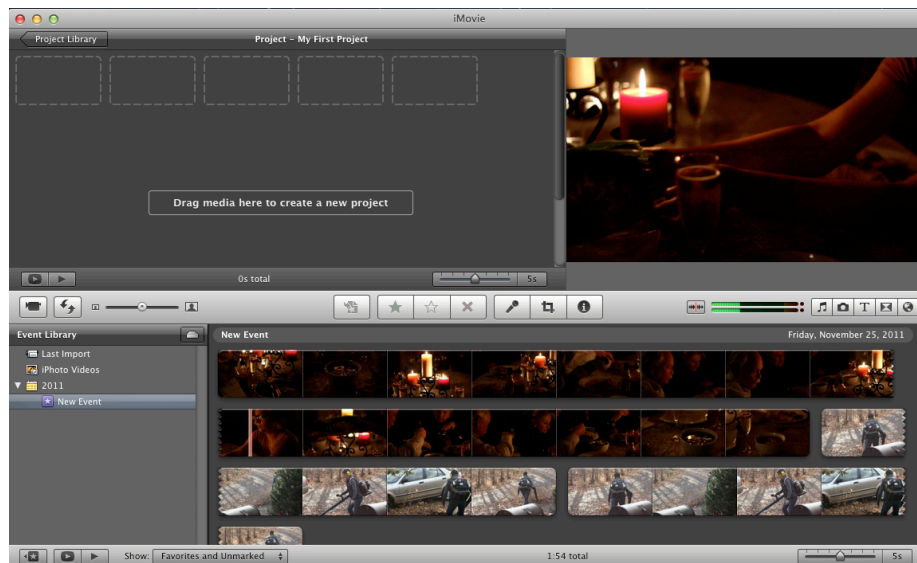


A. Interface



EVENT LIBRARY

Any media that you have imported to your computer from your camera into iPhoto (or previous iMovie projects) will be kept and shown here. If you aren't in iMovie and you would like to find these movie projects, you maybe find it via Finder->UserHome->Movies->iMovieProjects/iMovieEvents

EVENT BROWSER or THE BIN

The lower right quadrant of the interface - where you see multiple strips of video icons - is where all of your "raw" and "uncut" footage will be. This is your "painters palette," if you will.

(I promise I'll stop using "bunny ears")

VIEWER

The upper right screen where you see the candle is called your viewer. This is where all video cuts and edits - titles, transitions, and everything - will playback in real time.

PROJECT *or* TIMELINE

The upper left quadrant is the beefcake mother of them all. This is the magic happens. This is your editing timeline. All sequences of video and audio clips - with effects, transitions, and all - will be seen and editing here.



Suggestion: *If you are a laptop user I highly recommend you find a larger monitor to use for your editing. The intricacies of your edits might require it.*

B. Importing Footage

Whether you're using your old DV Cam that uses Mini DV tapes, or a digital SLR, or a FlipCam which use flash/memory card media, importing footage into your Mac is ridiculously simple. It's often through either your USB or Firewire port.



Scenario: You've just gotten home from Thanksgiving weekend with your family and you shot a bunch of video of the weekend and you want to cut together a little movie that you can show your family at the next holiday gathering.

1. **Open iMovie** and go to File->NewProject or if you're like me and you like keyboard shortcuts, you'll type Command-N or ⌘-N and a New Project window will drop down. It will ask you if you want a 16:9 Wide, a 4:3 Standard, or an iPhone 3:2 Aspect Ratio.

SIDENOTE: What on earth is Aspect Ratio? And How do I know which is which?

