Movavi Screen Recorder 21 for Mac

Don't know where to start?
Read these tutorials:

Recording screen
Capture any fragment of your screen or the full desktop.

Recording only audio
Record any sound from a device or music on your computer.

Scheduling recordings
Record screen while you're away from your PC.

Taking screenshots
Take, edit, and share screenshots in a couple clicks.

Need more help?
Visit the Movavi Support Center
Or click here to open live chat.

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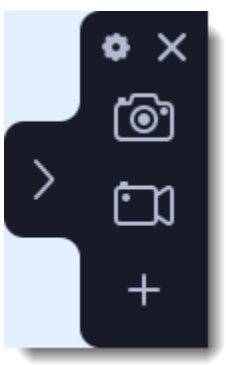
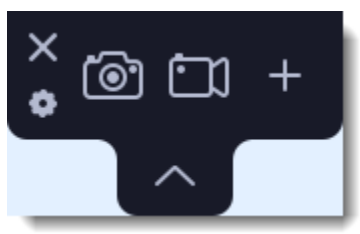
Control panel

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.

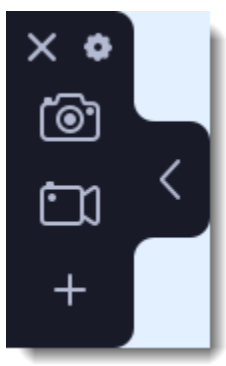
By default, the panel will be located at the right side of your screen, but you can pin it to any side you like.
*Note that the panel **cannot** block the Dock (located below by system default).*



Right border position (default)



Upper border position



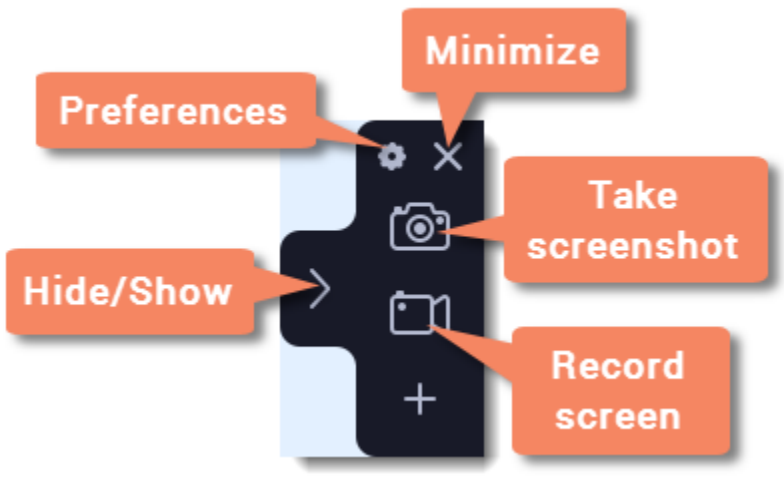
Left border position

• 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.

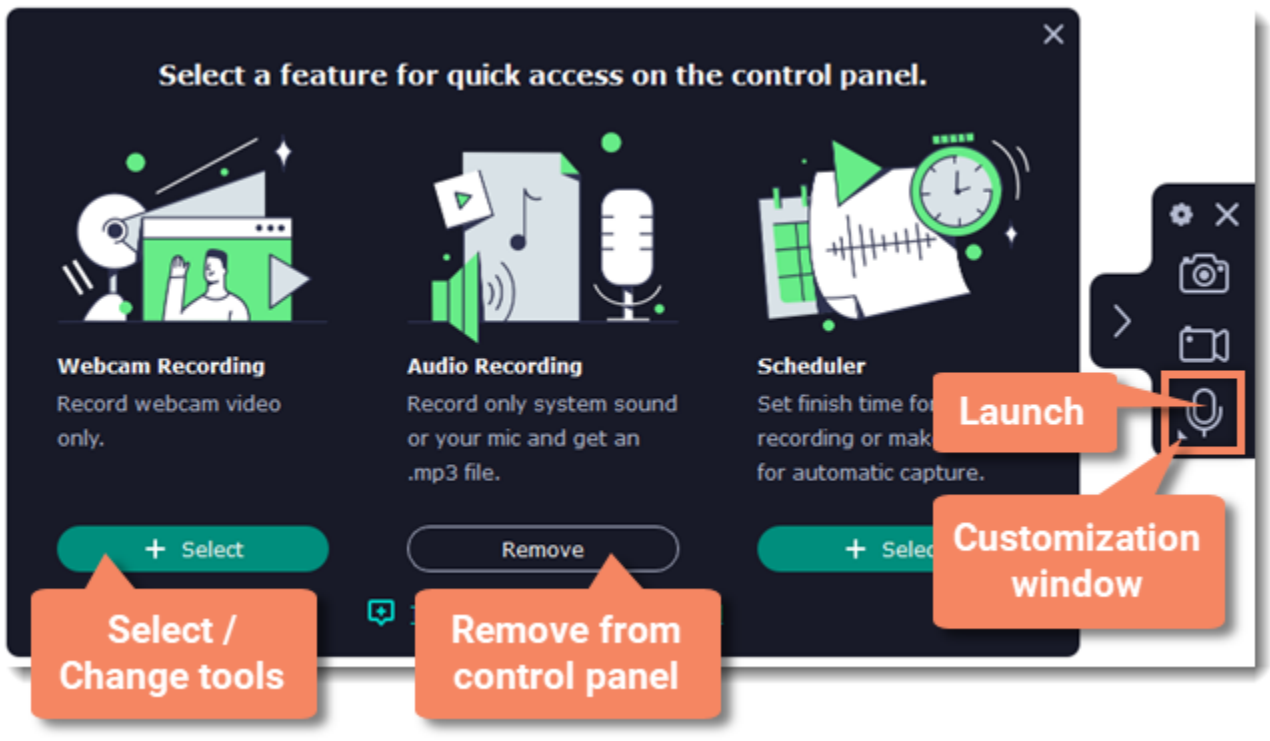


Widget management

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.

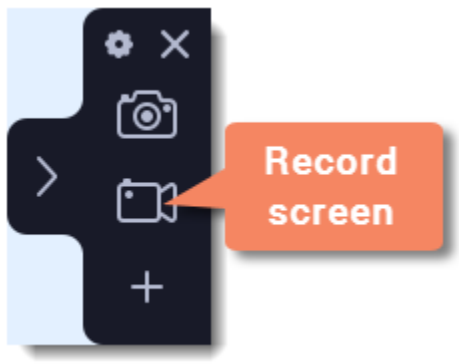


Recording video from screen

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

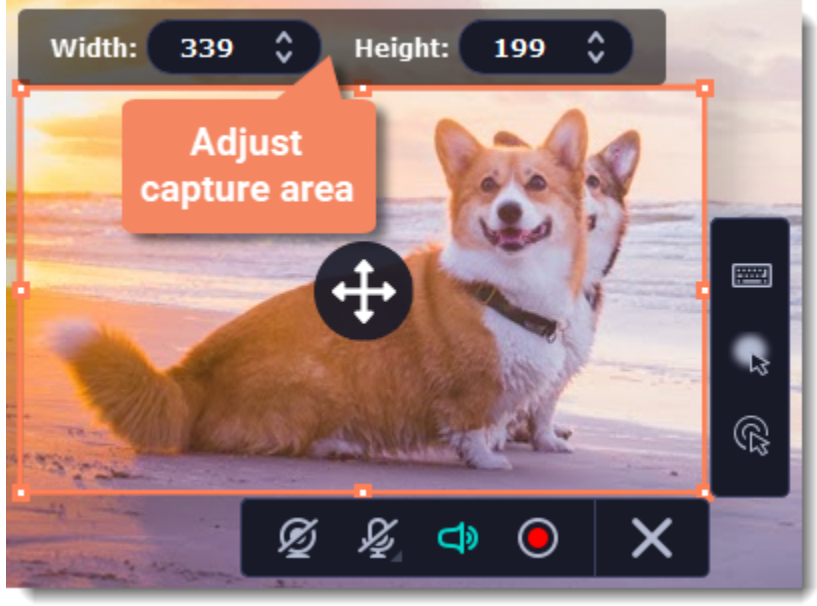
Step 1: Set up the capture area

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

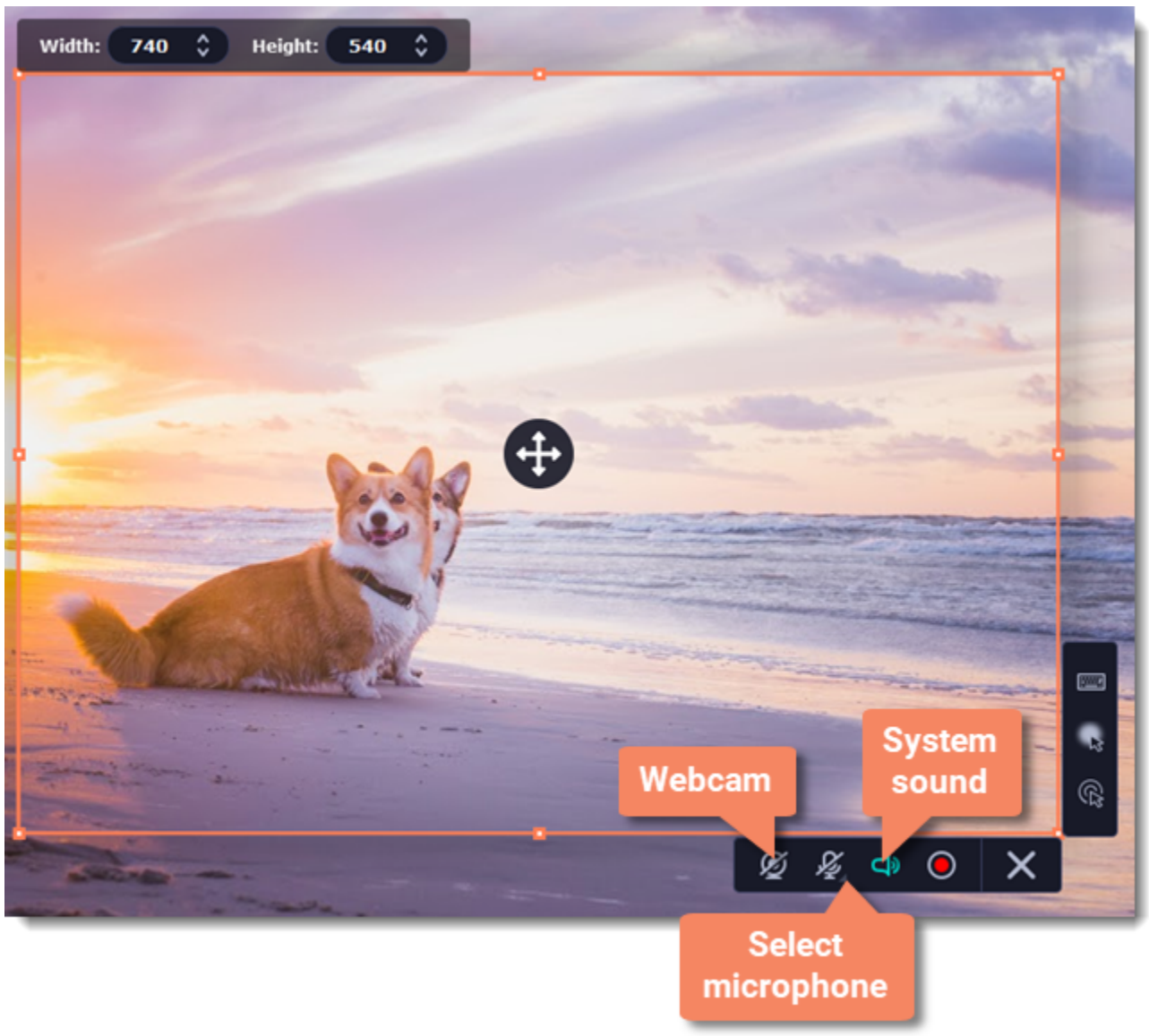
By default, only the system sound recording is on. To enable webcam and microphone recording, click the corresponding icons:

– Webcam off/on

– Microphone audio recording off/on

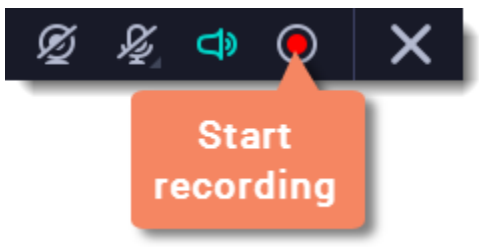
– System audio recording off/on

If you have more than one microphone connected, select the one you need from a list next to the mic icon.

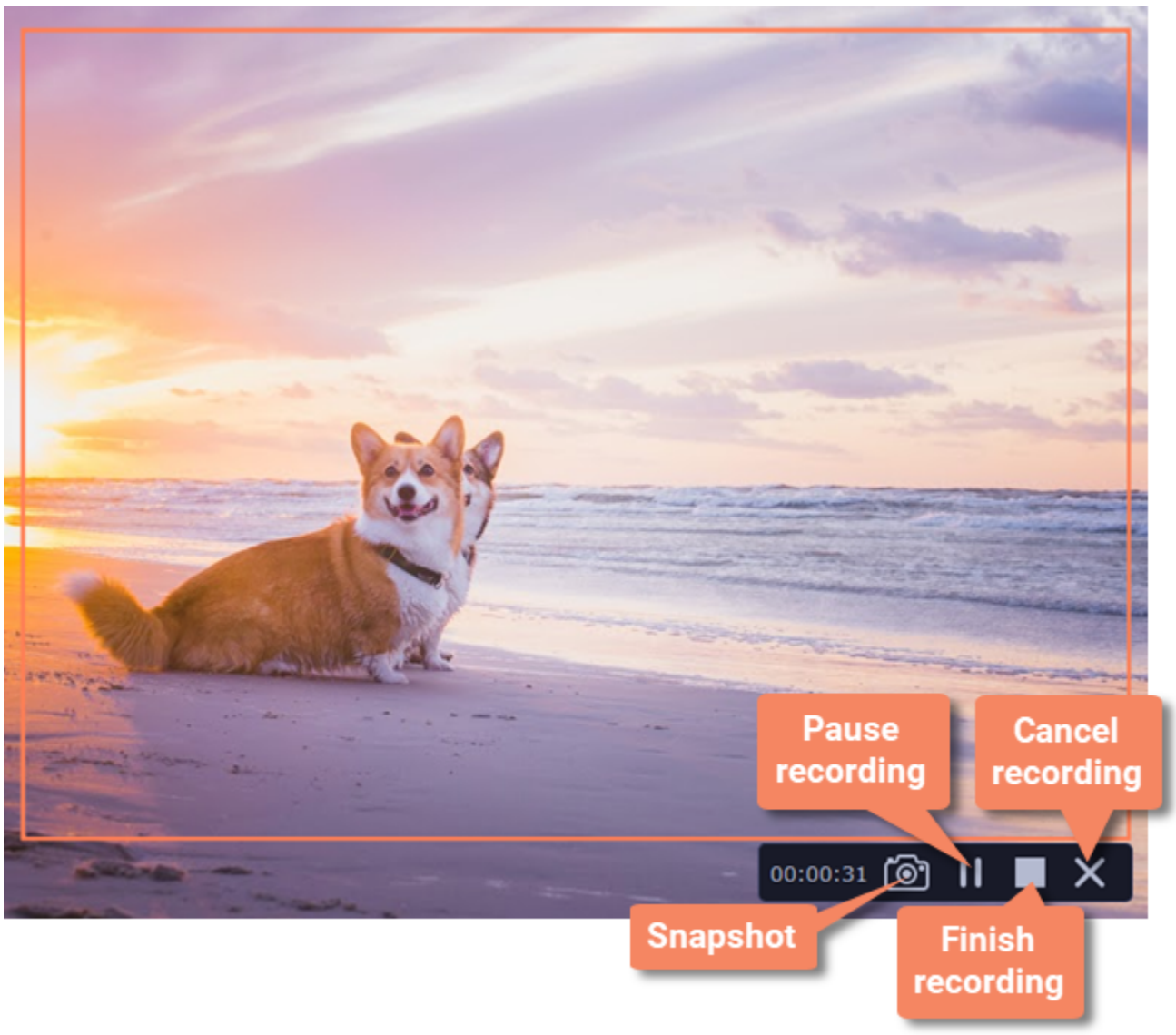


Step 3: Start recording

When you're ready to begin, click the **REC** button. You will be given a 3-second countdown before the recording begins.



