

iMovie Video Editing: Beginner to Pro 2026

Master iMovie for professional video editing from basic cuts to advanced effects. Ideal for beginners and content creators.

Video Editing Instructor: Alex Turner • 5 sections • 51 lessons • 16.00h total

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About this course

Video editing can seem daunting with complex software, but iMovie offers a user-friendly yet powerful platform for creating polished videos. Many beginners struggle to navigate its features effectively, leading to frustration and subpar results. In this course, you'll learn step-by-step how to use iMovie for everything from simple cuts to professional-grade editing. We cover video lessons, case studies, and practical exercises to build your skills progressively.

Course curriculum

Foundations and Preparation

- **Navigating the iMovie Interface (12m)**
Get familiar with the workspace, tools, and shortcuts to edit more efficiently.
- **Importing and Organizing Media Files (18m)**
Learn to bring in footage and organize clips for smooth editing flow.
- **Basic Cutting and Trimming Techniques (15m)**
Master the essentials of cutting and trimming clips to remove unwanted parts.
- **Adding Simple Transitions (10m)**
Apply transitions between clips to create smooth scene changes.
- **Working with Titles and Text (14m)**
Insert titles and text overlays to convey information and style.
- **Adjusting Audio Levels (12m)**
Balance audio tracks and voiceovers for clear sound in your videos.
- **Using Basic Effects and Filters (16m)**
Enhance your video with built-in effects and filters for a professional look.
- **Exporting Your First Video (11m)**
Export your project in the right format for sharing online or viewing.

Core Concepts

- **Advanced Cutting: Splitting and Joining Clips (18m)**
Learn to split clips at precise points and join segments for complex edits.
- **Working with Multiple Video Tracks (20m)**
Layer multiple video tracks for picture-in-picture and overlay effects.
- **Creating Custom Transitions (15m)**
Design your own transitions to match your video's style and pace.
- **Adding Music and Sound Effects (22m)**
Incorporate music tracks and sound effects to enhance emotional impact.
- **Fine-tuning Audio with Equalizer (17m)**
Use the equalizer to adjust audio frequencies for clearer sound.
- **Using Ken Burns Effect (12m)**
Apply the Ken Burns effect to static images for dynamic motion.
- **Color Correction Basics (19m)**
Correct color issues in your footage for a consistent and professional look.
- **Speed Adjustments: Slow Motion and Fast Forward (14m)**
Change playback speed to create dramatic or comedic effects.
- **Working with Photos in iMovie (10m)**
Integrate photos into your video projects for slideshows or B-roll.
- **Adding Voiceovers Narration (16m)**
Record and sync voiceovers to narrate your video directly in iMovie.

Deep Dive

- **Green Screen Editing with iMovie (25m)**
Remove backgrounds and composite subjects using the green screen feature.
- **Advanced Color Grading Techniques (28m)**
Apply color grading to set the mood and tone of your video.
- **Creating Picture-in-Picture Effects (22m)**
Overlay one video on another for tutorial or reaction style content.
- **Using Split Screen for Comparison (20m)**
Display two or more videos side by side for comparison or multi-angle views.
- **Cinematic Effects and Filters (18m)**
Use advanced filters to achieve cinematic looks in your footage.
- **Working with 4K and HDR Footage (24m)**
Edit high-resolution videos and optimize for quality and performance.
- **Audio Ducking and Mixing (19m)**
Automate audio levels to prioritize dialogue over background music.
- **Animating Titles and Graphics (16m)**
Bring titles and graphics to life with built-in animation tools.

Advanced Application

- **Editing a Short Film Project (32m)**
Apply all techniques to edit a short film from start to finish.
- **Multi-Camera Editing Workflow (28m)**
Sync and edit footage from multiple cameras for professional results.
- **Creating Travel Vlogs (22m)**
Learn specific editing techniques for engaging travel content.
- **Editing Tutorial and How-To Videos (20m)**
Structure and edit instructional videos for clarity and effectiveness.
- **Social Media Video Optimization (18m)**
Edit videos for platforms like Instagram, TikTok, and YouTube.
- **Adding Motion Graphics and Overlays (24m)**
Incorporate pre-made or custom motion graphics to enhance visuals.
- **Using iMovie for Podcasts and Interviews (19m)**
Edit audio-centric content with video elements for podcasts.
- **Advanced Audio Editing and Noise Reduction (21m)**
Remove background noise and refine audio tracks for professionalism.
- **Working with Plugins and Extensions (16m)**
Extend iMovie's functionality with compatible plugins and add-ons.
- **Color Matching Across Clips (15m)**
Ensure consistent color across different footage sources.
- **Creating Slideshows with Narration (14m)**
Combine photos, video clips, and narration for compelling slideshows.

- **Editing Underwater and Action Footage (22m)**
Handle fast-paced and challenging footage with specific techniques.

Implementation & Next Steps

- **Finalizing Your Project with Reviews (18m)**
Review your edit for flow, timing, and consistency before exporting.
- **Exporting for Different Platforms (20m)**
Choose the right export settings for YouTube, Vimeo, and social media.
- **Using iMovie with Other Apple Devices (15m)**
Sync projects across Mac, iPhone, and iPad for flexible editing.
- **Troubleshooting Common iMovie Issues (22m)**
Solve frequent problems like crashes, lag, and export errors.
- **Backup and Project Management (12m)**
Organize and back up your projects to prevent data loss.
- **Transitioning to Final Cut Pro (25m)**
Prepare for moving to professional software with similarities in workflow.
- **Building a Video Editing Portfolio (28m)**
Create a portfolio of your work to showcase skills to clients or employers.
- **Monetizing Your Video Editing Skills (30m)**
Explore ways to earn income through freelance editing or content creation.
- **Keeping Up with iMovie Updates (10m)**
Stay informed about new features and updates in future iMovie versions.
- **Advanced Project: Documentary Editing (32m)**
Apply advanced techniques to edit a short documentary from raw footage.
- **Collaborating on Projects with Others (18m)**
Use iMovie's sharing features to work with team members on edits.
- **Creative Editing: Experimenting with Styles (20m)**
Try different editing styles to develop your unique voice.
- **Final Course Review and Next Steps (15m)**
Summarize key learnings and outline paths for continued growth in video editing.

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