THE GTA CLIPPER'S FIELD GUIDE



A WORKBOOK FOR SHORT-FORM EDITORS

Replay selection / Vertical edits / Campaign handoff

From a Twitch VOD to a YouTube Short



01 **Find the original recording**

A Twitch VOD stores a broadcast. A shared clip points to a shorter selection. Start with the broadcast when you still need to find the moment. Record the channel, replay URL, date and running time. If you already have a short file, ask which broadcast and source interval it came from.

02 **Separate a replay link from the editable file**

Open the replay and check the channel and date. Then confirm you have a recording you may edit. A page that displays the correct title can still lack a usable media file. When the studio asks for a file, use an authorized export from the creator or organizer. Save the permission or brief beside your source log.

03 **Keep two clocks in your notes**

Write the start of the excerpt on the original broadcast clock. Your local file starts again at zero. To find the original moment, add the elapsed time in the excerpt to its source start. A file beginning at 18.7 seconds puts its local 3.0-second frame at 21.7 seconds in the original. Include both numbers when you send a note to another editor.

04 **Choose the section you will turn into a Short**

Preview just beyond each end of the proposed range. Listen for the start of a sentence or the end of a reaction. Compare the range with any restrictions in the brief before scanning. For a YouTube Short, choose an allowed duration and shape, then keep the cut only as long as the event needs.

ON THE TIMELINE

Locate the beach in the original trailer

Source / Write down Trailer 1 and 00:18.7 as the excerpt start.

Local 00:03 / Pause on the beach. Add three seconds and log original time 00:21.7.

Check / Seek to 00:21.7 in the original, or compare with the same frame in the sample.

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Source & selects log

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 1 / 00:18.7 to 00:26.7

Find the moment worth keeping



01 **Describe the event in one sentence**

Use a subject, an action and a visible change. “Two riders crest a wake as the camera closes in” gives you an event to locate. “That part was wild” sends you back through the whole replay. If you need a paragraph to explain the clip, write down the first missing piece of context.

02 **Work backward from the payoff**

Pause where the viewer first sees what happened. Scrub backward until the direction of motion or the question becomes clear. Then play past the payoff until the first readable reaction finishes. These are your provisional boundaries. Keep the wider source interval in your notes so you can recover a lost beat.

03 **Compare the candidates on mute**

For each candidate, write what a new viewer can tell from the opening frame and what changes by the final frame. Mark a candidate for audio review if it depends on a joke or a spoken reveal. Play it with sound and transcribe the essential line before choosing it. A loud peak can also be a loading screen or a menu.

04 **Leave the next event for another cut**

A trailer can switch from water to road in a single beat. A stream can move just as quickly from an in-game event to unrelated chat. End on the last frame that serves your sentence. Log the following event on a fresh row if it has its own beginning and payoff.

ON THE TIMELINE

Where does the jet ski story end?

Local 00:00 / Play from the helicopter. Decide whether the wide shot gives the riders useful context.

Around 00:02 / The jet ski enters the sequence. Try starting here and describe what changes.

Around 00:04 / Find the first motorcycle frame. Set your out-point just before it and watch the cut again.

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Source & selects log

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 2 / 02:18 to 02:26

Turn a GTA 6 stream into a vertical clip



01 **Name what must stay in frame**

Watch the source at its original width. Pick the subject the viewer follows, the object it moves toward and the result they need to see. For a landing, that might mean the rider, the ledge and the first moment of contact. A crop that preserves the face while losing the landing changes the story.

02 **Place the crop at the hardest frame**

Start where the subject is closest to the edge. In the sample editor, use Horizontal crop to move the portrait frame across the source. Leave space in front of moving subjects. Scrub back to the opening and confirm that the initial shot still points the viewer in the right direction.

03 **Test the boundary at playback speed**

Check three frames separately: the first frame a viewer sees, the frame where the action changes, and the final reaction. Then play them together. If a fast camera pan carries the subject outside a fixed crop, try a shorter section. In an editor with a fit-to-frame layout, compare a wider version before choosing.

