

Xpression

- Studio Version
- Designer Version

Layout Window

Sequencer Window

Output Monitors

Datalinq Server

Video Coder +

Interface

Scenes

Objects +

Materials (Global) +

Animation +

Automation

Main Menu

Viewports

Menu

Visual Logic Button

Show/Hide Buttons

Zoom

Project Manager

Scene Manager

Object Manager

Object Inspector  
(Context Sensitive)

Object Library

Fly-in Menu Tabs

Material Manager Tab

Stagger Animations Tab +

Animation Controllers Tab

Effects Tab +

Audio Files Tab

Scene Directors Tab

Create New

Duplicate

Rename (F2)

Organize

Groups

Credit Rolls +

Import Scenes

Visible

Quad

Cube

Sphere

Cylinder

Slab

Text

Fonts (Global)

Tabs/Options

Datalinq

Render Priority

Backgrounds

Lines

3D Models (Imported)

Animation Sequences (Imported)

Audio Files (Imported)

Apply Materials

Apply Effects

Influencers

Groups

Layer Object

Cameras

Lights

Directional

Spot

Point

Bound Lights

Masks +  
(Object & Material)

Camera Layers

Event Markers

Shaders

Raster Images\*

Video\*

Gradient

Reflection Maps

Refraction

Bump Maps

Live Sources

Alpha Mask +

\*Datalinq

File Structure

Audio

Fonts

Images

Misc

Models

Video

Object Inspector

Key Framing

Auto Key

Manual Key

Key Graph Editor

Continuous Animation

Video

Scene Director

Animation  
Controllers

Events

Audio

Video

Effects

Stagger Animations

Scene Director

Datalinq +

Text Files

Spreadsheets

Databases

Internet

Scores

Clocks

Transition Logic +

Visual Logic +

User Input Controls +

Xpression — Studio Version  
— Designer Version

Layout Window      Sequencer Window      Output Monitors      Datalinq Server      Video Coder

Docking Layout +

- Sequencer
  - Menu
  - Edit Enable Button
  - Fast Recall
  - Column Arrangement
  - Frame Buffers +
  - Layers
  - Custom Colors
  - Font Size
  - Collapsable Groups
  - Export Video
  - Inputs
    - Scenes
    - Live Feeds
    - Clips & Images
- Take Inspector
- Output Monitors

Working With Scenes in Sequencer

- Scenes To Sequencer
  - Right Click - "To Sequencer"
  - Don't use published shortcut (CTRL+ALT+Right)  
*It turns your monitor sideways*
  - Drag & Drop
- Populating Scene Templates
  - Manual Duplication & Data Entry
  - User Controls Lists +
  - Template Data Tab
  - Take Inspector
    - Take Item Properties
    - Transitions
    - Template Data
    - Scene Control
  - RELID (Macro)+
- Updating Scenes Already in Sequencer +

Taking Items

- Mouse Right Click
- Double Click Take Item
- Number Key Pad (Num Lock ON)
  - Take Button (Enter)
  - Take Next Button (+)
  - Take Offline (-)
- Cue (.)
- Clear All (CTRL+Bksp)
- Fast Recall
- GPI Mapping +
  - Direct Access Shortcuts
  - Custom Quick Keys
  - User Keys
- Group Functions
  - Manual (Default)
  - Roll / Crawl +
  - Data Pages (Row Pops) +
  - Timed (Same Layer & Buffer)
  - Take All (Different Layers or Buffers)

Outputs

- Virtual Output
- Actual Preview/Program Monitors
- Virtual Previews
  - Preview Monitor
  - Sequencer Playlist (Thumbnails)
- Virtual Output
- Take ID Thumbnail Column
- Actual Program Monitors
- Output Monitor Tab

Xpression — Studio Version  
— Designer Version

Layout Window

Sequencer Window

Output Monitors

Datalinq Server

Video Coder

Datalinq Connects to:

- MS Excel
  - General Table Links
  - Fixed Table Links
- MS Access
- MySQL
- RSS Feeds
- Various Scoreboards
- Captioning
- XML Data Files
- Other Ross Equipment
- & More

Setup Datalinq

- Add New Button
  - Select Template
  - Enter File Path
  - Test Connection
- Use Unique Source Names
- Configure Button to Change
- Browse Button
  - To See Associated Data
  - To Check Connection

Trouble Shooting

- To avoid data source file 'locking'
  - Open Data Source First
  - Open Datalinq Next
  - Open Xpression Last
- If Xpression "Freezes" or Datalinqed Data Doesn't Update
  - Make sure only ONE instance of Datalinq is open
  - Excel: Make sure File Sharing is Checked
  - Try Flushing Caches
  - Ensure scenes are optimized
  - Delete and Re-import Scenes into Sequencer
  - Try restarting Xpression
  - Try Rebooting Computer
- Don't Accidentally Eject Dongle
- Make Periodic Backups of Project Files
  - Files Do Get Corrupted, Especially When Saving File
  - Files Can Be Recovered From Auto Backup File

Optimal Video Compression

- Combines Video, Alpha, and Audio from Different Sources
- Converts
  - Frame Rate
  - Field Mode
  - File Format
  - Audio & Video Codec

Batch Rendering