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# **After Effects Introduction/Intermediate**

**Duration: 3 Days**

## **Overview:**

Adobe **After** Effects is a powerful software program used for creating special effects for video and motion graphics. On Aspect Training's After Effects Fundamentals 3 day training course you will learn all the tools and skills to master this powerful program.

Here to get filmmakers, Web designers, broadcasters, and digital artists of all kinds up to speed on After Effects CS4—and in time to meet their next deadline—is Aspect Training's After Effects Fundamentals. Through step-by-step instructions, enhanced by tips, sidebars, and plenty of visual aids Aspect Training's After Effects Fundamentals will teach delegates how to effectively and efficiently import and manage footage, view and edit layers, apply effects, animate type, and more.

Delegates will learn about key features with real world examples of how and when features should be used, including what's new in After Effects CS4: the addition of Imagineer System's Mocha for Adobe After Effects, which allows users to do motion tracking for difficult shots; the ability to export rich media compositions from After Effects to Adobe Flash; searchable timelines and projects, plus easier composition navigation; the ability to import Photoshop 3D layers; independent keyframing of X, Y, and Z axis positions; the new Cartoon effect for creating an animated look to live footage; and many more enhancements.

## **Prerequisites:**

This course is aimed at Graphic and Video professionals who need an essential understanding of video editing, motion editing and compositing. Experienced users will also benefit from many hands-on projects and tricks learnt on the class. This is an entry-level class so no prior experience of After Effects is required.

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## Course Topics:

### **Getting to know the workflow**

Getting started  
Creating a project and importing footage  
Creating a composition and arranging layers  
Adding effects and modifying layer properties  
Animating the composition  
Previewing your work  
Optimizing performance in After Effects  
Rendering and exporting your composition  
Customizing the workspace  
Controlling the brightness of the user interface  
Finding resources for using After Effects

### **Creating A basic animation using EFFECTS and PRESETS**

Importing footage using Adobe Bridge  
Creating the composition  
Working with imported Illustrator layers  
Applying effects to a layer  
Applying an animation preset  
Previewing the effects  
Adding transparency  
Rendering the composition

### **Animating text**

About text layers  
Creating and formatting point text  
Using a text animation preset  
Animating with scale keyframes  
Animating using parenting  
Animating imported Photoshop text  
Animating text using a path animation preset  
Animating type tracking  
Animating text opacity  
Using a text animator group  
Cleaning up the path animation

Animating a nontext layer along a motion path  
Adding motion blur  
Exporting to Adobe Flash CS4 Professional

### **Working with SHAPE layers**

Adding a shape layer  
Creating custom shapes  
Creating stars  
Incorporating video and audio layers  
Applying a Cartoon effect  
Adding a title bar  
Using Brainstorm to experiment

### **Animating A multimedia presentation**

Animating the scenery using parenting  
Adjusting an anchor point  
Masking video using vector shapes  
Keyframing a motion path  
Animating additional elements  
Applying an effect  
Creating an animated slide show  
Adding an audio track  
Zooming in for a final close-up  
Sending the project to reviewers

### **Animating layers**

Simulating lighting changes  
Duplicating an animation using the pick whip  
Animating movement in the scenery  
Adjusting the layers and creating a track matte  
Animating the shadows  
Adding a lens flare effect  
Animating the clock  
Retiming the composition



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### **Working with masks**

- About masks
- Creating a mask with the Pen tool
- Editing a mask
- Feathering the edges of a mask
- Replacing the content of the mask
- Adding a reflection
- Creating a vignette
- Adjusting the colour

### **Distorting objects with THE PUPPET tools**

- About the Puppet tools
- Adding Deform pins
- Defining areas of overlap
- Stiffening an area
- Animating pin positions
- Recording animation

### **Keying**

- About keying
- Creating compositions in Device Central
- Changing the background colour
- Adding the foreground subject
- Using garbage masks
- Applying the Colour Difference Key effect
- Choking the matte
- Removing spill
- Adjusting contrast
- Adding the background animation
- Adding text
- Preparing the composition for mobile devices

### **Performing colour correction**

- Adjusting colour balance
- Replacing the background
- Removing unwanted elements
- Correcting a range of colours
- Warming colours with the Photo Filter effect

### **Rendering and outputting**

- Creating templates for the rendering process
- Creating templates for output modules
- Exporting to different output media