

LayerStash

Quick Start Guide

Version 1.0

For Adobe After Effects 25.4 and 26.0

Save once. Reuse everywhere.

1. Installation

Using the aescripts + aeplugins Manager (Recommended)

The easiest way to install and license LayerStash is by using the **aescripts + aeplugins manager**.

Step 1: Download and install the aescripts + aeplugins manager from **aescripts.com/learn/aescripts-aeplugins-manager-app** if you don't already have it.

Step 2: Open the manager and log in with your aescripts.com account.

Step 3: Find LayerStash in your purchased products and click Install.

Step 4: Restart After Effects.

Step 5: Go to **Window** in the top menu bar and click **LayerStash** to open the panel.

> *To install a trial, select **Add Trial** from the **Account** menu in the manager.*

Manual Installation

Step 1: Open After Effects.

Step 2: Go to **File > Scripts > Install ScriptUI Panel...**

Step 3: Select the **LayerStash_v1.0.jsxbin** file.

Step 4: Restart After Effects.

Step 5: Go to **Window > LayerStash** to open the panel. Dock it anywhere you like.

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2. Licensing

When you first open LayerStash, you will be prompted to enter your license key or start a trial.

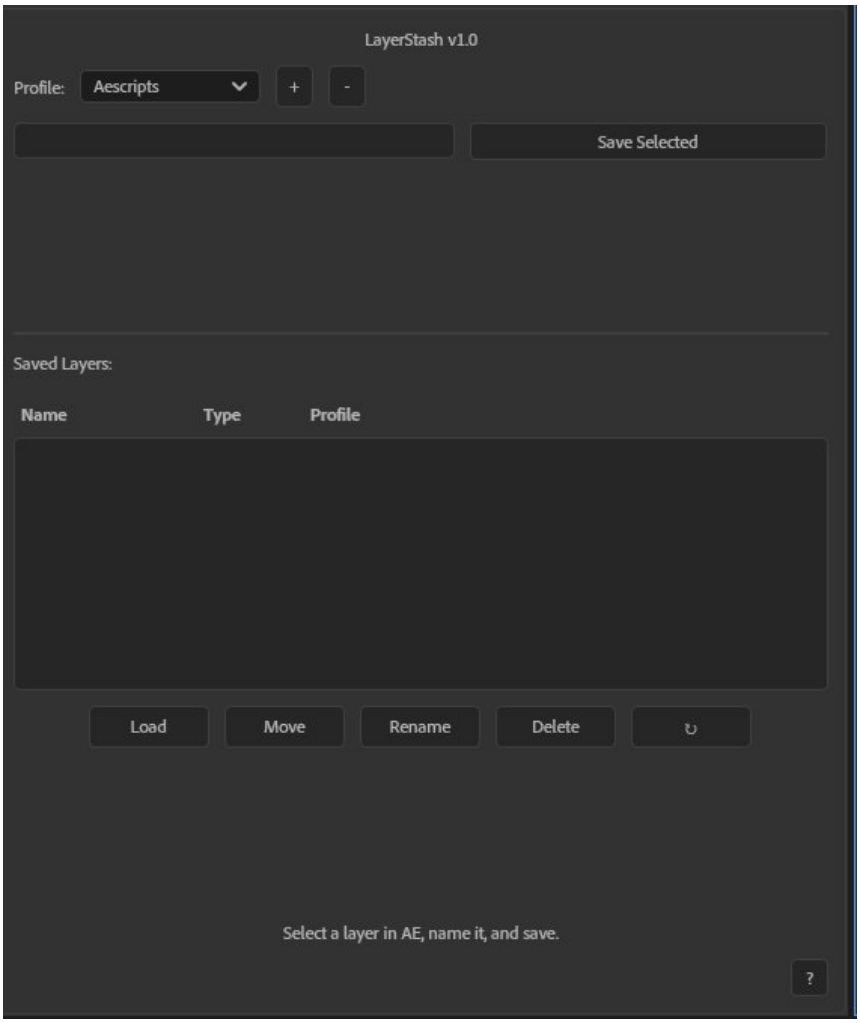
To activate your license: Paste your license key into the prompt and click OK. Your license key is available in your aescripts.com account under My Downloads.

