

This documentation provides instructions on using the advanced tools in iMovie '11. With the advanced tools, you can streamline the editing process by categorizing and filtering footage, along with expanding your skill set with additional effects and editing functions.



Turning On Advanced Tools

Open the **iMovie** menu and select **Preferences**. In the dialog box that appears, in the **General** tab, click the checkbox next to **Show Advanced Tools**. New advanced tools buttons should now be displayed in the center iMovie tool bar.



The **Keywords** button allows you to tag video with identifying keywords.



The **Pointer** button closes any tool you have open.



The **Filter** button, located in the lower left corner below the Event Library panel, hides or reveals the Filter by Keywords panel where you can browse your footage that is sorted by keyword tags.

Tagging Footage with Keywords

Tagging your footage with identifying words will ease the editing process. For example, you might want to distinguish between good takes and outtakes. Keywords also allow you to quickly find footage of a specific person or event.



To add keywords to your footage, click the **Keywords** button, and the small Keywords window will appear, containing a list of keywords to add to your footage. iMovie includes some default keywords such as Landscape, Outdoor, and Closeup that you can use, but you will probably want to create your own as well. iMovie saves all of your keywords in a cumulative list for future use.

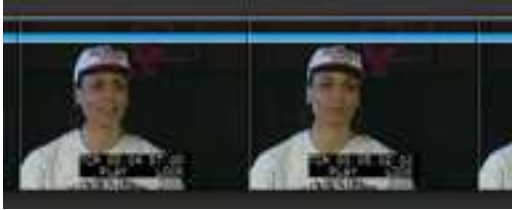
To add a keyword, click the **Keyword text box** in the lower left corner of the window, type the new term, and click **Add**. To remove keywords permanently from the list, select the term and click **Remove**.



At the top of the Keywords window you will see that you have two options for applying keywords to your footage: the Auto-Apply option, which lets you quickly add the same keywords to many sections of footage, and the Inspector option, which allows you to create individual keyword combinations for each section of footage.

Tagging Your Footage: The Auto-Apply Pane

To add the same keywords repeatedly to many sections of your video footage, make sure the **Auto-Apply** tab is selected in the Keywords window. To apply keywords to footage, mark the **checkboxes** next to the terms you want to add. (To remove tags you've added, un-check the boxes.) In the video timeline, you will notice that the mouse appears as a key icon, which you can use to drag the red scrubber bar and highlight the range of frames to be tagged. When you have highlighted the section you want to tag, release the mouse and the tags will be applied to this footage.



A blue line will appear at the top of the selection, indicating that the keywords have been applied to that range of frames. You can continue to select frames by repeating this process and the same keywords will be applied until you end the task by clicking the **pointer** button or closing the Keywords window.

Tagging Your Footage: The Inspector Pane

Applying individual keyword combinations is very similar to using the Auto-Apply pane. This method, however, allows you to add unique keyword combinations to frame range selections rather than applying the same tags repeatedly. To do this, make sure the **Inspector** tab is selected. Highlight a range of frames by clicking and dragging the **red scrubber bar**. Once you have selected the range of frames to be tagged, select the **keywords** to be applied in the Inspector pane. Once you mark the **checkbox** next to the keyword, it will be immediately applied to your range selection, indicated by a blue line across the frame thumbnail. A list of keywords applied will appear at the bottom of the **Keywords** window, helping you keep track of the tags you've added and removed.



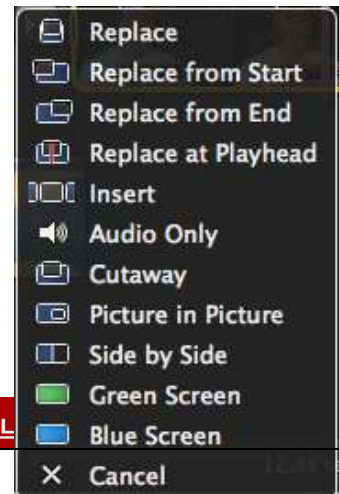
If you'd like to tag a clip with a word that is not already listed in the Inspector pane, type the term into the text field at the bottom of the window and press the **Add to Clip** button. This applies the keyword and adds the new term to the list within the Keywords window for future use. To easily remove all tags at once, click the **Remove All** button.

If you see a dash within a checkbox, this indicates the word is already tagged onto part of your frame selection. You can click a **dash** to apply the keyword to the whole selection or, double-click to remove it from the entire selection.

