

Green Screen Tips, Tricks and Materials—Chromakey Tutorial (Video Recap)

Source-- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M_WdLkaOUic

Common Green Screen Problems

- Harsh shadows
- Hot spots
- Poor lighting
- Reflections
- Green clothing
- Shiny things like glasses

Professional Green Screen Set Up

- Soft screen
- Professional lighting
 - subject should stand 5-7 feet from backdrop
 - light talent and backdrop separately
 - prevent “green spill” (green halo when screen is keyed out)
 - three point lighting system for talent
 - Hair light (overhead)
 - Key light
 - Fill light (eliminates facial shadows)
- Material Noteables
 - Muslin cotton (non-reflective and affordable)
 - Can be a blue screen if subject needs to wear green
 - Flex backdrops (collapsible; some are reversible; no wrinkles)
 - Don’t use a shiny backdrop; flat paint is an option
 - Chromakey body suits

Adobe Premiere Pro Strategy

To “key” out a green background:

1. Add the video with the area to be keyed (green screen, etc.) on a higher layer (Video 2, for example)
2. Drag the clip/image you wish to use in place of the keyed out background on a lower layer (Video 1, for example).
3. Add a Video Effect to the video that needs keyed; the category to try out is Keying. There are many different ones, but I suggest trying Chroma Key (modify settings as needed), Color Key (eyedropper to get the green), or Green Screen Key. You can also add more than one key to remove additional shades of color.
4. To remove areas that are outside the green screen area (if you got ceiling or something in the video), add a Garbage Matte (also in Keying). You can try a 4-point garbage matte to get 4 editing points that allow you to “crop” off the unwanted areas (there are also higher points for more precision). If you use a garbage matte, it is critical that you key out the background well, though!