04 **Export and look at the file**

Review the exported file on a phone. Check that platform controls and captions leave the important action visible. Listen through the first and last cuts. Give the export a revision number and write down the original interval and crop decision so a teammate can reproduce it.

ON THE TIMELINE

Keep both riders in the portrait cut

Choose the trim / Isolate the water sequence. Stop before the scene switches to the motorcycle.

Place the crop / Pause on the close view. Slide the crop toward the riders, leaving room in front of the jet ski.

Play it back / Watch the whole trim on mute. Count how often a rider leaves the frame and revise once.

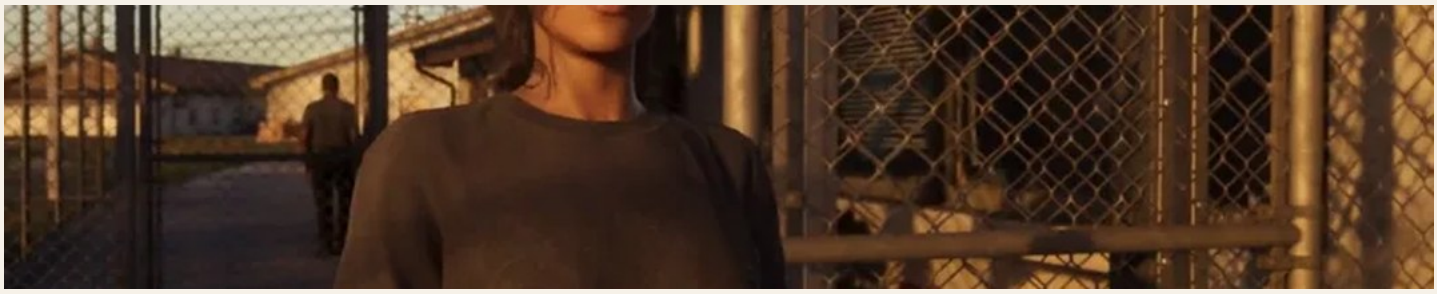
COMPANION WORKSHEET

Vertical cut plan

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 2 / 02:18 to 02:26

Write an opening line the footage earns



01 **Give the first line a job**
Watch the first two seconds without sound. Write down what the picture already tells you. An opening line can name an unfamiliar person, establish a location or set up a question the clip answers. If viewers can identify the event on sight, leave the first frame clean and spend your words elsewhere.

02 **Keep original dialogue and editorial text distinct**
Use quotation marks only for words you can verify in the audio. Listen twice to names, slang and overlapping voices. Give each speaker their own phrase when a change of speaker changes the meaning. If a line is too uncertain to transcribe, choose a different passage or use a clearly editorial description of the visible action.

03 **Break the phrase where someone would pause**
Read each caption out loud. Keep the person and the action together when wrapping to a second line. Move the text away from faces, directional cues and important interface elements. Play at normal speed on a phone and check that the final word stays visible long enough to read before the next shot arrives.

04 **Compare two openings on the same cut**
Hold the trim, crop and caption position steady. Change only the opening line, then show each version to a fresh viewer. Ask what they expect to happen and what actually happened. Keep the version whose promise the clip fulfills. Log the rejected line so you can explain the choice later.

ON THE TIMELINE

Introduce the gate scene

Version A / Try “Jason waits outside.” over the opening and check whether the first frame already tells you that.

Version B / Try “Who is Lucia meeting?” and play through the reverse shot that answers it.

Clean frame / Remove the opening text for a third pass. Choose the version that gives a new viewer enough context.

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Caption pass

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 2 / 01:00.6 to 01:09.6

Check a campaign before you post



01 **Match the source to the brief**

Open the organizer's current brief and reference files. Copy the named creator, account, broadcast and permitted timestamps into your handoff sheet. Compare those details with the actual source link. A trailer used in these editing lessons can feature the right game while coming from a different account than the brief requires.

