

TEXT GENERATORS

Text Generators create titles and credits in Final Cut Pro. These are time-coded clips generated by Final Cut Pro and do not refer to any media on your scratch disk – they are generated by the software.

When you place generated text on a video track directly above another clip, the clip on the lower track appears as the background image to the text. If you place a text clip into the Timeline on its own, i.e. not directly above another clip, the text appears as text over black by default, or over a color that you can select. After you add text to your sequence, **it must be rendered (Sequence > Render or Command + r)**.

Tips

1. Avoid fonts that are thin or smaller than 25 point.
2. Use only sans serif fonts, such as:
 - Arial
 - Futura
 - Gill Sans
 - Helvetica
 - Impact
3. Use the bold font style. If using fonts other than sans serif, use larger font sizes.
4. Reduce the opacity of the text clip to 90 percent to prevent unwanted optical effects.

Making Sure Titles Fit Properly on the screen

If you plan to show your work on a screen or monitor, you'll want to avoid the possibility of having your titles disappear off the edge of the frame. To do this, turn on the **Title Safe** indicators before you create the title, and restrict any text you add to the space within the title safe boundary.

When working with video that has 16:9 aspect ratio

The Title Safe indicators and Action Safe indicators also show tick marks to indicate the limits of 4:3 aspect ratio Title Safe indicators and Action Safe indicators. Use these tick marks as guides when you want to ensure that your media will appear correctly when shown at 4:3 aspect ratio as well.

To display the Title Safe indicators

Do one of the following:

- Choose **View > Show Title Safe**, so a checkmark appears next to it.
- Or
- Choose **Show Title Safe** from the **View pop-up menu** in the **Viewe**

TO CREATE A TITLE

1. Select a text generator by doing one of the following:
 - Click the **Video** in the **Viewer** window, then choose a text generator from the generator **pop-up menu** in the lower right corner of the Viewer window.Or,
 - In the **Effects** tab of the **Browser**, double-click a text generator.
2. Next, in the **Viewer**, click the **Controls** tab. A window will open allowing you to enter text.
3. In the Text field, type the text that will appear in your movie.
4. If you wish, specify additional settings/controls. Remember, different text generators have different controls. LIST OF CONTROL SETTINGS IS ON NEXT PAGE.x The default setting is white text on a black background. This is often the best setting for titles and credits.
 - **Text:** Enter your title/text in this field.
 - **Font:** Choose a font from the Font pop-up menu.
 - **Size:** Change the font size by entering a value or dragging the slider to the left or right.
 - **Alignment:** Choose the alignment of your title on the screen from this pop-up menu. Your choices are Left, Center, and Right.
 - **Font Color:** Choose the color of your font by doing one of the following:
 - **Disclosure triangle:** Click to display sliders and number fields corresponding to the hue, saturation, and brightness of the range of colors available.Or,
 - **Eyedropper tool:** Click the eyedropper, then click an image in the Viewer or the Canvas to pick up that color.Or,
 - **Color picker:** Click to choose a color using the standard color picker.
 - **Origin:** Origin refers to the center point of the text on the screen. The Origin setting determines where the text appears within the screen. You can position the text by clicking the point control (**a round button with crosshair**) and then clicking a point in the Canvas or Viewer (the pointer becomes a crosshair pointer).Or,

Enter x and y coordinates in the Origin number fields.

 - **Tracking:** Use the slider to adjust the space between letters, or enter a value in the number field.
 - **Leading:** Use the slider to adjust the space between lines of text, or enter a value in the number field.
 - **Aspect:** Use the slider to adjust the ratio of letter height to letter width for your

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- selected font, or enter a value in the number field.
- **Auto Kerning:** Select the Auto Kerning checkbox to kern your text automatically so that the spacing between the individual letters of your text is correct.
 - **Use Subpixel:** Select the Use Subpixel checkbox to render your text with subpixel accuracy. This means your text will be rendered smoothly.

TEXT STYLES AND CONTROL SETTINGS

Text generator	Result	Tips for making settings
Crawl	Generates a single line of text that moves horizontally across the screen. You type the text you want to animate (i.e. to crawl across screen) in text entry field. Carriage returns are ignored; all text appears on a single line, like a ticker tape display.	You can adjust the overall spacing of the text with the Spacing slider. You can adjust the location of the text with the Location slider. The Direction popup menu allows you to set the direction in which the text crawls. By keyframing the Spacing and Location parameters, you can animate the width of your text as well as its horizontal position over time. If no location keyframes are set, the In and Out points of the generator clip determine the duration of the movement from one edge of the screen to the other. The longer the clip, the slower the movement of the crawl.
Lower 3rd	Generates text in the lower third of the screen. This generator is often used in documentary projects to identify a person or location.	This generator provides two independent text lines placed in the lower third of the screen. It does not allow carriage returns. Select the Auto Kerning checkbox to kern your text automatically so that the spacing between the individual letters of your text is correct.
Outline Text	Generates static text with an outline. This generator allows carriage returns.	Text Graphic and Line Graphic clip wells allow you to fill the text or the outline with the image of a clip you apply, rather than a solid color. You can also modify the size, softness, color, and opacity of the background independently of the text. You can use the Back Graphic clip well to apply the image from any clip to the background.

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Outline Text	Generates static text with an outline. This generator allows carriage returns.	Text Graphic and Line Graphic clip wells allow you to fill the text or the outline with the image of a clip you apply, rather than a solid color. You can also modify the size, softness, color, and opacity of the background independently of the text. You can use the Back Graphic clip well to apply the image from any clip to the background.
Scrolling Text	Generates text that scrolls up the screen like credits at the end of a film. Allows carriage returns.	The Indent slider works only with left- or right- aligned text and moves the entire scrolling column to the left or right. The Gap Width slider works only with center-aligned text and lets you define a space between two pieces of text on a single line that are separated by an asterisk (*). This is useful if you want to create center-aligned two-column scrolls. The Fade slider narrows the vertical display area of your scrolling text in the frame, fading the text in and out at the bottom and the top. The In and Out points of the edited generator determine the duration of the scroll from the bottom to the top of the screen, or from the top to the bottom. <u>The longer the clip, the slower the movement of the scroll.</u>
Text	Creates a static frame of text. Allows for carriage returns.	The font, size, style, alignment, and color of the generated text can be modified. These controls modify the entire text element at once. Tracking, Leading, and Aspect sliders allow you to control the layout of the generated text and can be keyframed to create interesting effects. Select the Auto Kerning checkbox to kern your text automatically so that the spacing between the individual letters of your text

TO ADD TITLES TO YOUR SEQUENCE

Once you've created your text generator clip, you can add it to your sequence:

1. In your sequence in the **Timeline**, set your destination track. If you place the title clip on a track that's above another track, the lower clip appears as the background to the title.
2. **Set** the sequence or clip **In and Out** points.
3. Click the **Video tab** in the **Viewer**, then **drag the title clip** from the Viewer to the **Canvas** or **Timeline**. When you drag the new title clip to the space above the V1 video track. It will create a V2 track – your second video track.
4. You can make changes to the title clip by clicking on it in the Timeline to bring it into the Viewer, as you would any other kind of clip.