

Cutting on Action

Communications & Media

Hide the cut inside a movement the eye is already following.

Making the join disappear.

1

Find the movement

A door opening, a rise from a chair, a head turning.

2

Cut mid-gesture

Not before it starts and not after it ends. Cut while it moves.

3

Overlap slightly

Repeat two or three frames of the action in the incoming shot.

4

Change the size

The two shots need a real difference in framing or angle.

5

Watch at speed

Judge at full speed only. Frame-by-frame lies about how a cut feels.

Cutting on action is the most reliable way to make an edit invisible, because motion masks the discontinuity.