



Video in Lightroom

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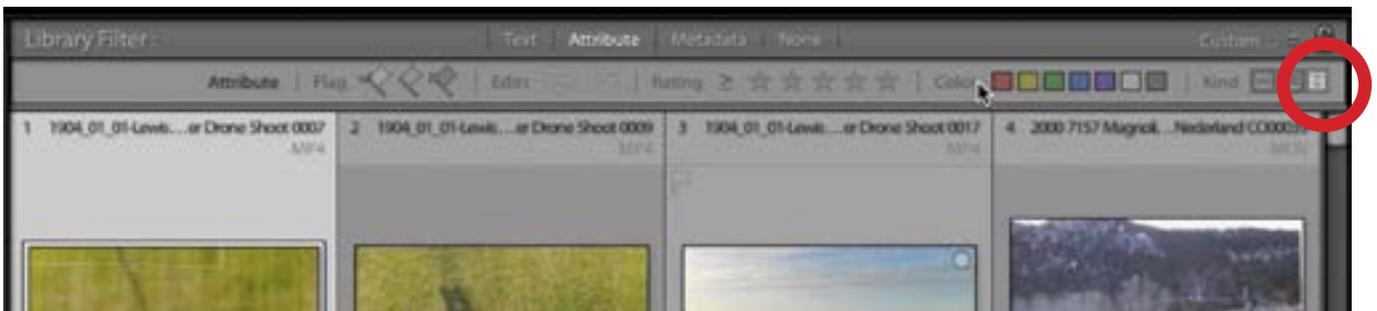
In this lesson, we're going to cover the video editing features available in Adobe Lightroom. Lightroom's video features are quite limited, but we will learn some organizational techniques and basic editing options. In a different lesson, we'll take things to the next step by learning how to edit video in Photoshop.

Locating videos in Lightroom

When viewing your media in Lightroom's Library Module, you will likely be looking through a folder (or folders) that contain both images and videos. The Filter Bar at the top of the screen can make it easier to find your videos. If you don't see the Filter Bar when working in the Library Module, click on the View menu and choose to Show Filter Bar.

Before clicking on something in the Filter Bar, decide if you want to search within a specific folder or collection of images. If so, click on that folder or collection (on the left side of the interface) to make it active. If, instead, you want to search all of your photos, click on "All Photographs" within the Catalog panel on the left side of the screen.

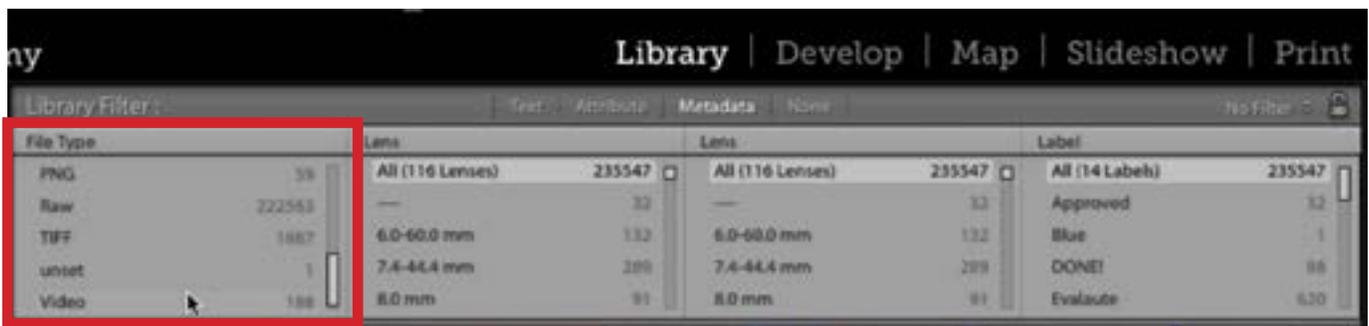
There are two ways that you can search for videos within the Filter Bar. The first method is to click on the Attribute option and this will cause a series of attributes to appear beneath the Filter Bar. On the far right, you'll see that you can filter by "Kind." Click on the little video icon and the image window will filter to display ONLY your video files.



The Attribute Filter is expanded and we clicked the Video icon to filter by the "Kind" of file.

