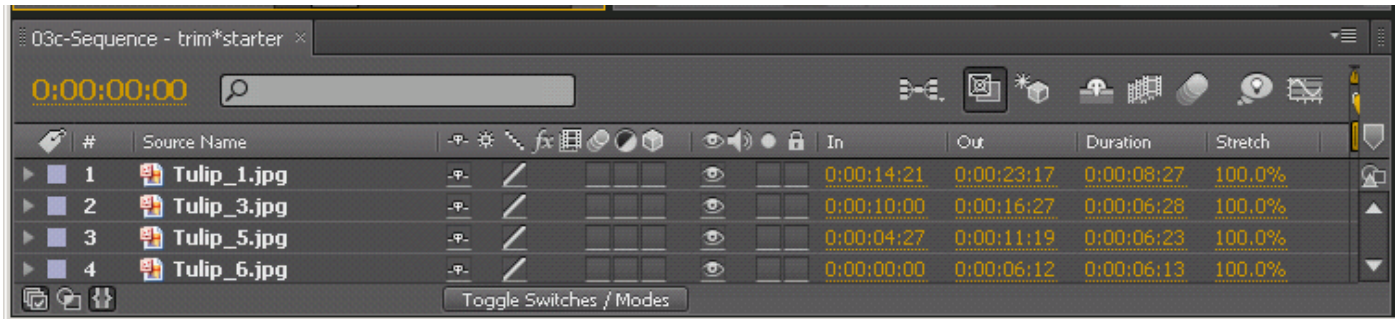
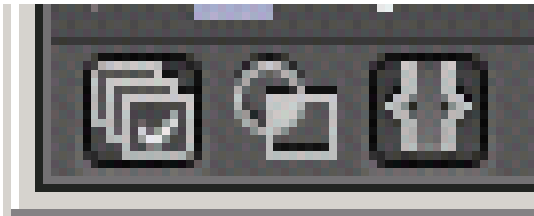


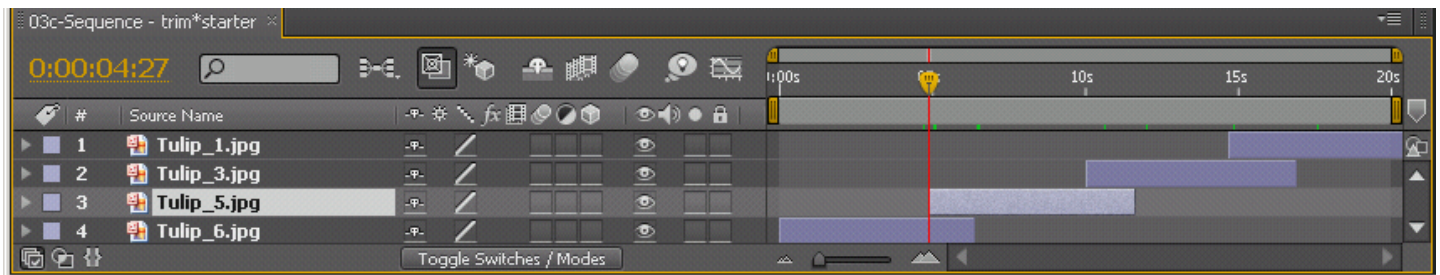
## Lesson 3—Layer Control – review of February 1<sup>st</sup> class



**Expand or Collapse the In/Out/Duration/Stretch panes** icon is the 3<sup>rd</sup> one from the bottom left hand corner above here. The icon looks like this { }, i.e. sort of looks like two curly braces. It is the 3<sup>rd</sup> or the last icon below here.



Notice that the above **IN** and **OUT** and **DURATION** and **STRETCH** columns are expanded. Here is what the same Timeline panel looks like when they are collapsed.