Picture-in-Picture

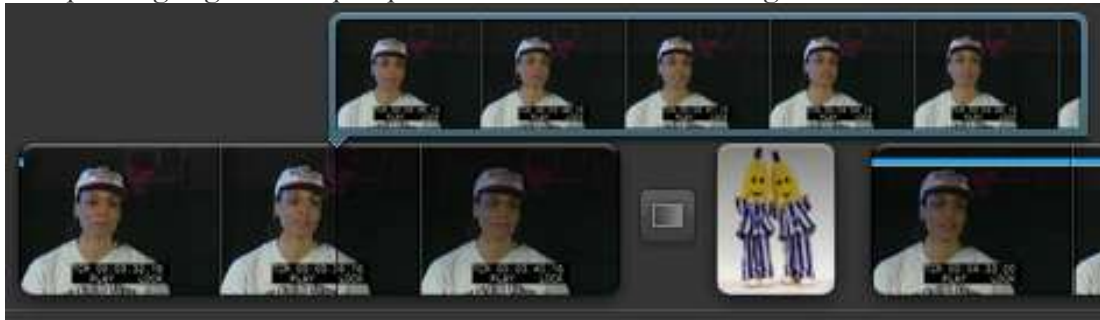
Working with Picture-in-Picture

The picture-in-picture feature allows you to insert one clip onto another. To do this, select a **clip** and drag the yellow box to frame footage in the Event library that you would like to add into another clip. Once you have chosen footage, drag it to the project window and drop it onto the footage to which it will be added. When you release the clip, an options menu will



appear. Choose the **Picture in Picture** option.

The clip that you have added will appear outlined in blue above the original clip in the project window. You can now drag and edit this clip just like any other. Drag the top clip to realign it within the other clip or highlight the top clip to trim it to the correct length.



Editing Picture-in-Picture

Once you have placed a picture-in-picture clip in the project, you can make several final edits to improve and customize your project. Click on the blue **Action** button in the bottom left corner of the clip, and from the options choose **Clip Adjustments**, as shown above. In addition to the usual adjustment options, you will also see the **PIP Effects**:

The first of these options includes the effects for the appearance of the picture-in-picture box. You can choose to have the box zoom or dissolve in and out at the appropriate times, or you can choose to swap the images and put the new image in the main window. You can also control the speed of this change by moving the slider bar below these options left to speed it up and right to slow it down.

If you would like to change the look of the picture insert, use the **Border Width**, **Border Color**, and **Drop Shadow** options to alter the appearance of the picture-in-picture effect.



iMovie allows you to change the size and location of the picture insert by clicking on the clip to select it in the Viewer window. You will see white corners on your picture that you can use to resize the clip. To move the clip to a different location in the frame, click in the center of the picture and drag it into place. When you are finished click **Done**.

Cutaway Effects

Enhancing Your Project with Cutaways

iMovie's cutaway feature provides a simple way to add visual interest to your project. Cutaways allow you to add the video from one clip onto the audio of your original clip or to cut entirely to the second clip.



To add a cutaway feature to your project, select a **clip** from the Event library and drag it onto the clip from which you would like to cut away in the project. Drop the new clip directly onto the other and choose **Cutaway** from the menu that appears.

Editing Cutaways

Once you have added the cutaway clip to your project, it will appear outlined in gray above your

original clip. Click to preview this effect and you will notice that the video of your inserted clip plays instead of your original clip. The sound from both clips will play. You will need to edit your cutaway effect to make it audible and visually clear. First, drag the top video to align it with the original clip; you can also trim the inserted clip as needed.

Once you have the clips aligned correctly, you can make edits by clicking on the blue **Action** button and choosing **Clip Adjustments**. In addition to the normal editing options, there will be a group of adjustments that are designed for cutaway effects. First there is an option to make your cutaway fade in and out instead of having an abrupt switch. Select **Manual** and use the slider bar to choose how quickly this fade will happen. Next, with the Opacity adjustment you can slide the bar from left to right to make your cutaway clip more solid or more opaque. Once you are happy with your adjustments you can move on to the audio.



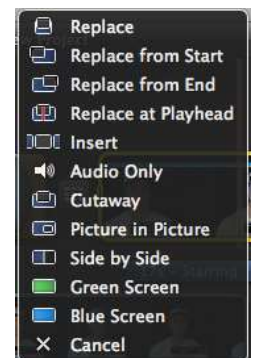
In the Clip Adjustment window, click on the **Audio** tab to begin editing the audio on your clip. This editing step is very important in order to make your project sound clear and ensure the correct audio clip is playing. It is important to remember that the audio that you are working with is the audio from the inserted clip. If this the sound you would like to be audible in your project, look first at the Volume setting and make sure that the volume is turned up (preferably at least midway (100%, as shown).

