



SUGARfx

**Drop In Studio
User Manual**

Installation

In order to use SUGARfx with Final Cut Studio or Final Cut Express, you need to download and install the Free FxFactory plug-in from Noise Industries.

FxFactory is the host plug-in that makes SUGARfx available to the applications, so you need to first download FxFactory from the Noise Industries web site.

- FxFactory is a free download and the web site address is:

<http://noiseindustries.com/products/fxfactory/download/index.html>

- Install and follow the prompts during installation.

Installing SUGARfx

You should have received the code and information via email, and downloaded the SUGARfx pack on your computer.

If you successfully installed FxFactory, then the icon of the SUGARfx should look just like a square brown box shown here.

- Double click and it should automatically be moved to its correct place and ready to be used with your applications.

For more information on FxFactory, please read the instructions and/or the help file that came with it, or visit their support page on their web site (www.noiseindustries.com).



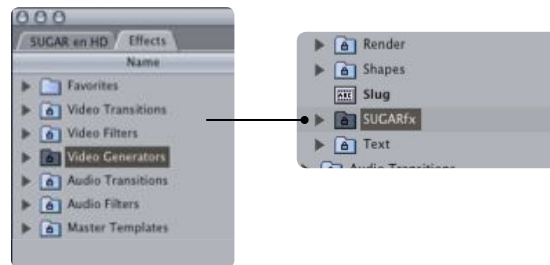
Using Drop In

Open Final Cut Pro or Final Cut Express and browse to the Effects Tab.

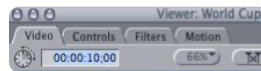
The screen shots shown on this manual are from Final Cut Pro but there should be no difference in the functionality of the SUGARfx plug-in even if you use Final Cut Express.

Open Final Cut Pro / Express

The Drop In theme is a Generator, so you should be able to find it in the Effects tab under the Generators folder. Inside here you should look for the folder containing the plug-in with its corresponding name.



- Click and drag the Drop In Video Generator to the time line, and then double-click it to be able to see it on the Viewer window.
- Double click on the time code numbers under the Video tab to highlight it, and then type the duration of your element as you want it to be on the time line.



- Next, click on the Controls tab to access the control parameters of the plug-in.

Pay close attention to the SUGARfx logo inside the plug-in interface. It should identify itself if it is an LC or STUDIO version of the plug-in.

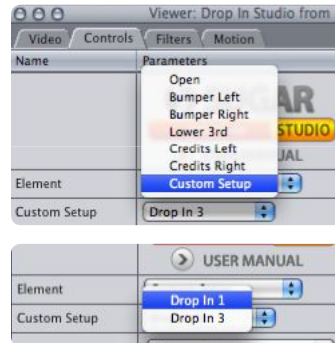


Please visit our web site for detailed information and a comparison chart.

Control Parameters

- **Element** : Start by selecting the element that you want to use (see the section **Elements** for more information).

When the **Custom Setup** element is selected, an additional **Custom Setup menu** will appear underneath that allows you to select the Custom Setup **Drop In 1** or **Drop In 3**



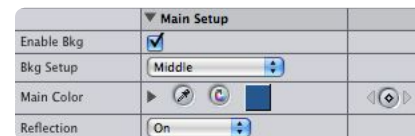
- **Presets** : If you would like to use a Preset, you can do that with the pull down menu, or else skip it and do the setups yourself.

Here is where you can save your own Presets after customizing the look and setups you use the most. - It is a good idea to start selecting a predefined Preset if it resembles the style that you are looking for, instead of starting to tweak it from scratch.

- **Duration** : Set the Duration to the same number you entered in the Video window, so it matches the length of the element in the time line.

The maximum number you can use here is 60

Main Setup



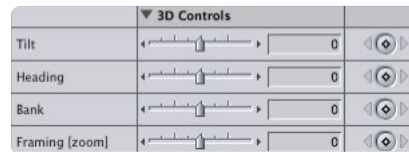
In this section you can change the overall color palette, the background color configuration and disable the reflected video zones.

- **Enable Color** : As a default, this setting is enabled so you can change the background settings and color. If you disable this button, you will be able to use every single element as a keyable element on top of video footage or your own background.

The Bkg Setup and Main Color will not be available if the Enable Bkg button is turned off.

- **Bkg Setup** : Provides three options to colorize your background (Dark, Middle and Color).
- **Main Color** : As its name implies, this is to change the predominant color of the background.
- **Reflection** : The video placeholders reflect their contents on the ground, so this button will allow these reflections to be turned On or Off. – This is extremely useful when using your element as a keyable and on top of your own light color backgrounds.

3D Controls



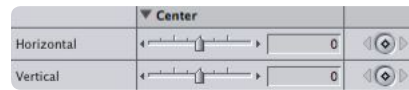
Although this theme is already moving in 3d space, it is possible to aggregate a minimal adjustment on top of the existing moves by using these parameters.

