

Sync and switch multiple cameras, easily

From the experts at Adobe

When you're shooting a real-time event, such as a wedding, concert, or sporting event, getting the right angles often means shooting simultaneously with two or more cameras. Adobe® Premiere® Pro 2.0 allows you to easily synchronize source footage from multiple cameras, and then edit it by switching between sources as they play. In this tutorial, we'll synchronize clips shot simultaneously by four different cameras. Then we'll edit them into a sequence using the Multi-Camera Monitor.

The files used in this tutorial are on Disc 2 of the Total Training Video Workshop included with Adobe Premiere Pro. Copy either the NTSC or PAL folder (depending on the television standard for your region) from the Adobe Premiere Pro 2.0 folder to your desktop. Alternatively, you can follow along using your own files. You'll need to start an Adobe Premiere Pro project and import at least two video clips captured from cameras that shot the same event simultaneously.

Assemble your multicamera footage

- 1 Open the project Multicam.prproj from the folder you copied to your desktop.
- 2 Double-click the Feet.avi clip in the Project panel. The clip opens in the Source Monitor. Click the Toggle Video And Audio button in the Source Monitor until it is set at Take Audio (🔊). The audio waveform loads in the Source Monitor.
- 3 Scrub the current-time indicator to the sound of the clapboard, using the waveform to pinpoint the sound of the clap. Click the Toggle Video And Audio button to set it back to Take Video And Audio (📺). Then right-click the current-time indicator, and choose Set Clip Marker > Next Available Numbered to set a marker at the clapboard.
- 4 Repeat steps 2 and 3 for Hands.avi and Low.avi.

- 5 Double-click the clip Overhead.avi in the Project panel. The clip opens in the Source Monitor. Scrub the current-time indicator to the point where the clapboard is snapped together. Then right-click the current-time indicator, and choose Set Clip Marker > Next Available Numbered (this clip has no audio, so you must set the marker by the video).

- 6 Drag each of the clips to its own video track in the Timeline panel. Their position doesn't matter, as long as each clip is on its own track.

Synchronize the clips

- 1 Click the Selection tool in the toolbox, and drag a marquee through the clips on the Video 1, Video 2, Video 3, and Video 4 tracks to select all of them.
- 2 Choose Clip > Synchronize, select Numbered Clip Marker in the Synchronize Clips dialog box, and click OK.

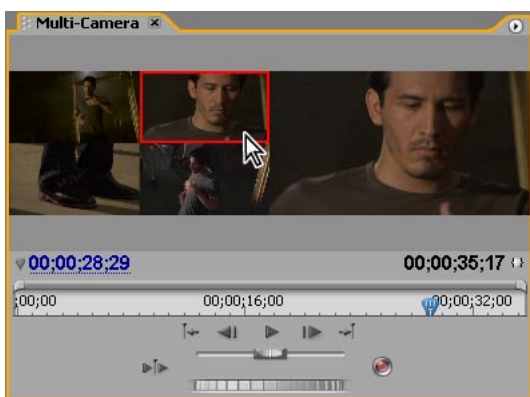
Note: You can instead choose to synchronize your clips by clip start, clip end, or a specific time code if more appropriate.



The Synchronize command lets you quickly line up your clips in the Timeline panel so that each camera's footage is perfectly synchronized with the footage from the other cameras.

Create a multicamera sequence

- 1 Choose File > New > Sequence. Type **MultiCam** for the sequence name, and click OK.
- 2 Drag Sequence 01 (containing the synchronized clips) from the Project panel to the beginning of the Video 1 track in the MultiCam sequence.





Simply click a quadrant in the left half of the Multi-Camera Monitor to record a switch to the program from the corresponding camera. The right half of the monitor displays a live view of the current state of the sequence.


- 3 Select the clip Sequence 01 on the timeline, and choose Clip > Multi Camera > Enable (you can instead right-click the clip and choose Multi Camera in the context menu).

Edit the multicamera sequence

Once you have assembled the footage from your cameras into a multicamera sequence on the timeline, you edit the views together in much the same way that live television shows are produced—by switching between cameras as the action plays. The difference is that Adobe Premiere Pro allows you to correct or redo multicamera edits.




Adobe Premiere Pro 2.0 includes the Multi-Camera Monitor, a special monitor for multicamera footage, which allows you to record, play back, and rerecord edits on the fly.

- 1 Click the Program Monitor menu  at the top right corner of the panel, and choose Multi-Camera Monitor.
- 2 Click the Play button  and preview the sequence, noting where you prefer to change cameras.
- 3 Click Play again to start playback, and then click a quadrant when you want to switch to that camera. When you change cameras, the border becomes red to indicate that you are now recording your changes.
- 4 Continue clicking different quadrants to select different cameras until the sequence ends, and then click Play again to preview your edits.

 You can instead select any of the four cameras by pressing the keys 1 through 4 on your keyboard (not on the numeric keypad).

- 5 Move the current-time indicator to the middle of the timeline, click Play, and then click a different quadrant. You can rerecord your edits to any section of the sequence this way, without restarting playback from the start of the timeline.
- 6 When you're finished, close the Multi-Camera Monitor and replay the sequence in the timeline. Camera changes appear in the Video 1 track as separate clips, with a prefix identifying the camera used for each section.

Go further with multicamera editing

- From the Multi-Camera Monitor menu, choose Audio Follows Video. Then experiment with camera changes, and preview the results. With this option enabled, Adobe Premiere Pro takes the audio from whichever camera is active, instead of using the sound from the Audio 1 track throughout.
- Experiment with the Play Around button , which automatically previews the area around an edit.
- Use the Record button  to toggle from record mode to playback mode while your sequence is playing.
- Use the Rolling Edit tool  to adjust camera changes directly on the sequence timeline.
- Add transitions from the Effects panel to your multi-camera sequence. You can work with this sequence in the same way that you work with any other series of clips on the timeline.

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