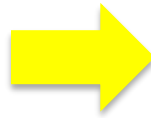
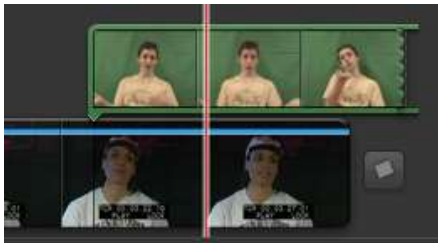
Next, you will need to turn the volume of the original clip down. Adjust the Ducking option by marking the checkbox next the **Reduce volume of other tracks to** option and moving the slider bar to left to turn down the volume of the original track. Finally, you can turn on the fade in and out options for your audio. Mark the checkboxes next to **Manual** and then edit the specific duration of the fading using the fade slider bars. When you have finished making adjustments to your audio, choose **Done** to preview the cutaway.

Green Screen Effects

Filming in front of a green-screen backdrop and adding your clip onto existing footage can add a professional touch to your project. Once you have your original footage and your green-screen footage imported into iMovie, move your original footage into the Project window. Then select a **green-screen clip** from the Event library and drag it onto your existing clip in the Project window.

Choose **Green Screen** from the menu that opens. The clips will then appear layered over each other. Move the playhead to preview this effect. Your subject from the green-screen clip should appear superimposed on the original clip, and the green background will disappear.





The editing process for green-screen clips is very similar to editing cutaway clips. Once you have the clips aligned and trimmed you can edit volume. Select the green-screen footage you have added and click on the **Action** button. Choose the **Audio Adjustments** option and the Inspector window: Audio tab will open. If you would like to focus on the audio that accompanies the green-screen footage, make sure the **Volume** is turned to 100% and that the **Ducking** feature is enabled. You can choose to turn the volume of other tracks down to 0% so that audio is completely unheard, or you can turn it down slightly so that it can still be heard underneath the main track. Finally, you can set your green-screen effect to fade in and out as well.

Under the Clip Adjustments tab, the only editing option that pertains directly to the green-screen effect is the **Background** checkbox, which is best to leave unchecked.

Tips for successful green-screen filming

- ◆ Make sure the green backdrop is evenly lit and that the lighting mirrors the intended background.
- ◆ Try to include several seconds of blank green-screen footage at the beginning and end of your clip.
- ◆ Wear solid-colored, simple clothing. Avoid green, teal, blue, and other colors that could blend in with the green-screen. Tone down jewelry and other shiny items that reflect light.
- ◆ Smooth hair and other fuzzy-looking objects. Items with sharp edges are easier to distinguish from the background.
- ◆ Place the camera 12-15 feet from the screen but make sure that your subject can still be heard. A lapel microphone could be useful in a shoot like this.
- ◆ Don't overdo it! Green-screen is a useful tool, but is best used in moderation!

(adapted from: <http://www.microfilmmaker.com/tipstrick/Issue22/grnround1.html>)

Comments and Chapter Markers

Adding Comments and Chapter Markers

When working with large amounts of footage, chapter and comment markers can be useful as notes to yourself to create chapter divisions for your final project. To add a marker, click and drag either a brown **comment marker** or an orange **chapter marker** from the top right corner of the Project window. You can place the marker anywhere in the project window once the red vertical playhead and a green circle with a plus sign appear over the location of the marker. Drag it around to place it exactly where you want it. Markers will be automatically numbered as you insert them, based on the order in which they are added, not their sequence in the project.



Once you have added markers, you can use them to navigate your project and skip directly to marked

footage. Click on the small arrow next to the marker icons in the upper-right corner of the Project window and a drop down menu will appear. To move directly to a comment or chapter marker, click on the number or title listed.

Renaming comment and chapter markers:

Comment markers are designed to be labels for your own use while working with footage in iMovie. To add your own comments to the markers, double click on the **number** in the marker to highlight it. Delete the number and type your own comment. When you are finished, hit the **[Return]** key or click outside of the comment marker.

Chapter markers can also serve as notes for you while you work on your project, but unlike comment markers, they are meant to be exported in your final project. They are a way of creating labeled divisions on your DVD, much like you would find on a professional DVD. Therefore, it is important to consider the names of your chapters, because they will appear in your final project (although it is possible to rename chapters in iDVD). Double click on the **number** assigned to a chapter marker and type your customized title. Hit the **[Return]** key or click outside of the chapter marker to set your title.

When exporting your project, make sure that you do so in a manner that will maintain your chapter markers. To do this, open the **Share** menu and choose one of these options:

- ◆ Share to iDVD, iTunes, or the Media Browser.
- ◆ Export your movie using QuickTime.

Do not choose the Tiny size, your chapter markers will not work!

Once you have exported your project, launch it and your chapter markers will appear. Using iDVD, you will see a submenu with your chapters laid out.