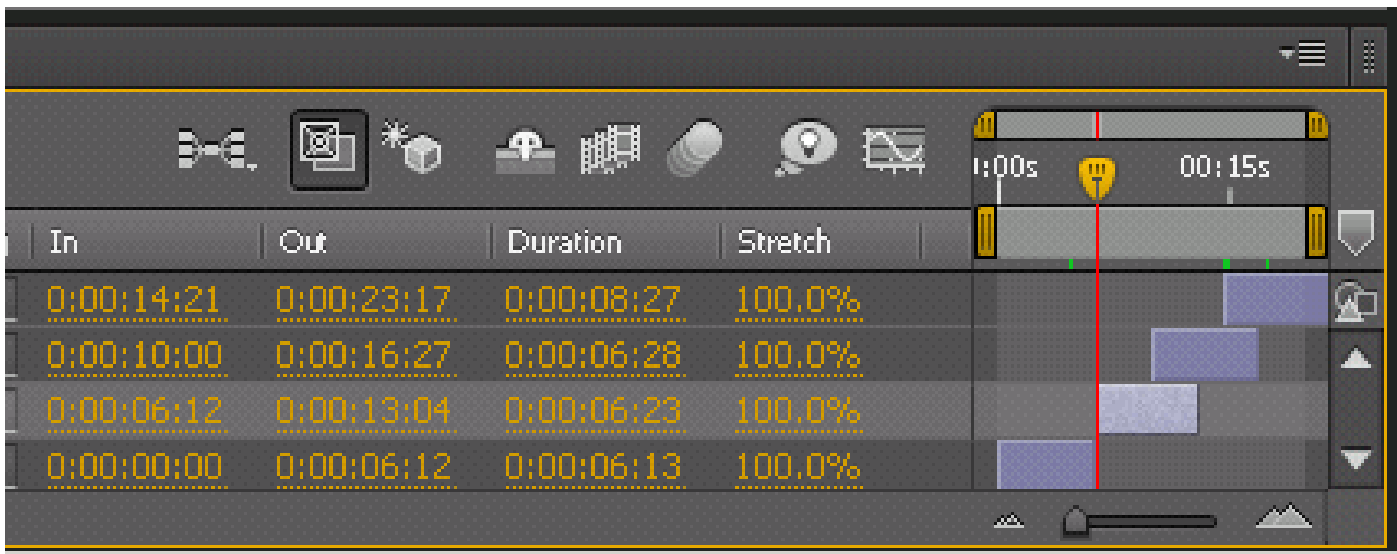
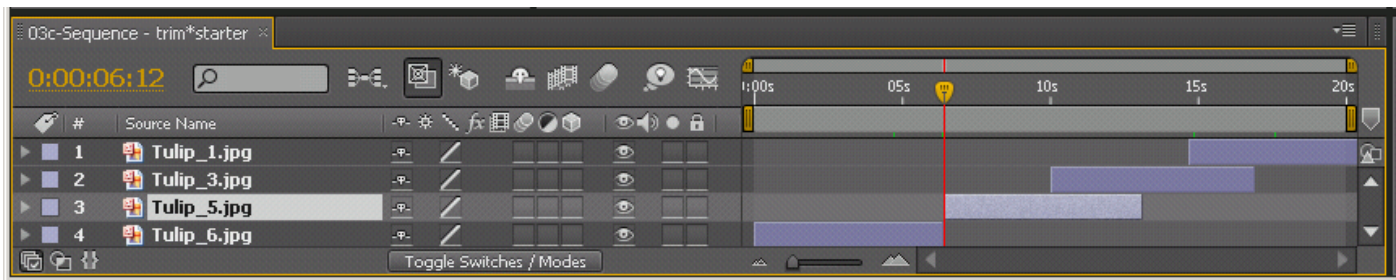


The **CTI** is exactly at Tulip\_5.jpg layer's **IN** point, which is 04:27, exactly 4 seconds and 27 frames into the entire composition. If you look in the above EXPANDED timeline in the **In** column, you will see the **0 : 00 : 04 : 27** is the **IN** and **0 : 00 : 11 : 19** is the **OUT** for Tulip\_5.jpg layer.

You should know that **I** moves the CTI to the active layer's **IN** point and **O** moves to the active layer's **OUT** point. Know and use and memorize **I** and **O**.