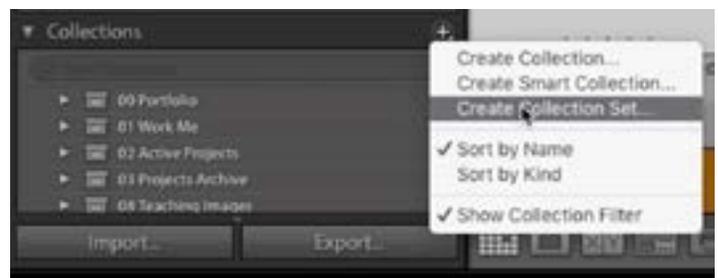
By default, if you switch between folders after using the Filter Bar, the filter will be cleared. If you would like to continue using the filter, click the Lock icon on the far right side of the Filter Bar. With the Lock setting turned on, you can switch folders and the chosen filter will still be in effect.

The second way you can search for videos using the Filter bar is by clicking on the Metadata option. This will expand a series of filter categories that you can customize. Click on the heading item for one of these categories and choose File Type from the menu that appears. This will bring up a list of all the different file formats you have in the chosen folder or catalog. Click on the Video format and the image window will filter to display only your video files.



The Metadata filter is being used to search for video files. One of the header categories is set to File Type and we clicked on the Video format.

Another way of locating your videos is to use collection sets and smart collections. To do this, expand the Collections panel on the left side of the interface and click on the little plus icon in the top right corner of the panel. Choose “Create Collection Set” from the pop-up menu that appears. You’ll be prompted to give the set a name and then click the Create button. (In the video demo, we named the set “Videos.”) Note that a collection set is a “container” in which you place other collections or smart collections.

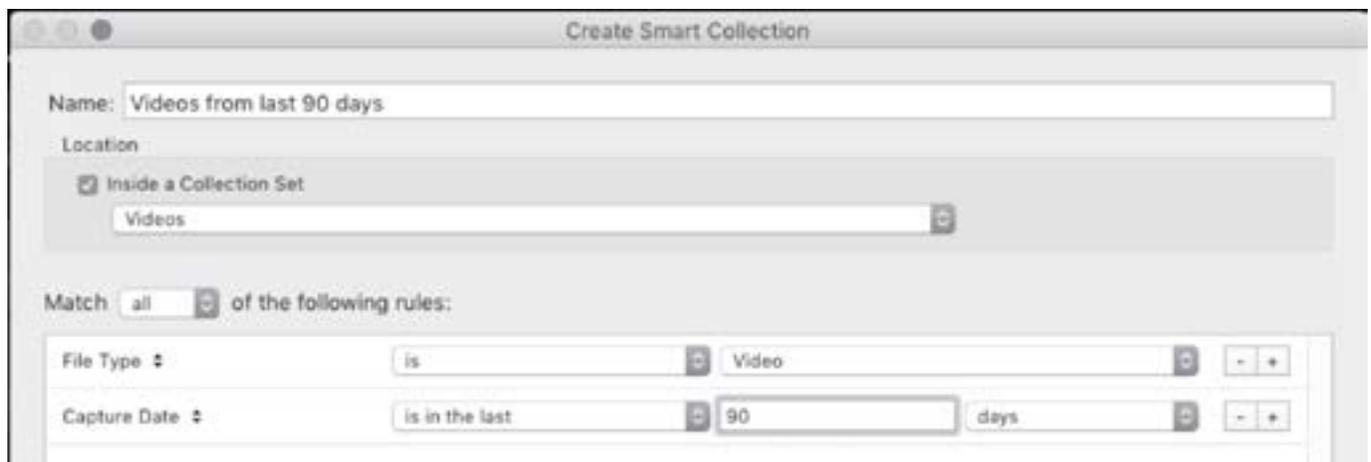


We’re clicking the plus icon at the top of the Collections panel and choosing to create a new collection set.

Now, you can create smart collections that will automatically include your videos. These smart collections will be placed inside the collection set and can be programmed to include videos from the past 30 days, the past year, etc.