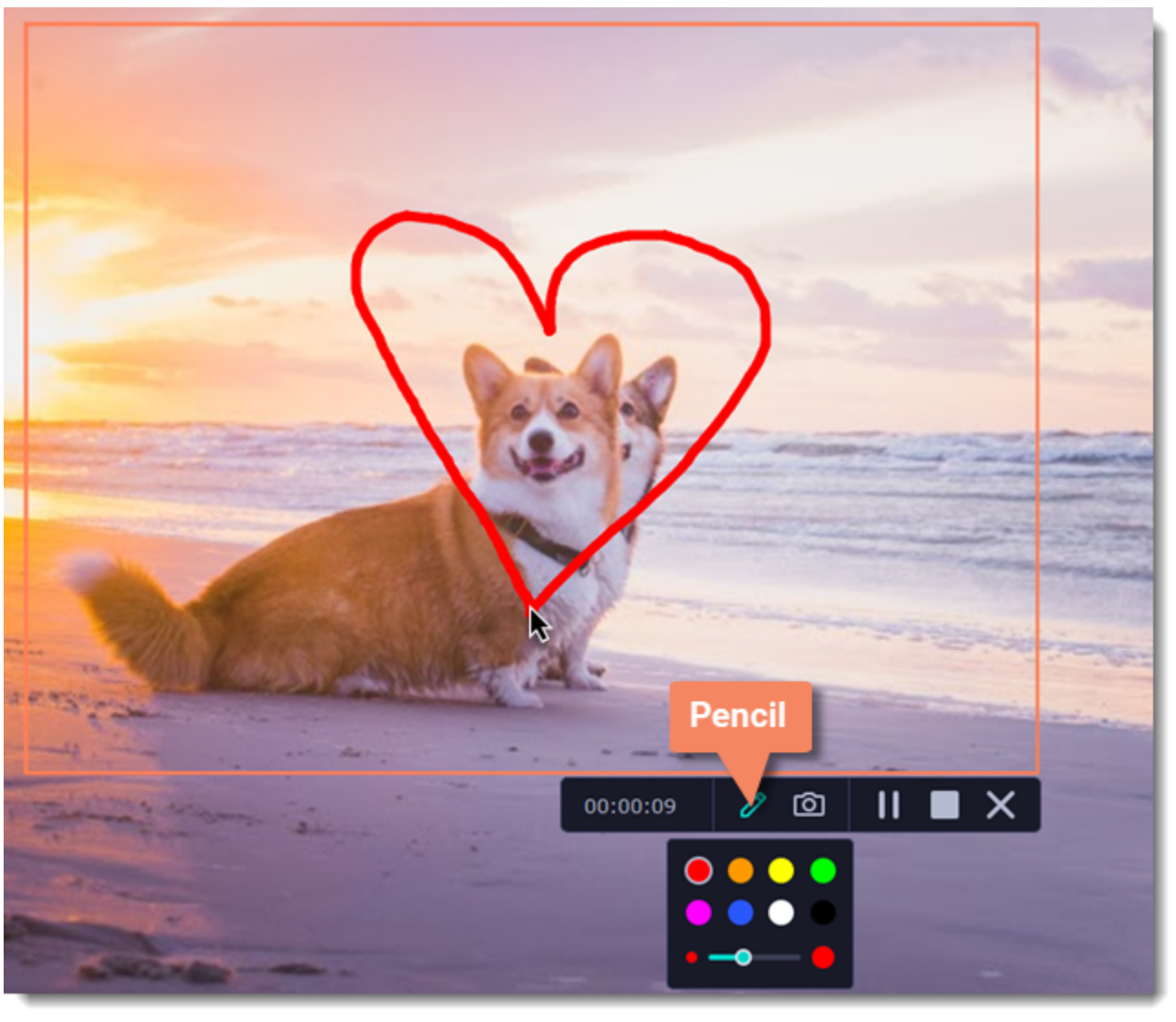
Use these keyboard shortcuts to control the recording process:
##1 - pause the recording
##2 - end capture and save the recording
##3 - take a snapshot of the capture area
Tip: these are the default hotkeys. You can change them in the Keyboard Shortcuts section of the Preferences.



Making notes on video

Use the Pencil tool to mark important parts during recording.

1. Click the **pencil** button , select line color and width, and draw using your mouse cursor. The marks will disappear 5 seconds after you stop drawing and will remain on the finished video.
2. Note that when in pencil mode, all other actions are blocked. Clicking anywhere on the screen will put a dot in the spot. To exit the pencil mode, click the pencil button again.



When you're ready to finish your recording, click **Stop** on the recording panel or use the **##2** keyboard shortcut .

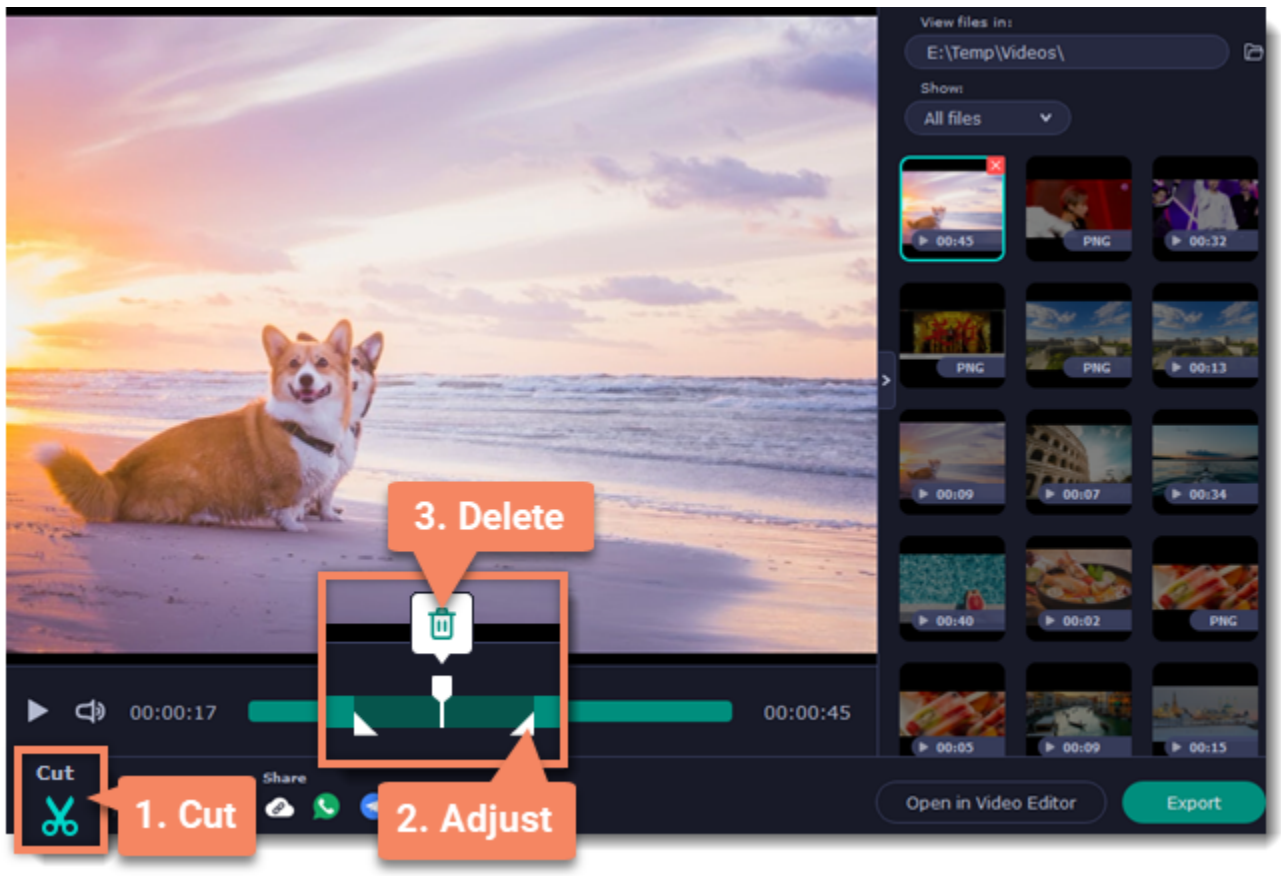
Step 4: Edit the recording (optional)

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:

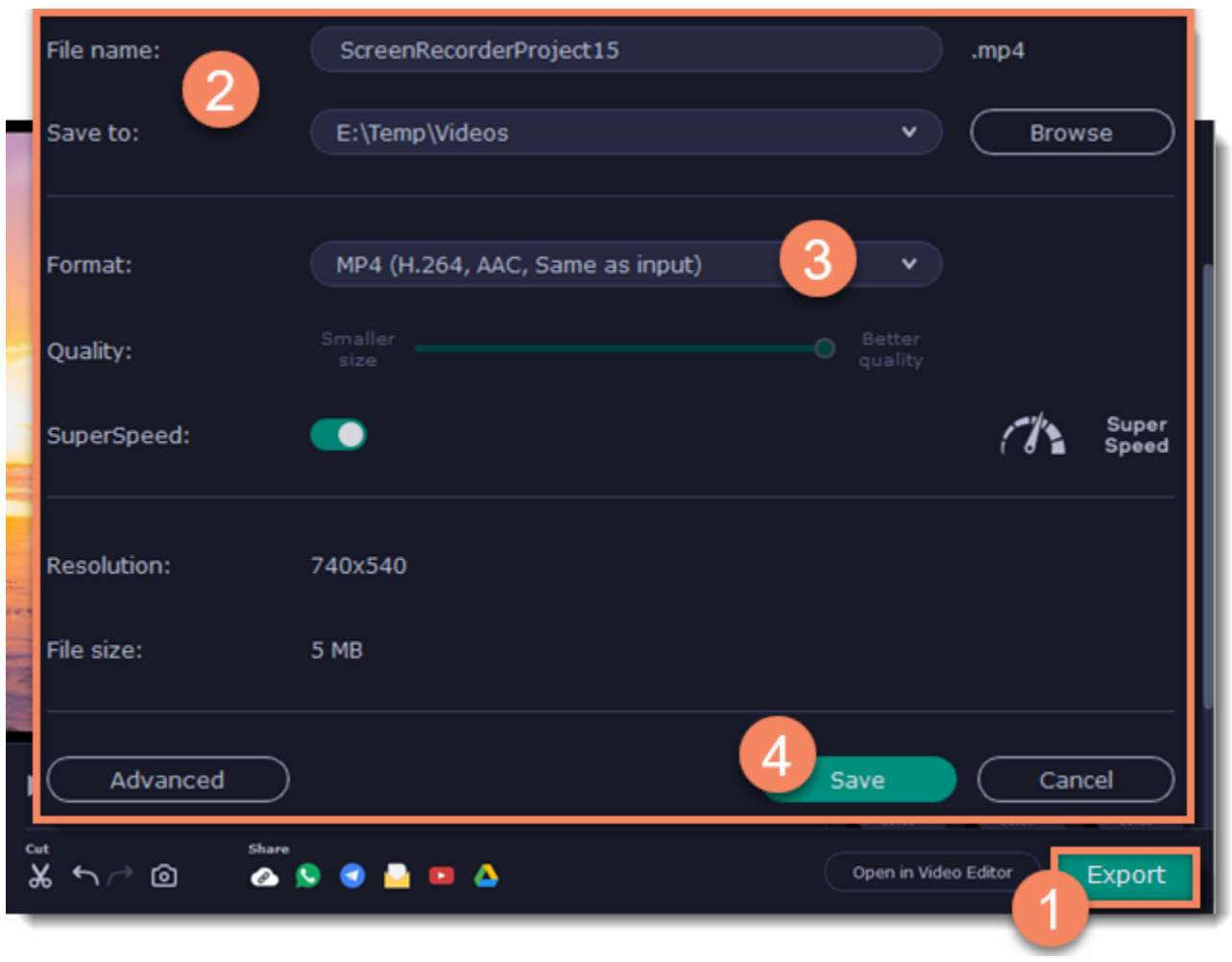
1. Place the position marker around the unwanted fragment and click the **scissors** icon.
2. Move the **cut markers** to adjust the fragment exactly as you want.
3. Click the **trash can** button.



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.



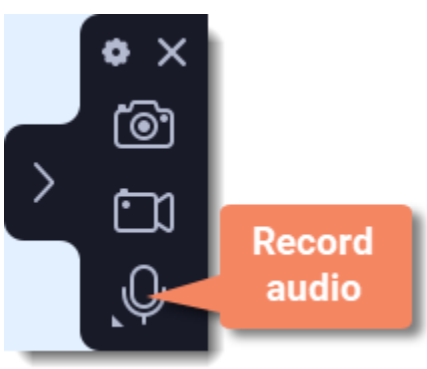
Record audio only

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.

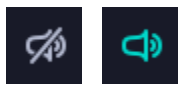


Step 2: Set up the audio

On the recording panel, choose which audio sources you want to record from:

Recording system sounds

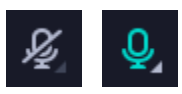
To record music, online videos, and any other sounds playing on your computer, click the **system audio** button.



off *on*

Recording microphone audio

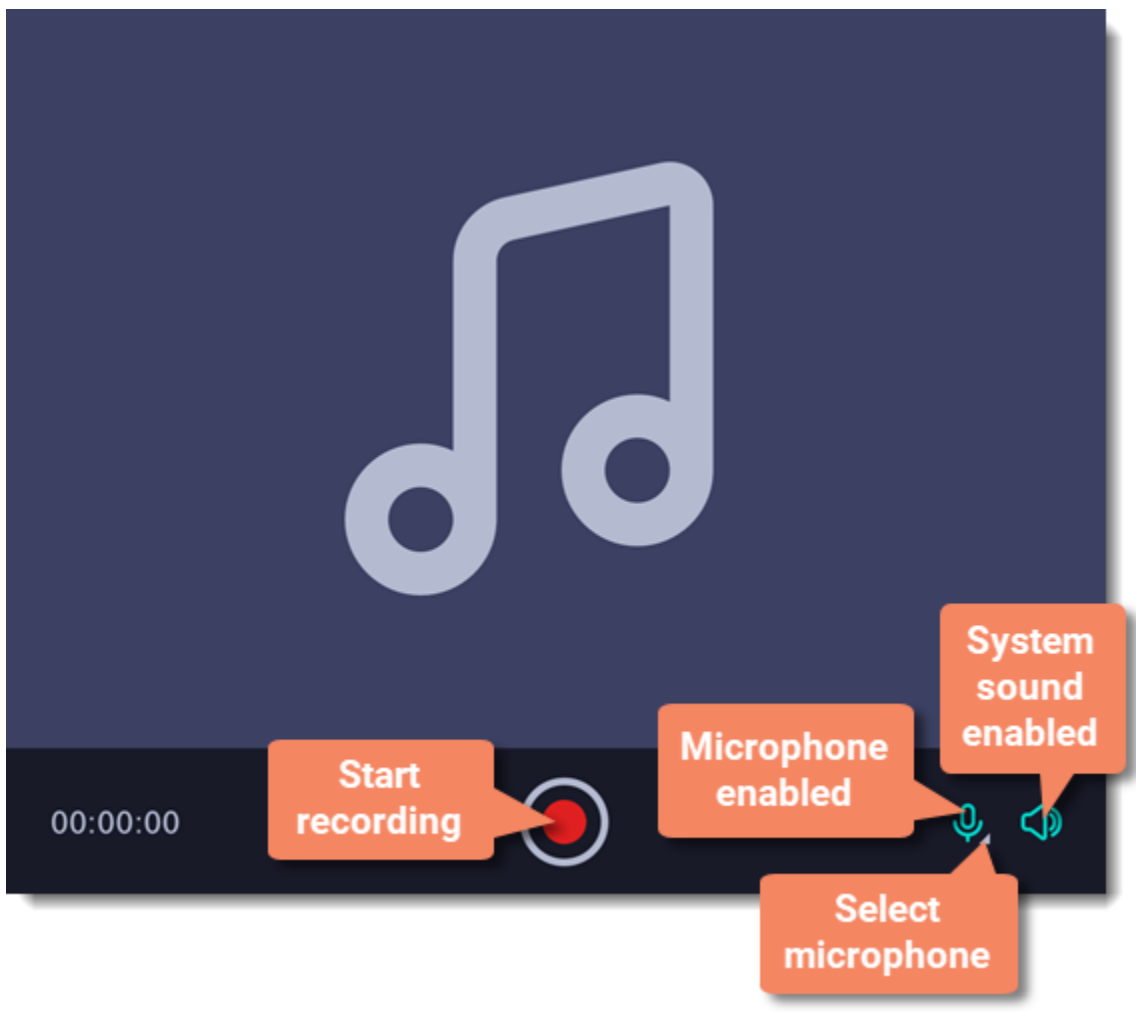
To record sound from a microphone or any other recording device connected to your computer, click the **microphone** button. If you have more than one recording device, click the arrow next to the button and select the device you want to record from.



off *on*

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 **<TODO>: insert variable value here** or click **Stop** on the recording panel.

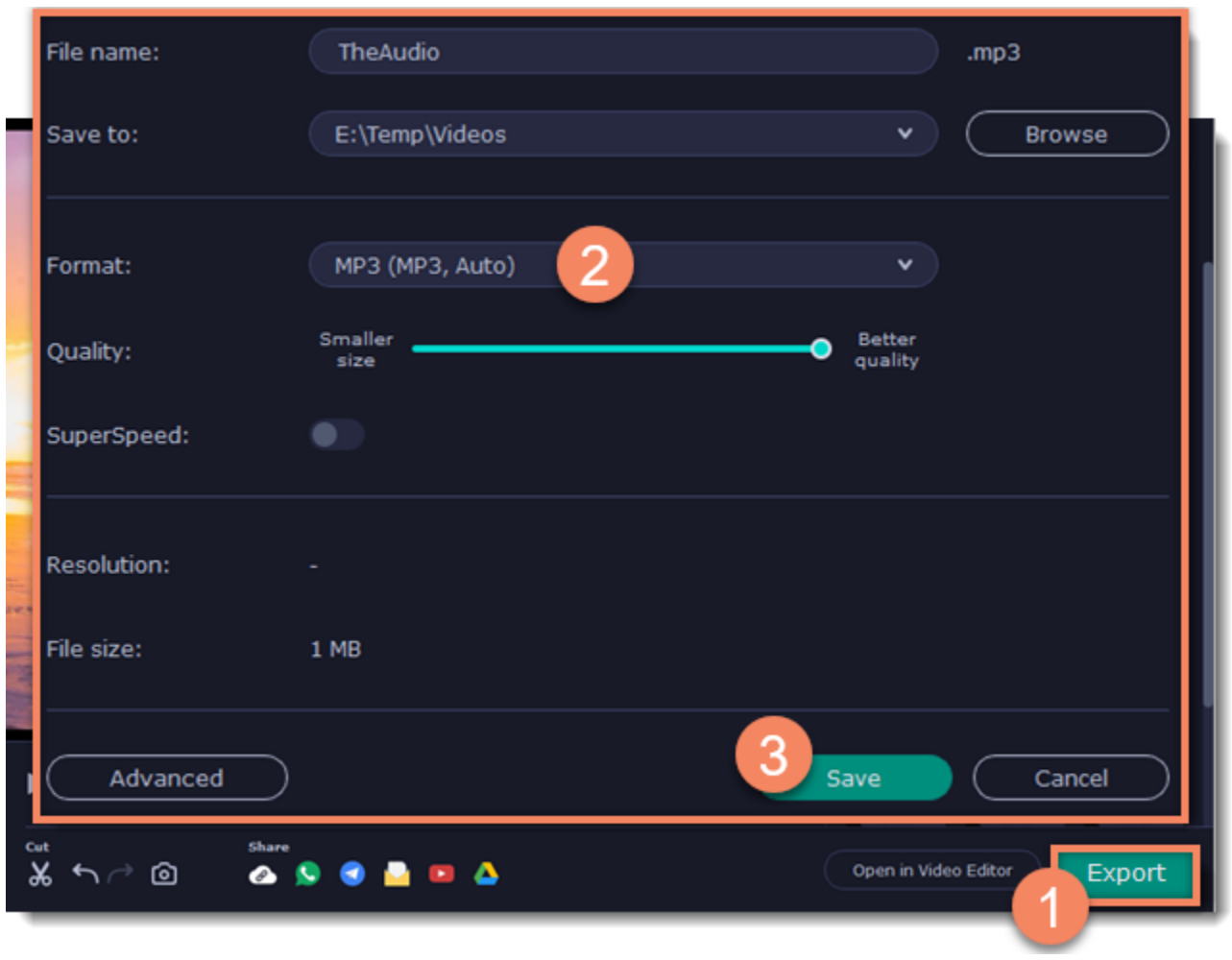
Step 4: Save audio file

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.



