

# Adobe® After Effects®

Version 5.0 for Windows®

## QUICK REFERENCE CARD



### Working with footage items (Project window)

RESULT	ACTION
When opening a project, suppress opening of all windows (except the project window)	Hold down ⇧
Open last project	⇧ + Alt + ⇧ + P
Open selected footage item or composition	Double-click or Enter on numeric keypad
Open movie in an After Effects footage window	Alt-double-click
Activate most recent composition	\
Add selected item to most recently activated composition	⇧ + /
Replace a selected layer's source footage in Composition window with selected footage	⇧ + Alt + /

RESULT	ACTION
Replace a selected layer's source footage item or composition	Alt-drag footage item from Project window into composition
Replace footage file	⇧ + H
Set Interpret Footage options	⇧ + F
Scan for changed footage	⇧ + Alt + ⇧ + Q
New folder	⇧ + Alt + ⇧ + N
Remember footage interpretation	⇧ + Alt + C
Apply footage interpretation	⇧ + Alt + V
Set proxy file	⇧ + Alt + P
Project Settings	⇧ + Alt + ⇧ + K

### Viewing windows (Composition, Layer, and Footage windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Cycle through open windows	⇧ + Tab
Display/hide title-safe and action-safe zones	' (apostrophe)
Display/hide grid	⇧ + ' (apostrophe)
Display/hide proportional grid	Alt + ' (apostrophe)
Center active window	⇧ + Alt + \
Suspend window updates	Caps Lock
Cycle through tabs in the frontmost window	⇧ + , (comma) and ⇧ + . (period) Add Alt to zoom the window to fit
Take multiple (up to four) snapshots	⇧ + F5, F6, F7, and F8
Display snapshot in active window	F5, F6, F7, and F8
Purge snapshot	⇧ + ⇧ + F5, F6, F7, and F8

RESULT	ACTION
Purge all	⇧ + Alt + / on numeric keypad
Display channel (RGBA)	Alt + 1, 2, 3, or 4
Display channel (RGBA) in color	Alt + ⇧ + 1, 2, 3, or 4
Display channel in color	⇧ + click channel icon
Display unmatted color channels	⇧ + click alpha channel icon
Display Project window	⇧ + 0
Display Project Flowchart view	⇧ + F11
Display/hide palettes	Tab
Close active tab/window	⇧ + W
Close active window (all tabs)	⇧ + ⇧ + W
Close all windows (except Project window)	⇧ + Alt + W

⇧ Control ⇧ Shift □ Key

Right-click objects and in windows to see context menus.

## Moving around (Timeline window)

RESULT	ACTION
Go to beginning of work area	⇧ + Home
Go to end of work area	⇧ + End
Go to previous visible keyframe or layer marker	J
Go to next visible keyframe or layer marker	K

RESULT	ACTION
Go to a composition-time marker	0–9 on main keyboard
Scroll selected layer to top of Timeline window	X
Scroll current time to center of window	D
Go to time	⇧ + G

## Moving around (Composition, Timeline, Footage, and Layer windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Go to beginning	Home or ^ + Alt + ⇩
Go to end	End or ^ + Alt + ⇩
Step forward 1 frame	Page Down or ^ + ⇩
Step forward 10 frames	⇧ + Page Down or ⇧ + ^ + ⇩
Step backward 1 frame	Page Up or ^ + ⇨

RESULT	ACTION
Step backward 10 frames	⇧ + Page Up or ⇧ + ^ + ⇨
Go to layer In point	i
Go to layer Out point	o
Snap items such as keyframes, time markers, and In and Out points to each other on a time ruler	⇧ -drag item

## Previewing (Timeline window)

RESULT	ACTION
Start/pause playback	Spacebar
Preview audio from the current time	. (period) on numeric keypad
RAM preview	0 on numeric keypad
RAM preview every other frame	⇧ + 0 on numeric keypad
Save RAM preview	^ + 0 on numeric keypad
Scrub video	Drag or Alt-drag current-time marker, depending on Preview Preferences setting
Scrub audio	⇧ -drag current-time marker

RESULT	ACTION
Wireframe preview	Alt + 0 on numeric keypad
Display rectangle instead of alpha outline during wireframe preview	^ + Alt + 0 on numeric keypad
Leave window contents during wireframe preview	⇧ + Alt + 0 on numeric keypad
Leave window contents during rectangle preview	^ + ⇧ + Alt + 0 on numeric keypad

