Movavi Screen Recorder 21 for Mac

Don't know where to start?
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Need more help?
Write to us at support@movavi.com
Or click here to open live chat.
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Activating Screen Recorder

**Step 1:** Click the button below to buy an activation key. After the purchase is completed, the key will be delivered to you via e-mail.

![Buy Activation Key]

**Step 2:** Click the key button above the control panel.

![Activation]

**Step 3:** Enter your activation key and click **Activate**.

![Activation Key Input]

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3
Activating without Internet access

If your computer is not connected to the Internet, you can activate Movavi Screen Recorder via e-mail.

**Step 1:** Click the button below to buy an activation key. After the purchase is completed, the key will be delivered to you via e-mail.

**Step 2:** Click the key button above the control panel.

**Step 3:** Enter your activation key and select the **Activate offline** option. Then, click **Activate**.

**Step 4:** In the next window, click **Copy** and transfer this information to a computer or device with an Internet connection.

**Step 5:** When you have access to the Internet, paste the information you copied into a new e-mail and send it to reg@movavi.com. You should receive a reply within an hour. Copy the **registration key** from the reply and transfer it to the computer with Movavi Screen Recorder.
Step 6: Return to the window with offline activation. If you’ve closed the window, repeat steps 1-3 and enter the same activation key you used before. Then, paste the registration key into the box and click Activate.
Getting an activation key
To activate Movavi Screen Recorder, you will need an activation key. You can buy an activation key from our official website or from any of our partners, and it will be delivered to you via e-mail.

1. In the program menu, click Activation and select Buy Activation Key, or use the button below.

2. On the purchase page, click the Buy Now button next to the product that you need.

3. Fill in your billing information and enter a valid e-mail address. IMPORTANT! We will send the activation key to this e-mail address, so please make sure it is entered correctly.

4. After you've completed your payment and your request has been processed, you will receive a confirmation e-mail from support@movavi.com with your activation key.

If you haven’t received your activation key:
• Check the Spam folder of your mailbox
• Contact support
Managing subscription

**My subscription is expiring**
If you see this window, you need to extend your subscription before it expires. Click **Renew Subscription** to go to the purchase page.

![Subscription Expiration Window](image1)

Note that if you don't extend the subscription, the program will go back to trial mode restrictions.

**My subscription has expired**
If your subscription has already expired, you need to renew it to continue using the full version of the program.

1. Click **Renew Subscription**. A web page will open where you can buy a new subscription.

![Subscription Renewal Window](image2)

2. After you make a purchase, you'll receive the activation key in an e-mail. Click **Enter Key** to open the activation window.
3. Copy the key and paste it into the window.
4. Click **Activate**. Done!

![Activation Key Window](image3)
**Trial limitations**

When you first start your copy of Movavi Screen Recorder, it will be running in **LIMITED TRIAL MODE** until you activate the program. You can use all the features, but the following restrictions will apply:

<table>
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<th>TRIAL VERSION</th>
<th>FULL VERSION</th>
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<tr>
<td>A watermark will be added to all videos and screenshots</td>
<td>✔ No annoying watermarks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔ Free updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>✔ Discounts on other Movavi products and upgrades</td>
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Control panel

The compact control panel is the first thing you see when you launch Movavi Screen Recorder. The panel provides you with quick access to all basic tools without blocking the content on your screen.

By default, the panel will be located at the right side of your screen, but you can pin it to any side you like.

*Note that the panel cannot block the Dock (located below by system default).*

**Right border position (default)**

**Upper border position**

**Left border position**

• Click either of the camera buttons to start the area selection tool: 
- to take a screenshot,
- to record screen.

• Click the cogwheel button to open Preferences.

• Click to hide the panel. Click to show it again.

• Clicking will minimize the program to notification area. You can access the program from the notification area menu.

Widget management

You can also add one other tool to the control panel for quick access: audio recording, webcam recording, or the scheduler.

1. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the customization window.
2. Click Select below the tool you need on the control panel. Its icon will appear on the control panel instead of the plus.
3. To launch the tool, click its button.

- To change the quick access tool, click the arrow beside its icon and click Select below a different tool.
- To remove a quick access tool, click Remove in the customization window.
Recording video from screen

This tutorial will show you how to record and save a video from what's happening on your screen.

**Step 1: Set up the capture area**

1. Click the camera button on the control panel or press #2. The area selection tool will start.

2. Select the part of the screen that you want to record:
   - Click and drag on the screen to select the capture area.
   - To record a window or a window panel, hover your mouse pointer over it and click once a frame appears around it.
   - To record the full screen, press Space or click in any part of your screen (make sure no windows are selected!).

To adjust the area, use the orange markers on the frame to drag it or put the exact size in pixels on the panel above.

