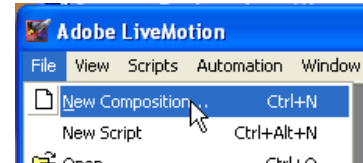


# Summer Project

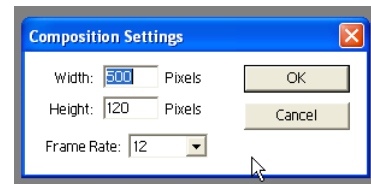
We are going to make a short LiveMotion movie. We will celebrate one of the best parts of teaching.



Open LiveMotion and begin a new composition.



You will need to fill in the settings in the composition window that appears. For this project, designate a width of 500 and a height of 120 pixels.



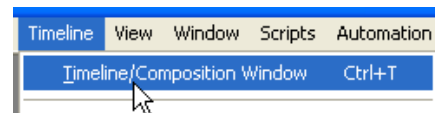
**Save the movie as summer.**

Using the draw tools, we are going to create a background.

For a realistic touch, I drew a green rectangle for grass and a blue one for the sky.

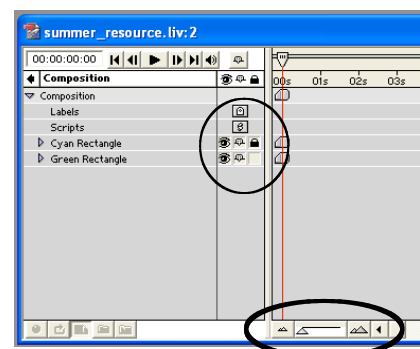


So far, our movie is static. However, since we want to make some changes, now is a good time to **show** the **timeline/composition window** which is located in the timeline menu.

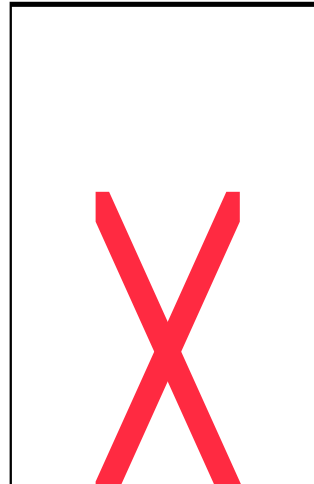


The timeline will appear at the bottom of the screen. For this project, the triangle in the bottom of the timeline should be moved all the way to the left.

Notice that the timeline shows the cyan (blue) and the green rectangles. Take the time to **lock** the sky and grass in position by clicking on the third square to the right of the object in the timeline.

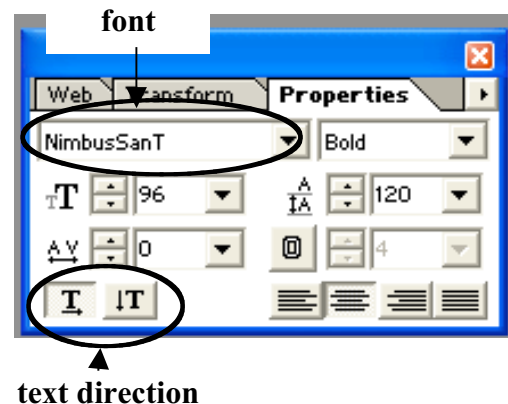


In the toolbar, select the **text tool**.



In the **properties panel**, select any font properties you want.

Place the cursor over the sky (blue rectangle) and click. The cursor changes to an **I**.

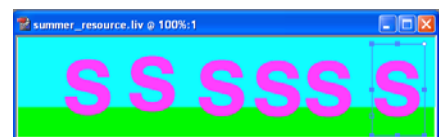


Type in the letter **S**. Make sure the font is not the same color as the rectangle or you will not be able to see it.



Copy paste the mouse 6 times to create several S's.

Next we will highlight the new s's and change them into letters that spell summer.

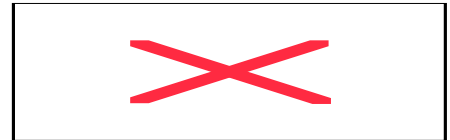


This is also a good time to change the colors of the letters.

For this project, I like using a rainbow assortment.

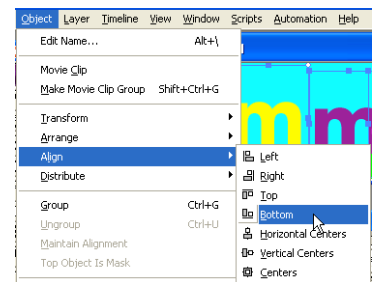


Select all of the letters holding the [shift] key down and clicking on the letters.

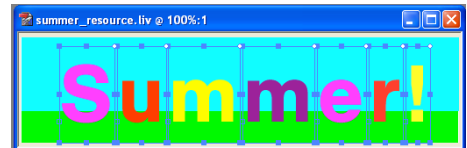


Once the handles are showing on all of the letters, select **object > align > bottom** to arrange the letters.

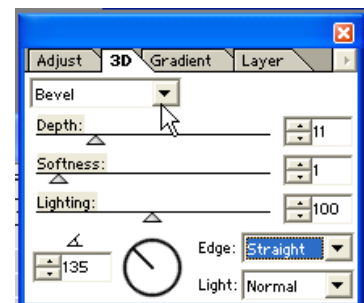
Use the arrow keys on the keyboard to adjust the letters to where you think they look the best.



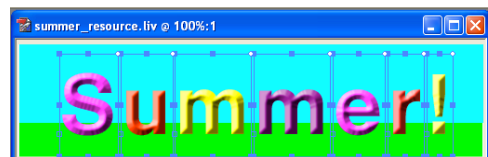
With the handles still showing, select **object > distribute > horizontal** so that the letters are evenly spaced across the LiveMotion stage.



