

## Avid Educational Series

Video editing tips from the experts at Avid!



### Trimming Dialog

Editors typically trim dialog in two stages:

1. Adjusting the rhythm of the dialog by tightening and loosening shots.
2. Further adjusting the rhythm of the scene by creating split edits. In the first stage you use single-roller trims, which trim one side of a transition; in the second stage you use dual-roller trims, which trim both sides of a transition simultaneously.

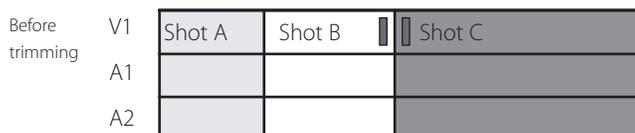
### Fine-Tuning the Rhythm of the Dialog

Use single-roller trimming to trim the shots in a dialog scene until you like the rhythm of the dialog (at this point, you are not considering the visuals). This focus on dialog cutting is often referred to as the radio edit. The dialog should flow smoothly, with an appropriate speed and rhythm for the scene. Remember, single-roller trims reveal or remove frames from the outgoing or incoming shot of a transition.

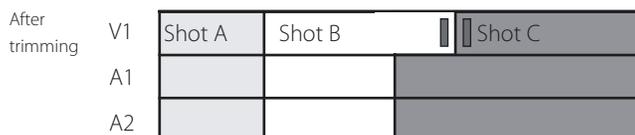
### Creating Split Edits

After you have trimmed the dialog of a scene using single-roller trimming, the dialog sounds good. However, the sequence is still a series of straight cuts, where the video and audio start and end at the same point. This can be monotonous for the viewer. Also, if you look at the visuals, you will undoubtedly see things to correct at the beginning and end of shots, such as an incomplete action or an inappropriate expression.

Split edits to the rescue! You use split edits to trim the audio and video separately, to vary the rhythm of a dialog scene and to fix problems. A split edit (also called an L-cut or overlap cut) is one in which the video and audio start or end at different points. For example, you might use a split edit to linger on Character A's reaction while hearing Character B begin to respond. You can create a split edit by using dual-roller trimming.



Shot B extended on V1



### Useful Applications for Split Edits

In dialog editing, use split edits to:

- Extend the video of Character A so it overlaps with the beginning of Character B's audio.
- Conversely, split edits are also used to extend one person's audio over the video of a different person.
- Vary the rhythm and tempo of the edit.

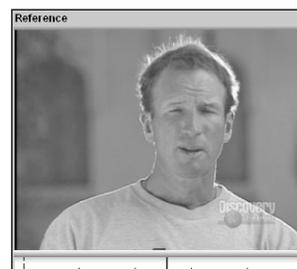
### Using the Color Match Control

When you make a correction using Color Match control, the system replaces the input color value with the output color value. It might help to keep the following guidelines in mind:

- Input color is the one you want to *adjust*.
- Output color is the *reference* or *replacement*.

To make a correction by using the Color Match control:

1. Place the segment with the replacement color in the Reference monitor.



2. Place the segment you want to correct in the Current monitor.
3. To select the input color, move the pointer over the input color swatch. When it changes to an eyedropper, drag it to the area of the image in the Current monitor that you want to correct, and release the mouse.
4. To select the output color from the image in the Reference monitor, drag the cursor from the output color swatch to the area of the image which has the replacement color.
5. Choose an option from the Match Type pop-up menu to specify the nature of the match the system will make. You can choose any combination of hue, saturation, and luminance of the color selected in the output color swatch.
6. Click the Match Color button to make the correction.

The system adjusts the current segment and adjusts the group controls to reflect the adjustment. The corrected image displays in the monitor that contains the current segment.



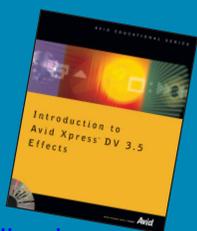
## Adding a Sepia Tone to a Shot

1. Locate the clip that you want to recolor and edit it into your sequence.
2. Add a Color Effect to this clip.  
Before you can tint the shot, you should first create a good looking black and white image.
3. Enter the Effect mode and remove all of the chroma saturation.  
You want to adjust the luminance values so the image has the tone of an old photograph. One way to create that look is to make the image a bit brighter and remove any deep blacks. You'll do this using the Brightness and Contrast adjustments.
4. Increase the Brightness a moderate amount.
5. Reduce the Contrast a moderate amount.  
Notice that as you reduce the contrast not only are the deep blacks turning gray, but the bright whites are turning gray as well. You may need to increase the Brightness so that you still have a good white.  
When you have adjusted the black-and-white image to your satisfaction, you can tint it.
6. To create a sepia tone, open the Color Gain pane, add a little Red and remove about half as much Blue.  
Adjust the sliders until you have the look you want. Since a sepia tone is a commonly used look, save it.
7. Create a new bin and name it **Saved Effects**.  
It is always a good idea to create a bin to save your effects to instead of saving them into a sequence or selects bin.
8. Save a template of this effect to the bin and name it "Sepia Tone".
9. Pick another shot and cut it into your sequence.  
To add a sepia tone to the new shot, you can apply the effect template you created earlier.
10. Drag the Sepia Tone effect template from the bin onto the new clip.

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## Sizing an Image to Safe Action

Certain images must be completely visible on video. If the source image has been tightly cropped for print or web use, an important portion of the image may reside outside of Safe Action. In these instances you should resize the image so the entire image fits within Safe Action and then add a neutral color around the image so it is properly sized for import.

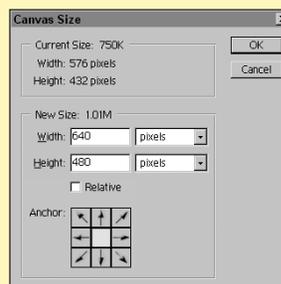
### To size an image to Safe Action:

1. Select the Crop tool.
2. Set the crop size to one of the Safe Action sizes listed in the following table.

Format	Desired Final Size	Safe Action Size	14X9 Safe Size*
NTSC 4x3	640 x 480	576 x 432	not applicable
NTSC 16x9	853 x 480	768 x 432	not applicable
NTSC DV 4x3	640 x 480	576 x 432	not applicable
NTSC DV 16x9	853 x 480	768 x 432	not applicable
PAL 4x3	768 x 576	698 x 518	not applicable
PAL 16x9	1024 x 576	922 x 518	892 x 518

\* 14x9 Safe Size refers to the 14x9 Safe Area required by many European broadcasters when delivering shows with a 16 X 9 aspect ratio. In these instances, the 14 X 9 Safe Size should be used instead of the traditional Safe Action size.

3. Crop the image as desired.
4. Click on the Background Color button in the Tool palette.  
The Background Color Picker appears.
5. Select the color you want Photoshop to use for the area around the image.  
Black is the most commonly used color, but you can choose another one if desired.
6. Click OK to close the Color Picker.
7. Choose Image > Canvas Size.  
The Canvas Size dialog opens.
8. Enter the final image size desired.



9. Click OK to close the Canvas size dialog and fill the area around the image with the selected background color.