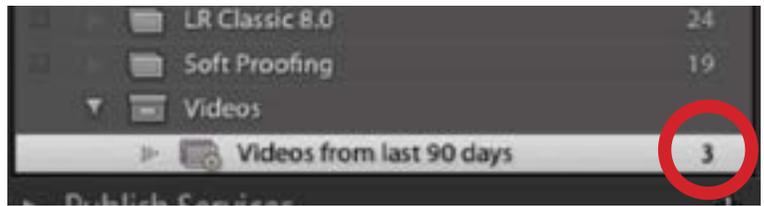
To create a smart collection, click again on the little plus icon in the top right corner of the panel. Choose to “Create Smart Collection” from the pop-up menu that appears. A dialog will appear and this is where you specify what should automatically be added to the smart collection. In the video example, we created a collection that includes all video files captured in the last 90 days. At the top of the dialog, we named the collection “Videos from last 90 days.” Then, we clicked on the first filter category menu and set it to File Type. We set the menu to the right of that to “is.” Then, we set the next menu to the right to “Video.” All in all, this filter parameter is set to include the “FILE TYPE” that “IS” “VIDEO.”

Next, we clicked on the little plus icon to the right of that first line of filter menus. This created a second line, with which we can specify another set of parameters. We set the first menu to “Capture Date,” and the second menu to “is in the last.” The next two menus were set to “90” and “days.” This filter will include files where the “CAPTURE DATE” “IS IN THE LAST” “90” “DAYS.” Refer to the screen shot to see how these menus are structured. We then hit the Create button in order to close the dialog and create the new smart collection. This new smart collection will automatically be populated with files that fit the parameters we chose.



The smart collection is being customized to include all video files that were captured within the last 90 days.

In the Collections panel, a little number will appear to the right side of the collection name. That number indicates how many files are in the collection. If you would like to see where one of the files is stored in your Lightroom catalog, right-click on the thumbnail and choose to “Go to Folder in Library.” This will navigate to the folder in which those files are stored.



The newly-created smart collection can be found within the Collections panel. The little number to the right of the collection name indicates how many files are in the collection.

Previewing Videos

Now that you know how to locate your videos, let's look at how those files can be previewed and edited. Looking at the video thumbnails, you will see a number in the bottom left corner that represents the length of the video. If you slowly move your cursor (without clicking) across the thumbnail, the video frames will start to cycle, giving you a quick preview of what's happening in the clip.

Click on a video thumbnail to make it active and then either hit the Space Bar or the Loupe View icon in order to make the video larger and access more options. The video timeline slider will appear near the bottom of the win-

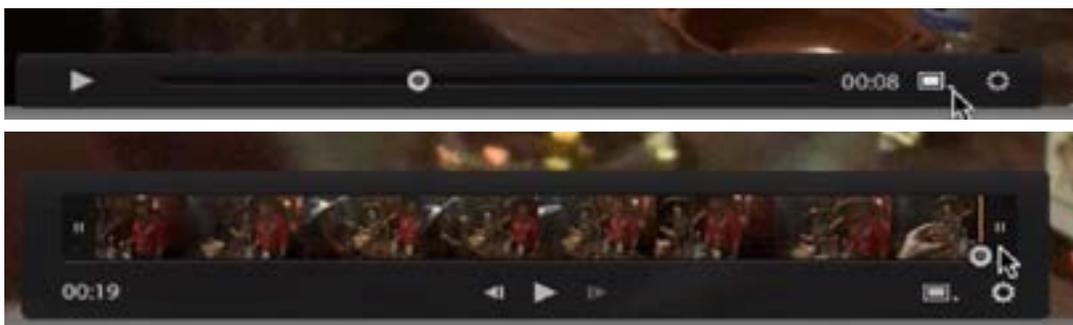


The number in the bottom left corner of the video thumbnail represents the length of the clip.



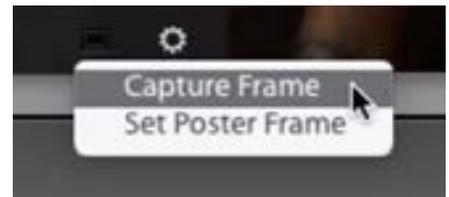
Click the Loupe View icon (circled) to view the video in the larger format shown above.