To start a trial: Type **trial** in the prompt. The trial runs for 10 days with limited features (2 saved layers, no profiles).

You can enter your license at any time by clicking the **Enter License** button in the panel, or access license tools by clicking the **?** button.

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3. The LayerStash Panel



The panel shows your saved layers organized by profile. From here you can save, load, move, rename, and delete layers.

Element	What It Does
Profile dropdown	Switch between client/project profiles
+ button	Create a new profile
- button	Delete the current profile
Save Selected	Save the selected layer(s) to your current profile
Load	Load the selected saved layer into your active composition
Move	Move a saved layer to a different profile

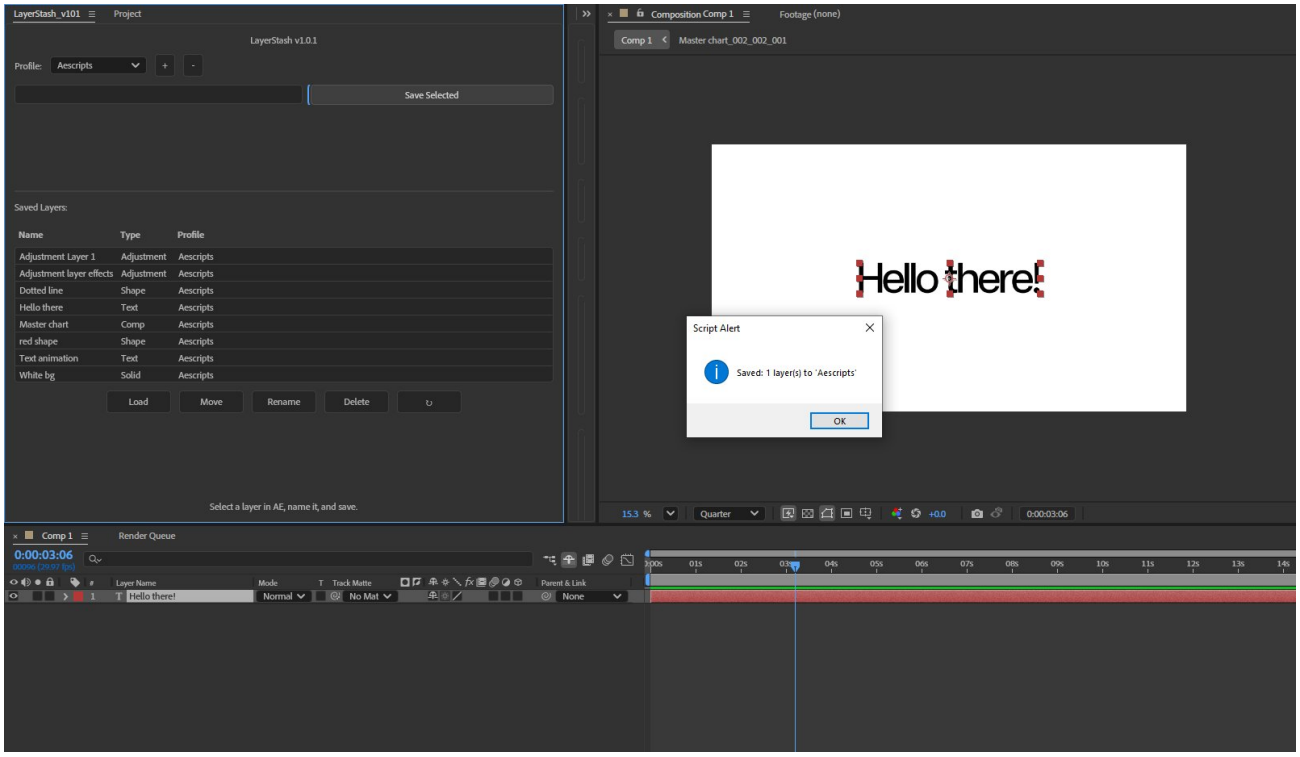
Rename	Rename a saved layer
Delete	Permanently remove a saved layer
? button	Open help, license info, and support tools

