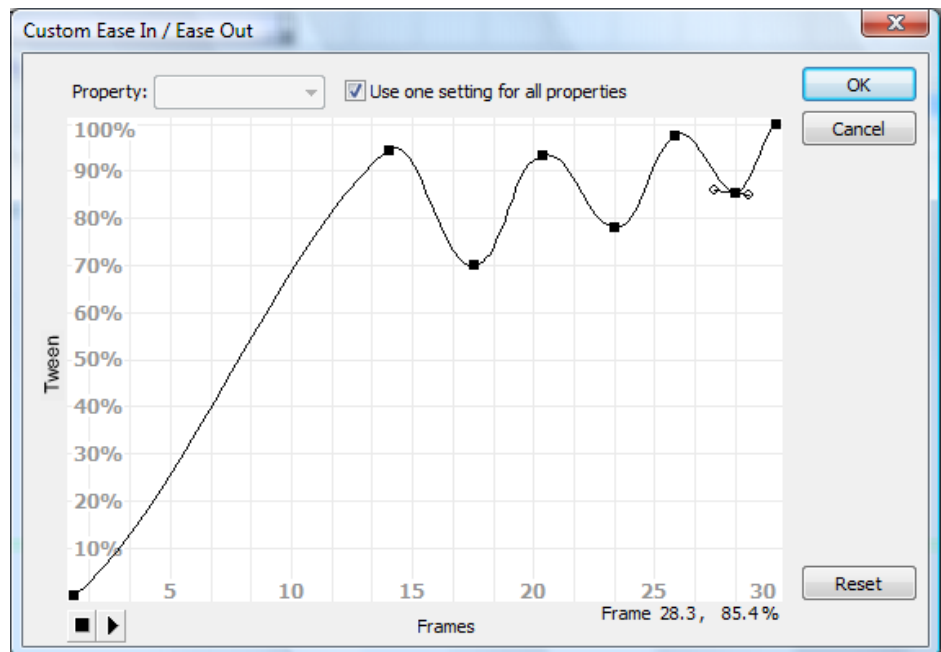
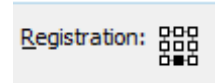


## Text Animation – Bouncy Letters

1. Set the frame rate to 30 fps so the animation runs smoothly
2. Type in the word(s) you'd like to animate. Format the font, color & size.
3. Set a guide just below the word. You'll need to use this later.
4. Break the text apart one time so each letter can be moved independently.
5. Convert each letter to a symbol, making it a movie clip. Name them appropriately. Identify the registration point as the lower, middle point. This is how Flash determines measurements.
6. Select all letters on your stage and right click, Distribute to Layers. Notice that each letter is now on a different layer so that they can be animated independently of each other. The layers are named after the movie clip.
7. Find the layer of your first letter. In the 1<sup>st</sup> keyframe, use the arrows on your keyboard to move the letter to just above the stage. Insert a keyframe in frame 30 (1 second), and use the arrows to move your letter down to sit on the guide. Right click on the 1<sup>st</sup> keyframe and Insert a Motion Tween. The letter should drop onto the stage now.
8. To give the letter a "bouncy" appearance, we'll use the Ease option in the Properties Panel. By changing the number you'll simply adjust the speed to which the letter finishes. Click somewhere in the Motion Tween on your first layer. Click on the Edit button next to the Ease slider. A graph will open that will allow you to plot different points to give the letter the bounce. Experiment with the points, but in the end, you'll want it to look similar to the one at the right.



9. Insert a new keyframe in frame 31 and again in frame 45. Click in frame 45 and move the letter off the stage at the bottom. Right click in frame 31 and Insert Motion Tween. We want the letter to spin as it falls off the stage. In the Properties Panel find the Rotate menu and choose CCW for Counter Clockwise, and choose to rotate it once.
10. Preview the animation so far and save it.
11. Instead of repeating all of those steps for each letter, we will use the Copy Motion command to apply the same keyframes, Motion Tweens, Ease and Rotate to each letter. Click on the layer of your first letter to select ALL frames on that layer. Right click on one of the frames and choose Copy Motion. You'll have to Paste Motion to each individual letter by right-clicking in the first keyframe of each layer.

## Text Animation – Bouncy Letters

12. Preview the animation and you'll notice that the letters don't start in the same place. There is an easy way to adjust them. Click on the Edit Multiple Frames button at the bottom of the timeline. Expand the brackets at the top of the timeline to encompass the entire animation. Lock the layer of the first letter. Select the remaining layers. Use the arrows on your keyboard to align them with the first letter. Turn off the Edit Multiple Frames. Now preview your animation – you should see all the letters bouncing and falling at the same time. Save it.
13. Next we'll change it so that the letters start at different times. Keep the layers locked except for the one you want to work with. You want the letters to appear in ½ second increments, so the second letter should start on frame 15. Highlight the second layer so all frames are selected. Position your mouse over the first keyframe and drag it to start on frame 15. You now have an empty keyframe in frame 1. Lock the layer and unlock the next one. Repeat with each letter until they each start 15 frames after the previous letter. Preview the animation and save.
14. This looks pretty good on its own, but we can make it more interesting by giving it a shadow. The first thing we'll need to do convert what we've done so far to a movie clip. Select all of the frames in all of the layers. Right click and choose Copy Frames. Go to the Insert Menu and Create a New Symbol – a movie clip called Letters\_Movie. Once you are in that movie, right click on the 1<sup>st</sup> keyframe and choose Paste Frames. Go back to the main timeline and in a new layer, position the Letters\_Movie clip just above the top left of the stage. Delete the rest of the layers. If you preview the movie, it should look just like it did before converting it to a movie clip.
15. Create a new layer, call it Shadow and move it to the bottom. Copy the keyframe from your Movie layer and paste it in the Shadow layer. Use the arrows to move the movie from your Shadow layer below the movie in the Movie layer. Modify > Transform > Flip Vertical. You may need to adjust the positioning more than once – you want the bottoms of each movie clip to bump into each other on the guide you set at the beginning of this lesson. It should sit somewhere below the bottom of the stage. Once you get it positioned properly you'll need to change the appearance to make it resemble a shadow. Select the movie clip on the Shadow layer. Go to the Properties Panel and choose Tint from the Color menu. Change the Tint to a light gray. Next, go to the Filters Panel and click on the plus sign. Choose Blur, and set the X and Y to 15 pixels.
16. It would look better if the Shadow didn't continue after it bumped into the original movie clip. We can change this by adding a mask to show the area that we want to see. Create a new layer above the Shadow layer, call it Mask. Draw a rectangle of any color that fills the area of the stage below the guide. Right click on the layer and choose Mask. Now when you preview the animation, your shadow disappears after it bumps into the original movie.