

Splicing and Cleaning 8mm and Super 8mm Film

Before you convert your film to digital format, be sure that it is in as good condition as possible. It should be clean and with no broken segments. You can use the equipment at the Cyber Center to inspect, repair, and clean your film.

Whether you clean your film first or repair it first is your choice, and this choice should largely depend on the condition of your film. If your film has been damaged so that sprockets are now broken, you will need to remove the damaged segments or repair with tape splices, and we suggest that you do these repairs before attempting to clean the film. If your film is brittle and easily broken, you should clean and recondition, making splices where they occur.

Before you start, arrange your reels in the order in which you want to view them on your completed DVD. Labeling the boxes or cans of film beforehand will help you load the film in the order that you want to view it on your DVD.

You will need to bring to the Cyber Center:

- **Your film.** If your film is in the original 50-foot boxes, about 8 of these will go on a 7” reel (which holds 400 feet). The Computer Club has acquired a number of 7-inch reels for you to use. You may buy them from the club at our cost, \$2.50 each. The clear ones are for 8mm film, and the blue ones are for Super 8mm.
- **3-4 clean lint-free cloths.** These cloths should be about 5 inches square. Scraps from an old tee shirt are perfect. Use these to clean your film.
- **At least \$2.50 if you plan to buy a 7-inch reel, more if you want to buy a can to hold the reel.** The Computer Club also expects to have cans to hold the 7-inch reels. They are also available for you to acquire at our cost--\$3.00 each..
- **A permanent marker with an ultra fine point (Sharpie brand)** Use it to label the leader ends of your film when splicing two rolls together.

Computer Club Supplies:

The supplies in the workshop include film cement and tape splices to glue your film together. There are in the upper cabinet labeled “Media Conversion Supplies.” There is no charge for using the cement, but our cement splicer can be used only for 8 mm film. If you have Super 8 film, you will have to make repairs using the tape splicers. These are also optional for 8 mm film. Please make a small contribution to defray the cost of these tapes. The suggested contribution is posted in the workroom *currently 10 cents for each tape splice..

Steps in Splicing and Cleaning Your Film

This procedure involves using hand cranks to wind the film from your original reel to a take-up reel (or for Super 8 film, using the editor). In the process you may find that some of your old spliced film is now broken and the splices need to be remade. If your film is still in the original 50-foot boxes, you will need to splice these separate reels together and keep them on larger reels.

We have three splicers in the Cyber Center that offer two different methods for splicing:

- One splicer lets you to stick two ends of tape together using film cement. This splicer works only for 8mm film.
- The other two splicers let you use special sticky tapes (Kodak Prestapes) to piece two segments together; You can use this method for both 8mm and Super 8mm film. We recommend that you use the splicer in the cabinet for 8 mm or Super 8mm film, but limit the third splicer (in the box with the editor) to Super 8 film.
- ***Don't forget to have plenty of leader tape at the start of each of your film rolls.*** We recommend at least 27 inches to avoid losing some of the first frames on your reel. If you have less than that, splice on some additional leader.

How to Use the Film Rewinds

We have two film rewinds mounted on a long board. Use these on 8mm film. Use the film rewinds on the editor to wind, inspect, clean and repair Super 8mm. film.

1. Use the right winder as the take-up reel. The film winds over the top of both reels.
2. Load the reels so that the film has its dull (emulsion) side up.
3. The sprocket holes on the film should face you.
4. ***Be sure to rewind the film back to the left reel (the reel you want to keep your film on).***