**Step 2: Set up the sound and webcam**

By default, only the system sound recording is on. To enable webcam and microphone recording, click the corresponding icons:

- 📹 – Webcam off/on
- 📞 – Microphone audio recording off/on
- 🎧 – System audio recording off/on

If you have more than one microphone connected, select the one you need from a list next to the mic icon.
Step 3: Start recording
When you're ready to begin, click the REC button. You will be given a 3-second countdown before the recording begins.

Use these keyboard shortcuts to control the recording process:
##1 - pause the recording
##2 - end capture and save the recording
##3 - take a snapshot of the capture area

Tip: these are the default hotkeys. You can change them in the Keyboard Shortcuts section of the Preferences.
When you're ready to finish your recording, click **Stop** on the recording panel or use the **##2** keyboard shortcut.

**Step 4: Edit the recording (optional)**

When you finish recording, the capture editing window will open. Your video is ready and saved in MKV format, but you can preview it, edit, or export it to a different format.

**Cutting the recording**

To cut out a fragment:
1. Place the position marker around the unwanted fragment and click the **scissors** icon.
2. Move the **cut markers** to adjust the fragment exactly as you want.
3. Click the **trash can** button.

**Saving the edited recording**

To save the trimmed version, or to change the format of your recording:
1. Click the **Export** button. The output options will open.
2. Choose a **name** and **location** for saving the video.
3. Choose a **format** for saving your video.
4. Click **Save** to start processing your recording.
Record audio only
Besides screen activity, you can just as easily record online music, radio, podcasts, and voice input as standalone audio files.

Step 1: Launch the audio recording tool
1. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the customization window. Click Select below "Audio Recording" to add it to the control panel.
2. Click the microphone button to start the widget.

Step 2: Set up the audio
On the recording panel, choose which audio sources you want to record from:

Recording system sounds
To record music, online videos, and any other sounds playing on your computer, click the system audio button.

Recording microphone audio
To record sound from a microphone or any other recording device connected to your computer, click the microphone button. If you have more than one recording device, click the arrow next to the button and select the device you want to record from.

Step 3: Record the audio
Click REC when you're ready to begin recording. You will be given a 3-second countdown before the recording begins.

To end the recording, press #5 or click Stop on the recording panel.

Step 4: Save audio file
When the recording is finished, the capture editor window will appear. Your audio is ready and saved in MP3 format, but you can play it, cut out unwanted fragments or export to a different format:

1. Click Export to open the exporting options.
2. Open the list of formats and select a format you need.
3. Click **Save** to start processing your recording.
You can record your webcam footage without recording screen activity.

**Recording webcam only**

**Step 1: Launch the webcam recording tool**

1. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the customization window. Click Select below "Webcam Recording" to add it to the control panel.
2. Click the webcam button to start the widget.

![Record webcam](image)

**Step 2: Set up the webcam**

1. In the program menu, click Settings and select Preferences. In Preferences, go to the Webcam tab.

![Settings](image)

2. Under Use this webcam, choose the webcam device that you want to use and check that its preview appears on the right.

3. Set up the video options for this webcam:
   • Choose the resolution that you would like to use. The higher the resolution, the higher the webcam video quality will be. However, if the webcam video is small, you may not need a very large resolution.
   • For the best quality, use the highest frame rate that your webcam can provide for the best quality. If your webcam is mostly static or if you want a smaller file size, you may want to use a lower frame rate.

4. Click OK to save the webcam preferences.

![Preferences](image)

For screen recordings, where the webcam video is added as an overlay, you can set up the size and position for your webcam:

• Use the Size on video slider to set the size of the webcam picture relative to the entire video.

• Choose one of the Position on video options to place your webcam picture inside the frame.

You only need to do this once. Enabling webcam recording, both as an overlay and standalone, will automatically use these settings. You can change them anytime.

**Step 3: Set up sound**
Next, choose the audio sources that you want to hear on your recording:

**System sounds**
To record music, online videos, and any other sounds playing on your computer, click the **system audio** button.

off  on

**Microphone**
You can record audio from your webcam's built-in microphone, or use an external microphone for better sound quality:
1. Click the **Microphone** button to enable recording from external devices.
2. Click the arrow above and choose the microphone you want to use from the list.

off  on

**Step 4: Record your video**
When you're ready to begin, click **REC** to start recording. You will be given a 3-second countdown before the recording begins.

Step 5: Edit and export
When you finish recording, the capture editing window will open. Your video is ready and saved in MKV format, but you can preview it, edit, or export it to a different format.
To cut or trim the video, use the scissors button on the toolbar. If you've trimmed the file or if you want to save your recording in a different format, click Export.
Mouse cursor effects
Using mouse effects, you can use the mouse as a pointer and show your viewers where to click. You can enable mouse cursor effects on the effects panel:

By default, the cursor will be highlighted yellow and the mouse clicks red and blue for left and right mouse buttons respectively. However, you can set up the effects the way you like.

Step 1: Open the mouse cursor options
1. On the control panel, click the cogwheel button to open Preferences.
2. In the Preferences window, switch to the Effects tab.

