

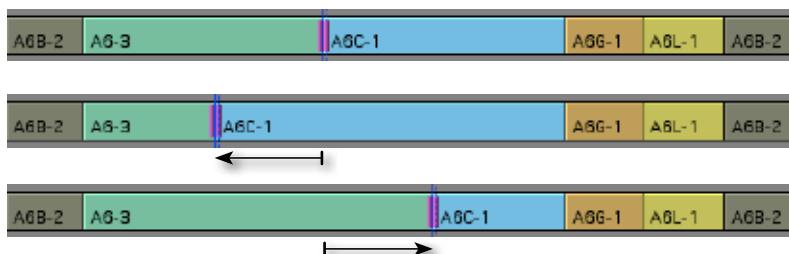
# 7

# Trim Mode

Media Composer arguably offers the deepest and most intuitive trim controls in any editing application, permitting you to quickly do things that would be impossible elsewhere. But perhaps because its capabilities are so unusual, many editors are barely aware of them. The trim model is based on what Avid calls trim rollers: handles that you apply to the ends of clips. You can add rollers wherever needed, and when you trim, all rollers move together to preserve sync. They can be adjusted using a wide variety of techniques, and crucially, you can observe the changes you make from the position of any roller.

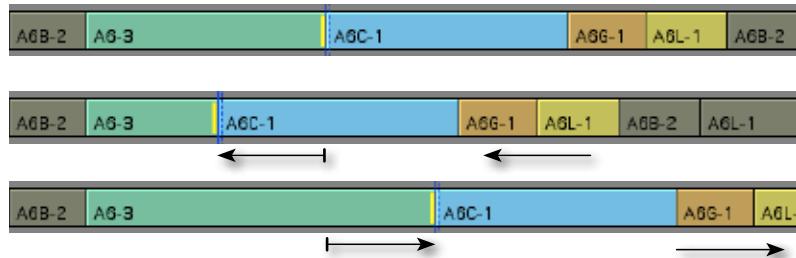
## Two Kinds of Trim Mode

You can now trim in two ways. If you have rollers on both sides of a cut they'll display in purple and behave as they always have, lengthening one clip and simultaneously shortening the other.

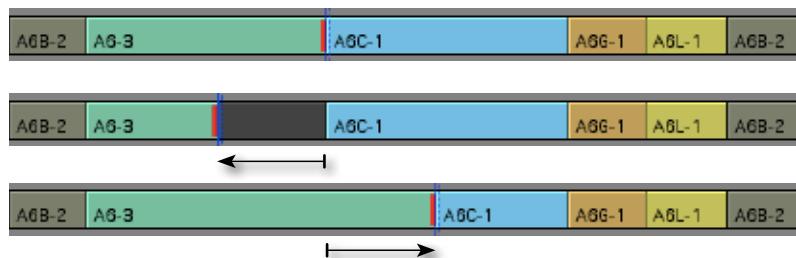


But with single rollers, you now have a choice. Ripple Trim (yellow) works by adding or deleting material to the clip you are working on, pushing downstream clips up or down,

as needed. This is the standard behavior that longtime Media Composer users have come to expect. The only difference is the color of the rollers.



Overwrite Trim (red) is new and works like red Segment Mode, changing the length of the clip you're working on and either overwriting adjacent clips or adding black. Downstream clips do not move.

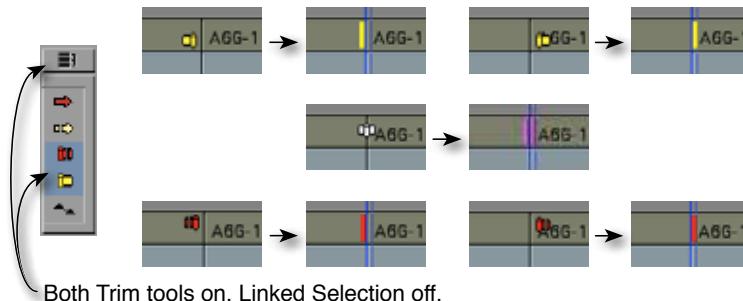


## Getting In and Out of Trim Mode

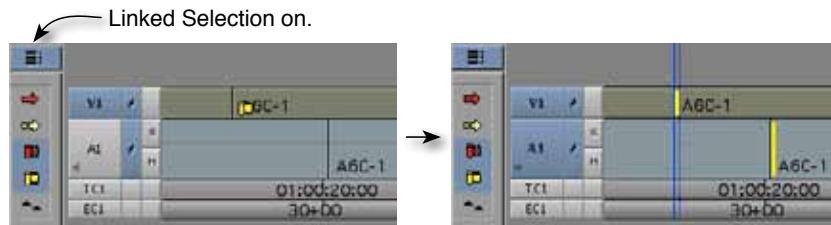
You now have three ways to enter Trim Mode: with a Trim Smart Tool, with the traditional Trim Mode button, or by lassoing.