Now, with the Play button on the left. Use the slider handle to move to different parts of the video. You can toggle how many settings are visible by clicking on the gear icon on the right side of the timeline slider.



Click the Gear icon to toggle between the two timeline views shown at left.

The video frame that you see while in the Grid view may not be the best representation of the video. Know that you can specify what frame shows in the Grid View by using the slider to choose the frame and then clicking on the little icon that looks like a picture (to the right of the slider) and choosing “Set Poster Frame” from the pop-up menu that appears. The other option in this menu is to “Capture Frame.” This will create a new JPEG file of the chosen frame that is stored in the same folder as the video file.



The picture icon will give you the option to Capture Frame (save frame as a jpg) or Set Poster Frame (show this frame in Grid View).

If the extra settings are toggled to be visible (via the gear icon), then you will see a bar that contains thumbnails from the video file. These just give you a quick indication of what’s going on in that part of the clip.

Editing Videos

Lightroom allows you to hide some of the video content from the beginning and/or end of the clip. In order to do this, you’ll need to have the extra settings expanded so that you can view the video thumbnails over the slider. To trim from the beginning, first set the play head in the location where you’d like the video to start. Then, click and drag on the thick bar on the left side of the preview bar so that it meets the playhead’s location.



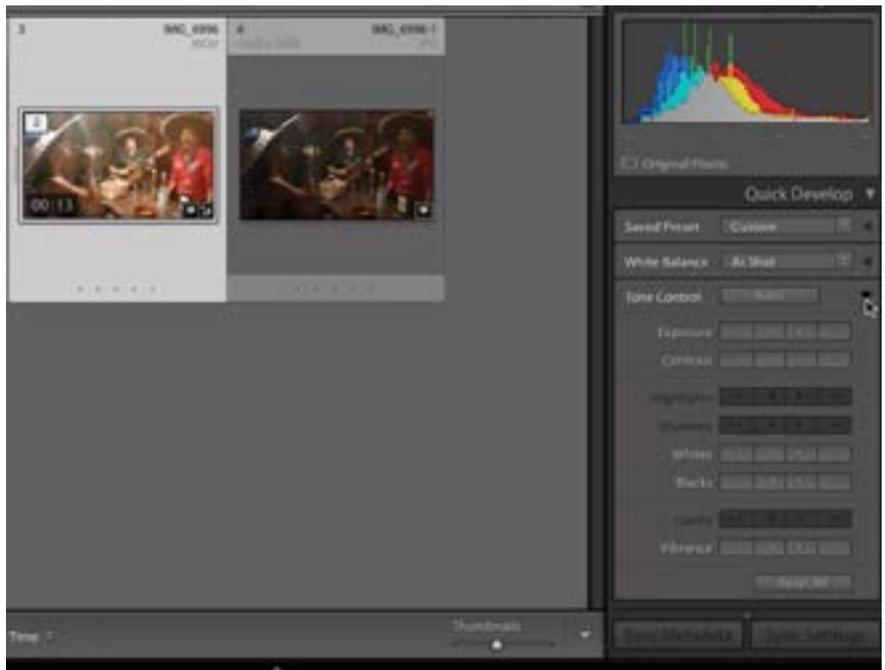
Here, we are trimming the clip by dragging the thick bar to the point where we want the clip to start.

In order to get the most precision when trimming clips, you can use the little arrow icons to the left and right of the Play button. These will move you forward and backward frame by frame, allowing you to choose the perfect location for trimming the clip.

To trim from the end, place the playhead to the location where you'd like the video to end. Then, click and drag on the thick bar to the right of the slider and move it to the playhead's location.

When it comes to adjusting video files, you're going to find that Lightroom is very limited in what it can do. If you activate a video file and then try to move to the Develop Module, you will see a message that reads "Video is not supported in Develop." However, you CAN adjust video. You just need to do it in a different way.

