

# DaVinci Resolve Fundamentals: Optimizations and Workflows

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**Training Description:** DaVinci Resolve is a feature-rich post-production platform constantly updated and refined. This series covers essential workflows and options that every Resolve editor, colorist, VFX artist, or audio mixer needs to understand. This series assumes you know the core DaVinci Resolve toolset.

This course was recorded on DaVinci Resolve 17, but it teaches tools and workflows applicable to all non-Public Beta versions since DaVinci Resolve 12.5. New movies will be added for future versions of Resolve, as needed, after Public Beta periods end.

**Level:** Beginner & Intermediate Users

**Homepage:** <https://mixinglight.com/training/optimizing-davinci-resolve-for-your-workflow/>

**Runtime:** 3h 10m, (41) Streaming videos, up to 1080p

## Learning Goals

- Understanding and managing databases and project files
- Performance optimization, including Proxy, Optimized Media, and Render Cache options
- Customizing the user interface to your personal preferences
- Learning how to move a project between Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro and DaVinci Resolve
- Adding additional hardware to speed up your editing, color grading, or mixing in DaVinci Resolve

*R17+ in a movie title indicates it applies to DaVinci Resolve 17 or later*

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## Module 1: Introduction

1. **Course Overview**
2. **Using the Exercise Files**

## Module 2: Project Management & Preferences

3. **Databases vs. Projects** - Where does Resolve store your project files, and how are projects different from databases?
4. **Understanding Resolve Databases** - There are two types of Resolve databases - what are the differences, and how do you pick between them?
5. **Creating a Disk Database** - Walk through the naming and making of a disk database.
6. **Backing Up and Restoring Databases** - How to export and import databases correctly.
7. **'Deleting' and Relinking Databases** - How do you delete a DaVinci Resolve database, and what is 'relinking'?
8. **Using the Davinci Resolve Project Server** - If you want to share your Resolve projects between multiple computers simultaneously, you'll need to use a Postgres database. The Resolve Project Server software will help you find and manage those databases.
9. **Organizing Databases and Projects** - Projects have a way of multiplying. What can you do to manage them?
10. **Sharing and Backing Up Projects** - Learn backup strategies and ways of sharing projects with others.
11. **Exporting DaVinci Resolve Bins and Timelines (R17+)** - Resolve allows you to export bins and timelines for other Resolve artists to import into their projects.

12. **Sharing Bins & Galleries in the Same Database** - Use Power Bins and Power Galleries to share assets between multiple projects stored in the same database.

### **Module 3: User Interface - Getting Resolve to Operate As You Think**

13. **Assigning Menu Items as Keyboard Shortcuts** - Keyboard shortcuts are a great productivity booster. Learn how to map frequently used menu commands to your keyboard.
14. **The Super Duper Middle Scroll Wheel** - Understand why a three-button mouse is essential for working quickly in DaVinci Resolve.
15. **Edit Page Viewer Options** - Learn how to customize the Viewer on the Edit Page to show (or hide) information you may find helpful.
16. **Color Page Viewer Options** - The Viewer on the Color Page is similar to that on the Edit Page but has several unique options to help you focus.
17. **Managing Timeline Overwhelm (R17+)** - If you're working quickly and making multiple versions of your timelines, discover new organizational tools to manage the overwhelm.
18. **Advanced Timeline View Options** - Learn how to work between multiple timelines simultaneously, very efficiently, with Stacked Timelines.
19. **2.7 Simplify the Resolve User Interface** - Show only the pages you use and hide the rest.

### **Module 4: Enhancing Playback Performance**

20. **Playback Optimizations: What are your options?** - If you have trouble playing back video files in real-time, without stutters or dropped frames, then learn the DaVinci Resolve features that help you fix that problem.

21. **Performance Mode** - Let Resolve decide how to tweak your settings to help you maintain real-time playback. Or override its settings to tweak its optimizations.
22. **Render Cache: Overview** - Get a closer look at Resolve's Render Cache and its various modes of operation.
23. **Render Cache: Smart Mode** - Dive deep into this semi-automated Render Cache mode.
24. **Render Cache: User Mode** – Sometimes, Smart Mode is too smart. Learn how to control the Render Cache manually.
25. **Using Optimized Media** - Learn how to control this performance option.
26. **Enabling Timeline Proxy Mode** - Resolve's Proxy workflow was simple in earlier versions of Resolve and is now called 'Timeline Proxy Mode' in Resolve 17 and later.
27. **Proxy Media: Resolve 17+ Overview** - If you're working in Resolve 17 or later, this movie explains the overall workflow.
28. **Creating Proxy Media Archives (R17+)** - Learn a helpful way of moving projects to a new computer using Proxy media.
29. **Additional Performance Tweaks** - Various project settings help you maintain real-time performance.

## **Module 5: Hardware Optimizations for DaVinci Resolve**

30. **Using external hardware to become a better editor, colorist, or mixer** - Why you should consider supplementing a keyboard and mouse with external hardware.
31. **Blackmagic Speed Editor and Mini Panel: Overview** - What is the Speed Editor? How might it speed up your workflow? Plus, a closer look at Blackmagic's colorist control surface.
32. **DaVinci Resolve Keyboard: Overview** - How does the keyboard differ from the Speed Editor? Who should consider buying it?

33. **Using Third-Party Hardware with DaVinci Resolve** - Believe it or not, many Davinci Resolve artists use gaming hardware to accelerate their working speed in Resolve. Get a close look at you can use one (or more) Stream Decks to create a custom 'button box' designed for your way of working. Plus, a quick discussion of Tangent Devices colorist control surfaces.
34. **Dedicated client displays: Concept and Overview** - How do professional colorists and editors get a full-time, live preview out of DaVinci Resolve and onto dedicated displays?

## **Module 6: XML Workflows - Sharing Timeline with Final Cut Pro and Premiere Pro**

35. **Understanding the Challenges of Importing/Exporting Timelines** - Moving timelines between software platforms is simple, but it's not easy. This movie explains why.
36. **What is an XML?** - At its core, an XML is a text file. That's its strength. And its weakness.
37. **How to prepare a timeline for XML sharing** - Learn how to prepare a timeline in Premiere Pro or Final Cut Pro for importing into DaVinci Resolve.
38. **Exporting a Reference Movie** - Importing and exporting timelines are prone to errors. Learn how and why to export a reference movie to assist in the next step of the process.
39. **Exporting a timeline using the XML format** - Learn how this workflow operates in DaVinci Resolve, which is very similar to other non-linear editors.
40. **How to Conform an XML** - Learn how to verify that your imported timeline precisely matches the exported timeline.
41. **The 'Flat File Workflow': A Popular XML Workflow Alternative** - Learn how to easily get your finished timeline out of an NLE and into DaVinci Resolve by modifying your workflow - but with limitations, you need to understand.

## **Module 7: Conclusion**

### **42. Thank You and Goodbye**