Using the **3D** window, add effects to the letters. In my movie, I chose to add a bevel effect.



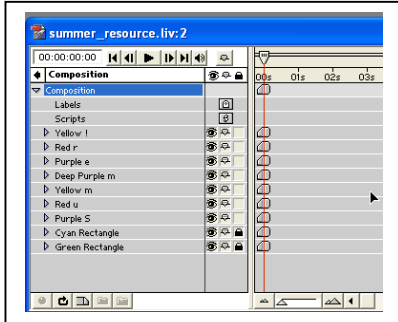
This gives my letters a puffy, pillowlike effect.



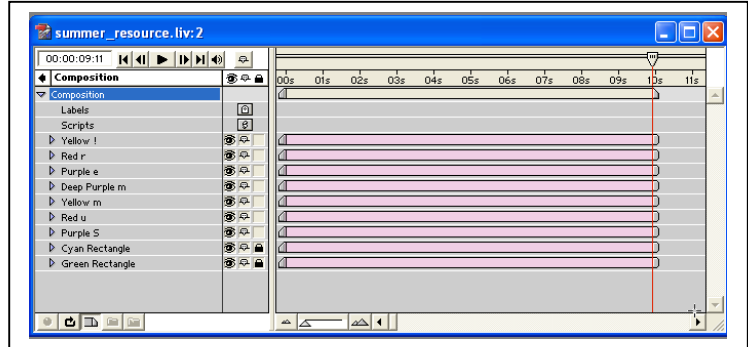
## Adding Frames

With the handles still showing on the letters, drag the timeline to the 10 second mark.

**Before**



**After**

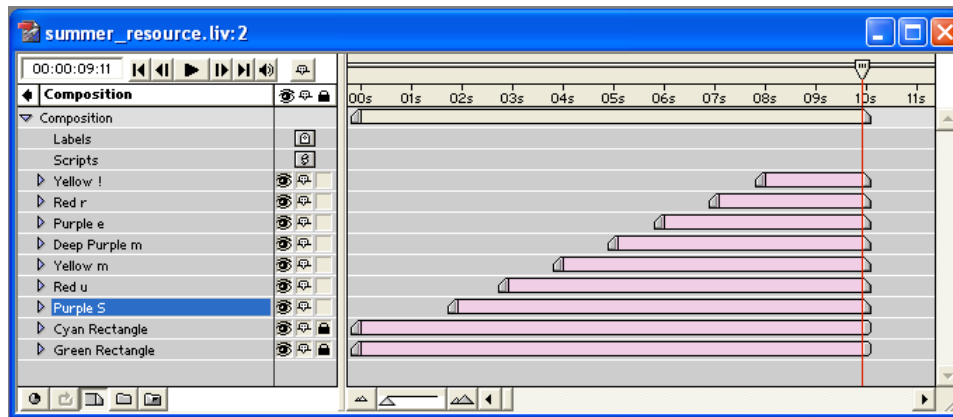


What I like about this type of LiveMotion movie is that we can work backwards from the end of the movie to the start.

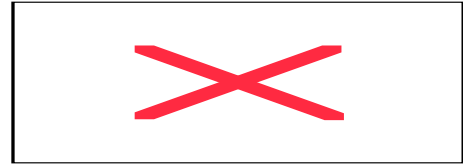
Since the exclamation point is the last character to appear, drag the marker for the **exclamation point** from the **0 second** to the **8 second** mark.

- Next drag the letter **r** to the **7 second** mark.
- ... drag the letter **e** to the **6 second** mark.
- ... drag the second **m** to the **5 second** mark.
- ... drag the first **m** to the **4 second** mark.
- ... drag the letter **u** to the **3 second** mark.
- ... drag the letter **S** to the **2 second** mark.

The timeline should look like the one below.

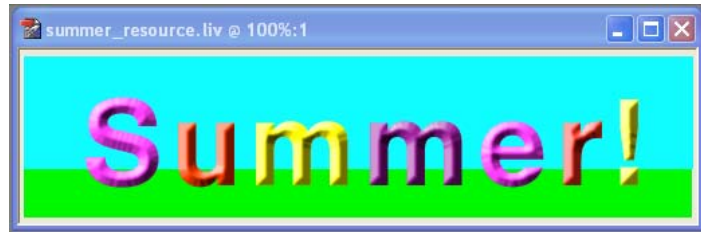


To play the movie, click on the **play** button in the timeline/composition window. (You may need to rewind the movie before it plays.)



Hopefully, you are having great luck spelling summer and, better yet, that you will be enjoying it soon.

**Save the summer movie.**



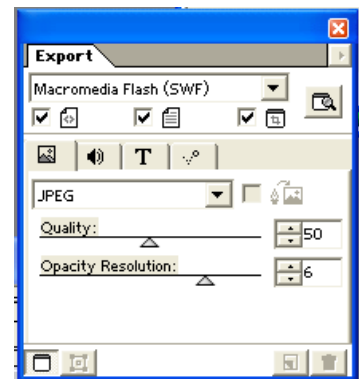
### Exporting the LiveMotion File

To play a LiveMotion movie in a web page, it must first be converted to a shockwave file. To do this, you must first choose what settings you want for the movie. Select **file > export settings**.

Select **macromedia flash**.

You can decide whether or not to leave the boxes checked.

- The first box creates an HTML web page to hold the movie.
- The second box creates a report about the movie's file size and download time.
- The third box crops the movie so that no unplanned for background is showing.



Finally, you are ready to export. Select **file > export**. Since the exported file uses a different extension (.swf), you can use the same file name. This convenience helps me to remember the title of the movie. And that's good since I also have to remember where I placed the file.