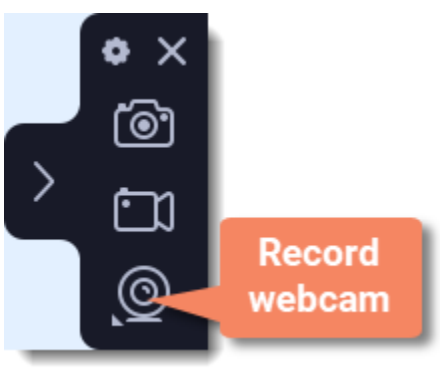
Recording webcam only

You can record your webcam footage without recording screen activity.

Step 1: Launch the webcam recording tool

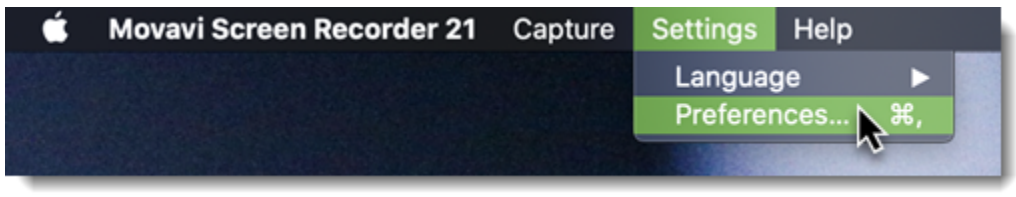
1. On the control panel, click the plus button to open the **customization window**. Click **Select** below "Webcam Recording" to add it to the control panel.

2. Click the **webcam** button to start the widget.



Step 2: Set up the webcam

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



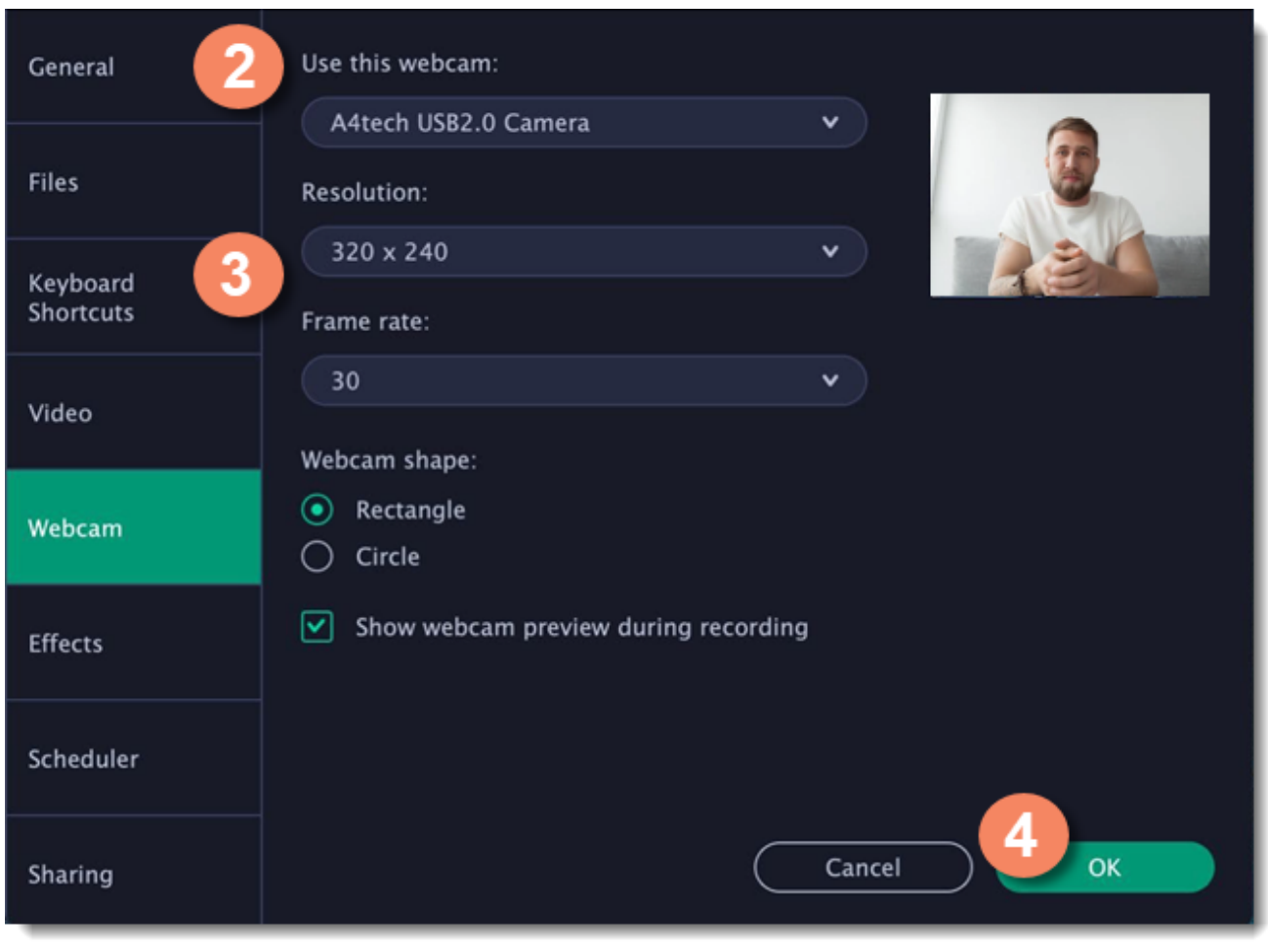
2. Under **Use this webcam**, choose the webcam device that you want to use and check that its preview appears on the right.

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.



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

1. Hover over the webcam overlay and select the preferred size on the panel below.

2. Drag and drop the webcam overlay to the desired corner of the capture area.

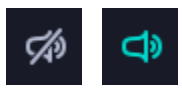
You only need to do this once. Enabling webcam recording, both as an overlay and standalone, will automatically use these settings. You can change them anytime.

Step 3: Set up sound

Next, choose the audio sources that you want to hear on your recording:

System sounds

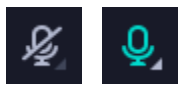
To record music, online videos, and any other sounds playing on your computer, click the **system audio** button.



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.



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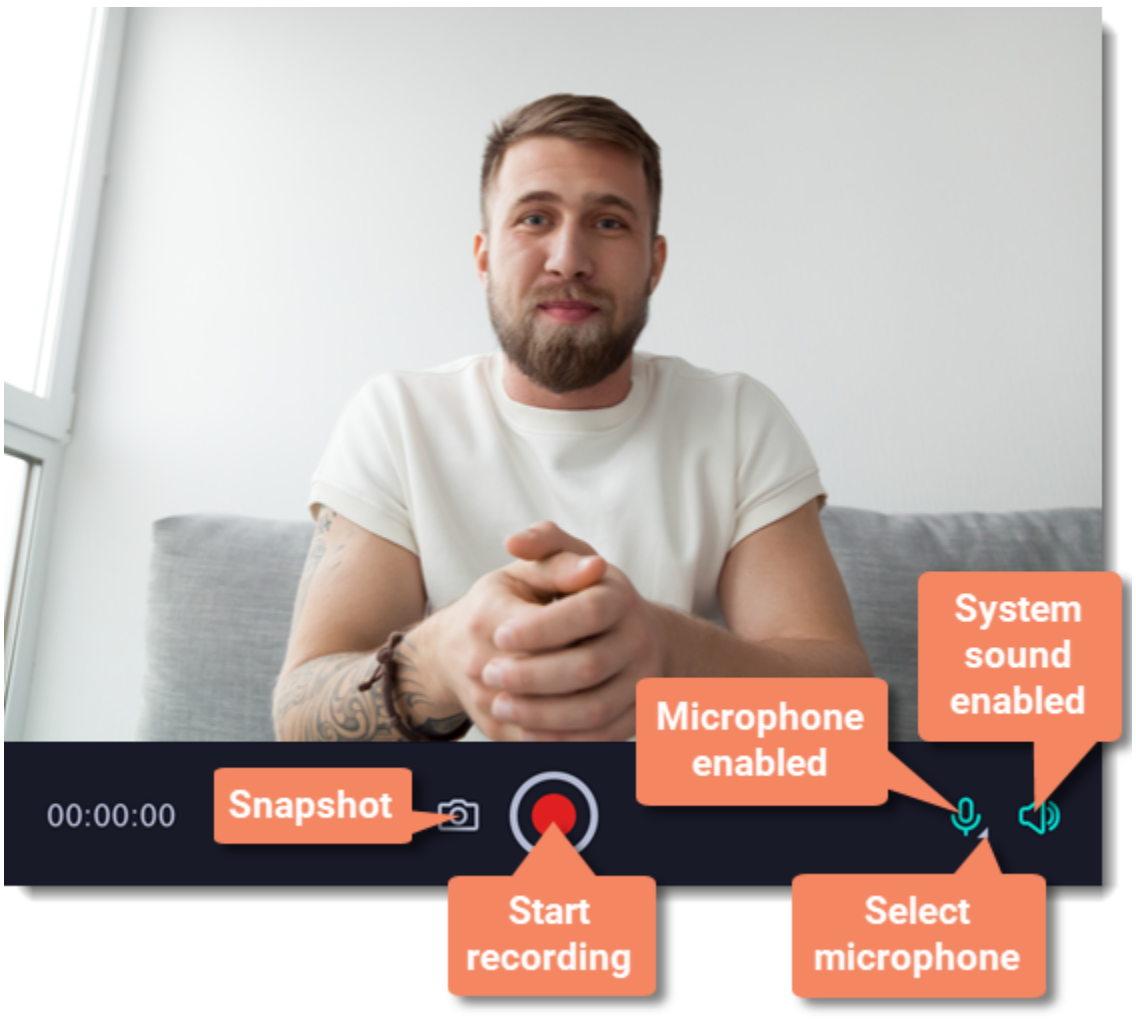
Step 4: Record your video

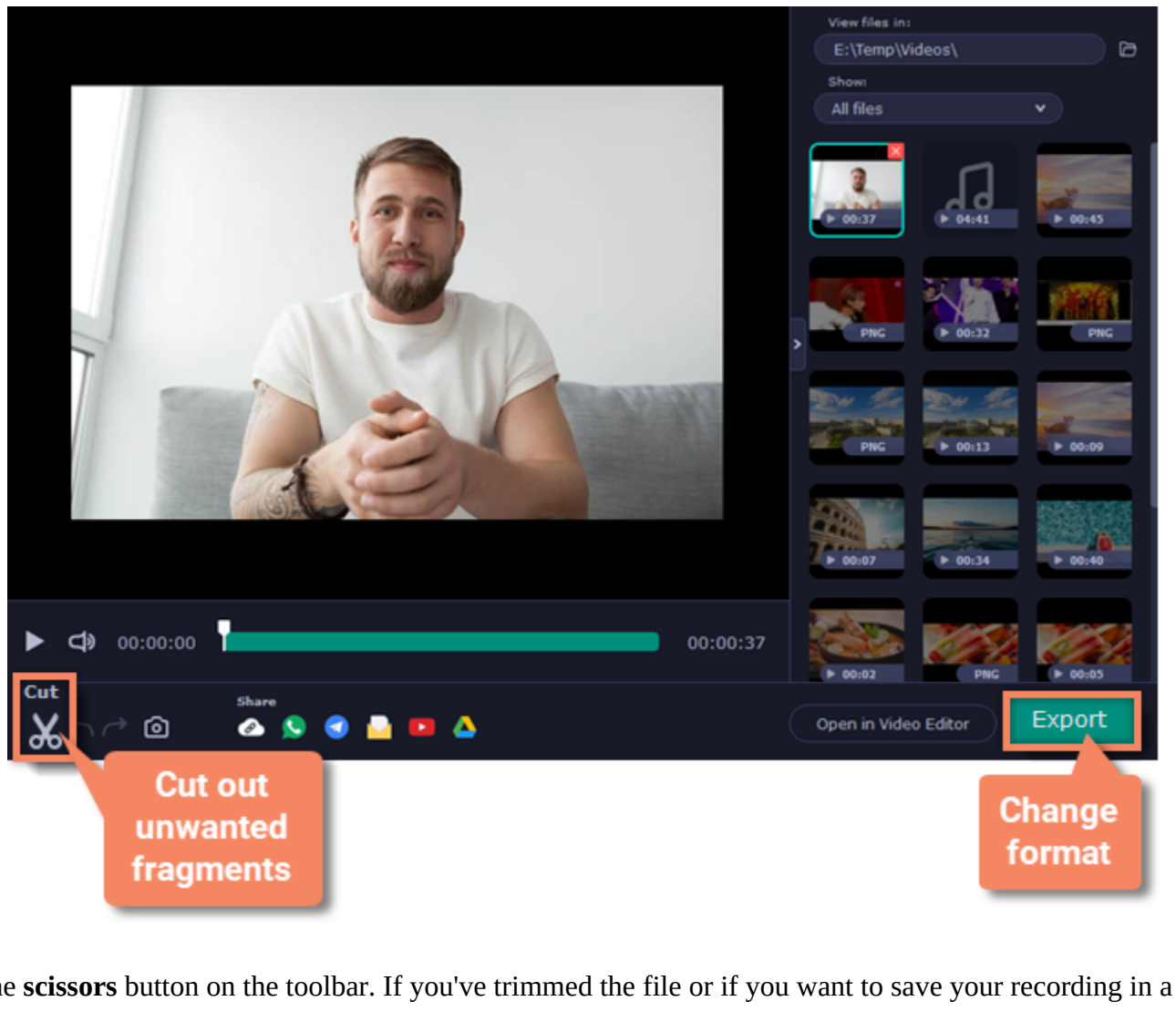
When you're ready to begin, click **REC** to start recording. You will be given a 3-second countdown before the recording begins.



To finish the recording, press **<TODO>: insert variable value here** or click **Stop** on the recording panel.

Step 5: Edit and export

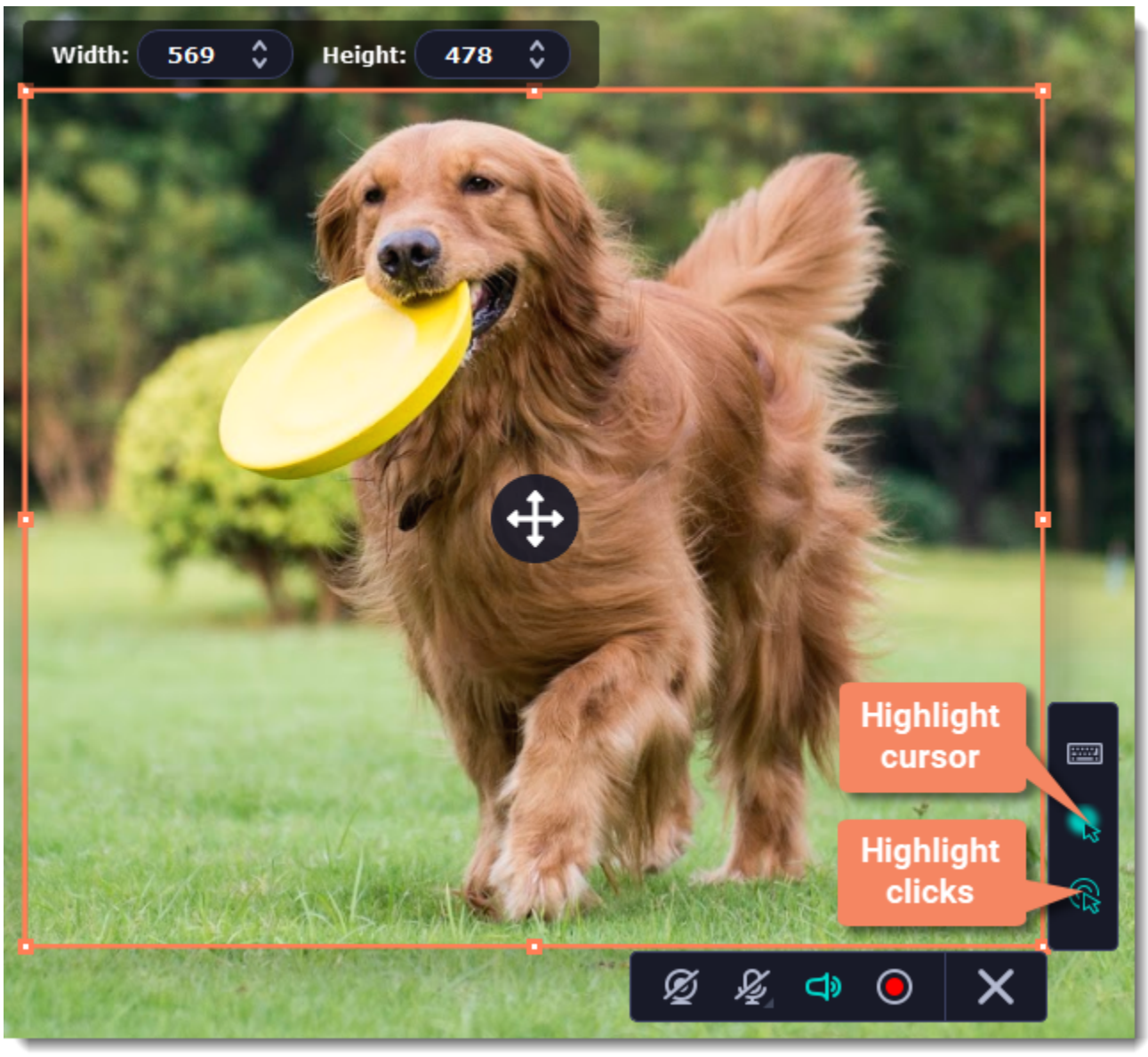
When you finish recording, the capture editing window will open. Your video is ready and saved in MKV format, but you can preview it, edit, or export it to a different format.