**Note:** If no layers are selected, commands are applied to all layers.

**Note:** Visual previews honor loop and audio toggles in Time Controls palette.

## Working with layers (Composition and Timeline windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Rename layer, composition, folder, or effect	Enter key on main keyboard
Select next layer back	^ + [
Select next layer forward	^ + ]
Select a layer by its layer-outline number	1–9 on numeric keypad
Select noncontiguous layers	^ -click layers
Deselect all layers	^ + ⇧ + A, or F2
Lock selected layers	^ + L
Unlock all layers	^ + ⇧ + L
Split selected layer	^ + ⇧ + D
Activate Composition window with layer	\
Display selected layer in Layer window	Enter on numeric keypad
Show/hide video	^ + Alt + ⇧ + V
Hide other video	^ + ⇧ + V
Display or close Effect Controls window for selected layer	^ + ⇧ + T, or F3
Switch between Composition and Timeline windows	\
Open source of a layer	Alt-double-click a layer, or press Alt-Enter on numeric keypad
Scale layer without dragging a handle in Composition window	Alt-drag layer
Snap layer to edges or center of frame in Composition window	^ + ⇧ -drag layer (begin dragging before pressing keys)
Constrain layer movement along x-axis or y-axis	⇧ -drag layer (begin dragging before pressing keys)
Stretch layer to fit Composition window	^ + Alt + F

RESULT	ACTION
Stretch layer to fit horizontally, preserving frame aspect ratio	^ + Alt + ⇧ + H
Stretch layer to fit vertically, preserving frame aspect ratio	^ + Alt + ⇧ + G
Reverse a layer's playback	^ + Alt + R
Set In point	[ (left bracket)
Set Out point	] (right bracket)
Trim In point of a layer	Alt + [ (left bracket)
Trim Out point of a layer	Alt + ] (right bracket)
Display solid settings	^ + ⇧ + Y
Create new null object	^ + Alt + ⇧ + Y
Add/remove expression	Alt-click property stopwatch
Set In point by time-stretching	^ + ⇧ + , (comma)
Set Out point by time-stretching	^ + Alt + , (comma)
Move In point to beginning of composition	Alt + Home
Move Out point to end of composition	Alt + End
Constrain rotation to 45-degree increments	⇧ -drag rotation tool
Constrain scaling to footage frame aspect ratio	⇧ -drag layer handle
Constrain movement along x or y axis	⇧ -drag layer
Reset rotation angle to 0 degrees	Double-click rotation tool
Reset scale to 100%	Double-click selection tool
Change property value	Drag underlined values in Switches/Modes panel
Change property value x 10	⇧ -drag underlined values
Change property value / 10	^ -drag underlined values

## Zooming

RESULT	ACTION
Zoom in	.(period) or ^ + Alt + =
Zoom out	, (comma) or ^ + Alt + - (hyphen) on main keyboard
Zoom in and resize window	Alt + . (period) or ^ + = on main keyboard
Zoom out and resize window	Alt + , (comma) or ^ + - (hyphen) on main keyboard

RESULT	ACTION
Zoom to 100%	/ (on main keyboard) or double-click zoom tool
Zoom to 100% and resize window	Alt + / on main keyboard
Zoom window	^ + \
Zoom window to fill monitor	^ + ⇧ + \

## Viewing layer properties (Timeline window)

RESULT	ACTION
Anchor Point	A
Audio Levels	L
Audio Waveform	LL
Effects	E
Expressions	EE
Mask Feather	F
Mask Shape	M
Mask Opacity	TT
Mask properties	MM
Material options (3D)	AA
Opacity	T
Position	P
Rotation	R
Time Remapping	RR
Scale	S

RESULT	ACTION
Show all animating values	U
Set layer property value in dialog box (works with P, S, R, F, and M)	^ + ⇧ + property shortcut
Hide property or category	Alt + ⇧ -click property or category name
Display/hide Parent column	Shift + F4
Add/remove property	⇧ + property shortcut
Toggle switches/modes	F4
Turn off all other solo switches	Alt-click solo switch
Change a setting (such as video or lock) for all selected layers	Click layer switch
Open Opacity dialog box	^ + ⇧ + O
Open Anchor Point dialog box	^ + ⇧ + Alt + A
Zoom to or from frame view	; (semicolon)
Zoom in time	= on main keyboard
Zoom out time	- (hyphen) on main keyboard

## Working with compositions (Composition window)

RESULT	ACTION
Set composition resolution to custom	^ + Alt + J
Composition Flowchart view	^ + ⇧ + F11