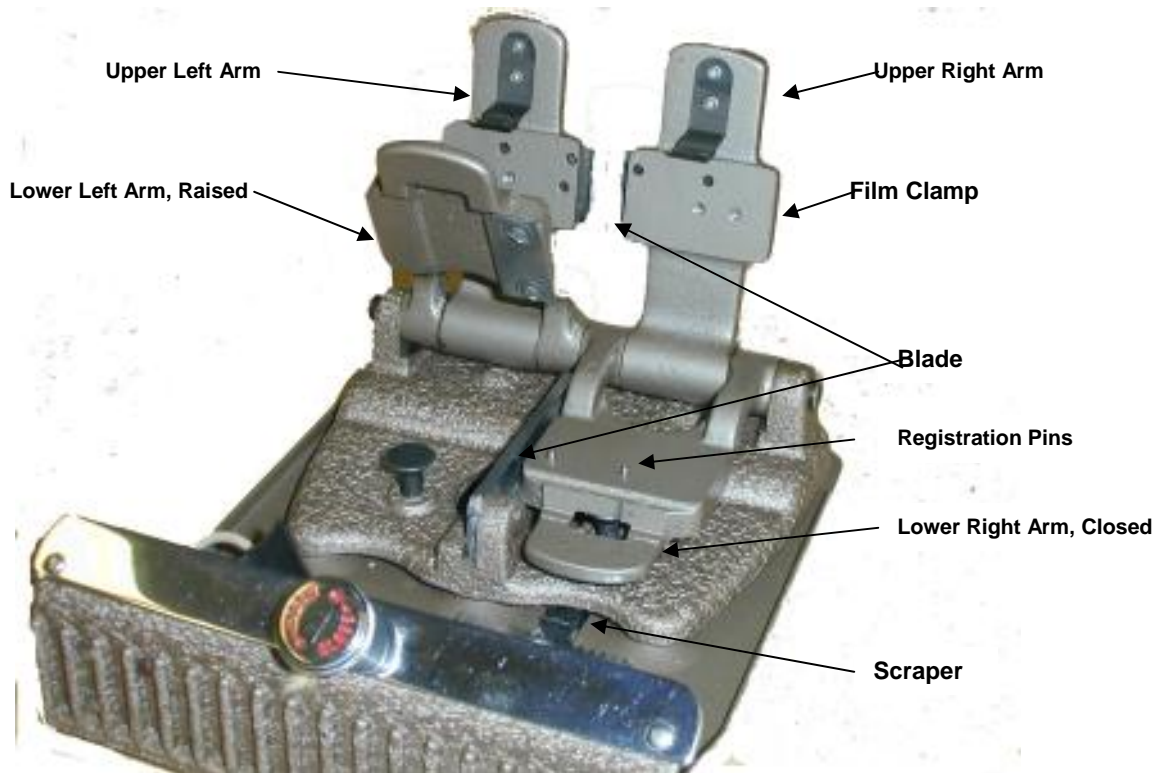
Cleaning the Film

While your film is loaded on the film rewinds or on the two reels of the editor, use the special cleaner provided by the club (Filmrenew) to dampen one of the cloths you brought with you. This solution will both clean and recondition your film.

As you wind the film with one hand, hold the cloth in the other hand and wrap two fingers around the film so that you can clean both sides as you rotate the film rewinds. Apply gentle pressure. Stop occasionally to inspect the cloth and reposition it so that you are continually using a clean part of the cloth. If your film is very dirty, replace your cloth with a clean one as often as necessary.

How to Use the Cement Film Splicer on 8mm Film

.Be sure to keep emulsion (dull side) of the film strip up at all times. When you splice two original reels of film together, leave some of the leader at the end of the film attached and use your Sharpie pen to label the leader.

