The Avid Media Composer [®] "Cheat Sheet"

Dear Avid user,

What follows is a re-creation of something that Avid used to give away with every Media Composer system in the late nineties. This little gem became affectionately known as the "cheat sheet" and was frequently stolen from facilities because it was so valuable to users who did not yet know all the keyboard shortcuts. While this document does not contain every single Media Composer shortcut, it definitely contains the ones you will use most frequently, as well as some other tasty offerings which you might find useful from time to time.

The shortcuts are currrent as of Media Composer Adrenaline v2.8 and was re-created for your professional edification and reading pleasure in April, 2008

May this document become a valuable aid to improving your Media Composer knowledge and help you along the way to becoming the "power user" you were destined to be.

Dave Porsyth Avid Certified Senior Instructor Amber Video and Audio Post 11th April, 2008



Project Window

Shortcut	Result
ctri +A	Selects all bins in project
ctri +W	Closes project

Bins - General

Shortcut	Result
ctri +N	Creates a new bin
ctri +A	Selects all items in bin
shift + ctri	+A Deselects all items in bin
ctri +W	Closes active bin
ctri +P	Prints active bin
ctri +D	Duplicates selected object/s
shift + ctri	+G Groups selected objects
ctri +	Opens bin info in Console
shift + ctrl	Changes <i>Relink</i> to <i>Unlink</i> in Bin menu
att + drag	Copies selected object/s from one bin to another

Bins - Frame and Script modes

Shortcut	Result	Did you know?
ctr1 + L	Enlarges frames	You can also use the J, K and L keys as wel
ctri +K	Reduces frames	as the left and right arrow keys to control
ctri +T	Snaps frames to grid	the deck while in capture mode.

Avid Training.... its a hoot!!

"I learned more with Dave in three days than I learned in three years teaching myself"

G.J. (Avid MC101 student)

Check out our website for all our training offerings... http://www.avap.com.au

The owl has often been used as a symbol of wisdom and learning. So nothing epitomises the value of Avid Certified training better than our nocturnal feathered friend here. No matter how long you have been using the Avid system, there is ALWAYS something you can learn in an Avid training course that will help you work smarter; instead of harder.

Bins - Te	ext View		
Shortcut		Result	
tab		Moves cursor to next co	olumn
shift	+ tab	Moves cursor to previou	us column
, Jenter		Moves cursor to next ro	W
shift	+ Jenter	Moves cursor to previou	us row
ctri	+Ε	Sorts items by selected	heading
alt +	etri +E	Reverse sorts items by I	neading
alt	+ click bin heading	Allows editing of custor heading	n bin
alt	+ click cell	Produces menu of previ tries for that cell	ous en-

Capturing

Shortcut	Result
F1	Starts subclip
F2	Ends subclip
F3	Add locator
F4	Start capturing





Tools

J-K-L (Three-button) Play

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Shortcut	Result	Shortcut	Result
	Audio Tool	↓ x 1	Play normal speed
etr +2	Avid Calculator	× 2	Play 2x normal speed
ctrl +3	Command Palette	× 3	Play 3x normal speed
etri +4	Composer Window	× 4	Play 5x normal speed
etri +5	Media Creation Tool	x 5	Play 8x normal speed
etri +6	Console Window	」 ◀ x 1	Reverse play normal speed
ctr1 +7	Capture Tool	」 ◀ x 2	Reverse play 2x normal speed
ctri +8	Effect Palette	」 ◀ x 3	Reverse play 3x normal speed
ctrl +9	Project Window	」 ◀ × 4	Reverse play 5x normal speed
	Timeline Window	」 ◀ x 5	Reverse play 8x normal speed
Audio		ĸ	Pause
Shortcut	Result	+ K	Play 1/4 speed (6fps PAL)
+click pan slider	Set pan to MID (centre pan)	J + K	Reverse Play 1/4 speed (6fps PAL)
+click gain slider	Set gain to 0.0dB	kab 🔪	Step back one frame
att +click speaker icon	Solo selected timeline track	kab 💽	Step forward one frame
att +drag keyframe	Moves keyframe in time but not gain		

So, you've got one of these in the garage?

Nice one!





(But wouldn't it be a shame to drive it like one of these?)

Anyone can drive a VW Beetle to its maximum potential. And driving the Australian GP at 65km/h might get you to the finish (eventually) but where's the fun in that?

Imagine driving the F1 car instead.

Very exciting. But to even get on the track, the team boss has to be satisfied you can do the job. You have to be properly trained. It is the same with your Avid system. Knowing the basics is OK, but to get the best performance out of it, you have to be trained the right way. That's our job. Avid certified training conducted by Avid Certified Instructors is the *only* way to ensure you really know everything you need to know to take advantage of all the powerful features and productivity tools your Avid system has to offer.

Think about it and remember you can't win a F1 drivers' championship driving a Ferrari like a VW Beetle.