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

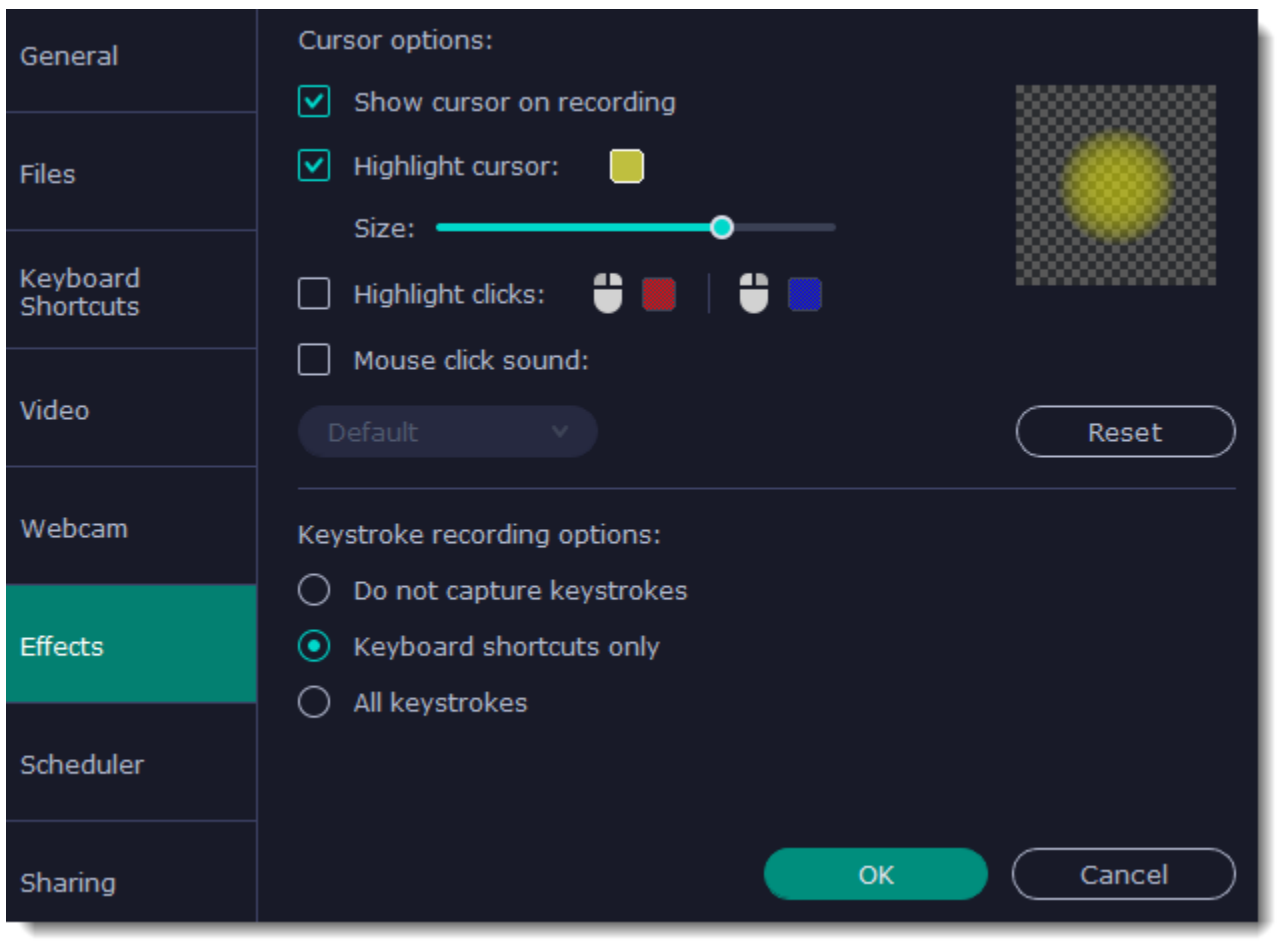
Using mouse effects, you can use the mouse as a pointer and show your viewers where to click. You can enable mouse cursor effects on the effects panel:



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.

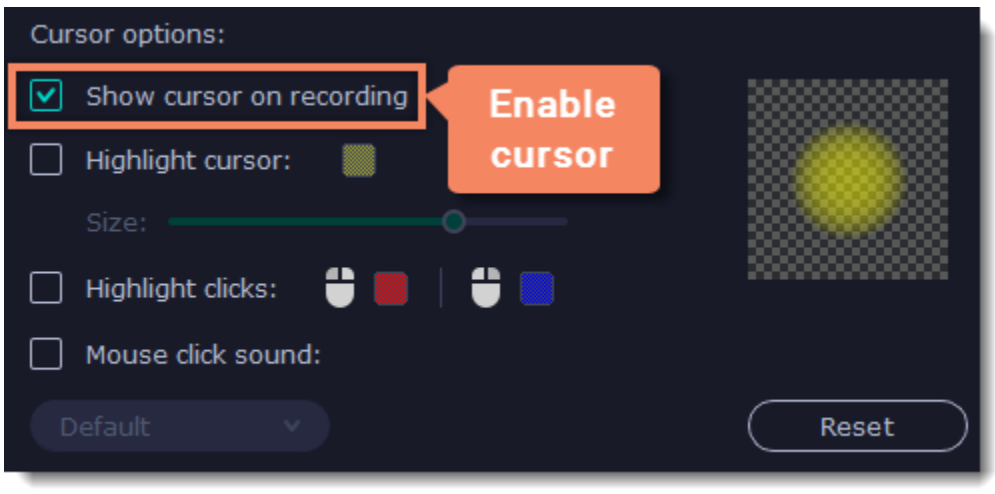
Step 1: Open the mouse cursor options

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

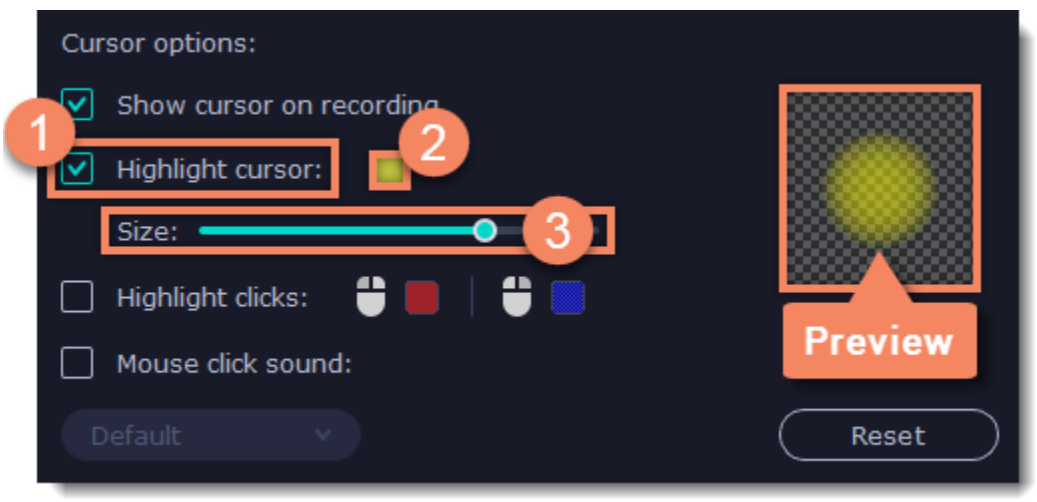
A semi-transparent circle will appear around the cursor, making it easier to track.

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.



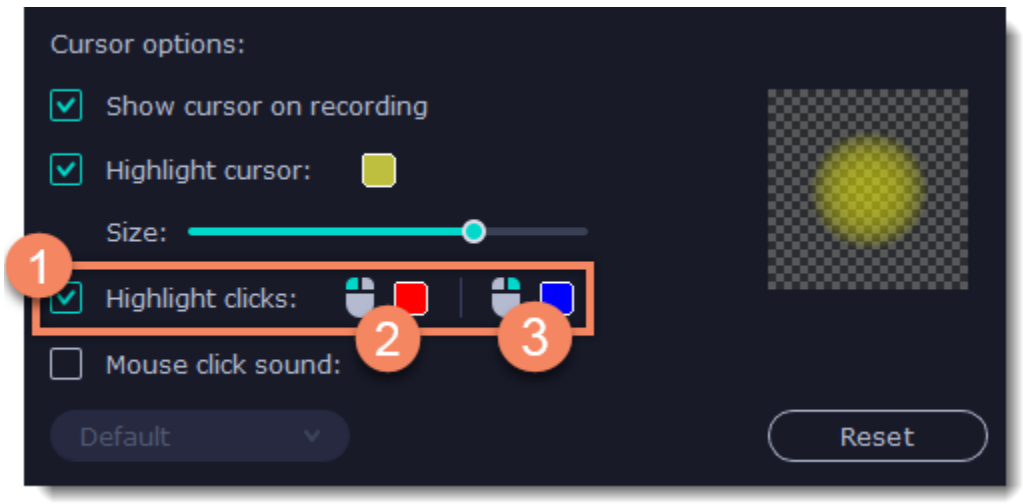
Highlight clicks

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

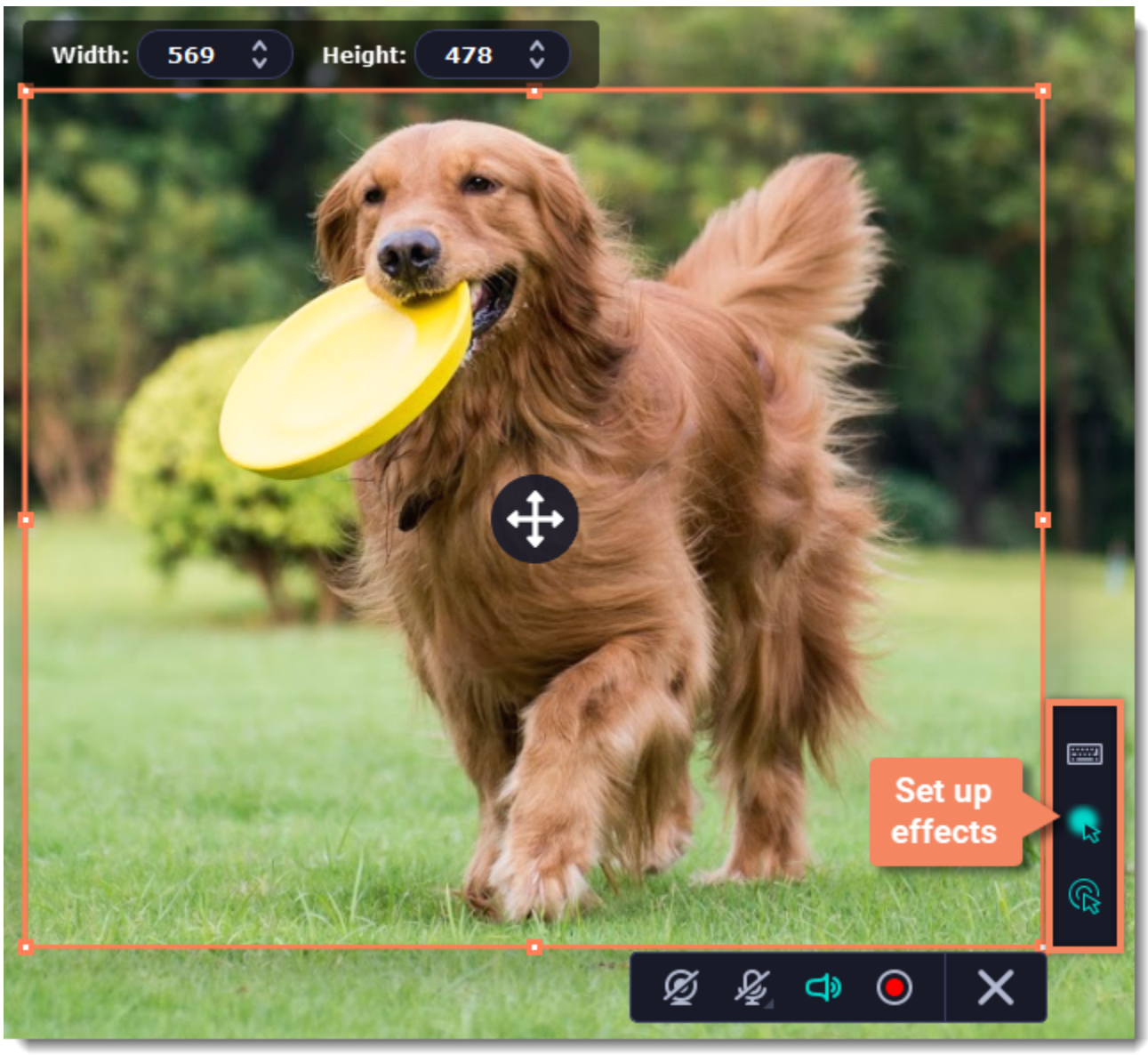
A clicking sound will play whenever you click the mouse.

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.

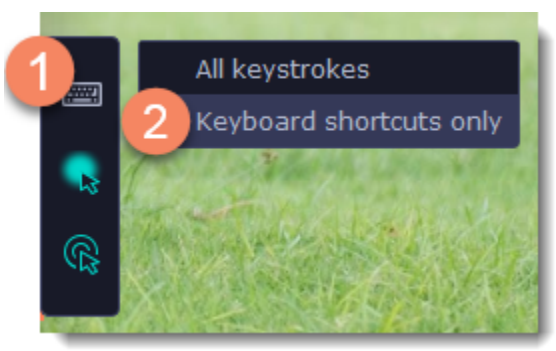
Recording keystrokes

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 *⌘C* 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

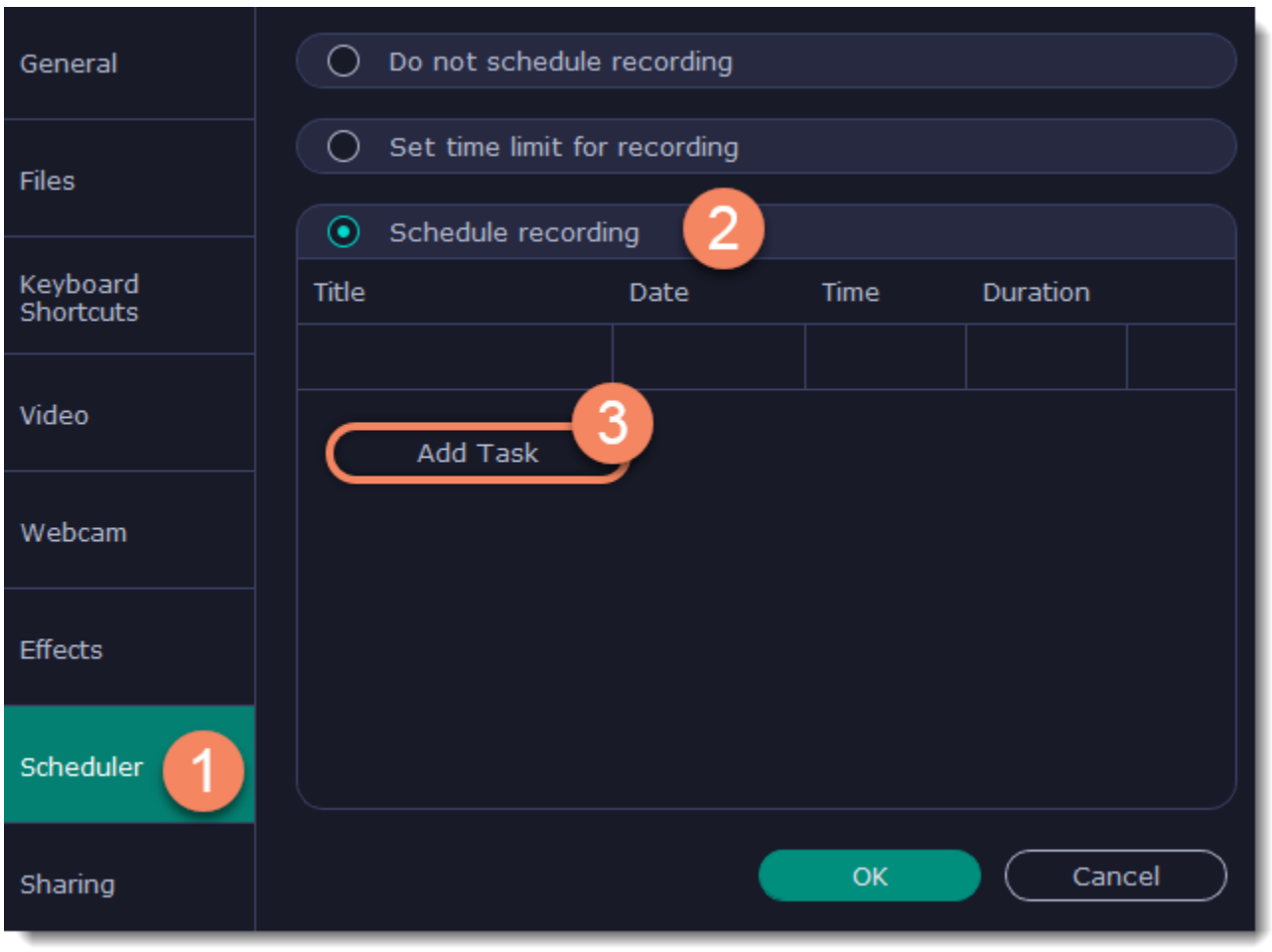
Scheduled recordings will start with the currently selected options (system sound, webcam, etc.) Before scheduling the recording:

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.