16:9 WIDE

This is WIDESCREEN or 16:9 Ratio. Chances these days is that you're shooting in HD, so this is what you want.

of Pixels (natively) 1920x1080

4:3 STANDARD

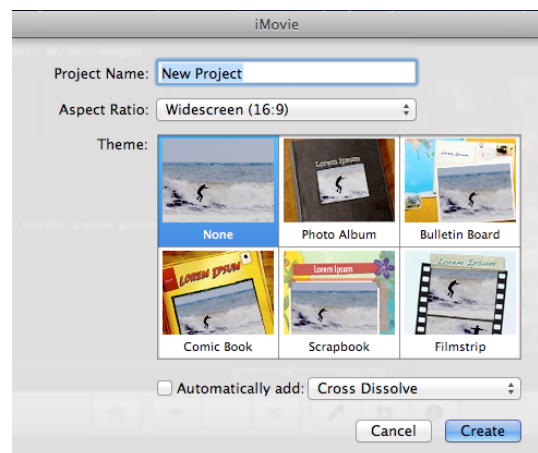
This is STANDARD or 4:3 Ratio. If you're shooting on MiniDV tapes chances are you might be shooting in this format.

of Pixels (natively) 640x480

3:2 iPhone

This is your iPhone. If you're shooting on your iPhone this is the format. **NOT RECOMMENDED**

Once you've figured out your footage's aspect ratio, selected that in the drop menu. And for Theme, select None.

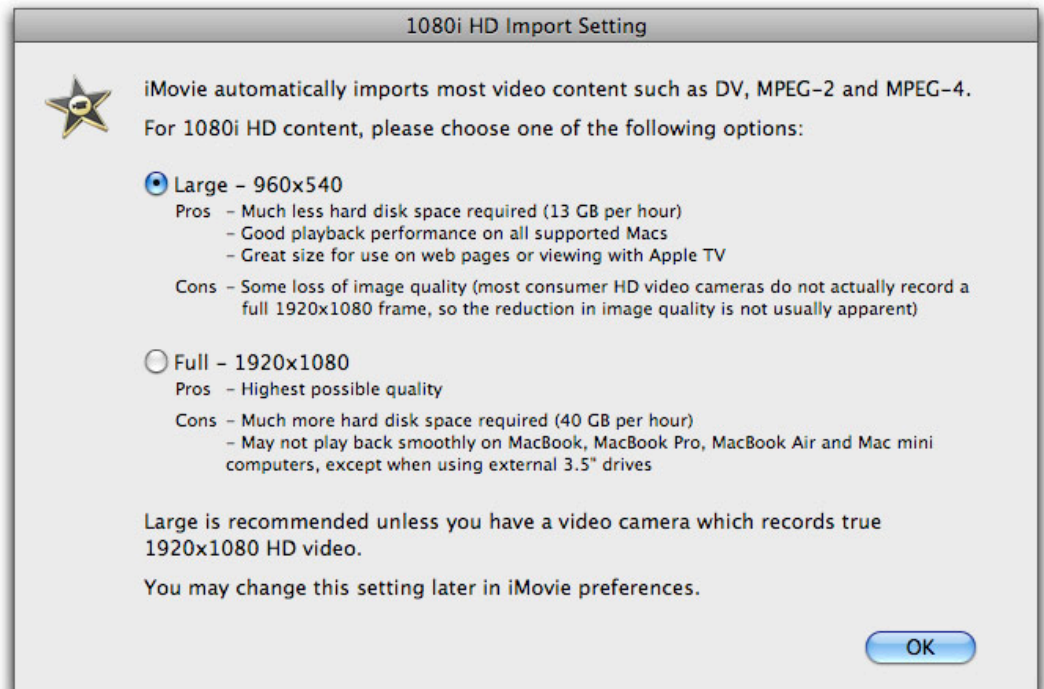


2. **Connect your camera** to your computer via USB or Firewire and turn your camera on. Make sure (Duh) that the proper media (tape, memory card) is in the camera. Turn your camera on. Now this *should* prompt your Mac to automatically recognize your camera has footage on it that you want to import. If it does not, then go to File->Help, or consult your camera's instruction manual.