Use these settings to frame your visuals or enhance the overall animation, and keep in mind that all of these controls are keyframeable.

- **Tilt** : Control the inclination of the theme towards the front or backwards.
- **Heading** : In 3d terminology, the heading is when you pivot the camera to the left or the right.
- **Bank** : Another 3d term that means tilting sideways.
- **Framing [zoom]** : Moves the camera in 3d space in the Z axis, therefore creating the effect of zooming in or out to obtain a better framing of the view.

When one of the **Custom Setup** elements is selected, these settings go beyond the standard limits and can create very customized and unique moves, so please be aware that some extreme perspectives may cause some of the elements to disappear from view or pop up unexpected due to what is known as camera clipping. If that happens to your animation, lower or change the value of the settings causing the clipping or edit your animation to avoid that problem.

Center



These two controls allow you to move the center point of the whole theme (from the camera's p.o.v.) to arrange the framing of your visuals.

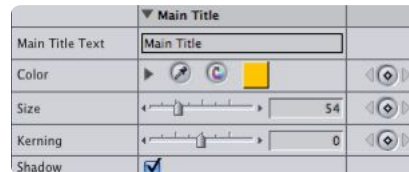
The horizontal and vertical controls have been provided as independent parameters to take advantage of a better keyframing capability inside the Final Cut applications.

Just move the sliders for the corresponding move that you want to make either Horizontal or Vertical. If you need to reset the center to its original default location, adjust the sliders to be located in the middle until they read 0 (zero) in both information boxes.

Font

This is a self explanatory control where you can select the overall font and weight for the main title.

Main Title

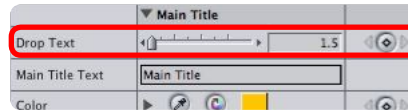


The main contains several settings that will adjust the text title of your project.

- **Main Title Text** : Type the text as you would like it to appear for the main title here.
- **Color** : Change the color of the text (only changes the color of the text face).
- **Size** : Controls the size of the text on screen.
- **Kerning** : Adjust the distance or separation between the letters.
- **Shadow** : This button control whether you want to have a shadow behind the text or not. In some instances it may be completely necessary to have the shadow, therefore we have left the button enabled as a default.

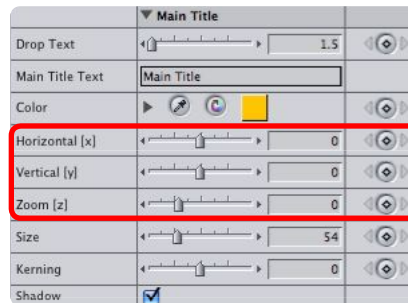
Main Title [Additional controls available only when Custom Setup is selected].

- **Drop Text** : This control becomes available only when the **Custom Setup** has been selected. By entering a number of seconds (in decimal form), you can determine the time when you want to start dropping the title text.



The animated drop takes about 1 (one) second to complete, so if you want the text to be on the virtual floor at 3 (three) seconds, then you should type 2 (two) in the Drop Text control.

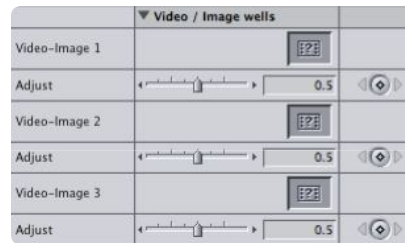
- **Horizontal [x]** : The position in the X axis can be controlled when using this parameter. This will allow you to make long moves on the text in a horizontal fashion.
- **Vertical [y]** : The position in the Y axis is controlled when using this parameter.
- **Zoom [z]** : The text title can be positioned or animated in the Z axis when using this control. There is a limitation on how far back the text will be allowed to go, so it does not collide with the farthest of the video placeholders.



- **Shadow** : Toggle switch to turn Off the shadow behind the text. The default setting is with the shadow turned On for better readability on all kinds of situations.



Video / Image wells



- **Video-Image 1 (2 and 3)** : Place your video or still images here. The numbers correspond to the numbers of the video placeholders shown on the Canvas window.

There might be times when the Video / Image wells are available on the interface but not on the element you have selected. This is not a plug-in error but a technical limitation that doesn't allow to hide the unused wells on certain situations.

- **Adjust** : This will adjust the position of the image or video inside the video window if there is room to move. The adjustment will only move the image if the proportions of the video differ from the proportions of the placeholder. - In other words, if you place a 16x9 video footage on a 4x3 placeholder, the video will get cropped on the sides, but you will be able to adjust its horizontal position since the 16x9 is a longer proportion than the 4x3.
- **Drop #1 (#2 and #3)** : This control becomes available only when the **Custom Setup** has been selected. By entering a number of seconds (in decimal form), you can determine the time when you want to start the animation of dropping the selected video placeholder.



The animated drop takes about 1 (one) second to complete, so if you want the image well to be on the virtual floor at 5.0 seconds, then you should type 4 (four) in the Drop Text control.

