

RED GIANT

INSTANT 4K

PART OF **SHOOTER SUITE**

Instant 4K User Guide

© 2014 Red Giant LLC. All Rights Reserved.

The manual contents are provided under license from Red Giant and are provided for personal use only. The content in this manual may be updated at any time without notice to the user. Red Giant LLC assumes no liability for inaccuracies or omissions.

The contents of this manual may not be reproduced, stored or reprinted in other printed or electronic forms without the express written consent of Red Giant LLC.

The images, and artwork in the manual are protected by copyright law. The unauthorized use of any media may be a violation of the rights of the owner.

Trademarks: After Effects and Premiere Pro are registered trademarks of Adobe, Inc. in the United States and other countries. Mac OS X is a registered trademark of Apple Computer, Inc. in the United States and other countries. Windows is a registered trademark of Microsoft Corporation in the United States and other countries. All other products and name brands are trademarks of their respective holders.

Portions of the code used under license.

RED GIANT

www.redgiant.com

Manual Content: Sean Safreed

Product Engineering: Micah Sharp, Digital Element LLC

Product Design: Sean Safreed, Micah Sharp

Product Installation

Welcome

Red Giant Instant 4K is a new plug-in designed for After Effects-compatible hosts to run on Mac OS X® (10.7 and later) and Windows® 7 and later. Instant 4K transforms lower-resolution video into a variety of HD and 4K video formats. You can choose from a list of preset resolutions to make it easy to integrate video into your next 4K production.

Installation

Instant 4K is installed as part of the Shooter Suite. You must have installed one of the target applications: Adobe After Effects (CS5 and later) or Premiere Pro (CS5 and later) before installing Instant 4K. The installer will automatically place the required components on your hard drive. The installer will guide you through the process of installing the plug-in.

Activation

The final step in the installation before using Instant 4K is entering your serial number into the registration dialog. The registration dialog will appear the first time you access Instant 4K. **YOU MUST ENTER A SERIAL NUMBER TO USE Instant 4K.** You will receive a confirmation email after you purchase that contains your serial number.

The serial number for Instant 4K appears in the following format:

AAAA ##### ##### ##### #####

The activation code is a series of 4 letters followed by 16 numbers. You must enter all characters to complete the activation.

Support

Support is always available for you from Red Giant, the publisher of Universe, Magic Bullet, Trapcode, Knoll, PluralEyes and other products.

The best way to contact us is through our [Support page](#). We track all cases that come into Red Giant, and filling out our Support Case form will give you the quickest response. [Click here](#) to log into Redgiant.com and open a ticket.

The Instant 4K Controls

Getting Started

Instant 4K is a plug-in product for After Effects-compatible hosts. At its heart, Instant 4K is a scaling tool. Scaling is the process of changing an image from one pixel resolution to another. When scaling from a lower resolution (such as HD) to a higher resolution (4K), the missing pixels must be generated in an intelligent way. Instant 4K provides a high-quality method for converting video sources to 4K within your favorite video application.

Controls

The plug-in has five basic controls: Output Size, Filter Type, Sharpness, Quality settings, and Antialiasing. The plug-ins for After Effects and Premiere Pro work nearly same and share a common set of controls.

This section will explain each of the controls available in Instant 4K.



The Instant 4K controls in Premiere Pro

Output Size. The resolution pop-up lets you quickly choose the output resolution for your video. Typically, the resolution will match the size of the composition in After Effects or a sequence in Premiere Pro.

The presets menu has been formatted to reflect up to three different parts of the scaling equation: the target output size, the industry name for the output size, and finally whether the scale operation will attempt to match the height or width of the composition or sequence.

The menu has also been broken into distinct sections to make it easier to choose the right output resolution. All other details, including the source size, format and aspect ratio, are automatically taken into consideration and require no input from the user.

• 1280 x 720 Fit To Height 1280 x 720 Fit To Width
1440 x 1080 Fit To Height 1440 x 1080 Fit To Width
1920 x 1080 Fit To Height 1920 x 1080 Fit To Width
2048 x 1556 Fit To Height 2048 x 1556 Fit To Width
Full Aperture 4K (4096 x 3112) Fit To Height Full Aperture 4K (4096 x 3112) Fit To Width
Academy 4K (3656 x 2664) Fit To Height Academy 4K (3656 x 2664) Fit To Width
Digital Cinema Native 4K (4096 x 2160) Fit To Height Digital Cinema Native 4K (4096 x 2160) Fit To Width
Ultra HD (3840 x 2160) Fit To Height Ultra HD (3840 x 2160) Fit To Width
Custom

The Output Size preset menu

Custom Size. The last item in the Output Size pop-up is Custom. This options allows you to enter custom width and height values in the Custom Size section of the plug-in.

The Custom Size control also has a Constrain Proportions check box. When checked, the width and height will change proportionally. This makes it possible to increase or decrease the scale of the image using either the width or the height and forcing the other dimension to scale by the same amount. This is useful for increasing the zoom on an image without distorting the picture.

Filter Type. There are two quality adjustments in Instant 4K. The first is a pop-up menu which lets you choose from four scaling modes: Draft, Quick, Better, and Best. The Draft mode is a bilinear scale similar to a low-quality scale in After Effects and is useful for previewing the size of the output. Quick mode improves the output and is closer to the final result but still renders fairly quickly. The Better and Best modes are very similar. Better will work for most videos and provide improved edges and image contrast. The Best mode can provide the finest results but the Better mode may be more compatible with your processor type.

Sharpness. This control lets you sharpen the output of the video scaling operation. The slider range lets you choose between 0 (no sharpening) and 25 (very sharp). Low values between 2 and 6 are suitable for most operations. High values above 10 can lead to oversharpened images that have ringing artifacts.

Quality. This slider lets you adjust the sampling used in the Filter Type. The slider ranges from 0 to 25. Low values mean fewer samples for each output pixel. High values mean more sample points for each output pixel. A mid-range value usually is good balance between edge smoothness and detail sharpness.

Antialiasing. The final control in Instant 4K lets you add smoothing to the edges of images. The slider has a range of 0 to 10. Low values will provide small amounts of smoothing for jagged edges. High values can smooth out small details. We recommend a setting of 1-4 for most images.