02 **Write down the posting conditions**

Record the accepted platform, the account you will use, the required audio or caption, and any logo or attribution placement. Check the current account connection on the provider. If the campaign requires an approved draft, send that file and save the approval before publishing. Keep the approved version separate from later edits.

03 **Read the conditions attached to the rate**

Find the qualifying-view definition, minimum, cap per post, review conditions and remaining budget. In a practice brief offering $2 per thousand qualifying views with a $4 minimum, 2,000 qualifying views reaches the threshold. Treat that calculation as a planning example. The provider determines eligibility, approval and payment.

04 **File the live link and retain the receipt**

For standard Content Rewards submissions, publish publicly from a verified, connected account and file the post within 30 minutes. Each post can be submitted to one campaign once. Open the public link, check the destination account, then submit through the provider. Save the receipt or status screen before retrying any failed-looking submission.

ON THE TIMELINE

Catch a source mismatch before editing

Source check / Compare the owner of the footage with the creator specified in the practice brief.

Decision / Mark the trailer as an editing exercise. Hold the campaign cut until you obtain the permitted stream.

Prepare the handoff / Add the brief URL, account, platform and draft rule to the worksheet. Leave receipt and payment blank until those events happen.

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Campaign handoff

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 2 / 02:18 to 02:26

Hand off a cut someone can publish



01 **Review the actual export**

Open the saved file outside your editor. Check the first frame, the final frame and every transition at normal speed. On the first pass, mute it and look for a missing setup, clipped text or an accidental frame from the next scene. On the second pass, use headphones and listen for a chopped word or an abrupt sound change.

02 **Give the reviewer one decision**

Send one current file with the source time, intended destination and a specific question. “Can you still see the boat enter on the right at 00:05?” leads to an actionable reply. Ask the reviewer to give their note in local export time. Record what changed and increase the revision number for the replacement file.

03 **Prepare a posting packet**

Put the approved export, final caption, source attribution and any campaign instructions in one place. A filename such as leonida-boats-v02.mp4 connects the file to its review notes. Use your actual file extension. Save the approved filename and reviewer in the handoff sheet before you send the packet.

04 **Close the loop after publication**

Open the public URL in a signed-out view when the platform permits it. Verify the account, caption, crop and audio on the published copy. Save the post link and time. For campaigns, record the provider receipt separately. If you revisit the edit later, compare the original revision and record what you changed.

ON THE TIMELINE

Deliver a single Leonida transition

Trim / Keep the beach-to-boats transition and stop before the night drive. Mark both boundaries in the cut plan.

Review / Export a revision and play the saved file. Check whether the boat is visible before the next scene begins.

Hand off / Write one timestamped question, save the filename and record the original trailer as the source.

COMPANION WORKSHEET

Campaign handoff

SOURCE FOOTAGE

Trailer 1 / 00:18.7 to 00:26.7

The final playback

Use this pass on the exported file before handing it to another editor or publishing it. Record each decision on the matching worksheet.

SOURCE

Can someone find the exact original?

Record the creator, original URL, permitted source interval and the offset between local and source time. Keep the permission or brief with the recording.

PICTURE

Can a new viewer follow the event on mute?

Name the setup, action and result. Scrub the portrait crop at each beat. Remove any flash of the next scene after the payoff.

TEXT & SOUND

Does the line on screen match the scene?

Listen for partial phrases and verify speaker names. Read the first caption at normal speed with the destination controls overlaid.

DELIVERY

Can the next person publish the right revision?

Record the approved filename, account, caption and credit. If a provider requires a draft, keep its approval with the matching file. Add the public URL and receipt after filing.

Reference desk

Twitch video reference

YouTube Shorts eligibility

Content Rewards submission rules

Trailer imagery: Rockstar Games, GTA VI Trailers 1 and 2