Here is what the timeline looks like after the following four steps:

1. Select the **Tulip\_6.jpg** layer.
2. Type **O** to move the **CTI** to the current **OUT** point of **Tulip\_6.jpg** layer. It is at **06:12** now.
3. Select the **Tulip\_5.jpg** layer.
4. Type **[** to move the existing **IN** point of the **Tulip\_5.jpg** layer to where the **CTI** is at.



As explained in Lesson 3–Layer Control chapter of the textbook After Effects Apprentice, there are two sets of time to be aware of when working with layers.

1. **Internal in and out points of the layer.** What portion of the layer is to be used in the comp? Some movie footage of a snowboarder, for example, might be exactly 2 minutes long. We might only want to use the 21 seconds starting at 0:00:50:00 and ending at 0:01:10:29 so the IN point and the OUT point would be at those points in the layer. The first 50 seconds (1,500 frames) would be trimmed off and would be “ghosted”. The last 50 seconds would also be TRIMMED and would appear as “ghosted” on the layer bar.
2. **External in and out points of the layer.** Where does this layer start and where does it stop in the COMP?

If the internal in point or the external outpoint is at the beginning of the entire layer that we are using, then that footage is NOT TRIMMED. You can tell by looking at the bar for a layer if it is NOT TRIMMED.

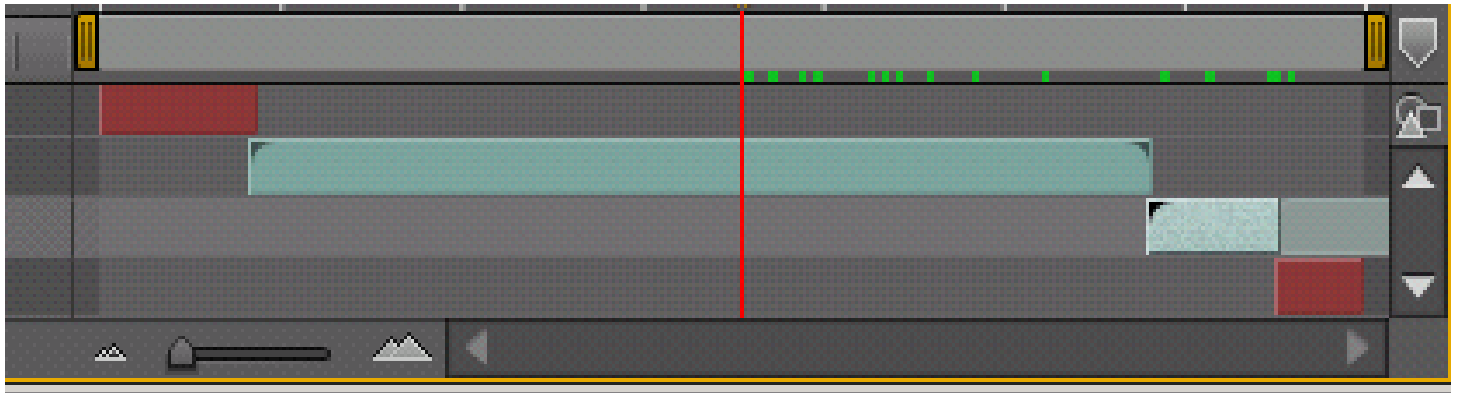


Know the **Alt + [** and **Alt + ]** shortcuts for **trimming** a layer’s **IN** and **OUT** point to where the **CTI** is currently at. You can also use those shortcuts to **UNTRIM** a layer.

Know the **[** and the **]** shortcuts for moving the **IN** point or the **OUT** point of the active layer to where the **CTI** is currently at in the timeline. **[** and **]**

Know that **B** and **E** are for **B**egin and for **e**nd and are used to set the **Time Navigator Start (B)** and **Time Navigator End (N)**. I use these all the time to see more detail on the timeline and/or to focus in on and RAM preview only a smaller portion of the entire COMP. For example, I might want to run the portion from 05:14 to 12:21 over and over again until I am satisfied with the keyframing and motions and easy ease settings, etc for that 7 seconds and 7 or 8 frames.