Step 2: Enable the cursor
Select Show cursor on recording. This will make the cursor visible on recordings. To make the cursor invisible, disable this option.
**Step 3: Highlight cursor actions (optional)**
To make the cursor visible even better, you can highlight it or enable a special effect for clicks.

**Highlight cursor**
A semi-transparent circle will appear around the cursor, making it easier to track.

1. Select the **Highlight cursor** option.
2. (optional) The default highlight is yellow. To change the highlight color, click the square on the right and pick the new color.
3. (optional) Use the **Size** slider to make the highlight smaller or larger. The cursor itself will remain the standard size.

Hover your mouse over the square on the right to preview the highlight.

**Highlight clicks**
Concentric circles will appear for every click, color-coded for two mouse buttons.

1. Select the **Highlight clicks** option.
2. (optional) Click the left square to set the color for the left mouse button.
3. (optional) Click the right square to set the color for the right mouse button.

**Mouse click sound**
A clicking sound will play whenever you click the mouse.

1. Enable the **Mouse click sound** option.
2. (optional) The default clicking sound has already been selected for you. If you want to use your own sound, open the drop-down box and choose **Add sound**. Then, open the sound file that you want to use.

*You can use WAV, MP3, AIFF, and AU files.*
Recording keystrokes

If you're making a tutorial that uses keyboard shortcuts, it's helpful to display them on screen for your viewers. Enable keystroke recording to show the keys you pressed at the bottom of the video.

1. On the effects panel, click the keyboard button.

2. To enable keystroke recording, select one of the options:
   - **All keystrokes** — each key you press will appear on screen, including letters and numbers.
   - **Keyboard shortcuts only** — only key combinations such as `Ctrl` or `Esc` will show up on screen. Letters and keys that do not cause an action will not be displayed.

To turn off keystroke recording, click the keyboard button again.

Tip:
Avoid entering any passwords or other sensitive information while you're recording a video with keystroke recording: if you share the video, your viewers will be able to see each character you type.
Scheduling

Any recording can be scheduled for a later time. You can use this to automate your recordings or capture late-night webinars.

Step 1: Set up your recording

Scheduled recordings will start with the currently selected options (system sound, webcam, etc.) Before scheduling the recording:

1. (optional) Default capture area for scheduled recordings is full screen, so if you want to change it, click the camera button on the control panel and select the part of the screen you want to see on your scheduled recording.

2. To enable system sound recording, click the speaker button on the recording panel and make sure it is enabled and highlighted green.

Step 2: Schedule recording

1. On the control panel, click the cogwheel button to open Preferences. Switch to the Scheduler tab.
2. Select Schedule recording.
3. Click the Add Task button.

A task template will appear. Fill in the details for the task:

- **Title** - the name of your recording
- **Date and time** - the moment recording should start
- **Duration** - how long the recording should last (e.g. if you want to record an hour long webinar, set this at 01:00:00)
- **Capture area** - by default, the program will record full screen. However, if you'd like to avoid recording extra parts of the screen, you can select Current area. Be careful: the program will capture the area selected on screen at the moment your recording starts! If you don't select the new area, last recorded area will be used.
- **After capture** - you can set your computer to automatically sleep or shut down when the recording is over.
5. Click Create to add the task to your recording schedule.

Step 3: Enable launching at startup (optional)

The screen recorder needs to be running at the scheduled start time to begin the recording. If you've scheduled the recording for a later date, enable the program to start with your computer so that you don't miss the recording. To do that, open the General section of the Preferences, click More and enable the Launch application at startup option.

Finally, click OK in the Preferences window to save the changes. After the recording is finished, the recording file will be stored in *.mkv format in the output folder with your other screen recordings.

If you need the scheduler often, consider setting up quick access. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the customization window. Click Select below Scheduler to add it to the control panel.
If you are starting a lengthy recording, make sure that you have enough free disk space for saving the temporary recording files.
Time limit
When you record a long webinar or online video, you can limit the recording to a specific time and it will stop automatically once the time is up. This way, you don't have to wait around for the video to end.

1. On the control panel, click the cogwheel button to open Preferences. Switch to the Scheduler tab.

2. Select the Set time limit for recording option.

3. Set Duration by entering the time limit as hours:minutes:seconds.

4. Click OK to enable the time limit.

Note: the limit will work on all your next recordings in the current session only, until you restart the program.

5. Click the REC button on the recording panel to begin recording. After the specified time is up, the recording will end automatically.

If you need the scheduler often, consider setting up quick access. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the customization window. Click Select below Scheduler to add it to the control panel.
Editing recordings

When you end a recording, the player window will open, where you can view the finished video, save videos to a different format, and cut out unwanted fragments.

