

Lead-ins and Lead-outs

What are lead-ins and lead-outs?

- **These are the spaces in time between the text appearing on-screen and the audio becoming audible.**
- **Lead-ins** are the time when the subtitle *shows up before the talent speaks*.
- Lead-outs are the time the subtitles *disappear after the talent speaks*.
- This is used to get the viewer to *sync up the subtitles with the audio* by compensating for the time it takes for the brain to process both sight and hearing.

[h1r leads.png](#)

Minimum and recommended values

	Minimum	Recommended
Standard lead-in	at least 150ms	250-300ms
Standard lead-out	at least 300ms	500-600ms

Just because they're the minimum, doesn't mean it's appropriate to stay at the minimum at all times. Some subtitled lines **can** look better if they have extended lead-ins and lead-outs when appropriate, so you are free to add time if they look better that way. If timing is very tight, you can experiment with lowering the lead-ins and lead-outs beyond the minimum, with a focus on lowering lead-out time first.

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