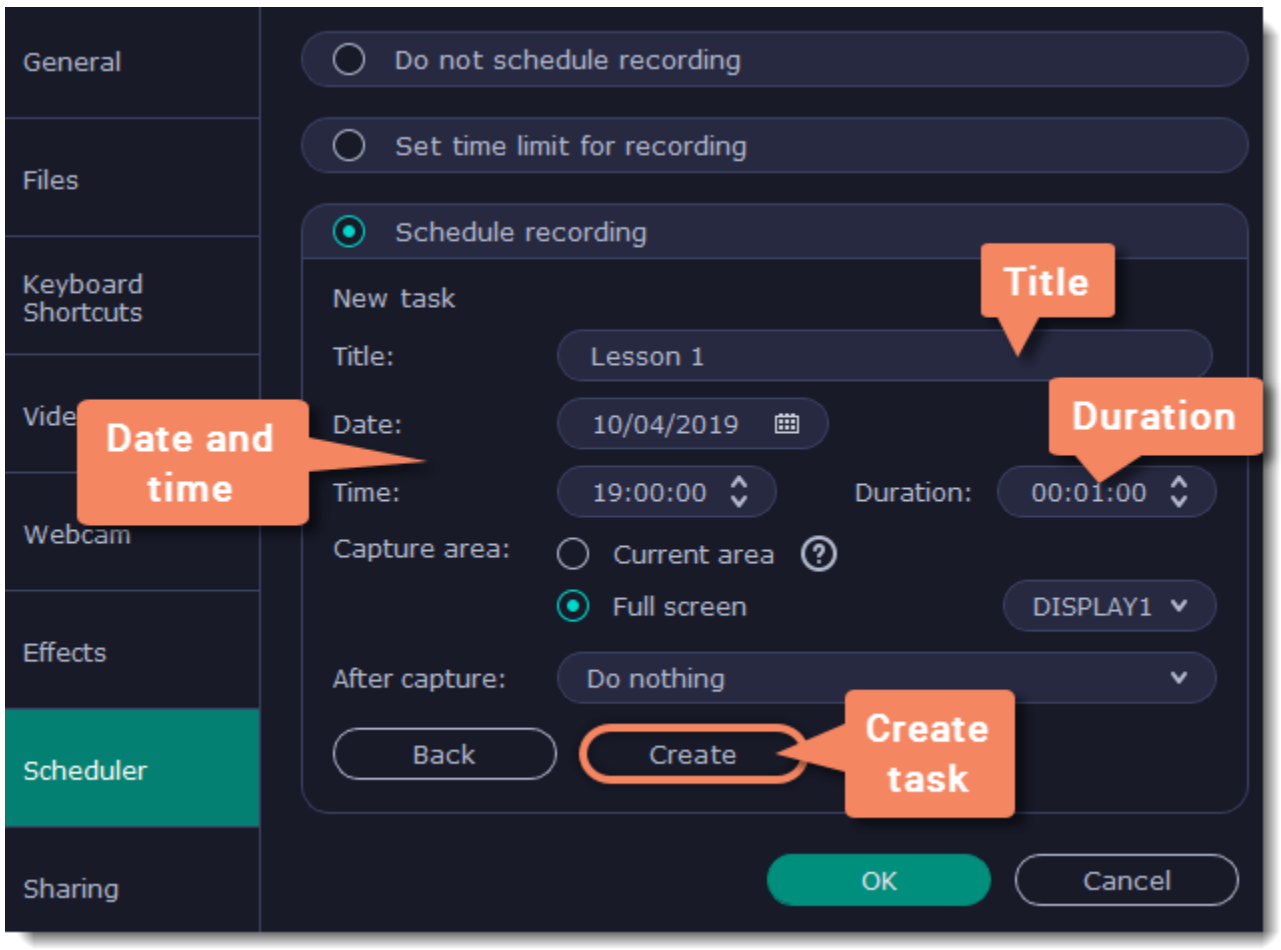
2. To enable system sound recording, click the **speaker** button on the recording panel and make sure it is enabled and highlighted green.

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.



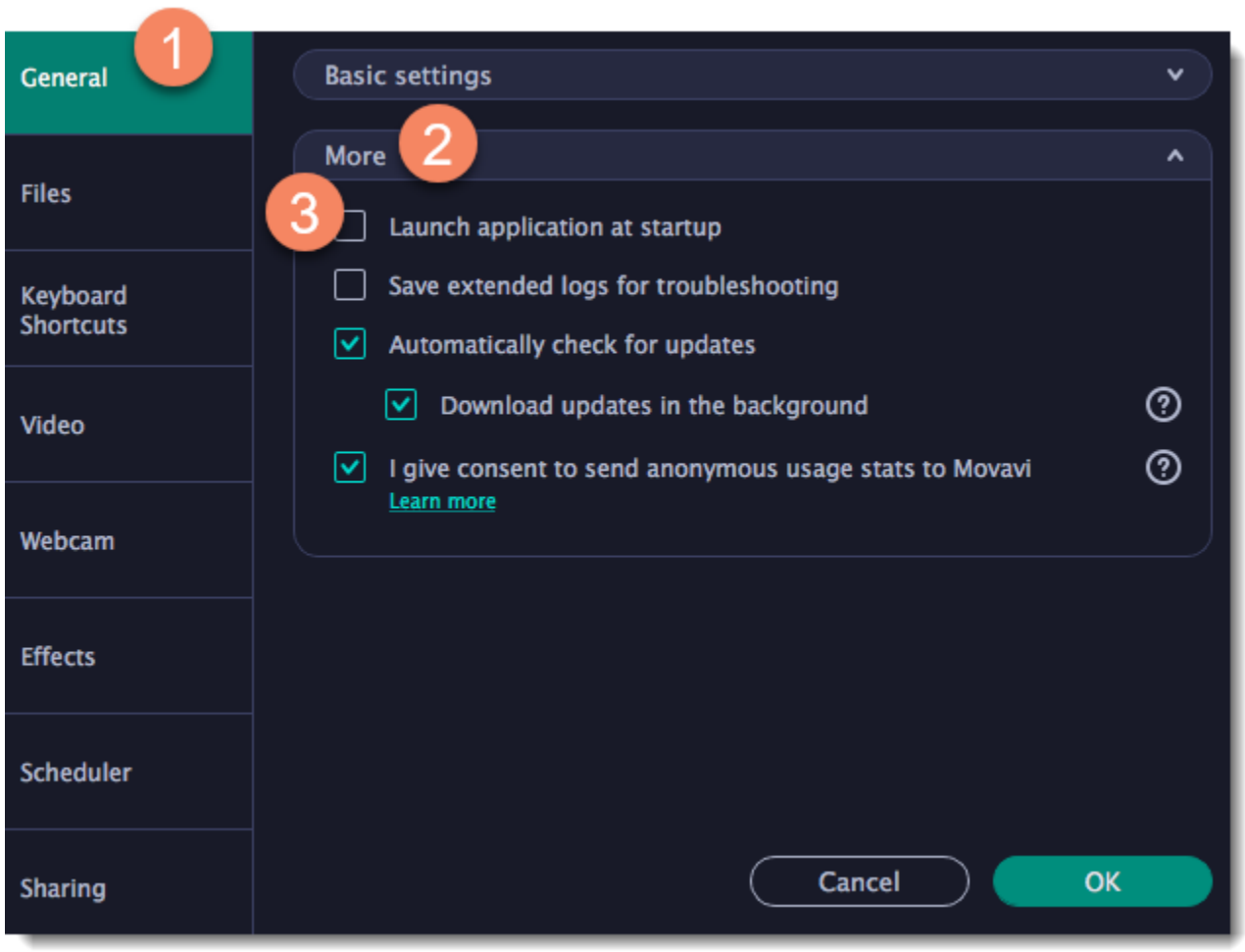
4. A task template will appear. Fill in the details for the task:
• **Title** - the name of your recording
• **Date** and **time** - the moment recording should start
• **Duration** - how long the recording should last (e.g if you want to record an hour long webinar, set this at 01:00:00)
• **Capture 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.

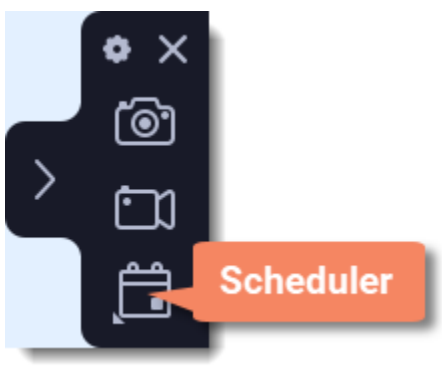
Step 3: Enable launching at startup (optional)

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

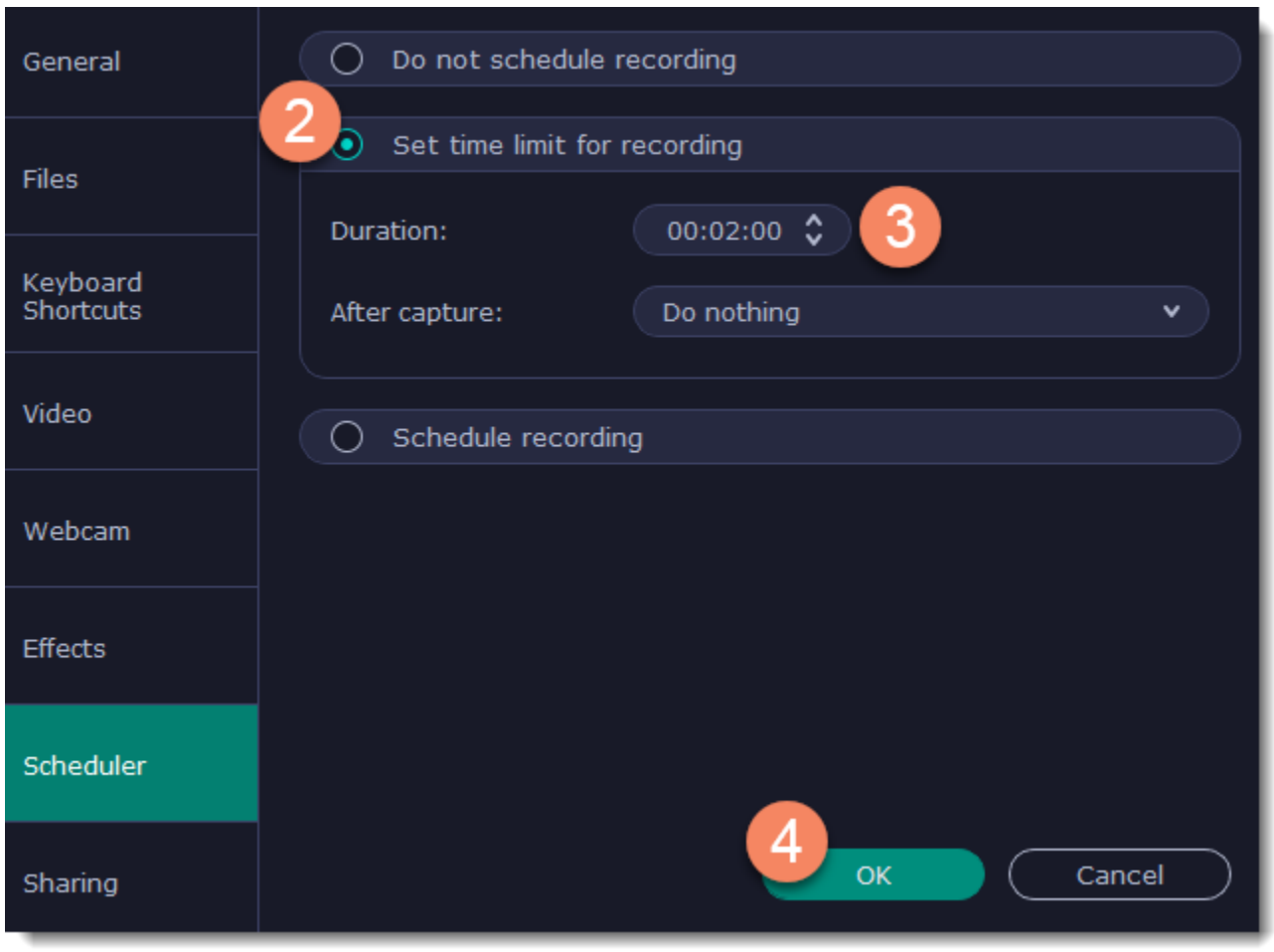
When you record a long webinar or online video, you can limit the recording to a specific time and it will stop automatically once the time is up. This way, you don't have to wait around for the video to end.

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.

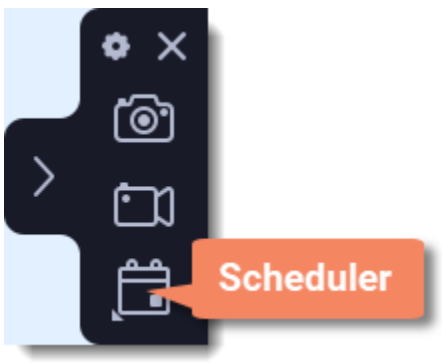
3. Set **Duration** by entering the time limit as hours:minutes:seconds.

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.



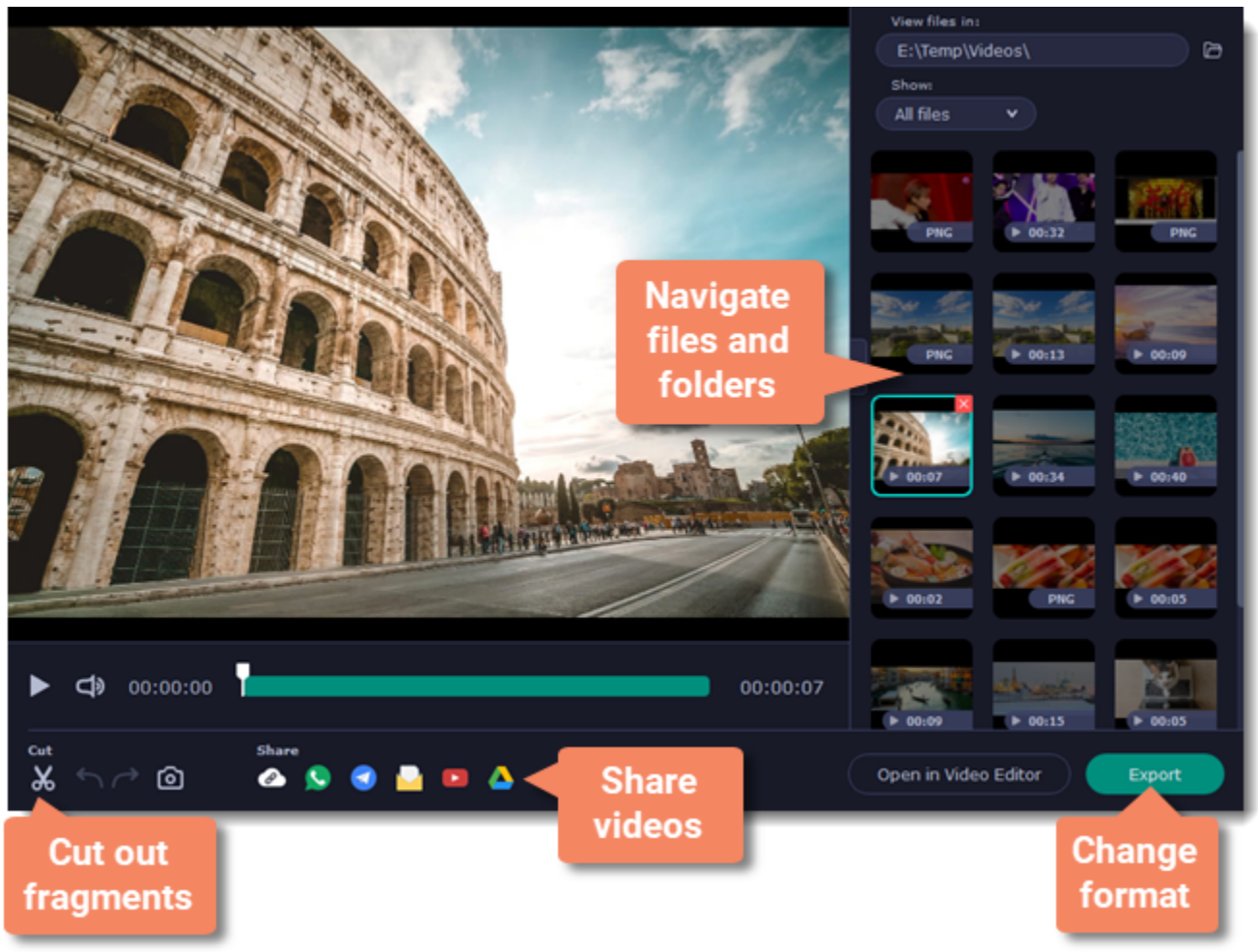
5. Click the **REC** button on the recording panel to begin recording. After the specified time is up, the recording will end automatically.