If you are shooting your media on memory cards or flash memory (which is built into the camera itself - like FlipCams) you will see, once you've plugged into your computer, a window of icons representing the various clips on your camera will appear. If you have other footage on your camera that you do not wish to import, you may simply de-click the box underneath.

Additionally, you will be met with this screen:

If you have a *real* need for FullHD 1920x1080, then you probably shouldn't be in iMovie and you should be consulting/hiring a professional. HD Workflow is very strenuous on a computer's hard drive and memory allowance. The *Large* option is still a very high quality, HD-like Aspect Ratio, and by selecting this you will be doing your computer and its performance speed a great big favor.

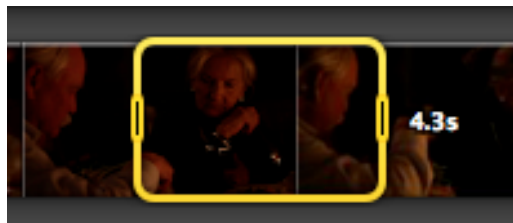


3. **Click OK and Begin import.** Once your import is finished, then you are ready to begin editing your movie (FINALLY!!!).

C. Adding Effects and Media to Timeline

1. Cutting/Selecting Your Footage

- a. In your event browser you will see each video clip you have imported from your camera. You will be able to recognize a clip's beginning or end by the round corners of the icon.
- b. You'll notice that when you hover your cursor over footage in your Bin that a yellow line, or a *playhead* will appear. When you drag the yellow line across the footage you will both see and hear the footage in your Viewer. This process of previewing your clips with your cursor's playhead is called *skimming* or *scrubbing*. This allows you to easily find the parts of the clip you want to include in your edit.
- c. Once you've found a section you want to include, simply click your playhead on the footage. Automatically iMovie will select a 4 second segment of that clip. You may adjust the duration of the selection by pushing/pulling the front or back bookends.



- d. When your highlighted selection is ready to be placed into the project sequence, simply drag the selection from your Bin into the Timeline. NOTE: You will still be able to adjust the duration of your clip once it has been placed into your timeline. This initial select-drag-drop is what could be called a *Rough Cut*.
- e. Repeat this process for as many clips as you want to initially include in your Timeline.

2. Adding Titles & Transitions

- a. **Toolbar** - In your interface between the Event Browser and the Viewer/Timeline windows you will see a tool bar that looks like this:



If you look to the far right of this toolbar, you'll see these 5 buttons:

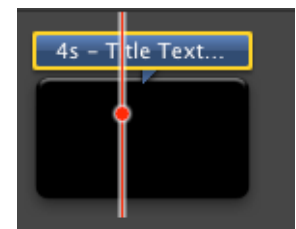


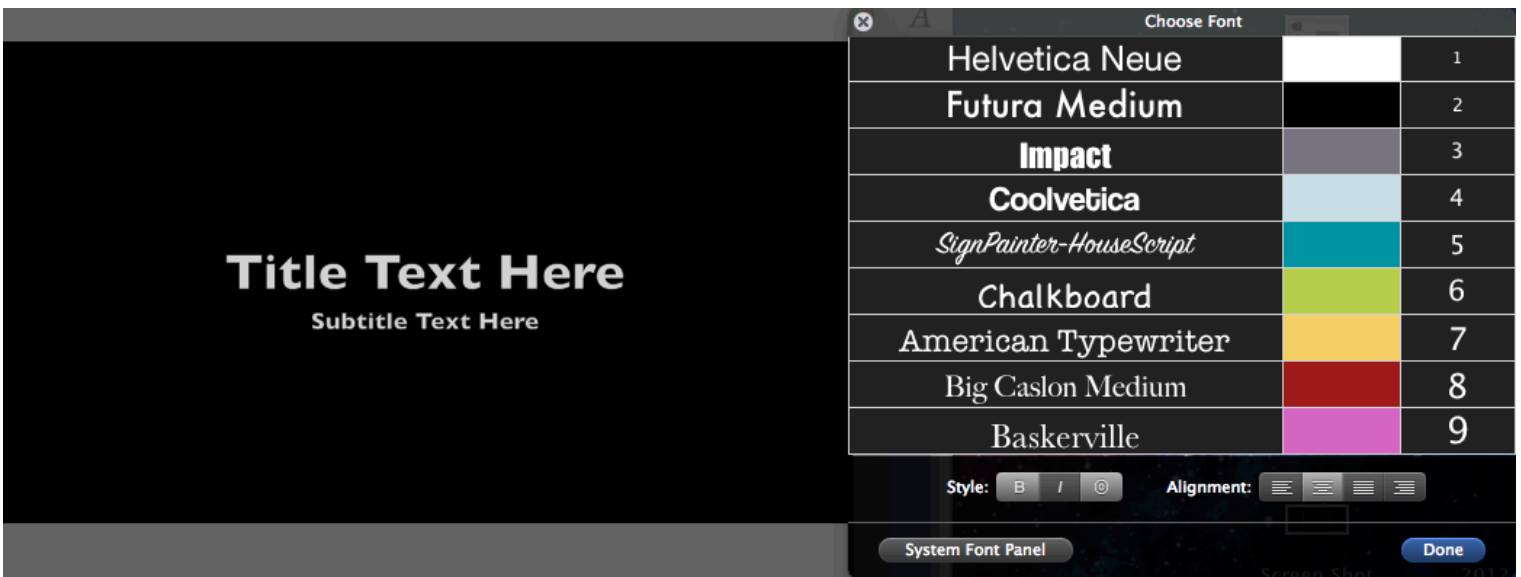
These icons will bring you to the respective windows: iTunes music, iPhoto photos, Titles, Transitions, Maps & Backgrounds.

b. **Titles**

If you click the middle icon (as shown with the 'T' above) you will be brought to your titles editor in which you will be able to select titles from a series of templates. You may preview what the template looks like by hovering your cursor over the icon. Once you've found the title you want to use you may drag and drop it into your Timeline at whichever point you'd like it to appear in your movie. You'll notice that a window will pop open asking you to Choose Background. Select and the window will close leaving you in your Timeline to edit.

Within your timeline, you can *skim* or *scrub* your cursor over the Title template just as you can in your Event Browser. You'll notice that the Title still says 'Title Text Here'. You can edit this by selecting the blue rectangle above the title box in your Timeline. You'll notice when you double click the rectangle that the Title text will appear in your viewer. From there you can click the text in the Viewer and type in your custom Title. You'll also see a button that reads *Show Fonts*. This will enable you to make basic word processing changes to the style, color and alignment of your text.





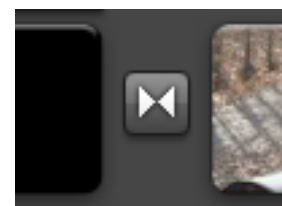
After you have entered your custom Titles, click done and you will see your edits in your Timeline. If you would like to preview what your Title and your selected clips look like, you may play a preview of your Timeline movie by pressing the Play button at the bottom of the Timeline window.

c. Transitions

Adding Transitions to your Timeline movie is very similar to adding Titles. Begin by referring the far right set of buttons on your toolbar and selecting the second over front the right to enter your Transitions menu:



Once in the menu, you'll see a variety of Transition templates - just as seen in the Titles menu. Like before, you may preview the transition by *skimming* your cursor over the icon. Make your selection and drag and drop your transition into the Timeline between the two clips you'd like a transition between. You'll see a green vertical bar appear in the Timeline - this is to show you where your transition will be dropped. And once you've dropped the transition into your Timeline, you will see an icon indicating its presence.



To preview your transition in real time, press the Play button at the bottom of your Timeline.

