# After Effects - Adding Video to a Composition

In the Project panel, click and drag the video into the composition timeline on the left side. It will no show up until you release the video in the composition time line.



**Step 1** To add a video hold a specific location, move the Scrub bar (Current Time Indicator) in the timeline to the hold point.



**Step 2** Make sure the video is active in the timeline, and choose Edit > Split Layer (A). A duplicate layer is made in the timeline. The original layer's out-point is trimmed to the Scrub Bar while the new layer's in-point is trimmed to start at the Scrub Bar (B).



**Step 3** To add a hold to the video, select the new layer and right mouse click on the layer in the timeline. Choose Time > Freeze Frame (A). The video will hold at the in-point on the timeline.



**Step 4** To add a blur effect to the video, search for different blur effects in the Effects & Preset Panel (A). Fast Blur is a simple blur effect that can be applied to video. Assign it to the layer with the hold. Type "E" to open the effects option for this layer (B). No blur effect is applied since the Blurriness value is initially set to 0.



**Step 5** The "Bluriness" value controls the amount of blur on the video. Values around 20 work well (A).



# **After Effects - Adding Text**

**Step 1** To add text, click on the Text tool in the Tool Bar (A). Click in the video editing window to add the text (B) and use the Character panel (C) to edit attributes of the text. A new layer is also added in the timeline (D).



# **After Effects - Adding Text**

**Step 2** Once text is added, it is like any other element. Using the Selection tool (A), it can be selected in the video editing window (B). It can then be scaled, centered using the Align panel (C) or animated using the timline (D).



Setting animation for objects in After Effects is very similar to settings animation in Photoshop. Follow this basic work flow: move in time (Scrub Bar), then set a keyframe by either turning on the animation for a channel, using the Keyframe button or change a value if animation is already on. Below is an example of text with opacity animation (A) and an animated up blur on a video layer (B).

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**Step 1** To animate the Fast Blur effect, move the Scrub Bar to the start point of the animation (A). Open the Fast Blur settings and toggle on the animation settings (B).

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**Step 2** To set the second keyframe, move to the new time point with the Scrub Bar (A). Then, change the Blurriness value (B).

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**Step 3** For this animation which includes a fade up, hold and then fade down, the hold points will be set first and then the up and down points. To animate the opacity settings on a text layer, move the Scrub Bar on the timeline (A). Open the Opacity channel (shortcut T) for the text layer and then turn on the animation setting (B).

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**Step 4** Move on the timeline to the second hold point (A). Use the Keyframe button (B) to set the second keyframe.

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**Step 5** To set the fade up points, move the Scrub Bar to the start point (A) and change the Opacity value (B) to zero. Repeat the process for the fade down point (C).

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