



CREATING CREDITS

1. INTRODUCTION

One thing you do need in order to give your video a professional look is credits. You should always end your film with some sort of credits stating who participated in the film, who made it, special thanks, song titles and so forth. In other words – how you want to end your film. You can of course add deleted scenes, fun clips – anything you like.

2. GETTING STARTED

All editing software comes with some sort of method of creating titles. Often the best (or easiest) solution is to use this feature. But there are other options – as Video Editing will show you in this tutorial. VE has used Pinnacle Studio 9 Plus, Adobe Premiere Pro and Magix Movie Edit Pro just to show you some of the different options – along with a short stop in Microsoft PowerPoint.

Before you start, you should think through how you want to do this and make a sketch with what you want your credits to contain. Preparations are always essential, as with credits.

3. SOLUTION 1 – Pinnacle Studio

As you can see from Fig. 1, VE has started a new project and simply opened the title editor and laid this on the title line. Double-click or right-click and select open, and you will be taken to Fig. 2. Here you can add text through the text editor letting you select font type, size, appearance and alignment along with other options.

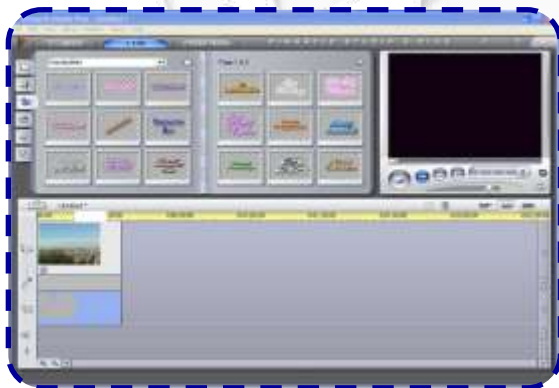


Fig. 1

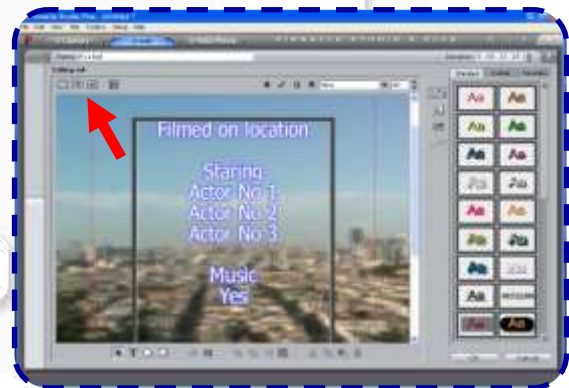


Fig. 2

The red arrow in Fig. 2 points where you set if your text is supposed to roll and which way. In the editor's opinion this feature is a little bit tricky to get right with Studio. You have to add some open lines beneath the last text and you have to place the text box correctly in the editor to have the text start and end off screen.

4. SOLUTION 2 – ADOBE PREMIERE

Adobe Premiere is outstanding software for video editing – included for creating credits.



Fig. 3



Fig. 4

As you can see from Fig. 3, VE has opened the project and inserted a new title. Choose your font, color shadings, type, alignment and all the other options Adobe gives you. After your text is prepared, there is one thing you want to do – and that is to set the starting and end point off the screen.

The red arrow in Fig. 4 points to where you set your text to crawl or roll and select the options for this. Start and end off screen being two of these.

One other option worth mentioning is that you can create titles using pictures. These pictures, containing your text, can be imported into most editing software depending on the format. Working with Adobe Premiere you can use Photoshop files directly for instance. Working with other software, you can always use jpg-format and gif.

In Fig. 5, VE has made the text using Microsoft PowerPoint and saved the slide as a jpg-picture. This picture is thereafter imported into the project as a picture and used to display the text. One point making this a less favorable solution is the background color among other things.

But it is possible. And in Fig. 6, the picture is set to start off screen and end off screen using the motion feature. VE still would prefer to use the normal title editor, but it's possible to do it this way as well.



Fig. 5

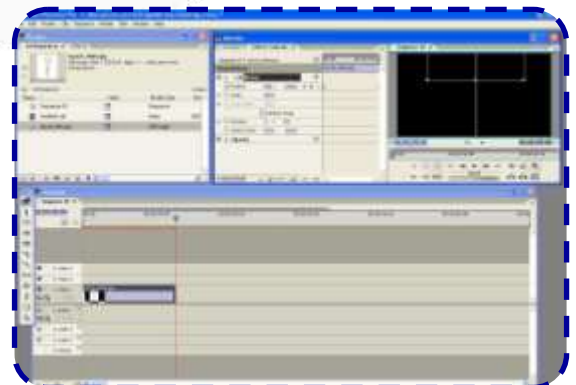


Fig. 6



5. SOLUTION 3 – MAGIX MOVIE EDIT PRO

Software not too familiar for the editor, Magix Movie Edit Pro offers some really superb options when it comes to creating credits. Magix has made the title function as a separate function along with other functions it offers. You simply click on the title and you are presented with a whole range of options – as you can see from Fig. 7.

Create your credits and set all the options you want. Choosing font along with everything else you can do. After you have made your title, you can of course export the credits as an avi-file (Fig. 8) if you please and import this into your other project if you just fancy the credit function within Magix and use another program for the other editing.

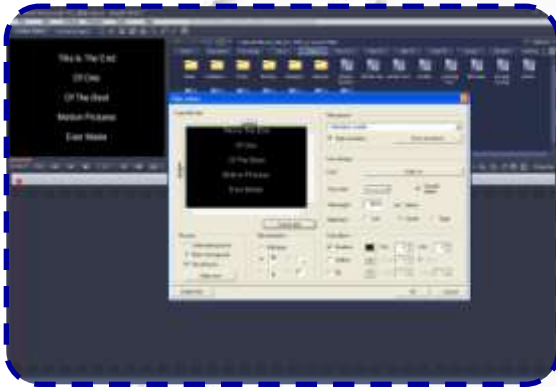


Fig. 7



Fig. 8

6. CROSS-USE OF TITLES

If you have a special program or technique for creating titles, you can of course use this and export the credits as an avi-file for example. This file can then be imported to your main project.

That is really a thing to consider in general. Cross-use of different software programs can make your movie better on the whole. Free try-outs or downgraded or older versions are often available as freeware.

7. CONCLUSION

Creating the credits is one thing that you do need to do in VE's opinion to have a proper ending to your film. And along the way you can show mistakes, deleted scenes or simply add some comments. Make your credits worth remembering and you have made success. ■■