

# Table of Contents

<b>Chapter 1 ■ Getting Started with After Effects CS5</b>		<b>1</b>
Exploring the New and Improved Features.....		2
Understanding System Requirements.....		3
Understanding Motion Graphics .....		4
Digital Video .....		4
Resolution and Transparency .....		5
Launching the After Effects CS5 Application.....		5
Exploring the After Effects CS5 Application Window.....		7
The Tools Panel.....		8
The Project Panel .....		9
The Composition Panel.....		9
The Timeline Panel.....		10
Understanding the Workspace.....		10
Customizing a Workspace.....		11
Saving a Custom Workspace.....		13
Changing the Default Undo-Level.....		14
Enabling the Auto-Save Feature .....		16
Creating a New Project.....		17
Working with Compositions .....		19
Creating a New Composition.....		21
Importing Photoshop/Illustrator File as a Composition.....		24
Saving a Project .....		28
Quitting After Effects CS5.....		29
Summary .....		30
<b>Chapter 2 ■ Working with Media Files</b>		<b>31</b>
Overviewing Projects, Compositions, and Layers.....		32
Using the Project Panel.....		33
Creating Folders and Subfolders .....		33
Importing Media Files.....		37
Importing Image Sequences .....		40

Renaming Media Files.....	43
Locating Missing Files.....	44
Previewing Media Files.....	47
Previewing Still Images.....	47
Previewing a Video Footage.....	49
Previewing an Audio File.....	51
Trimming a Video Clip.....	53
Looping an Audio or Video Clip.....	57
Summary.....	60

## **Chapter 3 ■ Drawing and Painting in After Effects CS5** **61**

Working with Shape Tools.....	62
Exploring Various Shape Tools.....	63
Exploring Shape Tool Settings.....	64
Drawing a Parametric Shape.....	66
Creating a Shape using Pen Tool.....	70
Editing a Shape.....	73
Using Path Operations.....	77
Using the Repeater Path Operation.....	78
Using the Zig Zag Path Operation.....	81
Working with Paint Tools.....	84
Creating Brush Strokes using Paint Tools.....	84
Animating a Brush Stroke.....	86
Using Eraser Tool.....	88
Using Clone Stamp Tool.....	90
Summary.....	92

## **Chapter 4 ■ Working with Layers and Animation** **93**

Working with Layers.....	94
Adding a Composition or Footage into the Timeline Panel.....	96
Creating New Layers.....	99
Modifying the Layer Stacking Order.....	102
Working with Layer Switches.....	104

Working with Layer Properties.....	111
Setting a Layer Property .....	112
Applying Blending Modes .....	115
Applying Layer Styles.....	118
Working with Animations .....	122
Adding Keyframes .....	122
Editing a Keyframe Value .....	124
Copying and Pasting Keyframes .....	126
Animating Layer Transformation.....	129
Working with Motion Path.....	131
Working with 3D Layers.....	134
Converting a 2D Layer into a 3D Layer.....	136
Animating a 3D Layer.....	137
Working with a Null Object .....	140
Summary.....	144

<b>Chapter 5 ■ Working with Masks, Track Mattes, and Chroma Keys</b>	<b>145</b>
--	------------

Working with Masks .....	146
Creating a Mask with the Shape Tools .....	148
Creating a Mask using Pen Tool.....	150
Editing a Mask .....	153
Animating a Mask .....	163
Working with Track Mattes.....	168
Creating a Chroma Key.....	171
Creating a Garbage Matte.....	171
Creating a Chroma Key .....	173
Refining the Matte .....	177
Using Color Correction .....	181
Summary.....	184

<b>Chapter 6 ■ Working with Text</b>	<b>185</b>
--------------------------------------	------------

Working with Text in After Effects CS5.....	186
Creating Text using Type Tools.....	187
Formatting the Text.....	191



Creating Outlines from Text.....	195
Creating Mask from Text.....	198
Creating Text on Path.....	201
Animating Text.....	203
Animating Text using a Text Animation Preset .....	204
Creating Custom Text Animation .....	208
Working with 3D Text.....	215
Summary.....	222

## **Chapter 7 ■ Working with Effects and Animation Presets** 223

Using the Effects & Presets Panel .....	224
Using the Effect Controls Panel .....	227
Applying Effects.....	228
Locating Effects in the Effects & Presets Panel .....	228
Applying an Effect on a Solid Layer .....	231
Applying Effects on a Mask .....	233
Animating Effects.....	236
Applying an Animation Preset .....	241
Saving an Animation Preset .....	245
Summary.....	248

## **Chapter 8 ■ Working with Audio, Lights, and Cameras** 249

Working with Audio .....	250
Importing and Adding Audio Files to the Timeline Panel.....	251
Trimming an Audio.....	255
Looping an Audio using the Time Remapping Feature .....	258
Applying Audio Effects .....	261
Working with Lights.....	265
Adding a Light.....	265
Modifying Light Settings.....	269
Working with Cameras .....	271
Adding and Manipulating a Camera.....	272
Animating Properties of a Camera.....	276
Summary.....	278

<b>Chapter 9 ■ Rendering and Exporting</b>	<b>279</b>
Working with the Render Queue Panel .....	280
Rendering a Composition.....	282
Customizing Render Settings.....	284
Rendering an Individual Frame.....	287
Duplicating a Render Item .....	290
Trimming and Cropping Compositions .....	292
Exporting a Project File .....	298
Exploring File Formats .....	301
Exporting a Composition for Web .....	302
Summary .....	306