Here's what you can do:

- **Cut recordings** – trim videos from the beginning or the end, cut out fragments.
- **Navigate files** – view and edit files from any folder.
- **Change recording format** – save the video in a different video format, as an audio file, or even as an animated GIF.
- **Share recordings** – publish your video online or send it to your friends and colleagues.
Opening the player

To open the capture player and editor:

- Open the **Capture** menu and select **Preview Saved Files**.

- Click the Movavi Screen Recorder icon on the menu bar and select **Preview Saved Files**.

Also, the capture editor will open after you finish recording a video.
Navigating files

The right side of the player is dedicated to your media library. Here are some tips to use it to your advance:

- The library contains all files you've captured with Movavi Screen Recorder: videos, audios, and screenshots. To filter the files by type, click and select the file type you need to see now.

- By default, the library shows files from the folder you have set for file recording on the Files tab in Preferences. If you wish, you can view files from any other folder on your computer. Click to select a different folder.

*Note that Movavi Screen Recorder can only play files in *.mkv format. Other video files will not be shown in the library.*

- To enlarge the player window, you can hide the library by clicking .
Cutting recordings

This guide will show you how to cut out parts from video recordings using the built-in capture editor.

Step 1: Cut fragments
1. Move the position marker around the area you want to cut.
2. Click the scissors button. A fragment with two cut markers will appear at the current position.

Precise positioning
For more precise positioning, click on the cut marker on the seek bar and do any of the following:
• Click the arrows next to the time to move the marker by a small interval.
• With the cut marker selected, use the arrow keys to move it left or right by 100 milliseconds.
• Manually enter the necessary time.

Step 2: Delete fragments
1. On the seek bar, click a fragment to select it. The selected fragment appears as a darker shade.
2. To delete the selected fragment, click the trash can button above it.

A dotted line will appear on the seek bar where a fragment has been deleted.
How to undo cutting

To cancel a cutting action, click **Undo** or press **Ctrl+Z**. To repeat a cancelled action, click **Redo** (**Ctrl+Y**).
To exit the cut mode, click the scissors again.

**Step 3: Save the edited video**

If you've cut the video, you need to save it to apply the changes.

1. Click **Export**. The window with saving options will appear.
2. At the top of the window, choose where to save the file and enter a file name.
3. Choose a format for the video. If you don't know which format to choose, leave MP4 selected. It will save faster and at no quality loss.
4. Click **Save** to start processing the video. This may take a while for longer videos.
Changing the format

New video recordings are created in the MKV format which is supported by most players. This guide will show you how to save your videos in a different format. You can also convert your recordings to audio by saving them as an audio format.

**Step 1: Open the output options**
Click **Export** to open the output options.

**Step 2: Choose a new format**
Select a format you want to use:
- **Video** - MP4, AVI, MOV, MKV
- **Image** - GIF
- **Audio** - MP3

**Step 3: Save the file**
Finally, click **Save** to convert your recording to the selected format. This may take a while for large videos.
Advanced settings

There are some extra settings you can use to customize your recorded files before saving. To open the settings, click Advanced in the saving window.

Resolution

The frame size or resolution determines the videos width and height in pixels. Open the Resolution list to select from the most common resolutions. Ideally, the frame size should not exceed the resolution of the recorded video, but match it instead. Smaller resolutions allow you to make the output video smaller and thus save your disk space, however, this will sacrifice some video quality due to downscaling.

Framing

Choosing a resize method can help you manage how your video is resized to fit inside the frame size you've set. There are several resizing options available:

- **Smart fit...** – scales the original video to fit the specified dimensions while maintaining the aspect ratio.
- **Up to size...** – allows you to set a maximum frame size: input files with frame sizes exceeding the maximum are scaled down, while videos with smaller frame sizes remain unchanged.
- **Letter Box** – the video will be resized to fit inside the frame entirely. This method allows you to keep the whole video inside the frame without distortions, but may place black bars around the video.
- **Stretch** – the video is fit entirely inside the frame and then stretched on one axis in such a way as to fill the entire frame without leaving black bars. This allows you to cover the entire frame, however, the objects in the video may appear horizontally or vertically distorted.
- **Crop** – the video will be resized to be slightly larger than the frame, cropping the parts that do not fit inside it. This allows to cover the entire area of the frame without distorting any of the objects inside the video or without leaving black bars, however, this may not suit some clips where important objects are near the edge of the frame.
**FPS**
The number of frames per second is the number of shots that a camera takes each second to make a video. Most cameras shoot video at around 24 frames per second. However, some cameras can shoot high-speed video that you can use to make slow motion clips. If you plan on using high-speed videos, choose the FPS that matches the video. If you're using regular videos, leave the default FPS.

**Sample rate**
The *sample rate* affects the quality of digital sound, and defines the maximum frequencies that an audio stream can contain. The default sample rate is set to 44100 Hz, which exceeds the maximum frequencies of human hearing and is used to record Audio CDs and most music tracks.