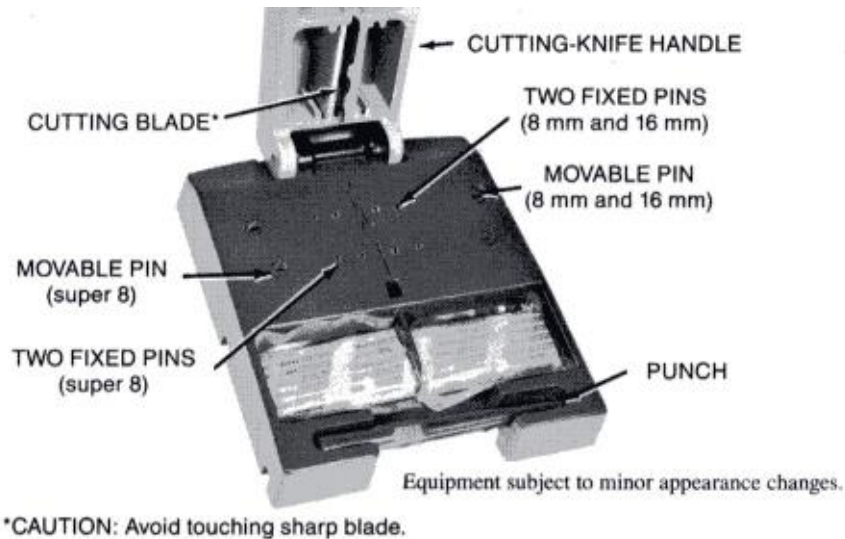


1. Place the film carefully in the splicer, sprocket holes facing you. Lay the holes onto the registration pins.
2. Raise upper and lower left arm and upper right arm. Place film on RIGHT side of registration pins, emulsion side up, and clamp with upper right arm.
3. Cut film by pressing left arm down.
4. Raise upper and lower right arm leaving film between them,

5. Place other film to be spliced on registration pins on lower left arm, emulsion side up, and clamp with left arm.
6. Cut your film using the right arm of the splicer.
7. Dip one end of a small cloth into water for moistening film protruding beyond left arm and scrape all emulsion from this film portion with scraper, by sliding back and forth. Wipe off all scrapings with a clean cloth. Make sure the surface of film is clean and DRY before applying cement.
8. Apply film cement to scraped film surface, then bring down right arm over the cemented portion and leave clamped for **at least one minute**. Lift all arms and remove film from registration pins slowly and carefully and the splice is now complete.

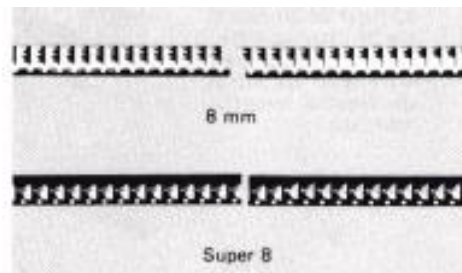
How to Use the Kodak Presstape Splicer on 8mm or Super 8mm Film

In the picture below, note the different pins for the size film you are working with. This splicer will also handle 16mm film, but our conversion equipment does not support 16mm.



1. Raise the cutting-knife handle. For Super 8 film, place one film strip on the splicer base so that the film perforations are over the bottom row of three pins (two fixed, one movable) to the left of the marked center line, with the end of the film extending beyond the center line. For 8mm film, use the top row of pins.
2. Place the second film strip, same side up as the first one, over the three pins to the right of the center line. The end of this film strip must overlap the center line.
3. Lower the cutting-knife handle and apply sufficient pressure to cut the overlapping ends of the film at the center line. This will produce the cuts shown at right.

Raise the handle and remove the top trimmed end of the film. Do not disturb the two film strips.



4. Remove one package of PRESSTAPES from the transparent bag. Remove one of the tapes from the package. Apply the tape (printed side up) over the

center cut by placing the tape perforations over the four fixed pins, with the center line of the tape over the cut ends of the film.

5. Holding the left side of the tape down, carefully pull off the right paper flap. Apply finger pressure to the tape to seal it to the film.
6. Holding the right side of the film down, carefully pull off the left paper flap. Apply finger pressure to the tape to seal it to the film. Place the punch over the fixed pins to press the tape down.
7. Remove the film from the pins and discard the bottom trimmed end.

How to Use the Editor-Viewer for Super 8mm film

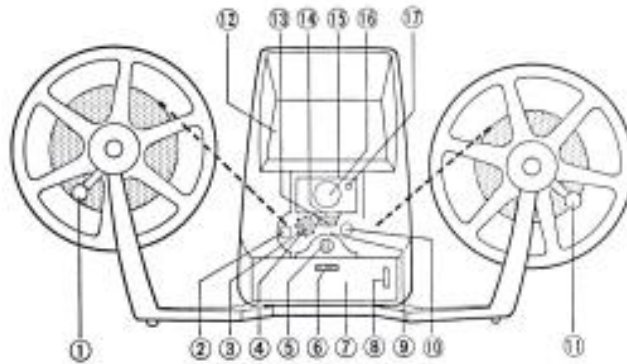
PLEASE READ THIS BEFORE STARTING TO USE THIS EQUIPMENT.