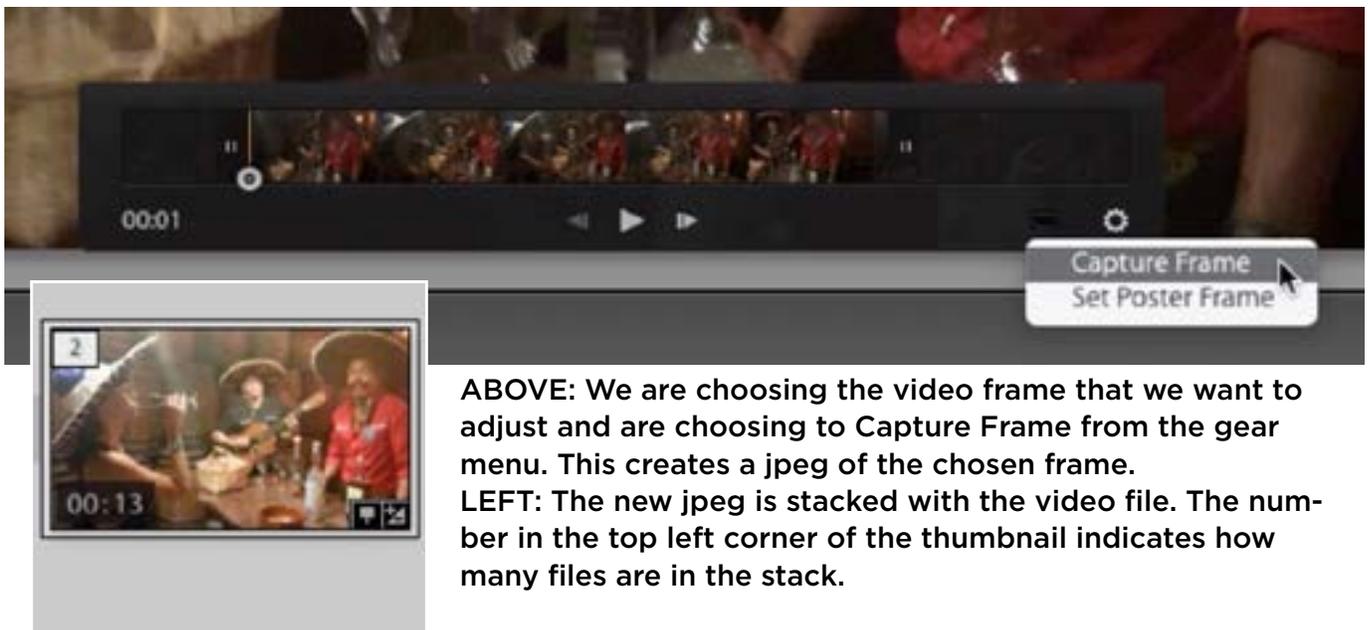
While the Develop Module will not allow you to apply any settings to a video file, the Quick Develop settings within the Library Module can still be used. Activate a video file and the Quick Develop settings will appear on the right side of the interface. These are more basic than the settings in the Develop Module, but they still allow you to do things like set white balance presets, adjust Exposure, Contrast, Vibrance, etc. I generally use the



Basic adjustments can be applied to a video file by using the Quick Develop settings on the right side of the Library Module.

Quick Develop settings when I need to adjust multiple videos at once. If, instead, I just need to adjust a single video, I'll follow a different set of steps.

Back in the Library Module, view your video in the Loupe View (the view where the file fills the screen). Move the playhead to part of the clip that shows a good visual representation of the video. Then click on the gear icon to the right of the timeline slider and choose “Capture Frame” from the little pop-up menu. This will create a jpeg file of that single frame and the jpeg file will be stacked with the original video file. You’ll be able to see it in the Grid View. If you don’t see the jpeg, it just means that the stack is collapsed. You can tell that a file thumbnail is a stack because it will have a little number in the upper left, which tells you how many files are in the stack. Click on that number to expand the stack so you can see all the files inside.



ABOVE: We are choosing the video frame that we want to adjust and are choosing to Capture Frame from the gear menu. This creates a jpeg of the chosen frame.
LEFT: The new jpeg is stacked with the video file. The number in the top left corner of the thumbnail indicates how many files are in the stack.