3. Adding Photos & Music to Your Movie

- a. Refer back to the far right section of your Toolbar and you'll see the musical notes icon indicating iTunes and the camera icon indicating iPhoto library:



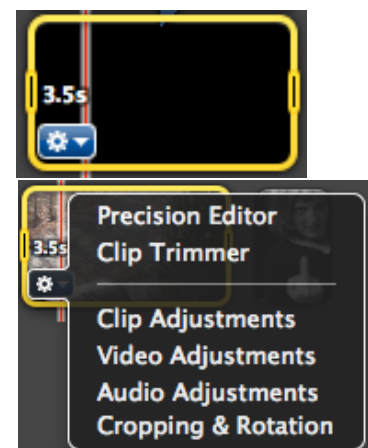
- b. Like Titles and Transitions, you may click and *skim* and preview your media before you choose to drag and drop it into your Timeline. If you want to add a song from your iTunes music library, simple drag the song from the music menu and drop it into the grey space within your Timeline.
- c. If you want to add a photo from your iPhoto library, simple drag and drop the photo into the Timeline in the section of your choice.

C. Making Adjustments to Elements within your Timeline

Once all of the media has been added in your Timeline, you can fine tune each element's properties to suit your project's needs.

1. Video Adjustments

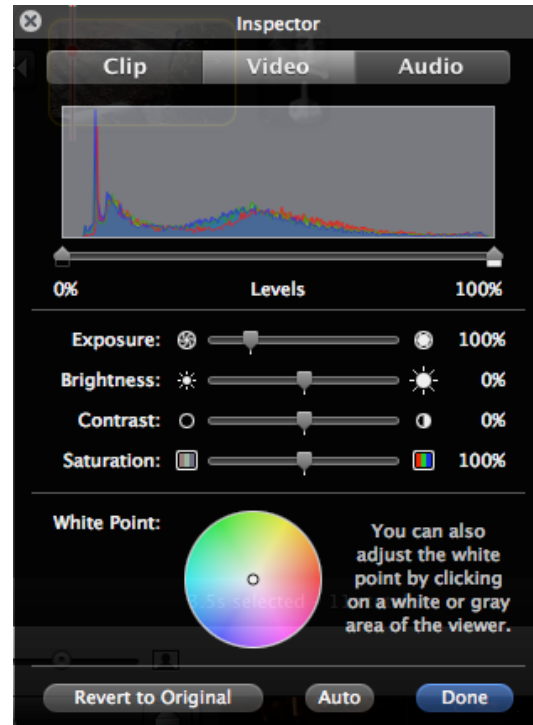
- a. When you hover your cursor over a video clip in your Timeline you will see a small blue rectangle in the lower left-hand corner with a gear wheel in it. When you click this, you'll be given these options:



Click *Clip Adjustments* and you'll again be greeted with a friendly menu offering these follow adjustments:

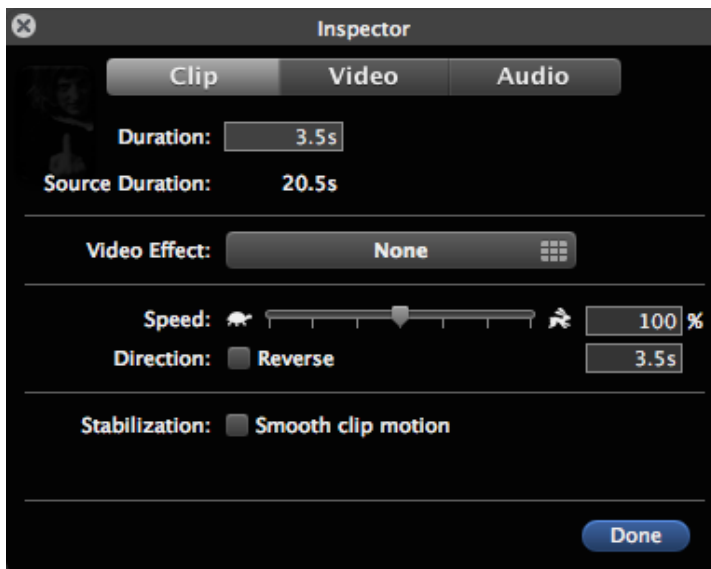
The wonderful things about these adjustments is that you can see them in real time in your Viewer and you pull the sliders to the right or left. This will allow you to precisely find the look you want for your video.

