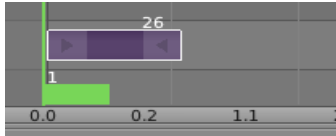


## Chapter 23- Video Sequence Editor

Let's start by adding 2 images to our time line. We'll add a Black screen image and a saved image of our Lighthouse. To do this, click the "Add" button at the bottom of the window and select the "Image" option. You can add Effects, Sounds, Images, Movies and Scenes. Browse to your saved images. My 1<sup>st</sup> image will be a black screen. It doesn't matter which track you drop it



into, but I usually work with the bottom tracks for images and movies. Place the track to start at Frame 1. Items placed in the time line can be selected and moved using standard Blender commands (G key). You can also zoom and pan in the tracks.

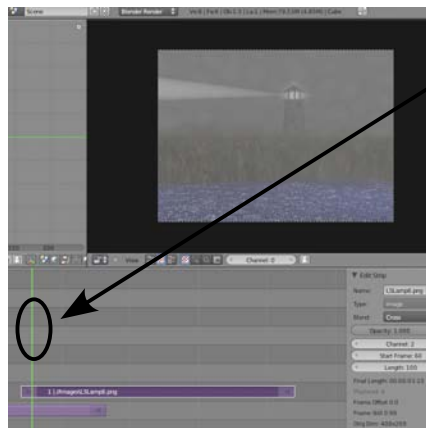
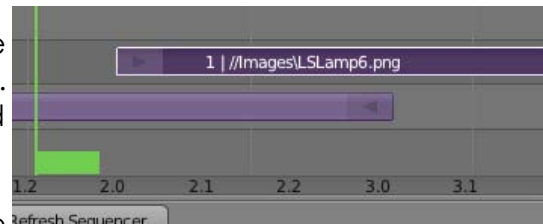
By default, my image came in only 25 frames long- not even a second. This is where you need to get a feel for how long an image should be displayed. I want my black screen to last for 2 seconds plus 1 second for the fade transition. *This would be a total of 3 seconds, or 90 frames.* To lengthen an image, **RMB** click on the end of the strip.



Only the end frame of the strip will highlight and you can stretch it with the "**G**" key. You will also notice that the numbers along the bottom of the window represent seconds.

*Only images can be stretched, videos cannot. They will give the appearance of being lengthened, but only the first or last frame will show longer.*

It's now time to add the second image. Go to the "Add" button again and find the next Image. Place it on the track above the first one and overlap it about 1 second for the transition.



If you grab the green bar on the time line tracks (represents current frame) you can drag it with the **LMB** as you watch the Preview Window. You can scroll the mouse wheel in the Preview Window if you need to zoom in or out. You should notice a switch from black screen to the rendered lighthouse. Right now, it is an abrupt change. We want a smooth cross fade.

To add a Cross Fade, you need to select *Both* tracks that you wish to cross with the **LMB** while holding "Shift" (standard Blender multiple selection command) **It is important that you select the image that appears first in time (black image), then the second. Otherwise, the cross will work backwards.** With both selected, go to the "Add" menu, "Effect Strip" and choose "Cross". Place it in the track above the two. There are many options for different effects.