Correct for Aspect Ratio

By having this button enabled you will be sure that the theme will adjust itself to whatever sequence settings or aspect ratios you are working on.



Elements

The SUGARfx themes are well known for the variety of friendly elements they provide, easily accessible as a point-and-click selection.

You can access the available elements by click and holding the pop-up menu **Elements** in the interface.



The following are the elements contained in the SUGARfx Drop In theme as of the date and time of the creation of this manual. Also, the selection of elements may vary depending on the version of the plug-in that you have installed in your system, either the LC or the STUDIO versions.

Open



The Open graphic has 3 video/image wells and is more elaborate in the animation. Use this element

as its name implies to Open your show or presentation with a graphic that can help you make a firm statement. Drop In Open will achieve the assurance of your message.

Bumper Left



Bumper Right



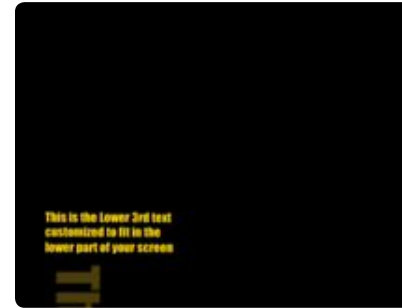
The purpose of a bumper is to break the production in segments or to provide a short title to move from one section to another. The bumpers are widely used in television shows or news channels when they go from the show to commercials or from commercial into the show.

Lower 3rd (also known as identifier)

This is probably one of the most used elements in the broadcast television industry, and as its name implies it is usually located in the lower third section of the screen to serve the purpose of identification, however the designs of modern Lower 3rds have changed throughout the years and you can find

designs that have nothing to do with the lower part of the screen. Drop In is one of those designs that takes advantage of new creative forms to identify your video footage without the limitation of being at the lower third section of your screen.

But of course, you can customize your Lower third element so it falls in the lower third of your screen.



Credits Left and Credits Right



Credits are used to provide information about the production or direction or sponsorship of a program, and these credits do exactly that and continuing with the feeling of the drop In theme.

The STUDIO version has the capability of turning Off the background, therefore these credits can also be used as keyable elements that may be composited on top of your own video footage or background, making them even more useful and repurpose them even for a different version of lower thirds.

Keyable : The technical definition of a **Key** is when you have graphics or text that can be used on top of other elements. The Key is also referred as an **Alpha channel** which has information about the opacity of the element. A keyable element shows through and when professional editors use these type of elements, they can even use a technique where they can place video footage inside or outside the text by reversing the Alpha channel with the application.

Custom Setup

When Custom Setup is selected, the Custom Setup pop-up menu appears underneath presenting a couple of options ready to be animated and customized by the user.

These two customizing options are **Drop In 1** and **Drop In 3**.

Drop In 1



As its name implies, this element provides one video placeholder and one Main Title that can be animated and customized to the point that you can decide when the drop of the video or the text will happen. It features a full 360° rotation in the Heading direction as well as zooming back and forth of the whole scene and the text itself.

Drop In 3



Same as the Drop In 1 but with a 3 video placeholders and one Main Title text.

Presets

The presets expand your theme even further, specially when you can create your own styles and save them for later use.

The SUGARfx Drop In includes pre-planned presets that can be accessed via the provided pop-up menu.



It is a good idea to begin your own customizing by selecting one of the included presets and use it as a starting point. Here are the color styles of the included presets.





When you start using the Custom Setup you will notice that there are many possibilities that you can obtain by tweaking the parameters to fit the look and animation style you are looking for, so have fun and start making your own, and remember that you can share the presets with other users or other computers as long as they have the LC or STUDIO versions installed in their system.

The LC and STUDIO version presets are interchangeable, although some features that are only available in the STUDIO version will not show up in the LC version.

Support

Every SUGARfx theme or plug-in that you purchase comes with free technical support by sending all your questions via email to our Support Team.

Our Technical support team is available to answer your questions via email and should respond within 24 hours or less from the time the email was received.

Things to know before contacting Technical Support

Please visit our web site (<http://www.sugarqc.com>) for possible answers to your technical support issues, or visit our tutorial site (<http://www.ilearnfast.com>) where you may also find a tutorial that will help you find the answer to your question before you contact our Support team.

If you cannot find the answer you need, please send us an email to : support@sugarqc.com with the following information:

- Name and version of the SUGARfx theme.
- The version of the FxFactory.
- Your system configuration (Mac OS X version, RAM and whatever else you may think to be helpful)
- The application name and version with which you are having the problem.
- Screen shots of the problem (whenever possible).
- Details and any other information you may think appropriate to describe the problem.

Feedback

The success of our products depend vastly on customer requests and feedback.

We welcome all kinds of e-mails that provide useful information on how to improve our products, so we encourage you, as a user of these products, to send us your feedback or comments to our support team.