Adobe Premiere Pro Part I: Exploring the User Interface
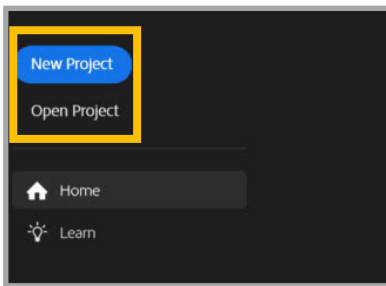
Launching Premiere Pro

After launching the Adobe Premiere Pro application, you will arrive at the homepage. From here, you can start a new project or open an existing project.

To Start a new project, follow the steps below.

New Project > Project Dialogue Box > Name your project > Browse to select the Location > Select OK.
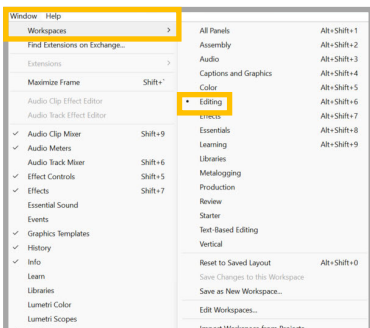
To Open an existing project, follow these steps:

Open Project > Navigate to the location on your computer > Select Project > Open

Choosing a Workspace

Once you open your file, Adobe will launch a default Learning Workspace. Change to the Edit Workspace to complete basic video editing techniques such as adding video clips into a sequence on the timeline, adjusting the length of the clip, or trimming segments in the middle of the video clip. Follow these steps to change the workspace to the Editing Workspace.

Window > Workspaces > Editing

Workspace Panels

In Adobe Premiere Pro the workspace is made up of several panels, each serving a specific function. Using keyboard shortcuts can provide efficient navigation for your workflow. These can be found under the Edit tab.
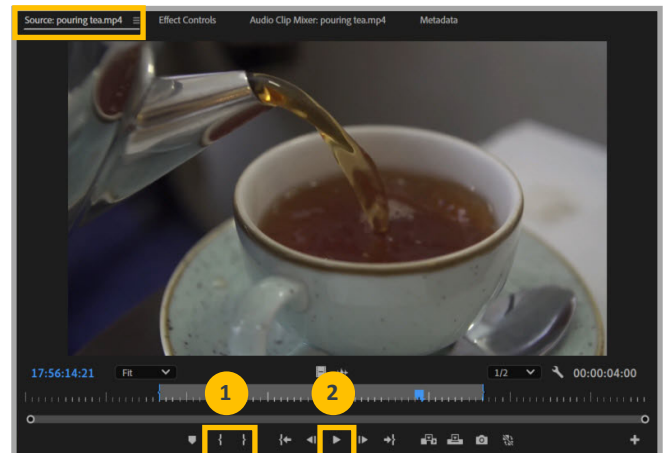
The Project Panel

This panel is located in the lower left corner. This is where you would import and organize your media content.

The Source Monitor

This panel is located in the upper left corner. This panel is used to preview your media before adding it to the timeline.