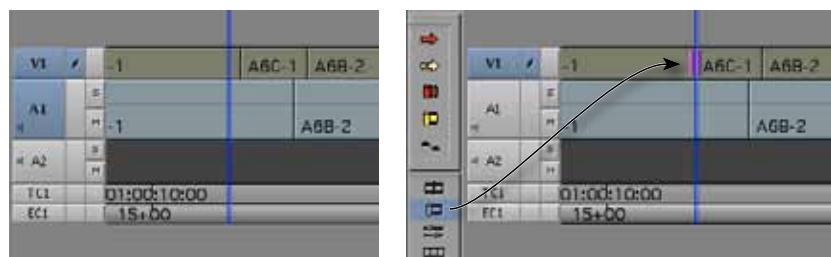
When clicking with the Smart Tool, your mouse cursor changes to tell you what kind of roller you'll create. As with the Segment Tools, if you turn both tools on, you'll see a red cursor when you're at the top of a cut and a yellow one when you're at the bottom. The cursor indicates which side of the cut you'll place rollers on. If your cursor is centered, you'll create rollers on both sides.



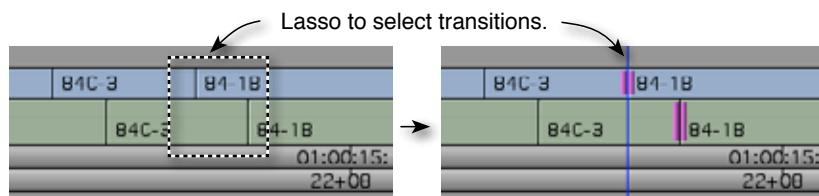
With Linked Selection turned on, you can select several transitions simultaneously. To turn it on temporarily, hold down the Option key when creating rollers.



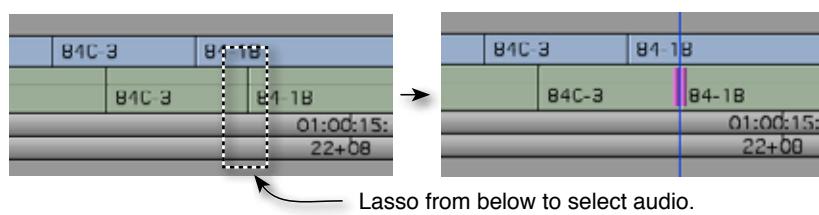
If you click the traditional Trim Mode button, you'll select the transition nearest to the position indicator, in any selected track.



But lassoing is arguably the most direct way to select multiple transitions in a single step. Simply click in the gray area above or below the timeline and drag around the transition or transitions you're interested in. Release the mouse and you're trimming, with rollers on the cuts you surrounded.

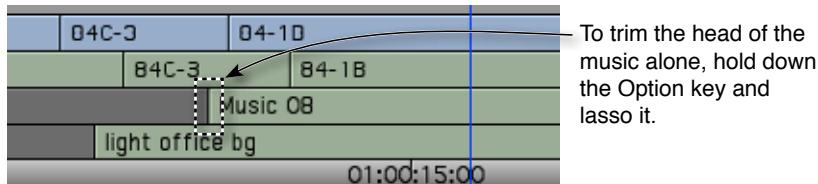


To select transitions near the bottom of the timeline, start dragging from the grey area below the timecode tracks.

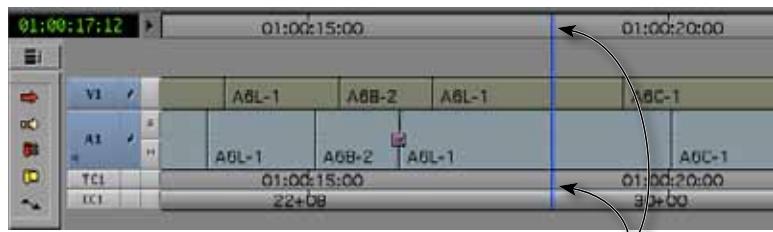


If you want to trim a clip that isn't available from the top or bottom of the timeline, hold down the Option key when lassoing (prior to Version 5, use Control). This allows you to

select any transition in any track.



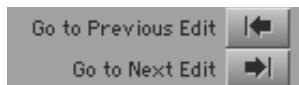
To get out of Trim Mode, click in one of the timecode tracks (such as EC1 or TC1). The position indicator will jump to the spot you clicked on, ready to play from there.



You can also hit the Source/Record Mode button at the left end of the timeline, the Step Forward button, or the right cursor arrow key. Any of these techniques will take you out of Trim Mode and put you on the first frame of the clip following the transition.

### Go to Next/Previous Edit

If you're working on a series of very short cuts, it can sometimes be difficult to lasso the transition you need. In that case, use the Go to Next Edit or Go to Previous Edit buttons. They'll take you to the next or previous cut and select it for trimming. Note that these buttons obey the track selectors. If you have more than one track selected they'll take you to the next or previous edit that occurs in both tracks (ie. a straight cut).



## Adding and Deleting Rollers

### In the Composer Window

You can trim the A side of the selected transition or transitions, the B side, or both simultaneously. (Avid calls the A side “outgoing,” and the B side, “incoming.”) To move all your rollers from one side of a cut to the other, simply single-click the video image you want to trim. If you want to trim both sides simultaneously, click in the middle portion of the screen, between the two images. The mouse cursor changes to show you which side of the trim you’ll select.