**Channels**
*Stereo* sound contains two channels and has the capacity to convey the relative location of sound sources, which makes it best for recording music; *mono* sound has only one channel and produces sound without differentiating left and right channels. Stereo is the generally preferred number of channels, however, some mobile devices record sound only in mono mode.
Sharing videos
For now, you can share your videos to YouTube, Google Drive, WhatsApp, and Telegram. You can also get a quick link to your file or start your mail client to send the file in an e-mail.

To share a recording:
1. In the library, select the recording you want to share.
2. On the bottom panel, select where you want to upload your video, then follow the selected service steps.
Uploading videos to YouTube

Once your video is ready, you can share it to YouTube!

1. Click **Sign In** and grant all requested access to **allow** Screen Recorder to upload files.

2. Fill in the details:
   - Give your video a **title** and fill in the **description**.
   - Add some **tags** to help users find videos by relevant topics. Separate tags with commas.
   - Choose a **resolution** that suits your video. For best results, choose a resolution that is equal to or less than the height of your video (e.g. if your video is 1280x720, choose the 720p resolution).
   - Choose a **category** to help viewers find relevant content.
   - Open the **Privacy** box and choose who you want to see the video.
   
   **Tip:** if you want to save the video to your disk as well, check the **Save to** box and select file destination on your computer.

3. Click **Start** to begin uploading.

![YouTube upload interface](image)
Uploading videos to Google Drive

You can use Google Drive to store your videos or share them with others.

1. Click **Sign In** and grant all requested access to allow Screen Recorder to upload files.

2. After you've signed in, the program will load your Google Drive **folder** list. You can share files to specific folders if you like. Select one of them in the list.

3. Fill in the details: **title**, **privacy** settings, the video **format** and **quality**.
   *Tip: if you want to save the image to your disk as well, check the **Save to** box and select file destination on your computer.*

4. Click **Start** to begin uploading.
Getting link to video

If you only need to quickly share a file, you can use Movavi Cloud – our own cloud service. It will give you a shareable link in just one click!

1. On the bottom panel, click the Get Link icon. The upload will start immediately.

2. Share! The link will be copied to clipboard automatically, but you can also use the copy button or click View in Browser to open the file in your default browser.

In the browser, you can play the video or download it. The file will be accessible by the link, so if you feel you might need to send it to someone else some other time, make sure to know where to find it (e.g. in a message you’ve first attached it to).
Taking screenshots

1. On the control panel, click the **screenshot** button 📸 or press #3.

2. Your cursor will turn into a crosshair. Select the part of the screen that you want to capture:
   - To capture a **window** or a window frame, hold your mouse pointer over the window and click after a frame appears around it.
   - To capture a **part of the screen**, hold the left mouse button and drag diagonally to draw a rectangle.
   - To capture the **entire screen**, press Space or click on any empty area of your desktop.

3. A frame will appear over the selected area. You can now edit your screenshot:
   - Select a tool you want to add to your screenshot: **Line**, **Arrow**, **Frame** or **Highlighter**. Hold the left mouse button and drag to draw a shape.
   - Change the **color** and **width** of your shape.
   - Drag by the green arrow circle 🔄 or the white circles on the edges to resize the element; rotate by dragging the green circle left or right: ⬇️
   - If you need to move the capture area, click the **Drag-area mode** button.

   • To add text, select the **Text** tool, click inside the screenshot frame and start typing in the box that appears. Select a font, change its size and color as well as the color of text background and outline.
4. Choose what you want to do with your screenshot:
   - Click the **Copy** button to copy the image to clipboard without saving the screenshot to a file.
   - Click the **Save** button to save the image file and open its containing folder.
   - Click the **Share** button to share the image to WhatsApp, Telegram, and Google Drive, get a link to the image or send it in an e-mail.

*Where are the screenshots stored?*

By default, the screenshots are stored in the “/Movies/Movavi Screen Recorder/” folder of your user. You can change where the files are saved in the Files section of the Preferences.
Sharing screenshots

1. On the screenshot panel, click the **Share** button.

2. Select where you want to share your image, then follow the selected service steps. It's that easy!

If you decide to share the screenshot later, you can always do that in the preview window.

Sharing screenshots to Google Drive

Uploading images to Google Drive will take you a couple extra moves.

1. Click **Sign In** and grant all requested access to allow Screen Recorder to upload files.

2. After you've signed in, the program will load your Google Drive **folder** list. You can share files to specific folders if you like. Select one of them in the list.

3. Fill in the details: **title**, **privacy** settings, and the image **format**.
   
   *Tip: if you want to save the image to your disk as well, check the **Save to** box and select file destination on your computer.*

4. Click **Start** to begin uploading your image.
Learn more: [Getting link to file via Movavi Cloud](#)
**Screen Recorder preferences**

To open the program settings for Movavi Screen Recorder, click the **cogwheel** button on the control panel:

The preferences window will open. The preferences are organized into eight categories: General, Files, Keyboard Shortcuts, Video, Webcam, Effects, Scheduler and Sharing.
General preferences

The **General** tab allows you to change the basic behavior of the program. The settings are organized into two groups for your convenience.