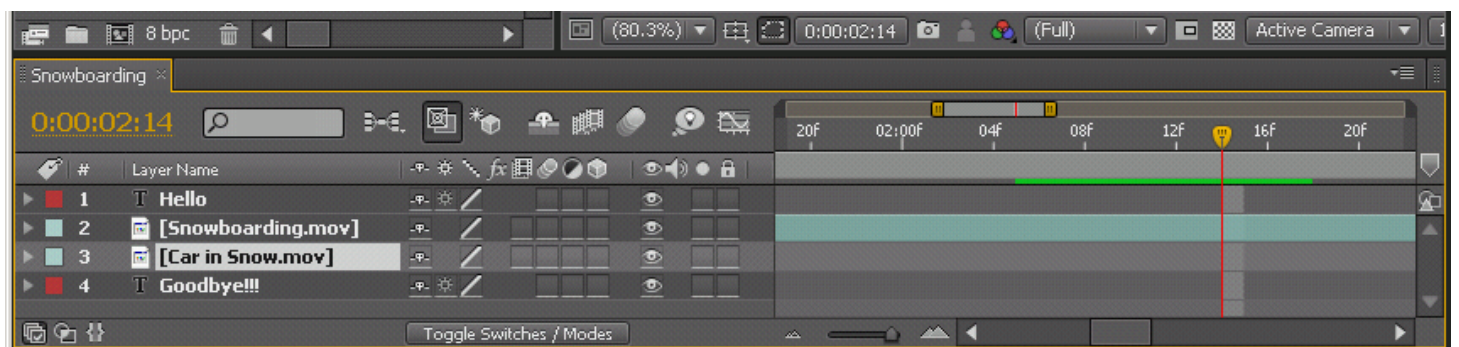
The **orange** colored icons at either end of the very top TIME RULER bar here indicate the TIME NAVIGATOR START and the TIME NAVIGATOR END are set to the entire length of the COMPosition. If either one or both **ORANGE** icons were moved in and the GRAY bar did not fill up the timeline area, double clicking on it is the fastest way to return the TIME RULER to start at 00:00 and to end at whatever the last frame of the entire comp is set at.