The Computer Club has been able to borrow a film editor that you can use to review and repair Super 8mm film. To avoid making adaptations, please don't use this equipment for regular 8 mm film. The editor is stored in a cardboard box underneath the film conversion area of the lab.

Complete the first step before plugging the cord into the electric outlet. This turns on the lamp, which heats up quickly. When finished, unplug the cord so that the equipment may cool before you return it to the storage box.

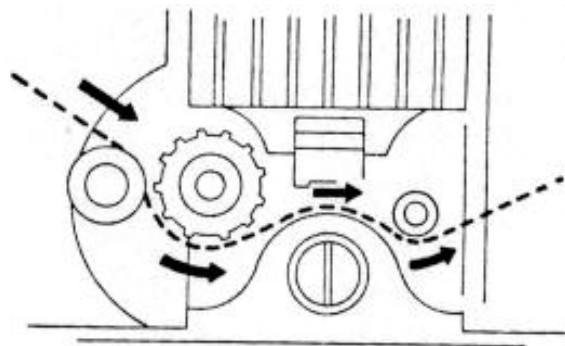
DESCRIPTION OF PARTS

- ① Rewind handle
- ② No. 1 Guide Roller
- ③ Sprocket
- ④ Frame Adjustment Knob
- ⑤ Film-type Selector Button
- ⑥ Focusing wheel
- ⑦ Mirror housing cover
- ⑧ Lamp Switch
- ⑨ Filmgate (aperture)
- ⑩ No. 2 Guide Roller
- ⑪ Take-up handle
- ⑫ Screen
- ⑬ Frame Marker
- ⑭ Condenser
- ⑮ Lamp house cover
- ⑯ Lamp cover
- ⑰ Lamp change and adjustment screw



Operating Instructions

1. First of all, pull both rewind arms forward into normal position. Place your full reel on the left rewind arm, making sure that the film leads off from the top, and the perforation side is facing towards you. Place an empty reel on the right arm. Thread the film over the first roller, under the sprocket wheel (making sure that the teeth of the sprocket wheel engage properly into the perforation holes of the film) over the aperture (film gate) and under the second roller.



2. Pull through sufficient film to allow you to lead it into the take-up reel..

3. Plug the power cord into the electric outlet, switch on the lamp and you are ready to view and edit your film.

Focusing

Use the focusing wheel until the picture becomes sharp.

Individual Frame Viewing

If you want to inspect individual frames of your film, turn the frame advance wheel to the right to review the film or left to advance a frame.

Frame Marking

To mark the points in the film where you want to cut, press the frame marker downwards. This will punch a small hole in the film. Do this at the beginning and end of each of the sequences concerned.

Frame Adjustment

If the picture is not properly center on the screen, push in the frame advance button and turn the take-up handle slightly clockwise to make the necessary adjustment.

Splicing

To splice your film, place the film splicer in front of the editor, then disengage the film from the film gate. Roll off sufficient film to feed into the splicer. Then follow the instructions for using the film splicer.

Rewinding

Disengage the film completely from the film gate and the film can be easily rewound.

Storing the Equipment

Unplug the cord.

When you have wound the film back on the original reel, remove the reels from the rewinds. Wait until the equipment has cooled before folding in the rewind arms, and placing the unit back into the box.

Maintenance Issues

To change the lamp, remove the lamp-house cover by pulling it toward you. You will find another supplementary cover on the lamp which can also be removed by pulling it out. The special lamp (6V/10W) has a bayonet mount. To remove it, loosen the screw located just above the lamp which will automatically release it. When installing a new lamp, it is necessary to adjust it or else you will find an unbalanced light and shadows on the screen. To adjust the position of the lamp, switch on the light and push the lamp in until the light is balanced on the screen. Hold lamp in this position and tighten the screw.

The film gate (aperture) should be cleaned occasionally with a soft lens brush. It is also advisable to switch off the light when the Editor-Viewer is not in use and the film is threaded in, since the heat from the lamp may harm the film.