

DaVinci Resolve Quick-Start Checklist

Lesson 4 · Editing It All Together

The 5-Step Edit

- **1. Import** — drag clips into the Media Pool.
- **2. Build** — drag clips to the timeline in story order: wide → medium → close.
- **3. Trim** — cut the weak first/last half-second of every AI clip. Keep clips 2–4 seconds.
- **4. Sound** — music track under the video, volume low, cut clips ON the beat.
- **5. Export** — Deliver page → H.264 → 1080p → Render.

Essential Shortcuts

- **B** — blade (cut) tool · **A** — selection tool
- **Ctrl/Cmd + B** — cut at playhead
- **Space** — play / pause · **J K L** — rewind / stop / forward
- **Ctrl/Cmd + Z** — undo (your best friend)
- **Shift + Z** — fit timeline to window

Editing Rules That Make You Look Pro

- Plain cuts for 90% of transitions. One cross dissolve where time passes.
- Never use fancy wipes. Ever.
- Cut on the beat — this one trick makes any edit feel 10x better.
- Story order: wide shot sets the scene, close-up delivers emotion.
- Watch the full edit before exporting — every single time.

Free Music Sources

- YouTube Audio Library · Pixabay Music · Free Music Archive
- Always check the license before commercial use.