**Basic settings**

- **Disable countdown**
  Every time before the recording starts, you will see a 3-second countdown. This gives you time to prepare for your recording. Select this option to turn the countdown off and start recording immediately.

- **Hide recording panel**
  The recording panel appears when you start recording. It’s semi transparent and it will not be recorded on top of your finished video even if you record fullscreen, but you can hide it if necessary.

- **Disable frame blinking during capture**
  In case the blinking irritates you, check this box. The frame will stay still during recording.

- **Allow window panes selection**
  To record only the main window panes (no frames, menus or browser tabs), Movavi Screen Recorder needs access to your screen.

- **Capture separate streams**
  When recording a video, the webcam, main onscreen video, external audio, etc. will be recorded as separate streams, like layers. This can be useful for editing the video later, so you can edit them separately.

- **Enable sound notifications**
  The program will notify you when a file export is finished, or if an error occurs.

**Other settings**
Launch application at startup
With this option enabled, Movavi Screen Recorder will start when you log in and run in the background. This way you will always be ready to capture your screen.

Save extended logs for troubleshooting
In case you experience trouble using the program and contact our support team, they might ask you to collect logs. The logs contain the program's actions for some period of time, as well as important error reports and descriptions. Extended logs give the most amount of information which may be essential to solving your problem.

How to collect logs

Automatically check for updates
The program will notify you if a new version is available. Minor updates are absolutely free (for example, from v.1.3 to v.1.4). For major updates users with purchased Movavi Screen Recorder license will get a considerable discount.

Download updates in the background
The program will automatically download an update if available and ask you to install the new version afterwards.

I give consent to send anonymous usage stats to Movavi
Enabling this box will allow Movavi Screen Recorder to send us anonymous data about how you use the program. This data does not contain any personally identifiable information and is only used for improving our software. You can find more information about how we use the statistics on our Movavi Improvement Program page.
File preferences
In the Files section of the preferences, you can change where your captured files are stored. To change a folder location, click Browse and select a new folder.

Record files to...
This is where all your captured files are saved automatically, both screenshots and video recordings. If you export the file, you can select a different folder.

- Delete original recording after export
If you save the recording in a different format or trim the file, the original will be deleted.

Default screenshot format
Here you can change the format for all new screenshots. You can also change the format for a single screenshot by using the Save As button in the editor window to save a copy with a different format.
Keyboard shortcuts

On the Keyboard Shortcuts section, you can set your own shortcuts.

To change one of the shortcuts:
1. Click inside the box with the shortcut you want to change. The box will become blank.
2. Simultaneously press on keyboard the keys you want to use as a shortcut to the selected action. The box will now display your custom shortcut.
3. Click OK to apply the changes. To reset all the keyboard shortcuts to their original state, click the Reset to Default button.

If there's a keyboard shortcut you want to use in other software while Movavi Screen Recorder is running, check the Disable keyboard shortcuts box.

In case you forget a shortcut, you can always look it up here in the keyboard shortcut settings.
Video preferences

On the **Video** tab, you can choose how the videos are recorded and saved, change the preferred audio quality, including the sample rate, number of channels, and bits per second.

### Frame rate
The frame rate defines how many frames will be captured each second and affects the smoothness of motion in the video. A lower frame rate will result in smaller output size, however, the video may not turn out as smooth. The recommended frame rate is 20-30 frames per second.

#### Scale down Retina video recordings
Enabling this option will reduce video file size, but may also result in text and graphics appearing less crisp. Disable this option if video quality is a concern.

### Sample rate
The first number is the audio sample rate, measured in Kilohertz (kHz). This is the number of digital samples taken each second to record sound. Higher sample rate usually means higher quality. 44.1 kHz is the recommended sample rate, which corresponds to the human hearing range.

#### Channels
- **Mono** uses only one audio channel, which saves some disk space.
- **Stereo** uses two audio channels, which allows distinguishing the direction a sound is coming from and usually sounds more natural.

#### Bit depth
Screen Recorder will record audio at 16 bits, which is the standard bit depth for most audio recordings. This means that every sample contains 16 bits of information to encode sound.

#### Enable SuperSpeed conversion
This option will make saving videos faster if you use the same output video codec. For example, if you cut the video without changing the format. If you're having problems with saving some files, try disabling this option.
Webcam preferences

The Webcam section of the preferences allows you to set up your webcam for recording it on top of the main video.

Enabling the webcam
1. Connect the camera to your computer and wait until your system installs the necessary drivers.
2. In the Webcam preferences section, select the camera you want to use from the ‘Use this webcam’ box.

If the camera does not appear in the list, try manually installing the driver that came with your camera. You can use the preview square on the right to check that the camera is working properly.