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.



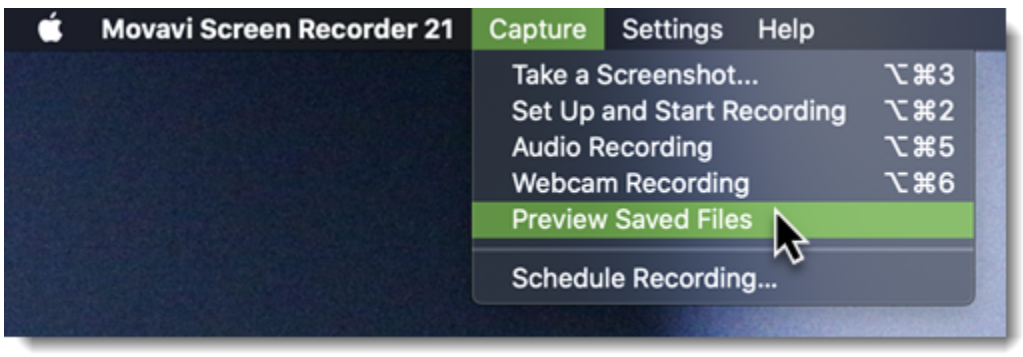
Here's what you can do:

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.

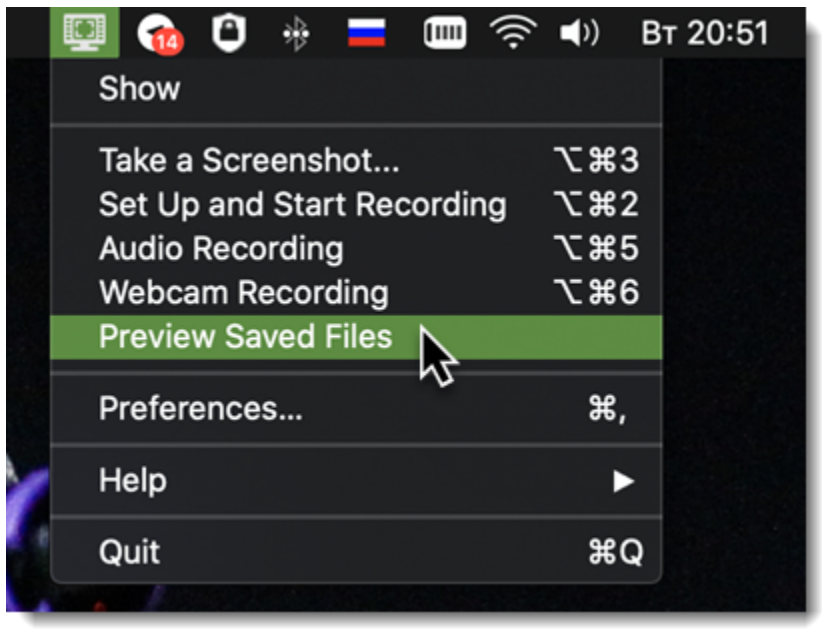
Opening the player

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.

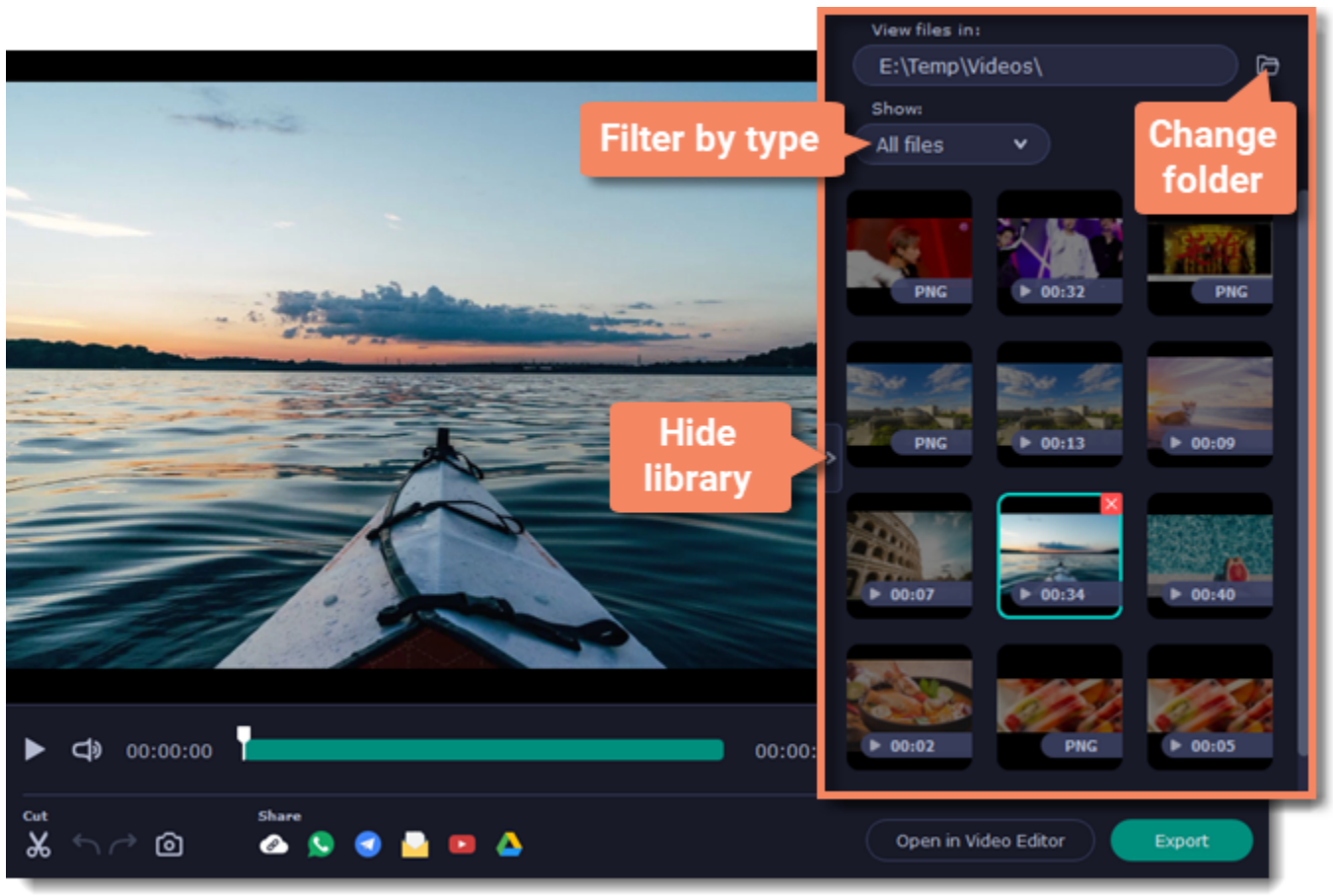
Navigating files

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 video 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 .



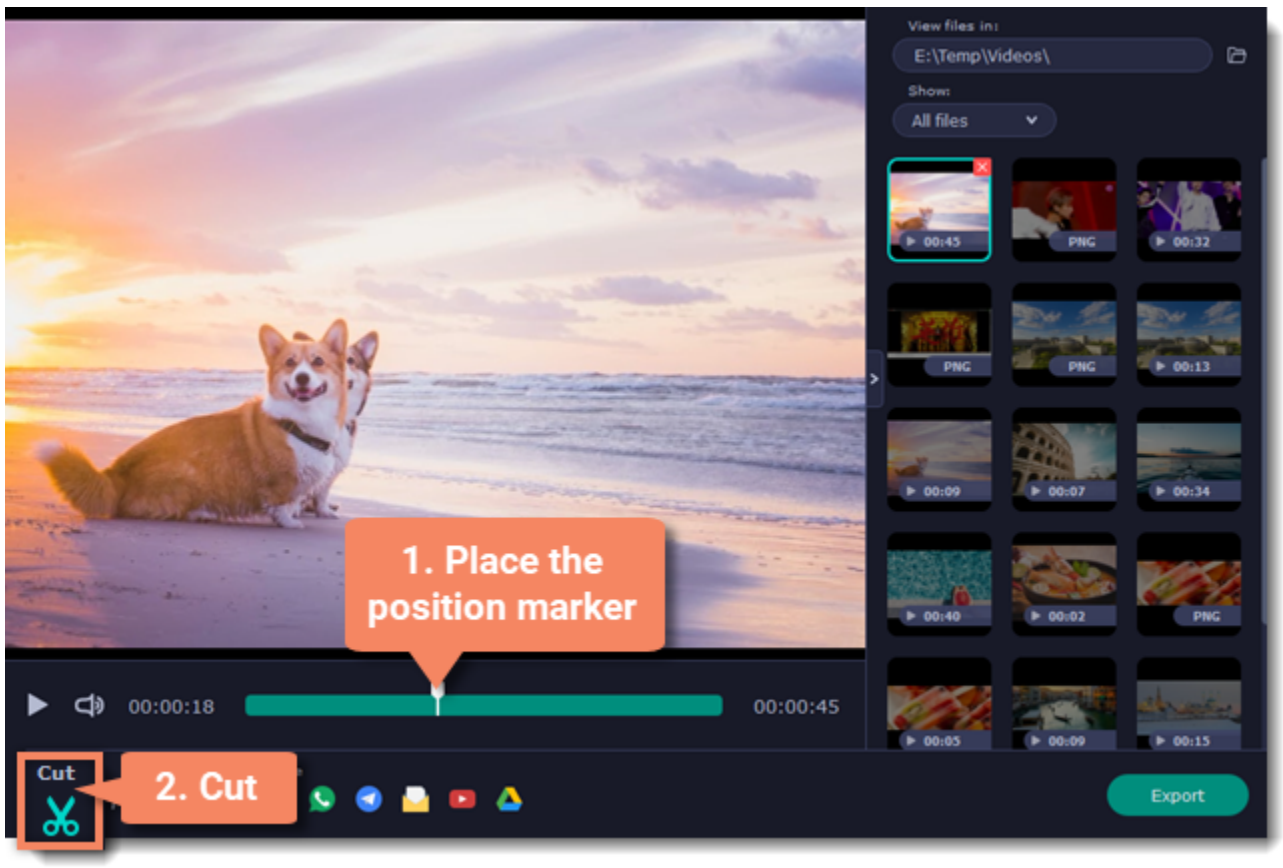
Cutting recordings

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.

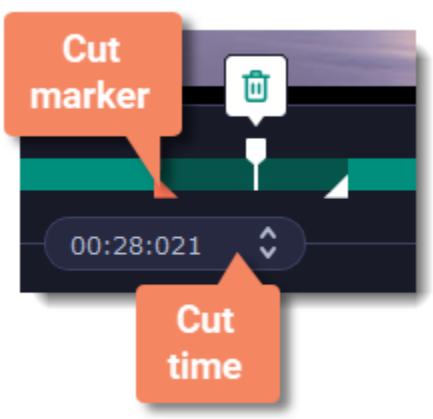
2. Click the **scissors** button. A fragment with two cut markers will appear at the current position.



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.

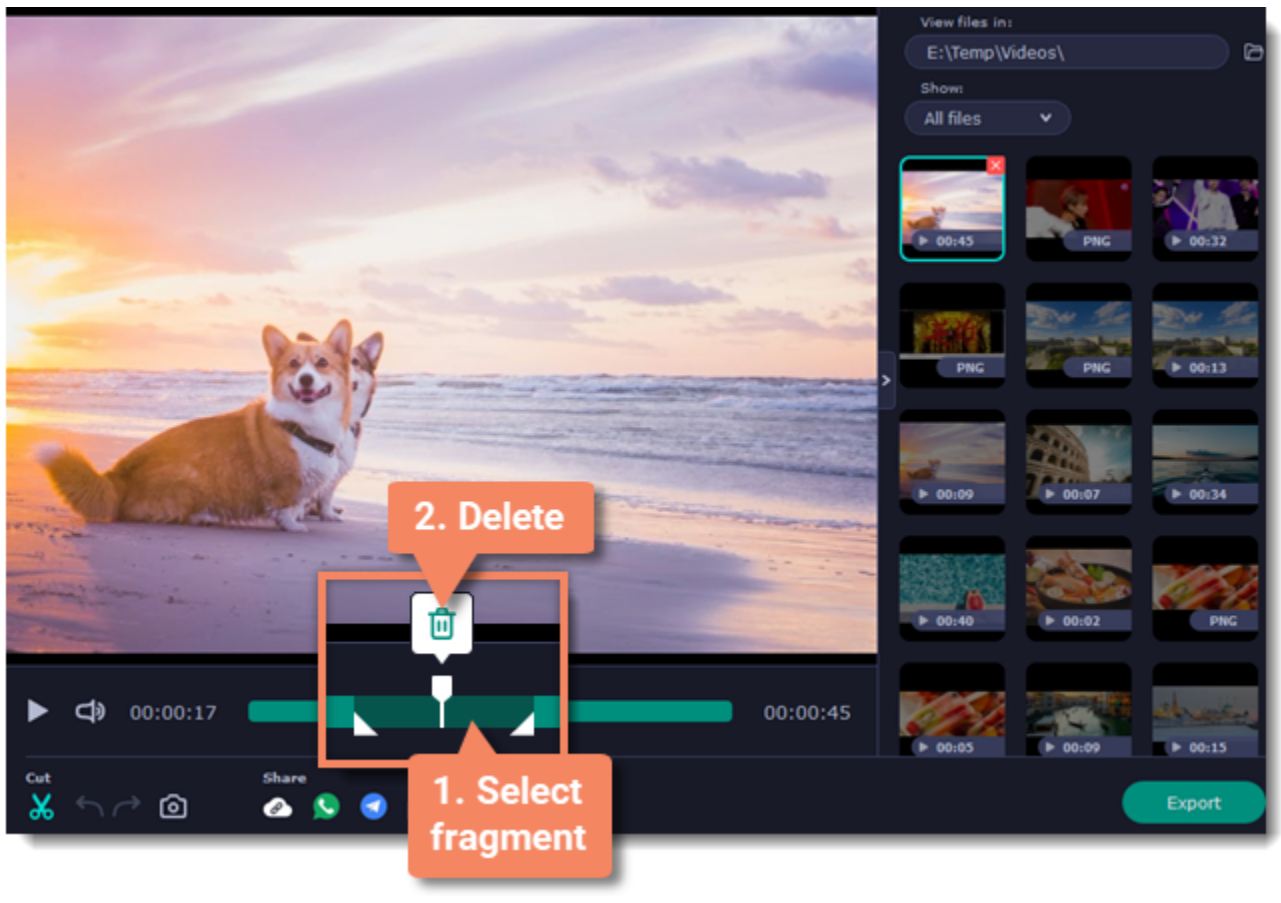


Step 2: Delete fragments

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

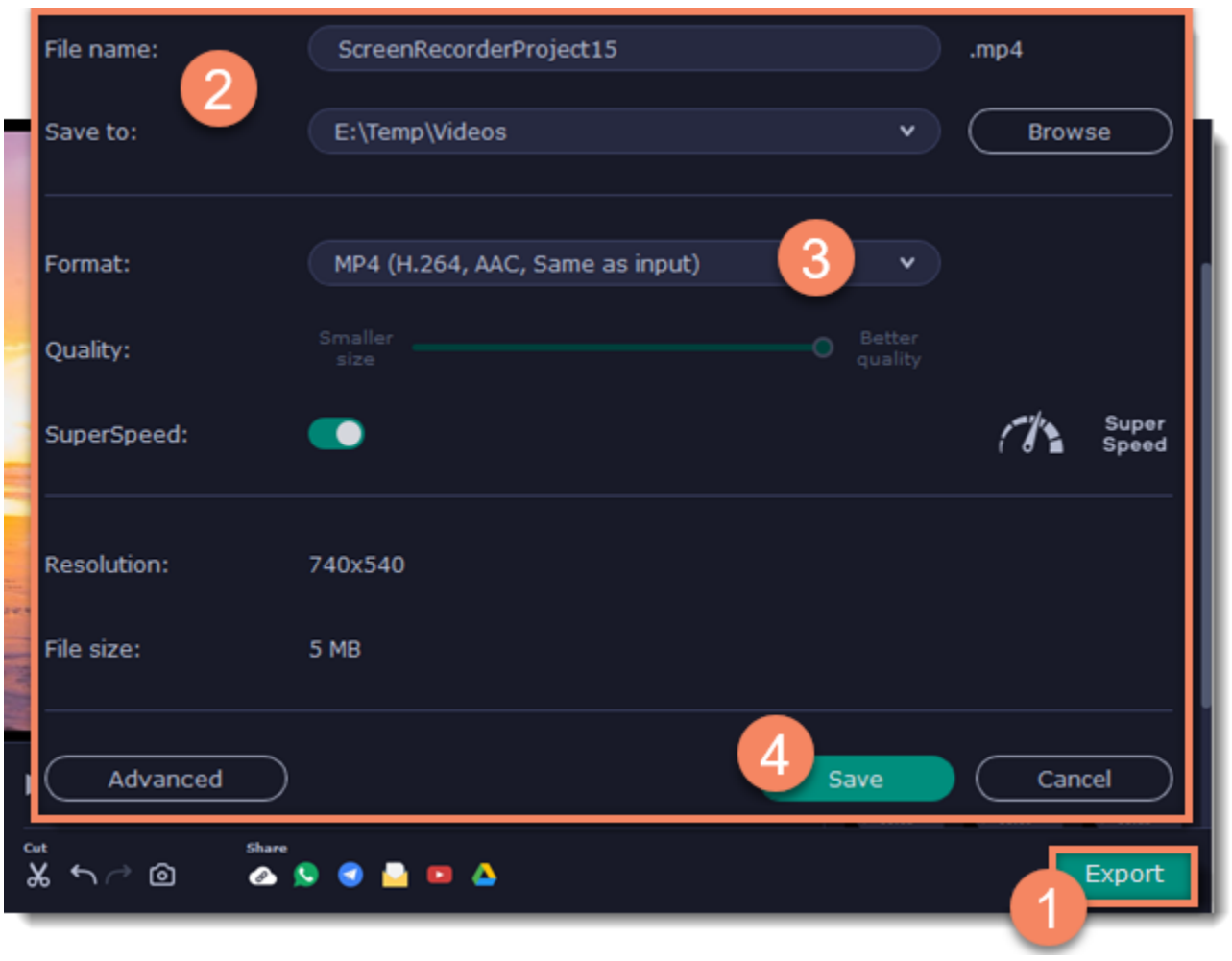
If you've cut the video, you need to save it to apply the changes.

