

Casablanca II Titling Tips

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A. Adding Transparency to your Font (Alpha Channel)

Adding transparency to your Fonts in titles can add a more elegant, creative appearance.

1. Select 'Color' under the Style button in the Title Screen (after adding to Storyboard and clicking 'Enter/edit text').
2. Click on the slider under 'Alpha' channel.
3. Sliding to the left will increase the opacity or transparency of your colored font
4. Depending on the scene, I find 75% - 85% looks nice.

B. Adding a Pattern to your Font

1. Select 'Pattern' under the Style button in the Title Screen (after adding to Storyboard and clicking 'Enter/edit text').
2. Click on the button to right of 'Product' and select from the software you have active on your Casablanca. For example, Casablanca comes with every system.
3. Next click on the button to right of 'Type' and select from the choices available. In 'Casablanca' there are Masks, Monochromatic (black & white), Polychromatic and Images.
4. You can even modify /add color to many of these images. Click on the 'Colorize' button beneath the preview window. Adjust the 'Colors' to either 1, 2 or 3, depending on the number of colors you wish. Then you can click on the colors to bring up the color requester menu and make adjustments as you wish (if you select 2 colors you will modify Color 1 and Color 3). Click OK when done.
5. You can adjust the position of the pattern/effect by the choices under 'Mode'
6. And you can adjust the opacity of the pattern by adjusting the Alpha slider.
7. Click 'Ok' when done and you will see the pattern inside the title you are creating (more narrow fonts do not show patterns too well).

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C. Copy Font/Style to all lines

You may be aware the Casablanca Titler is a line-oriented titler. This means each line can have different fonts, sizes and styles. But once you type several lines of text and then make a change sometimes you wish to change all lines to conform to your new selection - here is how you do this (this is particularly useful when composing a long line of credits to scroll at the end of your production).

1. With your titles typed, select the line of text you wish to copy to all the other lines.
2. Click on 'Boxes', then click on 'Extended'
3. 'If you wish to copy just the Font and/or its revised size to all other lines of text click on 'Copy font to all lines'
4. If you wish to copy the revised style to all other lines of text click on 'Copy style to all lines'.
5. You can click on both of these to copy all revised adjustments to all lines of the current title screen.

D. Moving the Title Box

There may be situations where you wish to have the title positioned over a specific portion of the screen - for example just beneath a person or subject.

1. With your titles typed, select the line of text you wish to copy to all the other lines.
2. Click on 'Boxes', then click on 'Extended'
3. I find it easiest to click on 'Min Size'. This reduces the title box to the area surrounding your typed title (note the dotted pattern around your title).
4. Now select 'Move Box'.
5. You can now move the trackball around which moves the title box around the screen. Left click where you wish the title to be positioned.
(If you need to add more text into the box, you will need to either select 'Size' to adjust the box manually or go back into Extended and click on 'visible size' which enlarges the box to full screen size again).

E. Adding additional Text Boxes within one screen

You can add more than one title or text box on the same screen with different fonts and styles in each box!

1. Add your text for the first box and position it by using the steps listed above
2. Click again on 'Boxes' and then on 'Add'. This will plant another text box on-screen, which you can position wherever you desire.
3. Left clicking the trackball plants the top left corner into position. You can then scroll the trackball to adjust the size of this box.
4. A second left click plants the box on-screen.
5. You can then type text into this new box, adjusting font, size and style!

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You can add a number of these boxes and even make modifications to each box by first left clicking on the box and then selecting the changes you wish to make.

F. Adding background to your text box

Adding a transparent background to your text or title box creates a professional looking title, especially useful when adding lower thirds titles - identifying onscreen interviews, etc.

1. First type your title and adjust the Title Box to the size you wish to have a shaded box appear. For example, when I am adding lower 3rds titles - I size the box to stretch from screen left to screen right and just a little taller (top and bottom) than the letters.
2. Click again on 'Graphics'. Normally, there is a '-' next to the word Choose Background (this means no background/shading on the title box). Click on that button and it will change to a check mark. You may also notice the box now has a background
3. We will add two different backgrounds for you to learn the variations possible:

Adding a Color Background

- A. Click on Choose background, click next to 'Product', select 'Casablanca' and left click to confirm your choice
- B. Next to 'Type' select 'Monochromatic' and left click to confirm your choice
- C. Click in the top left choice in the menu below (with the artist color palette) and click on 'Colorize' on the right.
- D. Select the color you prefer (and adjust the Alpha/Transparency to 70% if you wish a real artistic appearance).
- E. Click 'OK' and you will see your finished box background (modify the Color/Transparency to suit your preferences).

Adding an image/mask background

4. Click on Choose background, click next to 'Product', select 'Casablanca' and left click to confirm your choice
5. Next to 'Type' select 'Polychromatic' and left click to confirm your choice
6. Click on the 5th choice in the top row of menu below (named 'Plasma 1') . Ensure the button next to Colorize is not checked.
7. Set the Alpha/Transparency to 70% if you wish a real artistic appearance).
8. Click 'OK' and you will see your finished box background (modify the Color/Transparency to suit your preferences).

You can add a multitude of masks/background images from the Casablanca Image Pool by selecting from the many other choices available in your menu under Choose background – Product.

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If you want to produce professional looking lower thirds titles in your videos - I highly recommend you load and demo/try the really cool backgrounds provided in the TitleBax collection. You would use these with the process above.

G. Default Title Screen

If you have a particular font and/or color/style that you find yourself using a lot, here is a way to select those settings.

1. Go to the Titling window, but BEFORE adding the Title to the storyboard, click on 'Enter/edit text'.
2. Select the Font/size and Color/Style you wish to have come up each time you add a title. You can type in a sample title like your production company name, etc.
3. Simply by clicking 'ok' you have set this as your new default title! Every time you add a new title this will come up on-screen.

* It is imperative you do not use any unlicensed fonts in your default title screen. Doing so may cause your titles to come up with the 'Demo' stamp when you go to create and finish them.

To clear this situation, proceed through the above 3 steps but after clicking on 'Enter/edit' text, Delete all lines and even 'Delete Page' (under 'Page Options') to ensure all previous text has been cleared.