Teacher’s Notes to Guide Student JayCut™ Video Projects

Note: Students who are 13-17 years old must have guardian permission to use JayCut!

JayCut™ Video “How To” (Essential Instructions)

(see Comprehensive Guide for complete details at: http://jaycut.com/guide)

What is the first thing I should do? Register for a JayCut account on the homepage (upper right button).

How do I get started creating video mixes and slide shows?
First, you can upload media in Upload on the homepage. Upload multiple photos, videos or music from your computer all at once by highlighting them with the cursor and holding the shift button down.

What is the difference between the visibility options?
Users can choose to keep material private, share it with groups or with the public. To start, just have students keep their work private. Later, this can be changed. The ‘my friends’ option will allow students projects to be viewed by the teacher or classmates (students will need your email addresses to do this).

How do I add material to an album?
When uploading material you can either chose an album to upload to or create an album to put the files in.

Where are my videos, photos, and music?
When you are mixing, your content can be found in the mixer under the different tabs for music, photos, videos, existing mixes, transitions and so on. In MY JAYCUT you also have all your folders and groups available for browsing.

How do I create a video mix or slide show?
In the Mix it! window you will find all the tools you need to create a video or slide show. Take media from the thumbnail library and drag them one by one to the time line area. Move clips and photos around the time line and pull the arrows at their ends to trim the in and out points. There are also transitions, effects and captions to liven up your videos. Try each of these out on a practice video mix!
How does the timeline work?
The timeline at the bottom of the mixer has two video tracks (1 and 2). You only need to use both tracks if you want transitions between clips. Between the video tracks is the transitions track (3), where you can insert transitions to overlap with the video tracks before and after the transition. At the bottom there are tracks for audio (4) and effects (5). The numbers above the time line (6) indicate how long (in minutes) a mix is. A mix starts from the left; if there is no video, photo or caption there, the mix will just be white.

What does the magnet to the right of the timeline mean? The magnet controls the auto-snapping function. With auto-snapping, clips and transitions will snap to line up with each other. Some people prefer auto-snapping to get the right alignment more quickly. Others prefer to line things up on their own.

How do I get video clips, photos and audio into the timeline?
You can take material from the thumbnail library in the mixer to the editor by dragging them from the library and dropping them in the timeline area.

Where do I put the first video in the timeline?
The first video should start at the left-most place in the timeline. You can move clips in the timeline by grabbing the center of the clip and dragging to the left or right.

How do I cut down a clip, effect or transition to make it shorter?
When you clip on something in the time line it gets two arrows at either end. Grabbing the start arrow and dragging it to the right cuts out the beginning of the clip. If you grab the end point and drag it to the left you are cutting out the end of the original clip. You can always undo by dragging back in the opposite direction, and you can always see the point you are cutting at in the preview window.

How do I make a transition between two pieces of media?
Put the first clip in one of the video tracks. Put the second clip in the other video track. They should now be overlapping a little so that the transition takes one video in and the other video out. You do not have to have a second track of video.
How do I add music?
In the mixer there is a music tab, just as there is a video and a photo tab. Drag a piece of music into the music track of the time line. Sometimes audio tracks are very long so remember to grab the end of the clip and pull it back left to align with the end of the video component of your mix.

How do I add effects?
Grab and drag effects from the effects tab down to the effects field in the time line. The effect will be applied to the video playing at the same time as the transition.

How do I add a caption?
In the effects tab there is a captions option. Drag the caption icon down to the time line. Click on it in the timeline, then write your text under the preview window and check the properties.

How do I save & return to my saved video mix to edit it more? At the bottom left of the mixer there is a button labeled "Preview". Give your mix a title and hit preview in order to save it. In the mixer there is a tab for saved mixes, or you can browse your content, watch mixes and hit "Remix" in the viewer window to edit some more. JayCut calls your new videos “Mixes” in your MY JAYCUT account to avoid confusion with videos that you created outside of the Web site and upload here to mix or re-mix with other media.

How do I finish my mix in a nice way?
Make sure that music effects and transition don't run for longer than the video. The components should be lined up at the end on the timeline.
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Web site: http://jaycut.com/

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