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

Step 1: Open the output options

Click **Export** to open the output options.

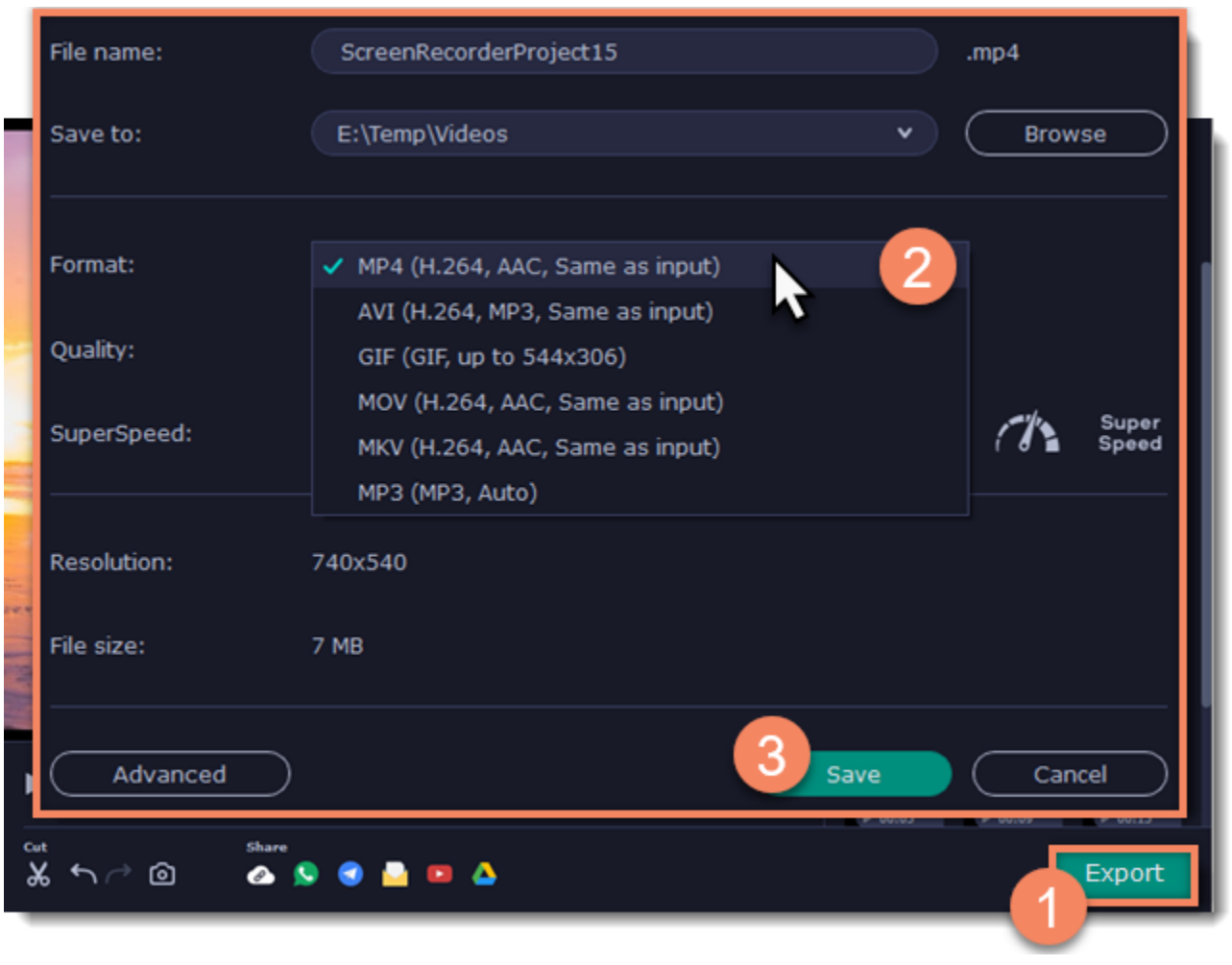
Step 2: Choose a new format

Select a format you want to use:

• **Video** - MP4, AVI, MOV, MKV
• **Image** - GIF
• **Audio** - MP3

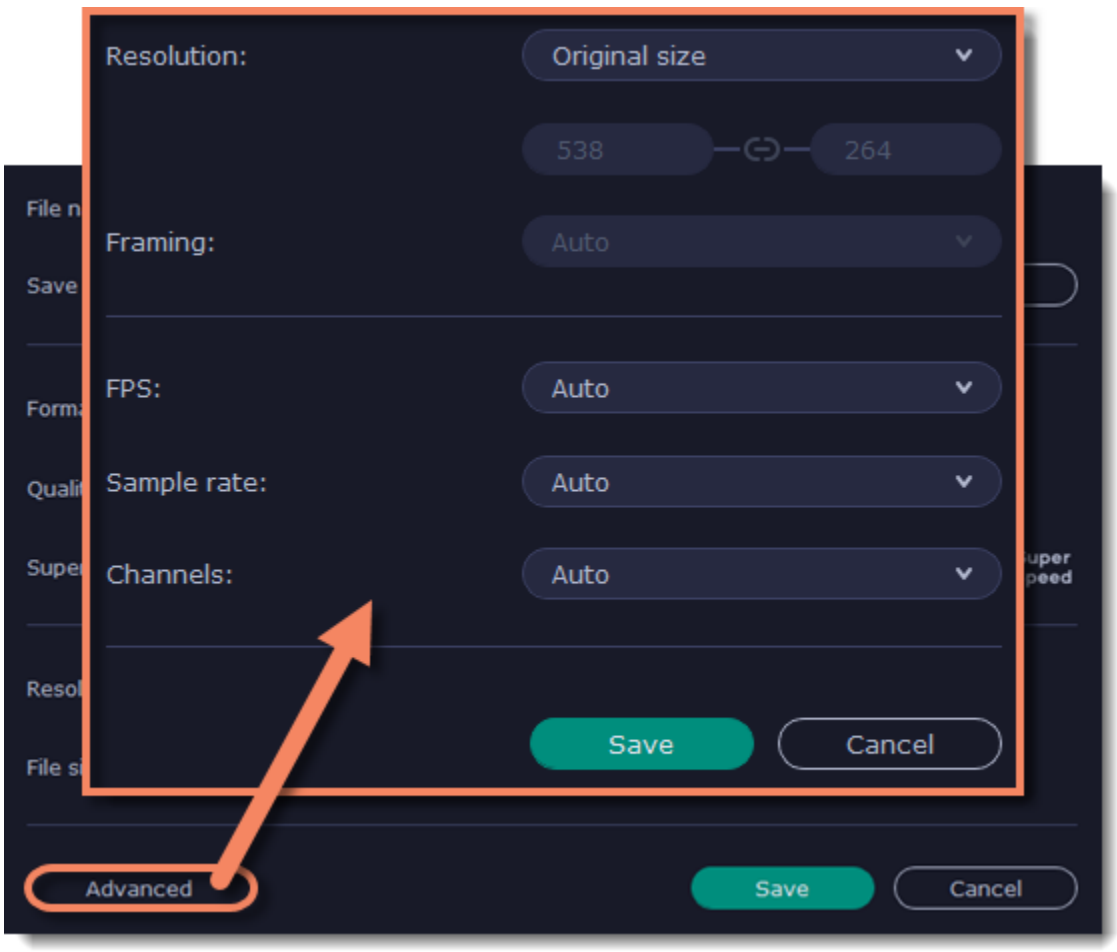
Step 3: Save the file

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

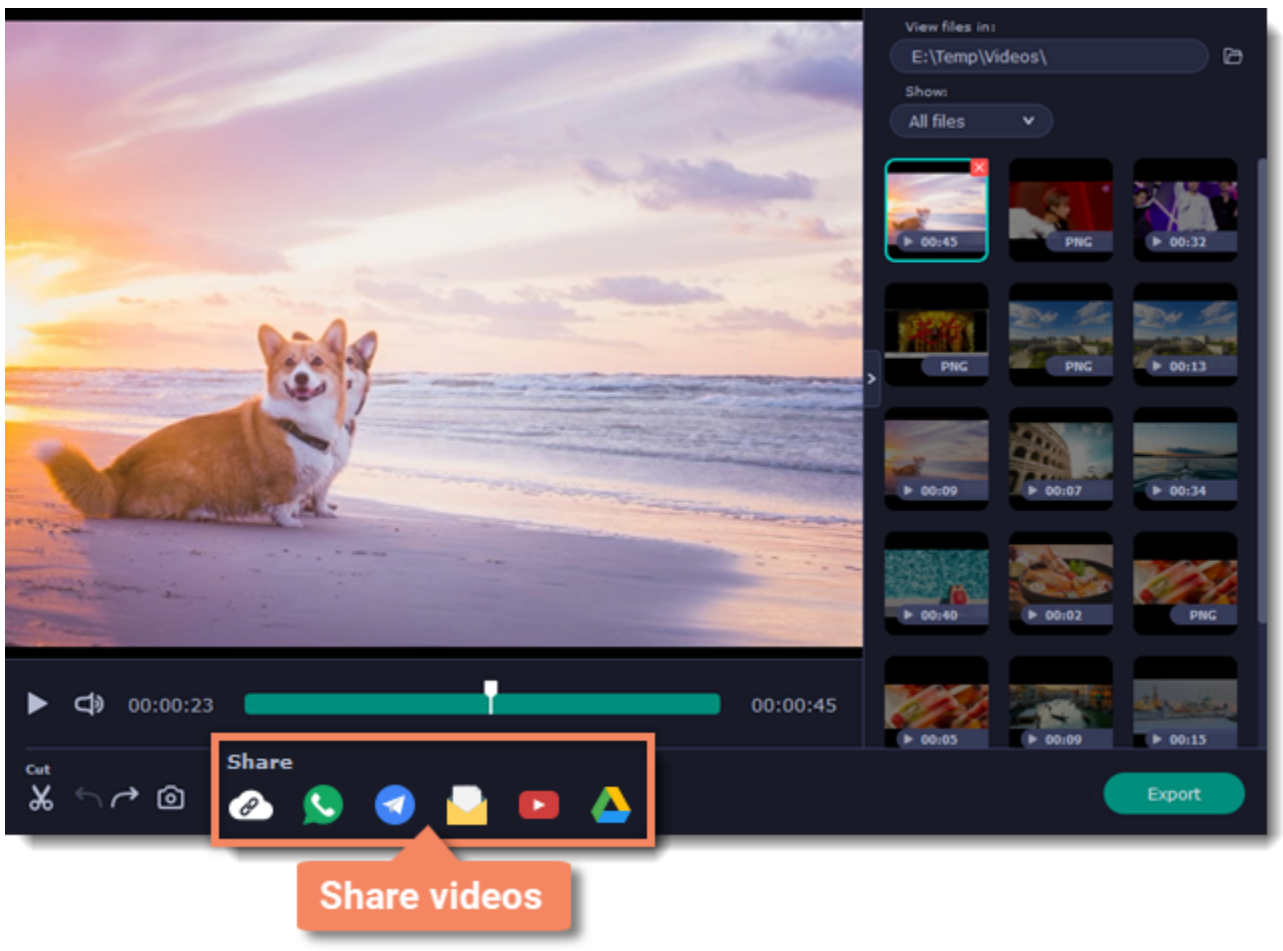
Stereo sound contains two channels and has the capacity to convey the relative location of sound sources, which makes it best for recording music; **mono** sound has only one channel and produces sound without differentiating left and right channels. Stereo is the generally preferred number of channels, 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 email.

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.



Learn more about sharing to:
• YouTube
• Google Drive

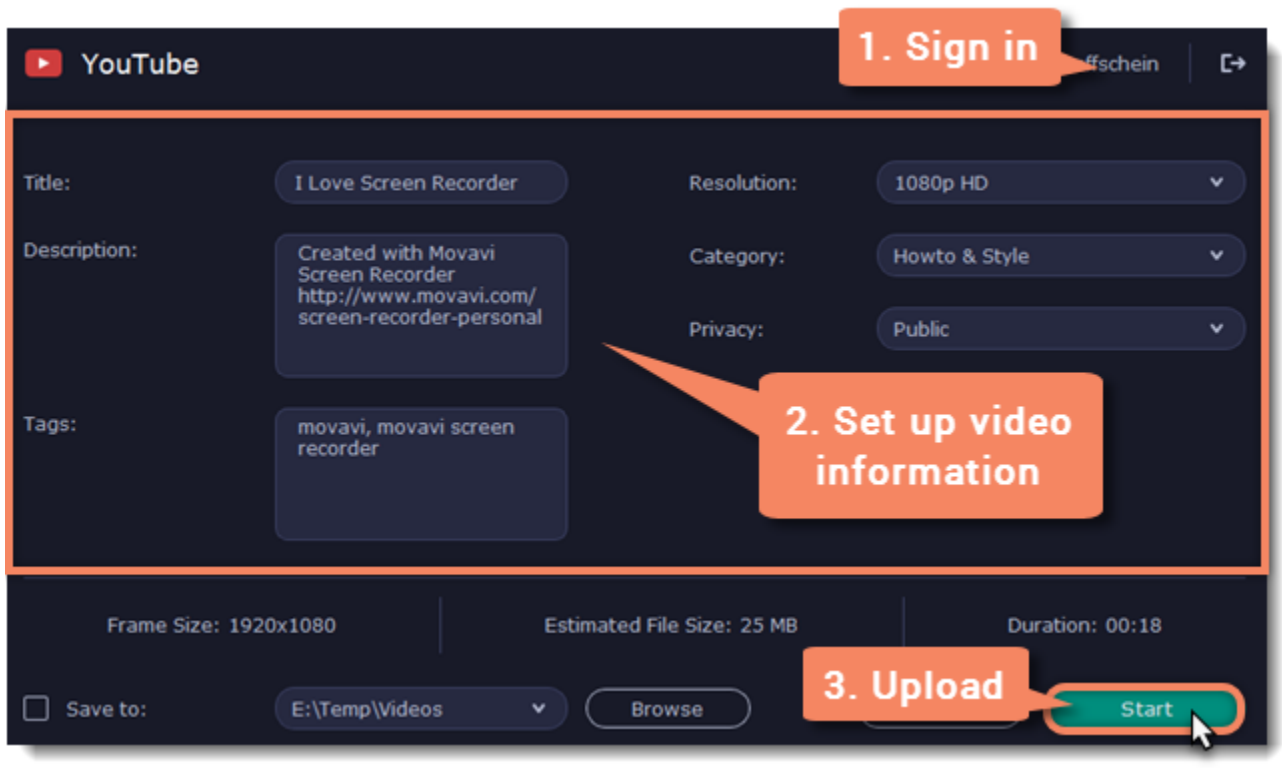
Uploading videos to YouTube

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.



Uploading videos to Google Drive

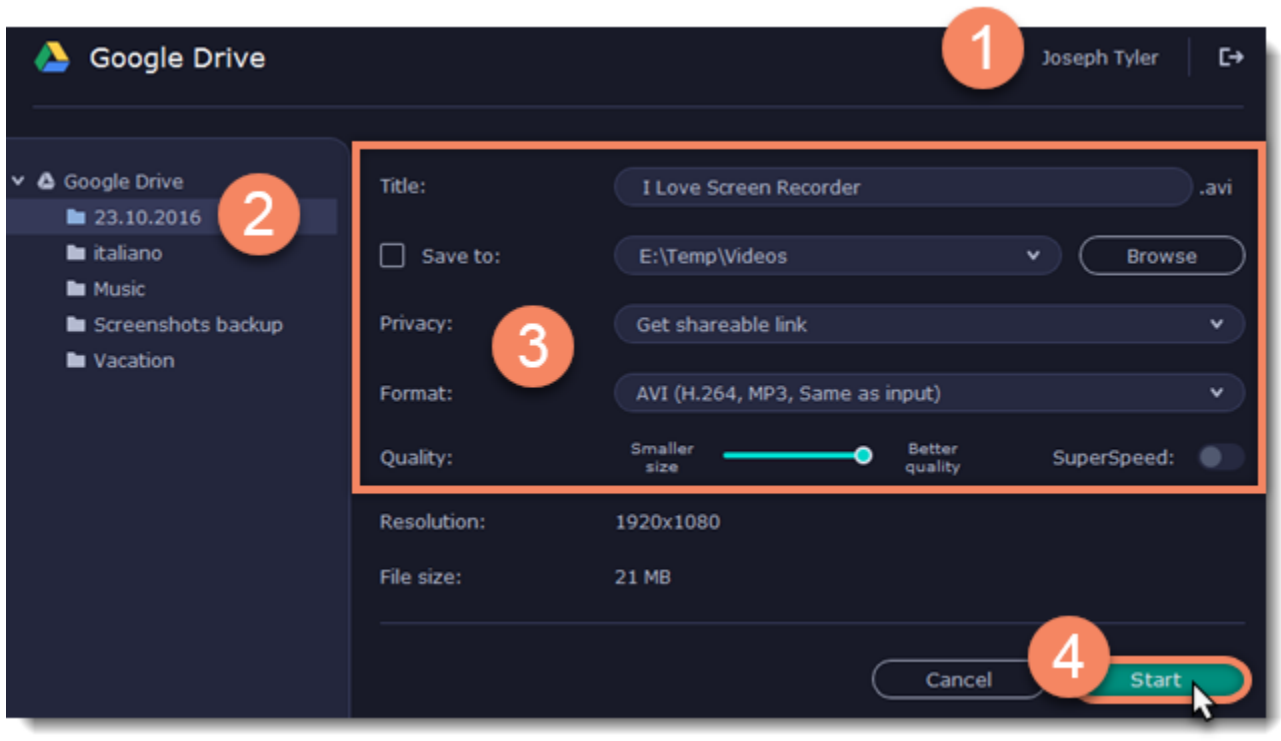
You can use Google Drive to store your videos or share them with others.

