Overview of Adobe After Effects CS6 workspace

Adobe After Effects CS6 is the industry standard for motion graphics and visual effects. Its 2D and 3D compositing tools and huge collection of video effects help you create eye-catching animated text, exciting motion graphics, and sophisticated visual effects.

We recommend that you complete the guide titled “Overview of Adobe Premiere Pro CS6 workspace” before doing the tasks in this guide. The After Effects workspace has the same look and basic functionality as the Adobe Premiere Pro workspace.

The After Effects workspace (**Figure 1**) behaves the same as the workspace in Adobe Premiere Pro and the other Adobe digital video and audio applications. It uses frames and panels that you can adjust and move. You can place any number of panels within a single frame, close panels by clicking the X next to their name, and reopen them by selecting Window and then selecting the panel name.

After Effects works very closely with Adobe Premiere Pro. You can export an After Effects *composition* (a collection of layers akin to a sequence in Adobe Premiere Pro) as an Adobe Premiere Pro project, and you can import Adobe Premiere Pro projects for editing in After Effects. You can also copy and paste layers and assets between Adobe Premiere Pro and After Effects.

If you have Adobe Creative Suite 6 Production Premium installed, you can create or import After Effects compositions in Adobe Premiere Pro by using Dynamic Link. Dynamic Link allows changes made to a file in either application to appear in both, instantaneously, without rendering. To open a new After Effects project from within Adobe Premiere Pro, select File > Adobe Dynamic Link > New After Effects Composition. To open an existing Adobe Premiere Pro project while in After Effects, select File > Import > Adobe Premiere Pro Project.

There are some limitations: in particular, After Effects can not play Adobe Premiere Pro video transitions (except Cross Dissolve) and it does not import titles created with the Adobe Premiere Pro Titler.

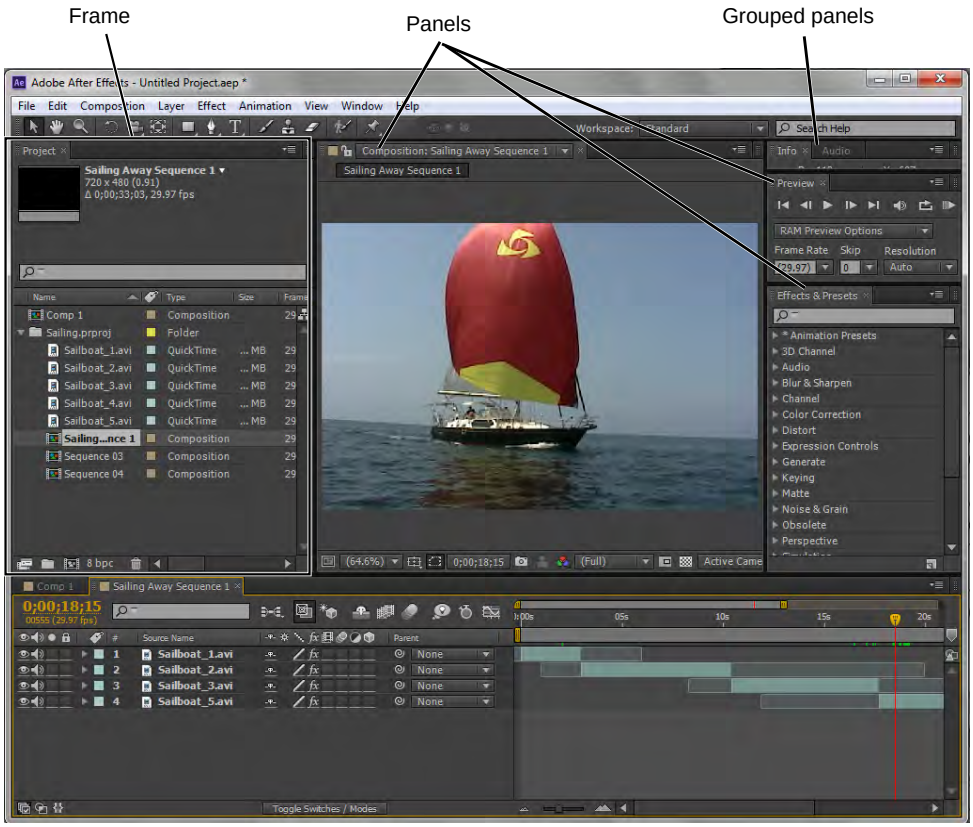

Figure 1 Adobe After Effects CS6 workspace