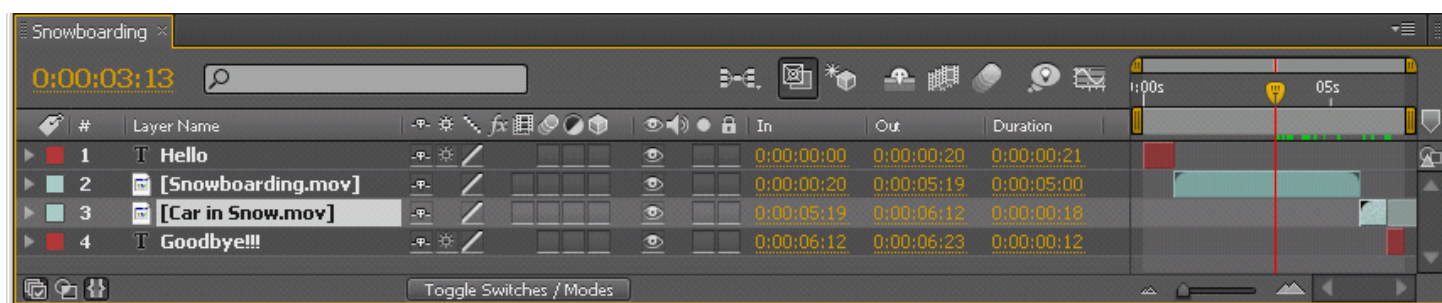
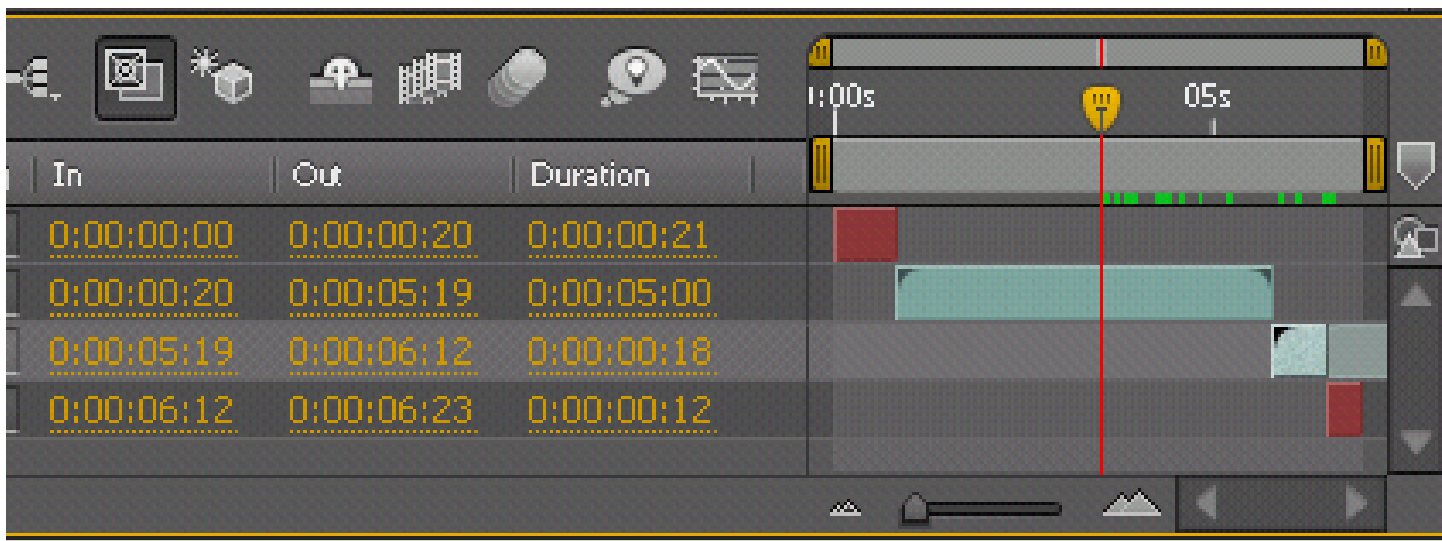
A **small black triangle** at the start of a layer bar indicates that is the beginning of the entire footage.

A **small black triangle** at the very end of the bar indicates that the layer is extended all the way to the very end of its footage. So, the Snowboarding.mov layer is going to show in its entirety. It has NOT been TRIMMED at all. The Car in Snow.mov layer, however, has been trimmed and will show only from the very beginning of the original footage until the TRIMMED OUT point. As you can see above, the bar after that is "GHOSTED", to indicate trimmed footage. The end of the un-ghosted, green part of the bar does NOT have a black triangle in the top corner.

The **small black triangles** are always in the upper left-hand corner and in the upper right-hand corner of the rectangular bar for a layer, if it is untrimmed. Some layers are static, so the Hello text layer and the Goodbye!!! text layers above do NOT have any limits. We can stretch them to be 100 minutes or shrink them to be only 5 frames. We will never see the small black triangle because TIME is NOT involved for that footage. *It can show for 1 frame or for 10,000 frames and you still see the entire thing.*



*The image above here shows what the TIME RULER BAR looks like when its set to only show a select portion of the entire TIMELINE. The CTI is currently at 02:14, in honor of Valentine's Day. Only the frames from 01:19 to 02:22 will play, if we RAM preview the animation here. That is only 1 second and 4 frames of action!*



[ ] Alt+[ Alt+] B N I O

**The big 8 to know for working with layers.** Memorize, know, understand, practice using them. See these letters or symbols when you look at the different GUI (Graphical User Interface) elements and icons in the Timeline panel.

Exactly what would happen below here if **I** was typed? **B**? **O**? **Alt+[**? Or just **]**?