RESULT	ACTION
Toggle window display options in palette menu	^ + ⇧ + H

## Using the Tools palette (Tools palette)

RESULT	ACTION
Selection tool: Selects, moves, and resizes layers, masks, and controls	V
Rotation tool: Rotates layers in the Composition window	W
Camera tools (3D): Orbit, Track XY, and Track Z	C, or ⇧ + C to cycle through tools
Rectangle tool or Oval tool: Draws a rectangular or elliptical mask in the Layer window; double-click to reset the mask	Q, or ⇧ + Q to toggle between tools

RESULT	ACTION
Pen tool: Edits Bezier masks, motion paths, and Value graphs	G
Pan Behind tool: Moves a layer behind a mask, or moves the anchor point without moving the layer	Y
Hand tool: Scrolls window to reveal areas beyond window edge; hold down spacebar to use Hand tool in any window	H, or hold down spacebar
Zoom tool: Magnifies (or reduces using Alt) an area of a page	Z

## Modifying keyframes (Timeline window)

RESULT	ACTION
Add or remove keyframe (if stopwatch is on) or turn on time-vary stopwatch (if off)	Alt + ⌘ + property display shortcut
Select all keyframes for a property	Click property name
Deselect all keyframes	Shift + F2
Snap keyframe to significant times	⇧-drag keyframe
Nudge keyframe 1 frame forward	Alt + ⏪
Nudge keyframe 1 frame backward	Alt + ⏩
Select all visible keyframes	⌘ + Alt + A
Go to previous visible keyframe	J
Go to next visible keyframe	K

RESULT	ACTION
Switch interpolation between Linear and Auto Bezier	⌘ -click keyframe
Change Auto Bezier interpolation to Continuous Bezier	Drag keyframe handle
Toggle between Continuous Bezier and Bezier interpolation	⌘ + drag keyframe handle
Easy ease	F9
Easy ease in	Shift + F9
Easy ease out	⌘ + Shift + F9

## Nudging layers (Composition and Timeline windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Nudge layer 1 pixel in specific direction	Arrow key (nudges in direction of arrow)
Nudge layer 1 frame earlier	Alt + page up
Nudge layer 1 frame later	Alt + page down
Nudge layer rotation +1 degree	+ (plus) on numeric keypad

RESULT	ACTION
Nudge layer rotation -1 degree	- (minus) on numeric keypad
Nudge layer scaling +1%	⌘ ++ (plus) on numeric keypad
Nudge layer scaling -1%	⌘ +- (minus) on numeric keypad

**Note:** Nudging counts pixels at the current magnification, not at actual size. For example, nudging an item 1 pixel at 50% magnification is the same as nudging the item 2 pixels at 100% magnification.

**Note:** Hold down ⇧ to amplify nudging, scaling, or rotation by 10.

## Setting the work area (Timeline window)

RESULT	ACTION
Set beginning of work area to current time	B
Set end of work area to current time	N

RESULT	ACTION
Set work area to selected layers	⌘ + Alt + B
Set work area to composition duration when no layers are selected	⌘ + Alt + B

## Working with masks (Composition and Layer windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Reset oval or rectangle mask to fill window	Double-click tool
Scale around center point in Free Transform mode	⌘ + drag

RESULT	ACTION
Select all points in a mask	Alt-click mask
Free transform mask	⌘ + T, or double-click mask
Exit free transform mask	Enter

## Working with effects (Effect Controls window)

RESULT	ACTION
Expand/collapse effect controls	` (grave accent)
Add keyframe for effect control	Alt-click effect property name

RESULT	ACTION
Activate composition window containing layer	\

## Working with 3D animation (Composition and Timeline windows)

RESULT	ACTION
New camera	⌘ + Alt + ⇧ + C
New light	⌘ + Alt + ⇧ + L
Orientation (for 3D layer)	⌘ + Alt + ⇧ + R
Remember view A	Shift + F10
View stored view A (defaults to Front)	F10

RESULT	ACTION
Remember view B	Shift + F11
View stored view B (defaults to Custom View 1)	F11
Remember view C	Shift + F12
View stored view C (defaults to Active Camera)	F12
Return to previous view	Esc
Toggle Casts Shadows property	Alt + ⇧ + C

## Using markers (Composition and Timeline windows)

RESULT	ACTION
Set layer-time marker	* on numeric keypad
Remove layer-time marker	⇧ -click marker
Go to previous visible layer-time marker or keyframe	J

RESULT	ACTION
Go to next visible layer-time marker or keyframe	K
Go to a composition-time marker	0–9 on main keyboard
Set and number a composition-time marker at the current time	⇧ + 0–9 on main keyboard

## Using other palettes (any window)

RESULT	ACTION
Switch from selection tool to pen tool	Hold down ⇧
Switch from pen tool to selection tool	Hold down ⇧

RESULT	ACTION
Display filename in Info palette	⇧ + Alt + E