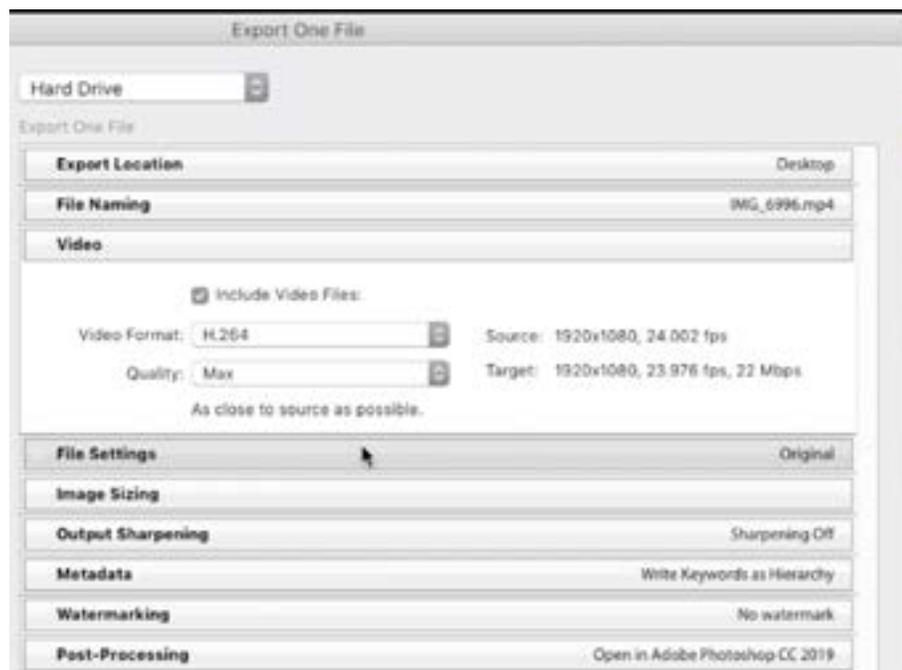
Next, activate that jpeg file and move into the Develop Module. Use the settings in the Develop Module to adjust the image in any way that you’d like. Act as if you are adjusting the video instead of a single still frame from the video. When you’re finished adjusting the jpeg, move back into the Library Module. Right-click on the thumbnail for that jpeg file and, when the pop-up menu appears, choose Develop Settings > Copy Settings. A dialog box will appear, and this is where you can specify which settings should be copied. Turn on the check boxes for all adjustments that you want to copy to the video file. You can likely just click the “Check

All” button in the bottom left. Click the Copy button. Then, right-click on the thumbnail for the video file and, when the pop-up menu appears, choose Develop Settings > Paste Settings. This will take the same adjustments that were applied to the jpeg and apply them to the video file as well. You could also paste those settings to multiple files at once by selecting all of those files before choosing the Paste Settings option.

Exporting video from Lightroom

To move a video out of Lightroom, make sure the file is active, click on the File menu at the top of the screen and choose Export. You’ll be presented with the Export dialog, which contains many options that are categorized in expandable tabs. The top-most tab is the Export Location and this allows you to decide where the file should be placed on your hard drive.

Click on the Video tab to expand the settings and make sure that the “Include Video Files” check box is turned on. Use the Video Format menu to choose the H.264 option, which is the most popular format for video. I recommend setting the Quality menu to Max.



The Export dialog is being used to export a video file. Under the Video settings, we made sure the “Include Video Files” check box was turned on. We set the Video Format menu to H.264 and the Quality menu to Max.

Moving down the setting tabs in the Export dialog, you will notice that many of the settings are grayed out for video, so you don't need to pay attention to these. You do, however, need to pay attention to the Post-Processing settings. This is where you determine what happens after the video is exported from Lightroom. If you choose the "Do Nothing" option, it will simply save the file to the specified location. If you want to further edit the video, you can choose to "Open in Adobe Photoshop CC."

If you commonly work with video files in Lightroom, you may want to create some video export presets. In the video example, we made a preset that will simply export the video to a specified location without opening it in any other software. We then created a second preset that will export the video AND open that file into Photoshop for further editing. To create a preset from a set of export settings, click on the Add button below the preset list on the left side of the Export dialog. You'll be prompted to give the preset a name and choose how it should be categorized via folder. Then click the Create button. After creating a new preset, it will appear in the preset list on the left side of the dialog. It can also be accessed via the File menu by choosing Export to Preset.