

# 45 - J and L Cuts

## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

cuts, clip, audio, scene, video clip, other words, extends, timeline, resolve, ambient sound, smooth, carries, starts, edit, play, shorten, awol, demonstrate, piece, making

Let's talk a little bit about j and l cuts. Now this might have been a term that you've heard before in editing. But it basically refers to the different ways that audio can be positioned and used in a scene to smooth a cut that is, essentially, in the most basic terms the function of it. So if we look here at my resolve interface, set up a nice little timeline that demonstrates this very, very nicely with these beautiful, colorful little clips in resolve. Let's have a look at this first one. So this is what we would call an L cut. And then the name comes from sort of the shape that the video clip and the audio makes. You can see here, this looks kind of like very wonky L, very thick L, you know, you've got a video clip at the top here that is shorter, and then a leg almost you could consider it a leg stick a piece of audio, an audio clip that extends underneath the next clip that follows. In other words, this dialogue of me speaking, runs all the way about under this clip. In other words, it's like it's like an introduction in a way that's kind of what's what l cuts are used for. In other words, this piece of video has finished here. And we've now gone into our next clip, whether that's another AWOL clip, a B, roll clip, something like that. But the dialogue, the audio, the music, the ambient sound has continued into our next, our next video clip, you could also imagine it if it was scenes of a movie, sometimes this is used to kind of bring the sort of sentiment or the tone from the previous scene into the next scene. If we imagine that these are two separate scenes, you know, my, my voice is carrying over into the next scene. So that's an old cut can be made very simply by just shortening your video clip, and making sure that the audio extends underneath into the next scene or underneath into the next clip the next video clip on the timeline. Let's go over to the end here. So this is the opposite. This is a j cut again, because of the the sort of shape that it has, it's making a little tail over here. And again, let's play through this here. And you can see my audio starts and then I appear on screen. Again, basic function of this is to smooth a cut. Because otherwise, if we didn't have this, let's actually just demonstrate that real quickly, or shorten that and just played through here. jumps in, it's quite harsh, you know, because we already have a big change between these two clips, we're in this sort of beautiful little edit piece and then suddenly my face is on the screen. So what this effectively does is it smooths the transition between the two. In other words, it starts introducing audio from your following video, a couple your following scene, whatever it is into the previous scene or the previous video clip, in other words, gradual introduction and bam, then we have a change of scene change of clip. So that's j and l cuts can be made very simply by just either making sure that your audio extends in an L cuts case underneath the next clip that starts on your timeline. In other words, it carries through into the next clip before fading out or cutting at an appropriate point. Or in the case of a j cuts. You make sure that your audio starts before you're the video clip that it is associated with or the scene that it's associated with. And you can do this just literally by using your you know your trim tools, your blade tools, making sure that it extends like that, Dan Oh cuts nice and simple.