Resolution
The resolution affects the quality of the output video. If the video is very small, you can choose a lower resolution without a noticeable decrease in quality.

Frame rate
Frame rate is the number of shots the camera takes each second. Higher frame rates will make the movements look smoother and work best for videos with a lot of motion. If the picture is mostly static, you can decrease frame rate to save disk space. The standard frame rate is 20-30 frames per second.

Size on video
Use the video size slider to set the size of the webcam overlay relative to the main video.

Position on video
Use one of the position options to choose where your webcam overlay will be placed on the original video.
In the **Effects** section of the preferences, you can set up the visibility of your mouse and keystrokes.

**Cursor options**
Select **Show cursor on recording** to make the cursor visible to your viewers.

- **Highlight cursor**
  This option will add a bright circle around the mouse cursor to make it more visible.
  1. Select the **Highlight cursor** option.
  2. Click the square on the right to choose the highlight color. Use the Alpha channel box to change its opacity.
  3. Use the size slider to change the size of the highlight circle.
  *Hint: hover your mouse over the preview square on the right to see how it will look on the recording.*

- **Highlight clicks**
  This option will flash a circle around the cursor for every click. You can set two different colors for the left and right mouse buttons.
  1. Enable the **Highlight clicks** option.
  2. Click the left square to set the color for the left mouse button.
  3. Click the right square to set the color for the right mouse button.

- **Mouse click sound**
  A clicking sound will be played every time you click the mouse to draw attention to your actions.
  1. Enable the **Mouse click sound** option. The default mouse click sound will be used.
  2. (optional) If you have a file with a different sound effect you want to use, open the box under ‘Mouse click sound’ and choose **Add sound**. Then, open the audio file with the sound effect. You can use WAV, MP3, AIFF, and AU files.

**Keystroke recording options**
- **Keyboard shortcuts only** – only functional keys and key combinations (for example, `Ctrl` + `C`) will appear on the video.
- **All keystrokes** – all key presses, including letters of the alphabet, will appear on the video.
  *Hint: avoid entering passwords when this option is enabled if you don’t want everyone to see your password.*
Scheduler

In the Scheduler section of the preferences, you can start and stop recordings automatically.

Automatically ending a recording
1. Select the "Set time limit for recording" option.
2. Enter the duration of the recording as hours: minutes: seconds.
   Learn more: Time limit

Scheduling a recording
To start and end a recording automatically:
1. Select the "Schedule recording" option:
2. Click "Add Task" button.
3. Fill in the details and click Create to add your task to the recording schedule.
   Learn more: Scheduling

The Screen Recorder application must be running at this time for the recording to begin. To make sure you don't miss it, enable the "Launch application at startup" option in the General section.
Sharing preferences

The Sharing tab allows you to manage your YouTube and Google Drive accounts used to upload videos to.

To sign in to your account:

1. Click Sign In. The authentication page will open in your browser.
2. Sign in to your account and click Allow to let Movavi Screen Recorder upload videos.
Help and support

Didn't find what you were looking for? Need help with a problem? Have a suggestion? Contact our support team and we'll help you right away.

**How to reach us**
- By e-mail: support@movavi.com
- Fill out a support form
- We guarantee a response within 3 business days!

If you ran into a problem, please describe it in as much detail as possible; any screenshots, log files, or information about your system will allow us to help you faster.

Frequently asked questions

**Why is “Trial Version” written on my videos?**
The watermark is only placed on videos in the trial version. Buy an activation key and use it to activate the program. After that, you can convert files without the watermark.

[Removing trial restrictions](#)
Permissions
Movavi Screen Recorder uses your system's accessibility features for keystroke recording and selecting window panes. To use these features, you will need to enable them in your System Preferences on first use.

1. Open System Preferences.
2. Click Security & Privacy.
3. Switch to the Privacy tab.
4. Click the Accessibility section on the left.
5. At the bottom of the window, click the lock icon and enter your password when prompted to enable changing the preferences.
6. Select the box next to Movavi Screen Recorder. This will allow it to use accessibility features for capture.
Sound troubleshooting

Movavi Screen Recorder uses Audio Capture Engine (ACE) for system sound recording on Mac OS. ACE is installed on your Mac automatically together with the program and is ready for work from the first start. To make sure ACE is installed, open the program menu and find the option **Uninstall Audio Capture Engine (ACE)**.

### Why uninstall ACE?
ACE is strongly recommended for system sound recording. However, in case of trouble, you can uninstall ACE and try another sound recording extension – Movavi Sound Grabber:

1. Open the program menu and click **Uninstall Audio Capture Engine (ACE)**. Enter the user password and click **OK**.

2. Click the button below to download and install Movavi Sound Grabber:

Learn more: [Installing Movavi Sound Grabber](#)

### I don't have ACE installed. Is that bad?
ACE is only installed on 10.12 and higher versions of Mac OS X®. For Mac OS X® 10.10 and 10.11, Movavi Sound Grabber is installed on your Mac together with Movavi Screen Recorder.

