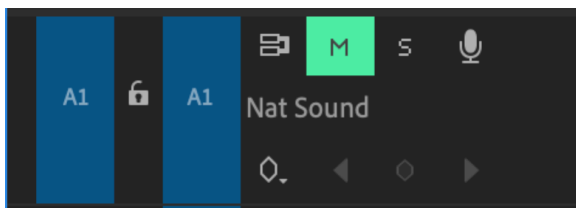
## Volume of a Clip

- To adjust the volume of a single clip locate the horizontal white line and drag it up or down.
- Dragging up increases the volume; dragging down decreases it.
- To mute the clip, drag the white line all the way down to the very bottom until it can go no further.



## Mute Track

- To mute a track, simply click on the M button at the beginning of the track.
- In some cases you may want to mute the entire Nat Sound track if it is random or distracting.
- This will **automatically** mute **all** of the clips inside the track, which can save a lot of time.

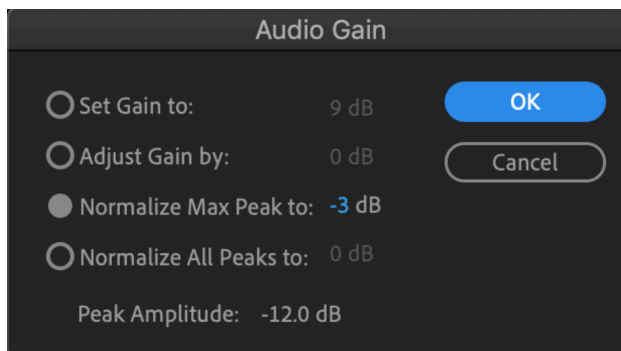


## Adjusting Gain

- **Gain** is another way to adjust the volume of a clip.
- Right-click a clip in the Timeline and choose **Audio Gain**.
- Choose **Adjust Gain** and enter a value such as 3. This will increase gain by 3db.
- You can also put in a negative number such as -3 or -6 to decrease the gain.
- As always, pay close attention to the audio meters to make sure you never clip the audio.

## Normalizing Audio

- **Normalizing** is one of the most efficient ways to set the volume of a clip.
- **Right-click** on an audio clip and choose **Audio Gain** as we did before.
- Select **Normalize Max Peak** and change the value to anything below 0 such as -3.
- The entire audio waveform will be modified **so that** it peaks at the value you specified (such as -3db). This is a great time saver!
- Do **not** choose a value above 0 in this case or else the audio will clip.



## Keyframes

- A **keyframe** allows you to change the value of something over time. In this case, you will change the **volume** of the music over time.
- At times, you want the music to be loud. At other times, you want it to be quiet. Keyframes allow you to do this.

## Pen Tool

- Select the **Pen Tool** from the Tools panel. This tool creates keyframes in the Timeline.
- Then click directly on the white line in the music clip to add a keyframe.
- **Drag** the keyframe down or up to change the volume.
- Keep adding keyframes and adjusting them until you have the desired effect. Here is an example with 4 keyframes. The volume goes down, then later on comes back up.



## TRANSITIONS

### Default Transition

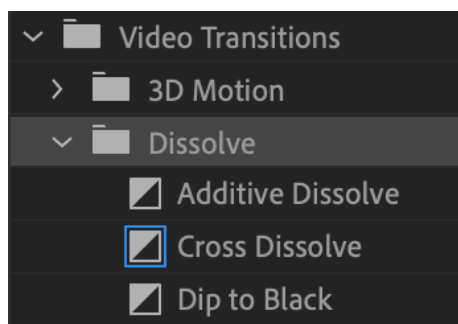
- In the Timeline, **right-click** an edit point and choose **Apply Default Transition**. The default transition is the **Cross Dissolve**.

### Transition Duration

- To change a transition's **duration**, double-click it and enter a value.
- The last number represents the number of **frames**, so 00:00:00:15 means 15 frames.
- If your footage was shot at 30 frames per second, then **half a second** would be **15 frames** (00:00:00:15).
- If your footage was shot at 24 frames per second, then **half a second** would be **12 frames** (00:00:00:12).

### Other Transitions

- Premiere Pro comes with many transitions that you can choose from.
- All of the transitions are in the **Effects panel**, which can be activated by choosing **Window > Effects** from the top menu.
- Open the **Video Transitions** folder and the **Dissolve** folder to see two common transitions: the **Cross Dissolve** and the **Dip to Black**.



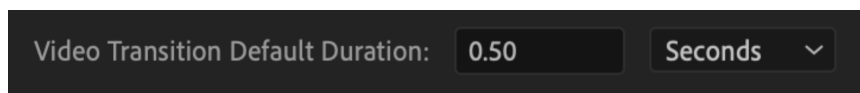
- Open the other folders to see the other transitions.
- To add a transition, **drag and drop** it into the Timeline in between two clips.

## TRANSITION WORKFLOW

Manually dragging transitions and changing their duration is laborious. Here are some handy techniques to speed up your workflow:

### Transition Duration

- Default transition duration is 1 second, which is often too long.
- To modify this, from the top menu choose **Premiere Pro > Preferences** (Mac) or **Edit > Preferences** (Windows) and then choose **Timeline**.
- Change the **Video Transition Default Duration** to another value.
- You can change the measurement to either **Frames** or **Seconds**. In this example, the duration is set to 0.5 Seconds:



- You could set it to 0.25 seconds, 15 frames, 10 frames or whatever you want.

### Apply Transitions Across Many Clips

- Select multiple clips in the Timeline. You can do this by Shift-clicking with your mouse or dragging across several clips with your mouse.
- From the top menu choose **Sequence > Apply Video Transition**. Keyboard shortcut for this is **Cmd-D** (Mac) or **Ctrl-D** (Windows).
- Now the **default** transition will be applied across **all** of the selected clips.

### Change Default Transition

- The default transition is the **Cross Dissolve**, but you can change this.
- Go to the **Effects** panel and inside the **Video Transitions** folder locate the transition you want (such as the Dip to Black, Wipe or any other one).
- **Right-click** the transition and choose **Set Selected as Default Transition**. Now it will be the default transition.