And no worries if you don't like what you see. The *non-destructive* nature of this program allows you to revert to the original clip at any time.



2. Clip Adjustments

- a. For whatever reason, iMovie decided that certain visual edits and changes would go under a *different* submenu from Video Adjustments. The Inspector menu can be found just as the Video Adjustments menu is found - by clicking the blue rectangle with the gear wheel and selecting Clip Adjustments.

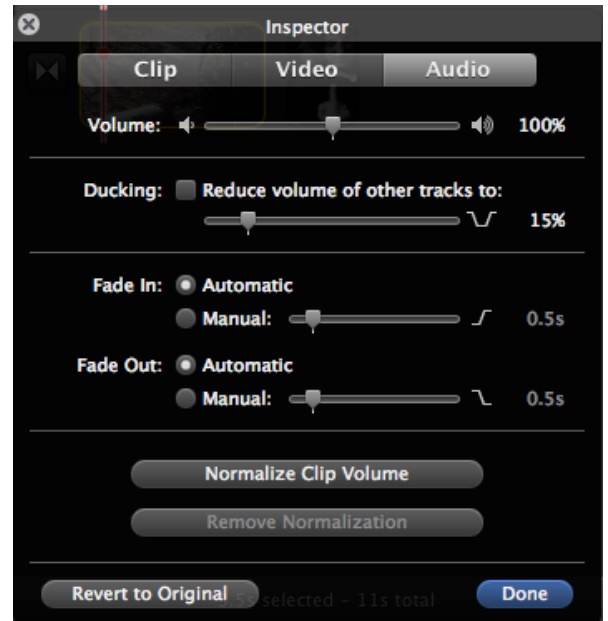


The adjustments in this menu can be previewed in real time. If you do not like, or want to undo an adjustment you made, the menu slider will intuitively snap back to center when pulled.

The Video Effects menu pops out with a submenu offering different color/visual treatments that offer style/feeling to your movie.

3. Audio Adjustments

- a. If you have finished making Video Adjustments to the clip and then want to make Audio Adjustments to the clip's audio, you can change from the *Video* tab to the *Audio* tab. Or, if you have already exiting out of your Adjustments Inspector menu, you can access it by clicking the blue rectangle with the gear wheel and selecting Audio Adjustments.

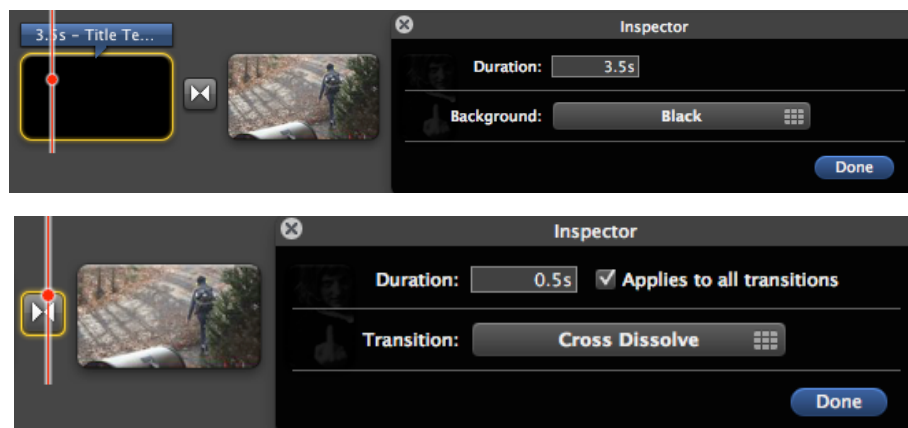


Audio adjustments can be made simply by pulling the sliders to the left or right. To preview the changes *scrub* your playhead over the selected clip.