### I have Movavi Sound Grabber installed, but sound capture doesn't work anyway. What should I do?
• Make sure Movavi Sound Grabber is selected for Output in sound settings. You might not hear the sound during recording, but it will be there on your finished video.
• For Mac OS X® 10.12 and higher: open the program menu and install Audio Capture Engine (ACE).

• Try to uninstall and reinstall Movavi Sound Grabber.

My problem is still there, who do I talk to?

Contact our support team by any convenient means:
• sending an e-mail to supportru@movavi.com;
• filling out the support form;
• starting a live chat.
Installing Movavi Sound Grabber

Note that Audio Capture Engine (ACE) is recommended for sound capture on Mac OS X® 10.12 and higher.

Movavi Sound Grabber is a free extension that enables you to capture system sounds on your Mac. It acts as a virtual audio input device and sends the sound from music, videos, and system alerts that you would normally hear through your speakers to the input channel so that it may be recorded by screen capturing software. By default, Movavi Sound Grabber is installed automatically together with Movavi Screen Recorder.

However, if you have trouble capturing sound from certain devices (e.g. wireless Bluetooth headphones), have uninstalled Movavi Sound Grabber or it is missing from your system, you will need to reinstall it in order to capture system sounds.

1. Uninstall Movavi Sound Grabber that had been installed automatically. Note that after deinstalling you might need to reboot your Mac. Learn more: Uninstalling Movavi Sound Grabber

2. Click the button below to download the package:

![Download Movavi Sound Grabber](image)

3. Once the download has finished, open the .dmg package you’ve downloaded.

![Movavi Sound Grabber .dmg](image)

4. Double-click the package icon to launch the install assistant. Then, follow the on-screen instructions to install the software just like you would install any other program.

![Installation successful](image)

5. Restart Movavi Screen Recorder if it was running during installation.

That's it! You can now easily record system audio using Movavi Screen Recorder!
Uninstalling Movavi Sound Grabber

Since Movavi Sound Grabber is a virtual device and does not show up under Applications in Finder, you need to use an Uninstall file to remove Sound Grabber from your system.

1. Launch **Movavi Sound Grabber Uninstaller** in your **Applications** list, or click the link below to download the uninstaller.

   ![Uninstaller download link](Movavi Sound Grabber Uninstaller.zip - 6.5 MB)

2. Make sure that Movavi Screen Recorder is closed and launch the downloaded file. If you see a security warning, click **Open**.

3. You will see the following confirmation dialogue. Click **Yes** to continue and enter your user password to confirm uninstallation of Movavi Sound Grabber.

   ![Confirmation dialogue](Are you sure you want to uninstall Movavi Sound Grabber?)

Movavi Sound Grabber will then be removed from your system. If you need to re-install Movavi Sound Grabber for capturing system sounds, please see the **Installing Movavi Sound Grabber** section.
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<tr>
<th>System requirements</th>
<th>Minimum system requirements</th>
<th>Recommended configuration</th>
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<tr>
<td>Operating system</td>
<td>Mac OS X® 10.10 or higher</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Processor</td>
<td>64-bit Intel® processor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>1024x768, 32-bit color</td>
<td>1280x1024 or higher resolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RAM</td>
<td>2 GB RAM</td>
<td>4 GB RAM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available disk space</td>
<td>300 MB for installation</td>
<td>10 GB for video recording and processing*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2 GB for video recording and processing*</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrator permissions are required for installation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Additional disk space is required for creating the recording file and converting it to other formats. The required amount of disk space will depend on the resolution, format, and length of your videos.

Movavi Screen Recorder may also run on slower machines, however, we cannot guarantee stable performance if the minimum requirements are not met.
## Supported formats

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Formats</th>
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<td>MPEG-4 (.mp4)</td>
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<td>QuickTime (.mov)</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Audio Formats</th>
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<td>MP3 – MPEG-1/2 Audio Layer III (.mp3)</td>
<td>MP3</td>
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<tr>
<th>Image formats</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BMP, JPEG, PNG, GIF</td>
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</table>
How to collect logs

Providing your log files when you contact support can help us solve your problem faster. The logs contain the program's actions for some period of time, as well as important error reports and descriptions. The log files do not contain any personal information.

Note that extended logs give the most amount of information which may be essential to solving your problem. To save extended log files, go to General Preferences, click More and check 'Save extended logs for troubleshooting'.

Step 1: Find the logs
1. Click Go on the Finder menu bar.
2. Press ~ on your keyboard. A hidden option 'Library' will appear on the list.
3. Click Library.
4. In the Library, go to Logs/Movavi.

Step 2: Send us the logs
1. Find the folder named screenrecorder21.
2. Compress this folder and attach the archive to your e-mail, support chat or contact form when you describe your problem.