1. Mark in & out points — Keyboard shortcuts: Mark in command: press "I" & mark out: press "o".

2. Onscreen play/stop toggle — The shuttling commands are: J, K, L. To shuttle forwards: press "L" key; to pause: press "k" key; to shuttle backwards: Press "J" key.
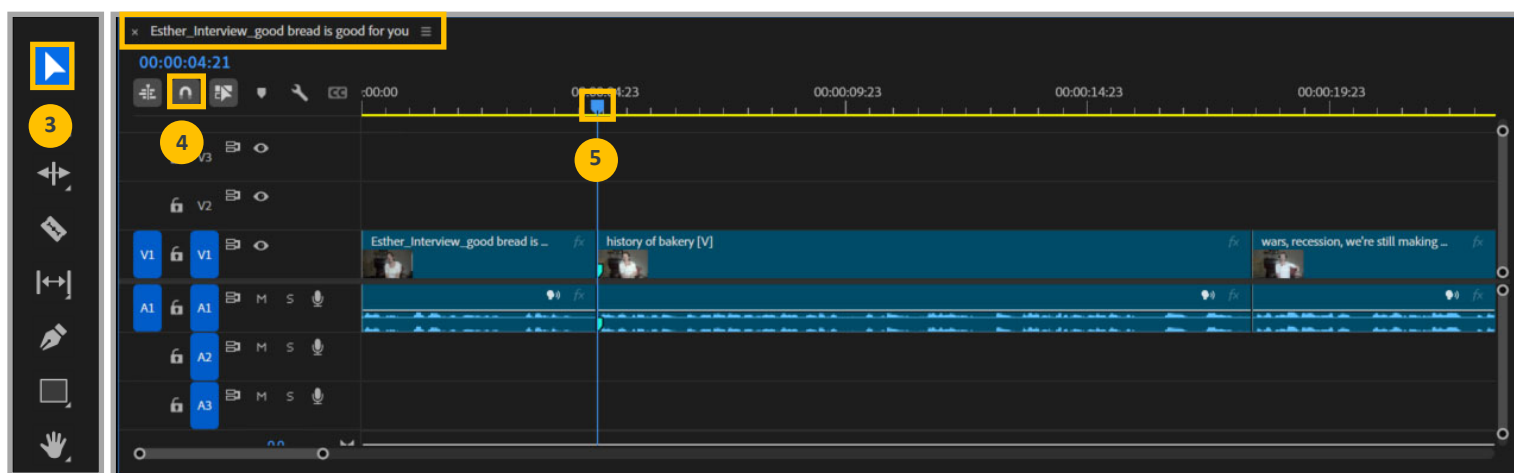
Workspace Panels continued...

The Timeline and the Tools Panel

These panels are located in the lower right corner. The timeline panel is where you assemble and edit your video project. It allows you to arrange and edit clips as well as add transitions and effects to enhance your video. There are several keyboard shortcuts and tools to utilize that will allow you to move through your video sequence efficiently.

3. Tools Panel — The Selection tool will allow you to select and move clips in the timeline. Other tools below, will guide you to trim your video and clean up errors that may occur when performing trimming techniques.
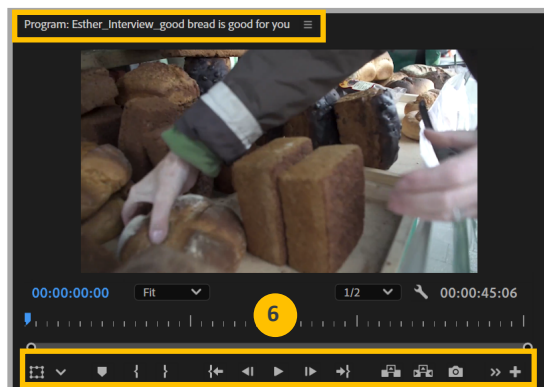
4. Snap in Timeline — Select this command to prompt your clip to "Snap" in place to get the edits flush against one another.

5. The Playhead — This is a key tool for navigating through your timeline. Press the keyboard shortcut J to move forward, K to pause, and L to move backward. You can place the Playhead   exactly where you want to edit.

The Program Monitor

This panel is located in the upper right corner. The Program Monitor is used to preview the edited sequence of video clips from your timeline, in real time. This is allows you to view your edits, check your transitions, and ensure that your final video flows smoothly.

6. Program Monitor Functions — These functions are the same as the source monitor. The difference is that the Program monitor shows the final edited sequence from the timeline.

The Editing Workspace

In Adobe Premier Pro, a "Workspace" refers to the arrangements of panels and tools that you use for different tasks. There are preset workspaces available in the Windows tab. This is the Editing Workspace. This workspace includes the following panels: the Project Panel, Source Monitor, Timeline, Tools Panel, and the Program Monitor. Workspaces help you streamline your workflow by providing relevant tools and panels for the task at hand.