4. Saving a Layer

Step 1: Select a layer in your After Effects timeline — text, shape, solid, adjustment, null, or precomp.

Step 2: Type a name in the text field at the top of the LayerStash panel.

Step 3: Click **Save Selected**. A confirmation will appear.



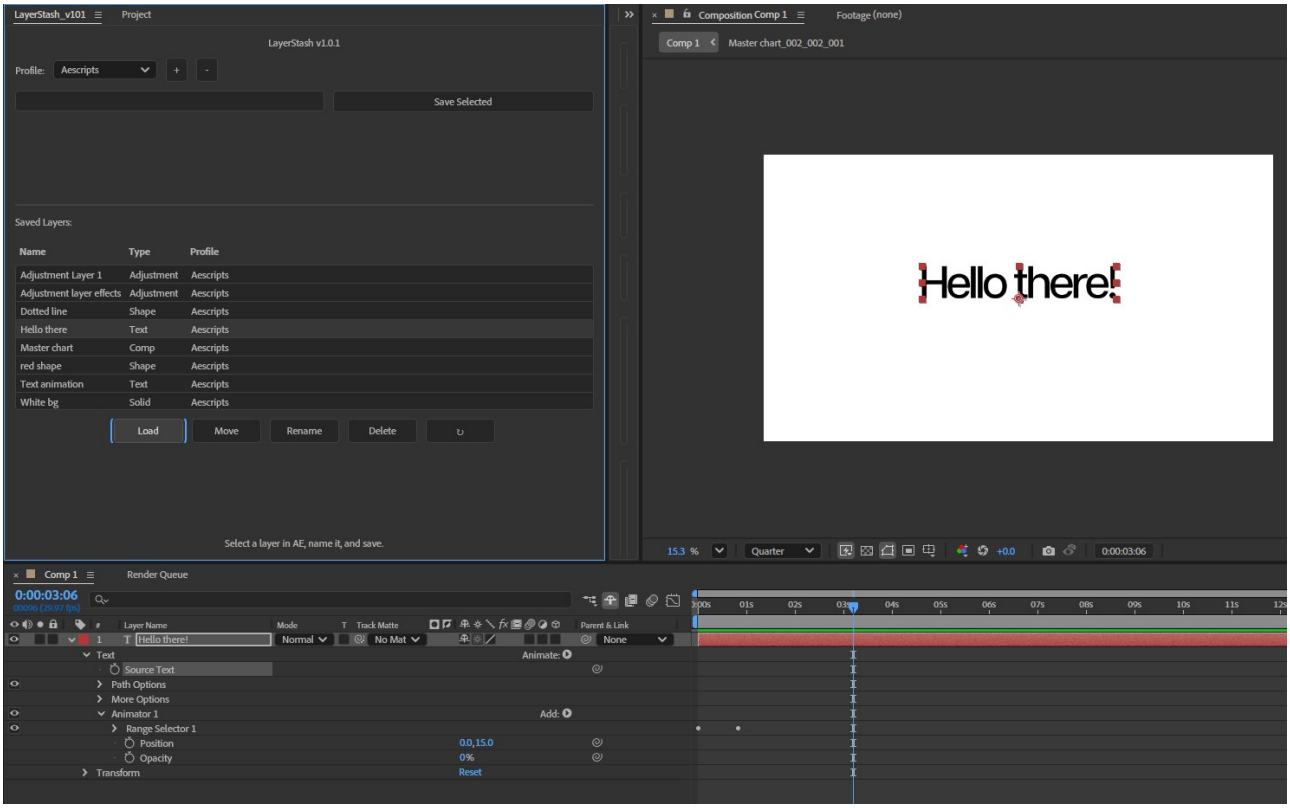
LayerStash saves everything about the layer: effects, keyframes, expressions, masks, layer styles, text animators, and transform properties.

