

THE CLIPPING SERVICE KIT

Turn one long video into five clips for a client: the five steps, the permission email, the clip checklist, the sample pack and the proof test

A long video holds several moments that stand on their own. A clipping service cuts them into short, captioned clips for a client. The way I would offer it: ask first, cut five moments, send a free sample. Facts are quoted from the pages listed on page 4 (checked October 9, 2026). Educational only, not legal advice. Not affiliated with OpusClip, YouTube or the U.S. Copyright Office. No income or views are promised.

THE 5 STEPS

- Step 1. Pick one client who records long videos and has few Shorts: a local business, a podcast, a coach with webinars. Ask before you touch anything (permission email, page 2).
- Step 2. Read the transcript and pick five moments that make sense on their own: a question and its answer, a short story, one tip. Note each start and end time (page 3).
- Step 3. Cut them with a clipping tool. OpusClip is one example (its prices are quoted below). The tool suggests, you decide: watch every clip before it goes anywhere.
- Step 4. Add captions and export vertical. YouTube's help page (quoted below) names vertical or square, up to three minutes, for Shorts.
- Step 5. Send the client five finished clips as a free sample, then offer a monthly pack. Sell the clips and the delivery date, never the views: nobody controls views.

WHAT THE PAGES SAY (CHECKED OCTOBER 9, 2026)

OpusClip pricing page (opus.pro/pricing)

Free plan: "\$0 USD/mo" "60 credits per month" "Has watermark" "No editing" "After 3 days, the clips will no longer be exportable". Starter plan: "\$15 USD/mo" "150 credits per month" "AI animated captions in 20+ languages" "Remove Watermark". Prices change: read the live page before you quote them.

YouTube Help (the two Shorts pages)

"Any videos uploaded on or after this date with a square or vertical aspect ratio up to three minutes in length will be categorized as Shorts on YouTube." (entry for videos uploaded after October 15, 2024) And: "You can upload vertical videos saved to your computer or smartphone as Shorts."

THE PERMISSION EMAIL (COPY, PASTE, KEEP THE REPLY)

Subject: Can I turn your episodes into short clips? (free sample)

Hi [NAME], I watch [SHOW OR BUSINESS] and your video [VIDEO TITLE] has a few moments that would work as short clips. With your written OK, I will cut five clips from it, add captions, and send them to you free, with no obligation. You decide whether to post them, and you can ask me to delete them at any time. Can I go ahead? Please reply "Yes, go ahead" and I will start. Thanks, [YOUR NAME]

WHAT THE REPLY SHOULD COVER (SAVE IT WITH THE FILES)

- ☐ Which videos: paste the links, so there is no argument later about which ones.
- ☐ Where the clips may be posted and who posts them (you from your account, or them from theirs).
- ☐ How long the permission lasts and how either side can end it.
- ☐ The credit line you will use (for example "From [SHOW NAME]").
- ☐ What happens to the clips if you stop working together.
- ☐ Whether you may show the clips in your portfolio.

This is a checklist, not legal advice. Before you charge money, have a lawyer look at the written agreement you will use.

WHAT THE U.S. COPYRIGHT OFFICE SAYS (OCT 9, 2026)

Could I be sued for using somebody else's work?

"If you use a copyrighted work without authorization, the owner may be entitled to bring an infringement action against you. ... However, in cases of doubt, the Copyright Office recommends that permission be obtained."

How much do I have to change?

"... you cannot claim copyright to another's work, no matter how much you change it, unless you have the owner's consent." And: "There are no legal rules permitting the use of a specific number of words, a certain number of musical notes, or percentage of a work."

POST FROM THEIR CHANNEL, NOT WITH THEIR PASSWORD

YouTube Help: channel permissions (support.google.com/youtube/answer/9481328)

"Multiple people can be granted five different levels of permissions to manage your channel without needing access to your Google Account." Granting permissions "Is safer than sharing your password or other sensitive sign in details." The Editor role: "Can upload and publish content" and "Can't delete channel or published content". If a client wants you to post, ask them to add you with channel permissions.

THE CLIP CHECKLIST (RUN IT ON EVERY CLIP)

- ☐ It starts with the point: the first sentence tells a stranger why to keep watching.
- ☐ One idea only. It makes sense without the rest of the episode.
- ☐ No half sentence at the start or the end. Cut at a natural pause.
- ☐ Captions checked word by word: names, numbers and brand names are the usual misses.
- ☐ Vertical. For YouTube Shorts, three minutes or less.
- ☐ The sound is clear, and there is no third-party music unless the client owns the rights.
- ☐ The client approved the clip in writing, and the credit line is ready for the description.
- ☐ File name: [CLIENT]_[EPISODE]_clip[1 to 5].mp4, so nothing gets mixed up.

THE FIVE-CLIP SAMPLE PACK (WORKSHEET)

#	Start - end time	First sentence (the hook)	Why it stands alone	Captions OK?
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

Free plan reminder (OpusClip's own page): "After 3 days, the clips will no longer be exportable". Download the five clips the same day, whichever tool you use.

THE MONTHLY PACK PLAN (FILL IT IN BEFORE YOU QUOTE)

Pack	Clips a month	Turnaround	Revisions	Posting included?	My price
Small					
Medium					
Large					

- Price from your own hours: time to make one clip x your hourly target + the tool cost (OpusClip Starter is quoted on page 1) = your floor. No price in this kit is a recommendation.
- Promise the number of clips and the delivery day. Never promise views, followers or leads.

PROOF TEST LOG (ONE ROW PER PROSPECT)

Client / channel	Long videos?	Few Shorts?	Asked (date)	Reply	Sample sent	Result

Message to send WITH the five clips (after they said yes)

Hi [NAME], here are the five clips from [VIDEO TITLE] we talked about, captioned and vertical. Use any you like and tell me which ones to fix. If you want five new ones every month, tell me and I will send the details.

THREE MISTAKES TO AVOID

- Clipping first and asking later. Get the yes in writing before you cut anything you plan to send.
- Sending a sample that is a random start-to-finish chunk. Five moments that stand on their own, or nothing.
- Promising views. You control the clips and the date. The audience is not yours to promise.

WHERE THIS COMES FROM (ALL CHECKED OCTOBER 9, 2026)

- OpusClip pricing page
- YouTube Help: Understand three-minute YouTube Shorts
- YouTube Help: Get started creating YouTube Shorts
- YouTube Help: Add or remove access to your channel with channel permissions
- U.S. Copyright Office: Copyright FAQ (fair use)

Prices, plans and rules change; read the live page before you rely on a number. Educational only, not legal advice. Not affiliated with OpusClip, YouTube or the U.S. Copyright Office. No income, views or results are promised.

Need clients to pitch?

- I sell ready-made lists of businesses to contact. Message me LIST.
- Free community, more plays like this: skool.com/unlimitedleads
- Email your first prospects: EmailClik.com finds + verifies addresses (free version)