(Just ask Michael Schumacher)



Check out our full range of Avid training courses at http://www.avap.com.au or phone us on +61 2 89774800

Playing and Marking FootageEffect ModeShortcutResultShortcut

Shortcut	Result	Shortcut	Result Autopres
ait + 4	Step 10 frames forward	tab	Moves from one active slider to the next
ait + 3	Step 10 frames backward	shift +	Increase parameter value by ten units
att + 2	Step one field forward	shift +	Decrease parameter value by ten units
ait + 1	Step one field backward	at +drag wireframe	Updates image while dragging
ait + Q	Mark In	at +drag keyframe	Repositions keyframe in time
ait + W	Mark Out	ctri + ait +click	Selects all keyframes
	Go to In	del	Removes selected effect
ait + of	Go to Out	att +double click effect	Autonests effect from palette- onto selected segment/s
ait + ^[]]	Loop play between marks	at +click in monitor	Turns cursor into eyedropper for Paint effect brush colour
Trim Mode		+click in monitor	Changes cursor to magnifying glass
Shortcut	Result	ctrr + att + click	Changes cursor to hand for mov- ing zoomed image in monitor
ait + A	Go to trim mode at previous edit regardless of track selection	at +click control point	Changes corner point to smooth point and vice versa
ait + s♥i	Go to trim mode at next edit regardless of track selection	at +click Bezier handle	Toggles bar length and direction from linked to unlinked to linked
att +Trim forward or backward	In single-roller trim, Filler is in- serted to maintain sync	at +drag Bezier handle	Toggles bar length and direction from linked to unlinked to linked
att +double click a segment	Segment is placed in Slide mode	att +drag object handle	Rescales object from its centre
tti +double click a segment	Segment is placed in Slip mode	at + 🖆 (click)	Brings selected object to front
	Exit Trim mode and return to	att + 두 (click)	Sends selected object to back

Did you know...?

Real-time dissolves were not part of the Media Composer feature set until about 1996 when v5.5 was released? Before then, dissolves had to be rendered and on a NuBus Macintosh with a 100MHz processor, a twenty-five frame dissolve took about one second per frame to render which meant you could not see your dissolve playing back in real-time for about half a minute! Then, if you wanted to change its length or position, you had to render the dissolve all over again! (What a pain)

Source/Record mode

Aren't you glad Avid kept (and keeps on) developing?

Ooops!!

While

rendering While

rendering

If you make a mistake, you can undo it. You probably knew that already. But in the Undo/Redo list found in the Edit menu, you can undo up to thirty-two operations. If you undo too far, that list will also allow you to re-do up to thirty-two operations

plete

Renders to last drive used bypassing dialogue box

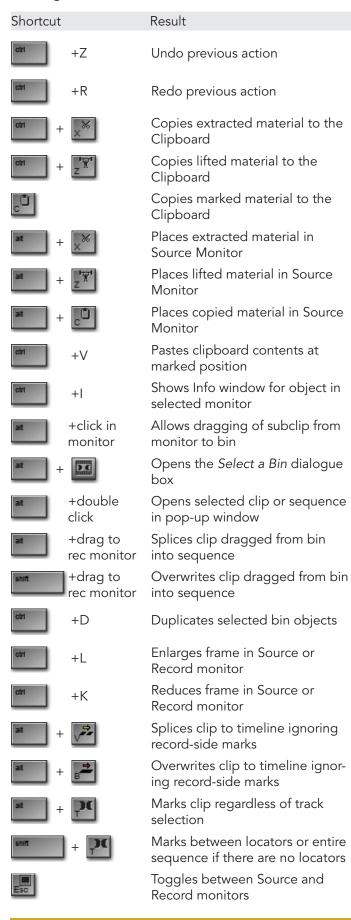
Shows render percentage com-

Exit Effect mode and return to

Shows render timer

Source/Record mode

Editing



"Editing is about the only thing you can do in life where the ends truly justify the means."

Dave Forsyth

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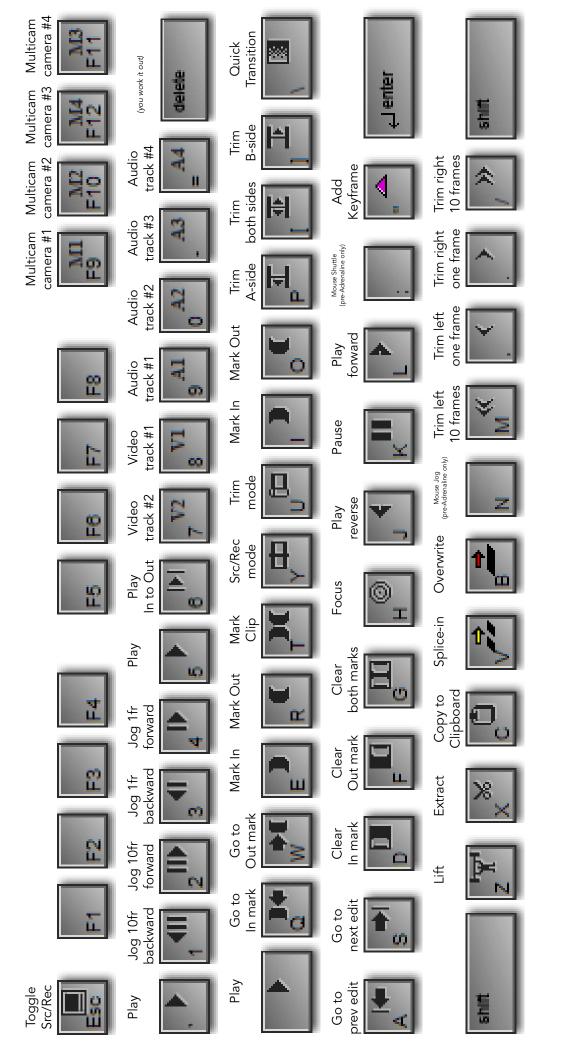


Guess who forgot to back up?

Backing up your work at the end of every day is a most under-rated discipline. Make sure you *always* back-up;

> Your Project Your User Profile Your project's Attic folder

And remember; "The day you don't back-up is going to be the day immediately before the day you wish you had!" Avid Media Composer Default Keyboard



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