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5. Loading a Layer

Step 1: Open any project and composition.

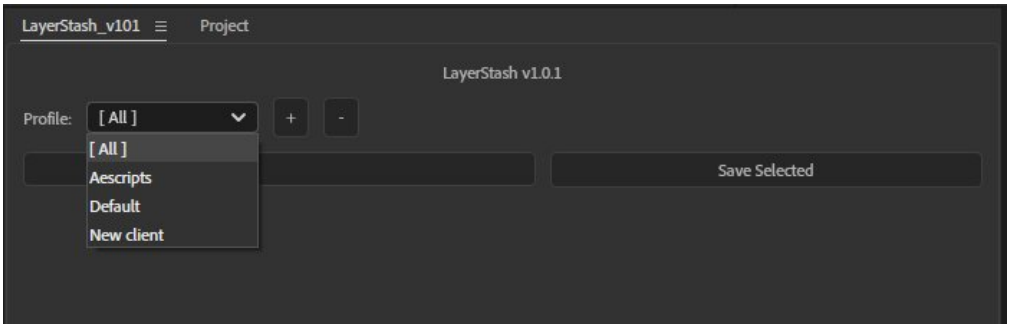
Step 2: Click on a saved layer in the list and click **Load**, or simply double-click the layer.



The layer appears in your active composition with all properties intact — exactly how you saved it.

6. Using Profiles

Profiles let you organize saved layers by client, project, or any category. Each profile has its own set of layers.



Create a profile: Click the **+** button and enter a name.

Switch profiles: Use the dropdown to select a different profile.

Delete a profile: Select it and click the **-** button.

View all layers: Select **[All]** from the dropdown.

Move layers: Select a layer, click **Move**, and choose the destination profile.

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7. Supported Layer Types

Layer Type	What's Preserved
Text	Font, color, tracking, leading, text animators, range selectors, expression selectors
Shape	Paths, fills, strokes, gradients, dashed lines, trim paths, repeaters, merge paths, offset paths, wiggle paths, round corners, pucker/bloat
Solid	Color, dimensions
Adjustment	All applied effects with settings and keyframes
Null	Transform properties
Precomp	Nested compositions up to 2 levels deep, including all layers within

All layer types also preserve: transform keyframes, expressions, effects, masks, layer styles, and parenting hierarchies.

8. Tips for Best Results

• **Unlink before saving:** If a layer is parented to another layer, remove the parent link before saving individually. This ensures all effects and keyframes transfer correctly.

• **Use profiles:** Create a profile for each client or project to keep your library organized.

• **Name layers clearly:** Use descriptive names like 'Client A - Title Card' so you can find them quickly.

• **Save building blocks:** LayerStash works best for individual elements — your go-to text styles, grade stacks, animated shapes. Think of it as a personal asset library.

• **Same version:** For the most reliable results, save and load layers within the same version of After Effects.

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9. Known Limitations

• **Precomp nesting:** Supported up to 2 levels deep.

• **Parenting chains:** Supported but can occasionally behave unexpectedly with complex chains. Unlink parented layers before saving individually for best results.

• **Pseudo-effects:** Effects relying on external .ffx preset files may not recreate perfectly without the original preset installed.

• **Cross-version files:** Layers saved in AE 25.x should be re-saved in AE 26.0 for best results in the newer version.

• **Camera and Light layers:** Not currently supported.

LayerStash v1.0
Built by Sarthak Agarwal
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Support: aescripts.com/layerstash