And no worries if you don't like what you see. The *non-destructive* nature of this program allows you to revert to the original clip at any time.

4. Title/Transition Adjustments

- a. To make adjustments to a Title or a Transition, hover your cursor over the respective icon in the Timeline and click the blue rectangular box with the gear wheel. And select Clip/Transition Adjustments. Each item will have its respective Inspector menu appear:

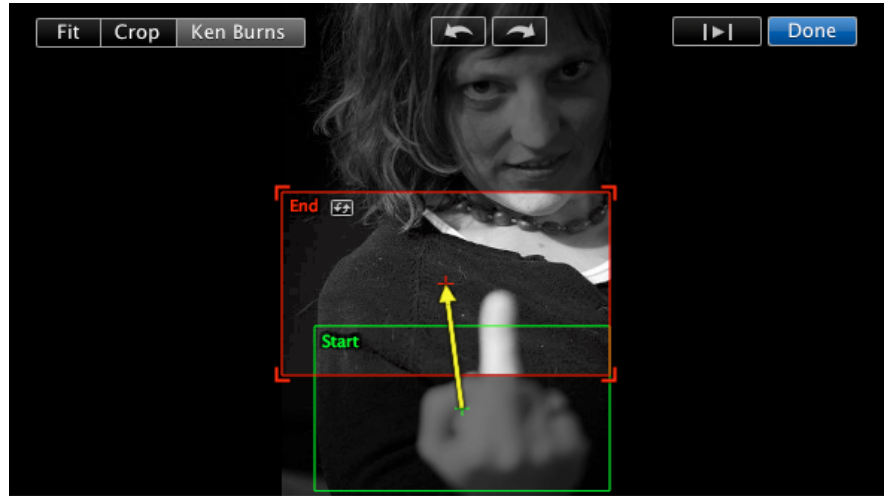


5. Photo Adjustments

- a. To make adjustments to a Photo, hover your cursor over the respective icon in the Timeline and click the blue rectangular box with the gear wheel. And select Fit/Crop/KenBurns and you will see this Inspector menu.

The upper-left hand corner will allow you to Fit, Crop, or “Ken Burns” your photo.

These adjustments, like all others, are undo-able and can be changed at any time.



D. Keyboard Shortcuts

Video editing is something that a lot of people are scared of and a lot of people are irritated by because it's *extremely* tedious. When working on certain projects I've estimated that every two hours of editing will leave you with a minute of edited video. Each user has a different level of habit and proficiency with her/his own computer and though I am a supporter of "To each his own," I do recommend learning these shortcuts as they will save you a lot of time.

Play Timeline from Start	(backslash) \
Fullscreen Playback	Command ⌘ G
Exit Fullscreen	Esc
Frame by Frame Skim	R+L Arrow Keys

Clip Adjustment Inspector	I
Video Adjustment Inspector	V
Audio Adjustment Inspector	A
Crop/KenBurns	C

New Project	Command ⌘ N
Import Media	Command ⌘ I
Cut Selection	Command ⌘ X
Copy Selection	Command ⌘ C
Paste Selection	Command ⌘ V

E. Additional Reference & Help

Apple is very talented at making obnoxiously user-friendly programs that are aimed at non-professionals who aren't super tech-savvy. Despite this, there are still moments in which additional help and reference is needed. Until there is an intermediate editing technique class in iMovie offered by Twin Cities Daily Planet or myself, I'd say to use your Help tab as well as the internet for further guidance.

Visiting the Apple.com website can be helpful; however, even *more* helpful are YouTube tutorials. As simplistic and sophomoric as it seems, these video tutorials are really great at giving you a visual of the interface as commanded by a more experienced user. Sometimes you just need to see someone else do something before proceeding. Some things are easier to see than to read about. Hopefully the combination of this little guide and this class have helped you begin a healthy and productive relationship in beginning video editing.