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.

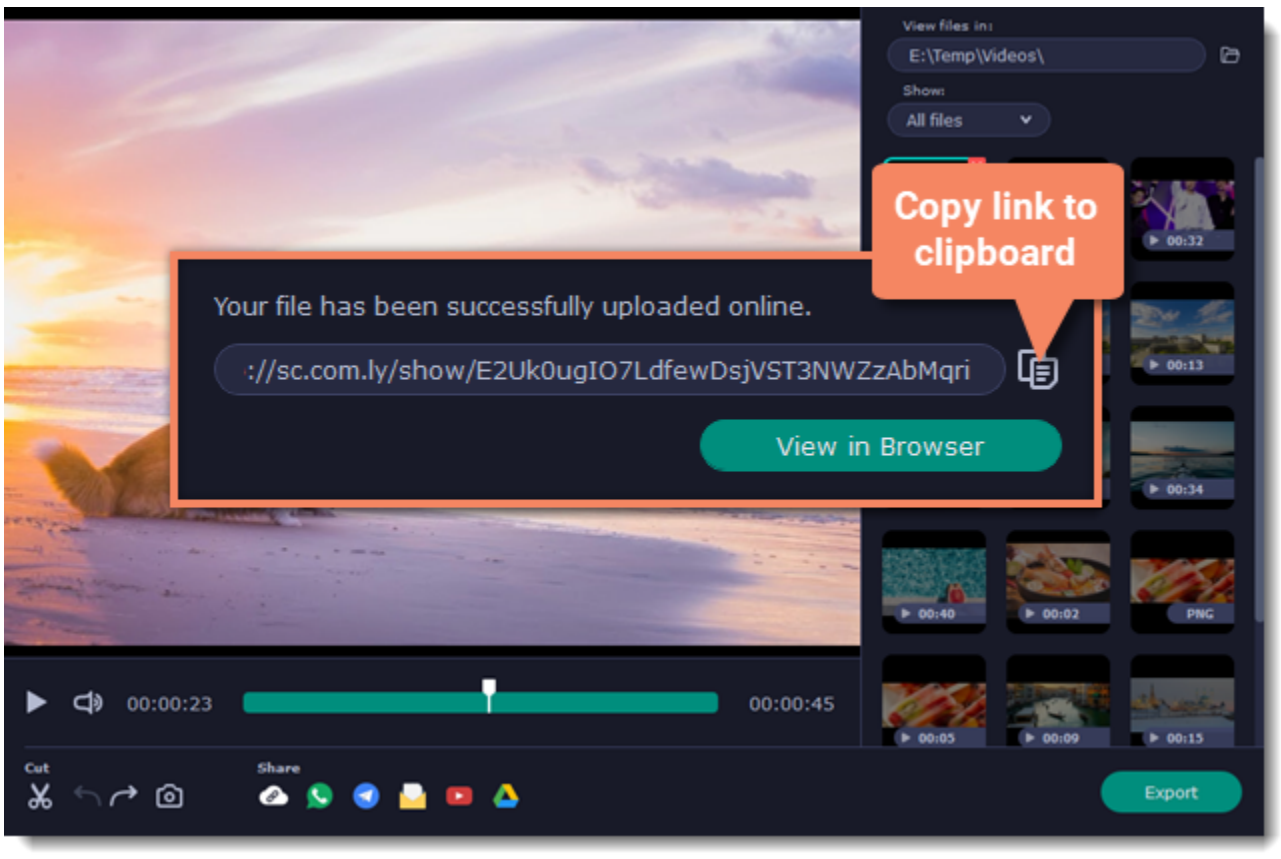


Getting link to video

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.

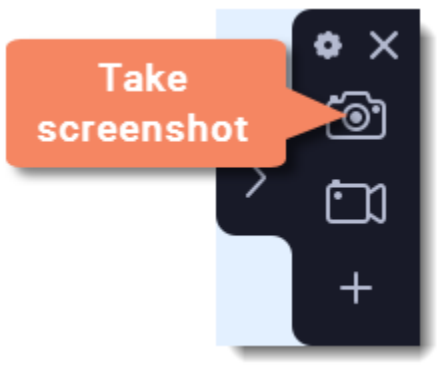
2. Share! The link will be copied to clipboard automatically, but you can also use the **copy** button or click **View in Browser** to open the file in your default browser.



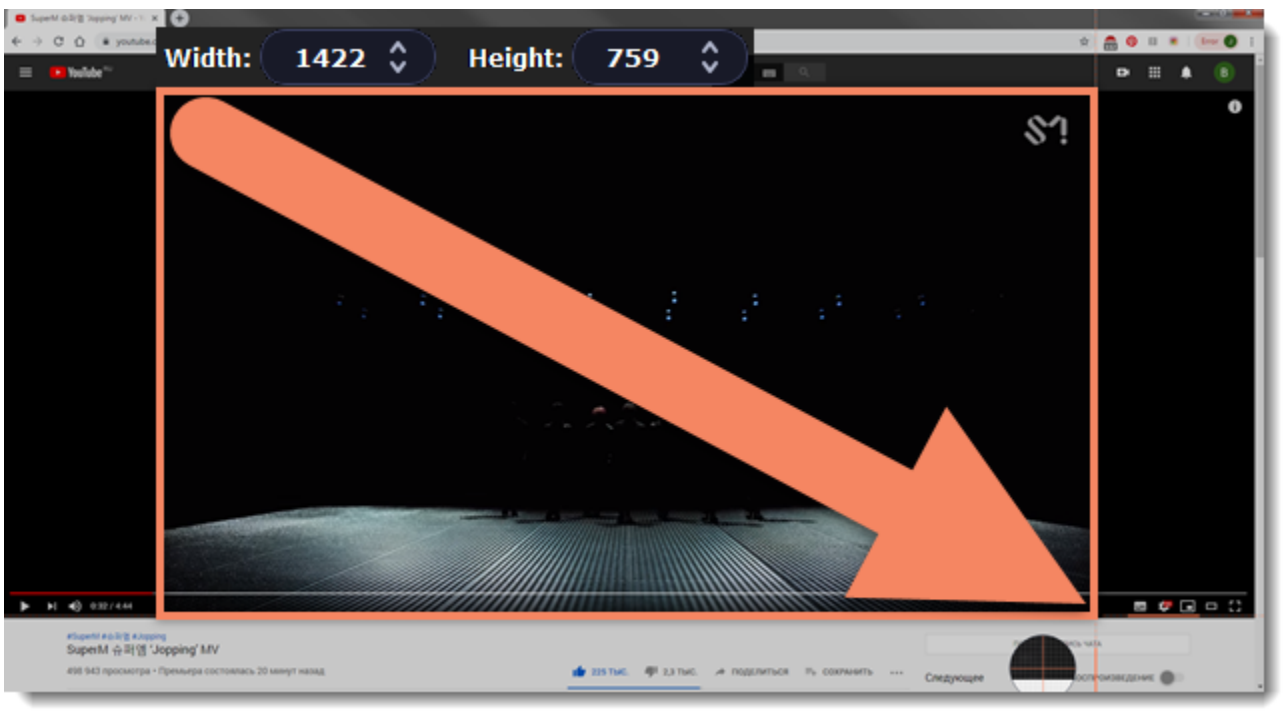
In the browser, you can play the video or download it. The file will be accessible by the link, so if you feel you might need to send it to someone else some other time, make sure to know where to find it (e.g. in a message you've first attached it to).

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.



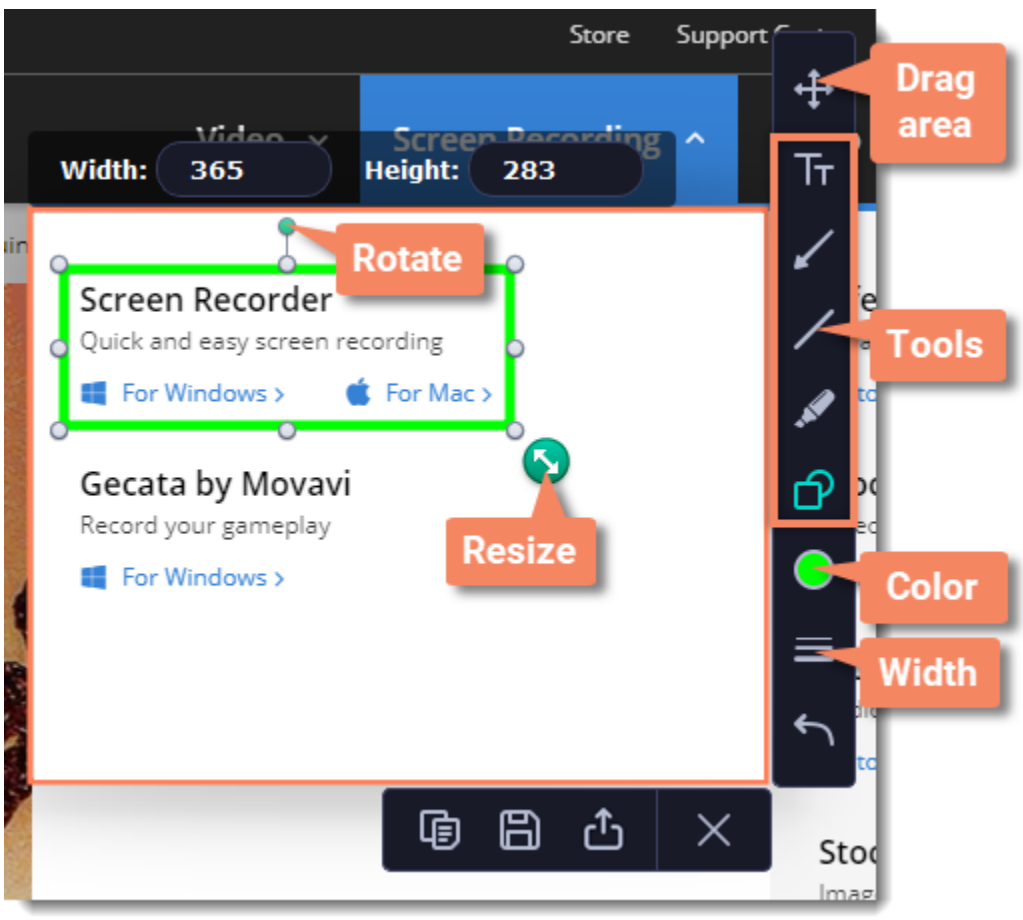
3. A frame will appear over the selected area. You can now edit your screenshot:

• 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.

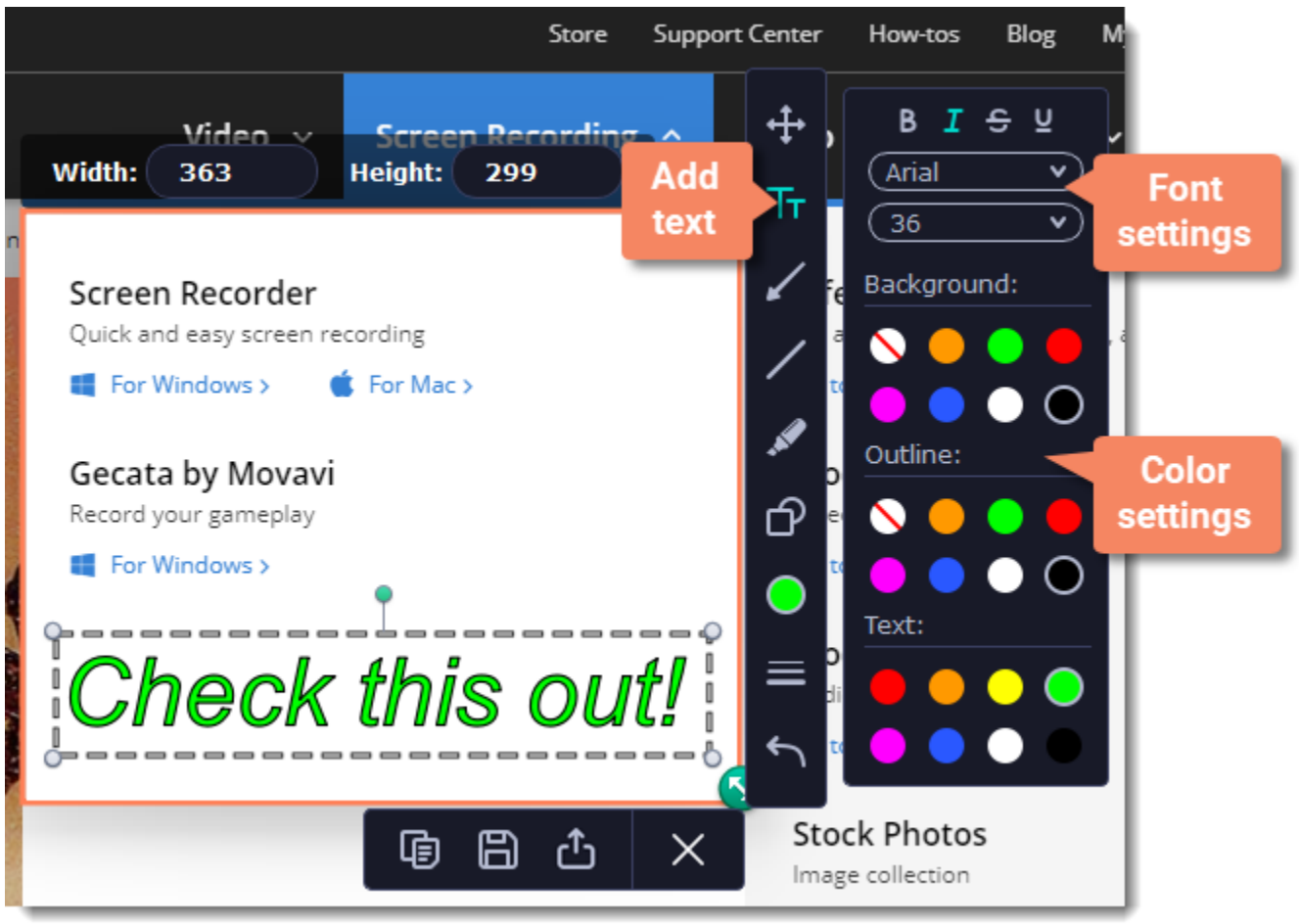
• Change the **color** and **width** of your shape.

• 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.

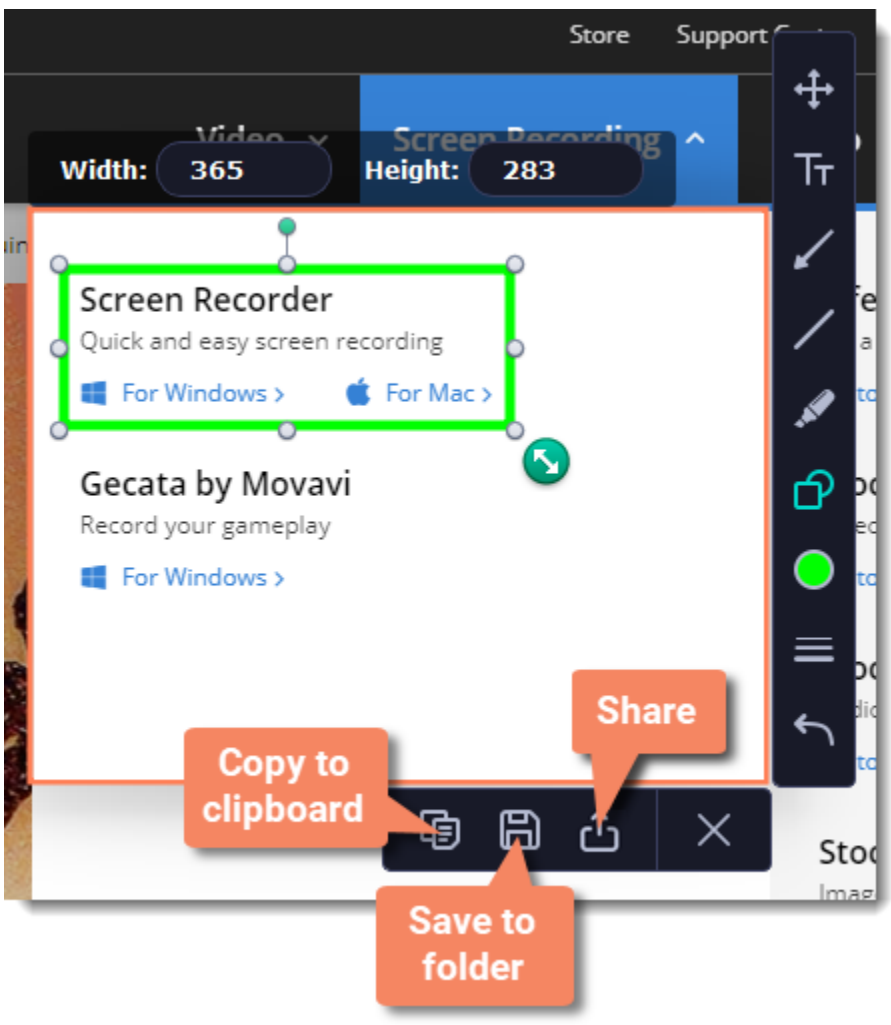


4. Choose what you want to do with your screenshot:

• 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 email.



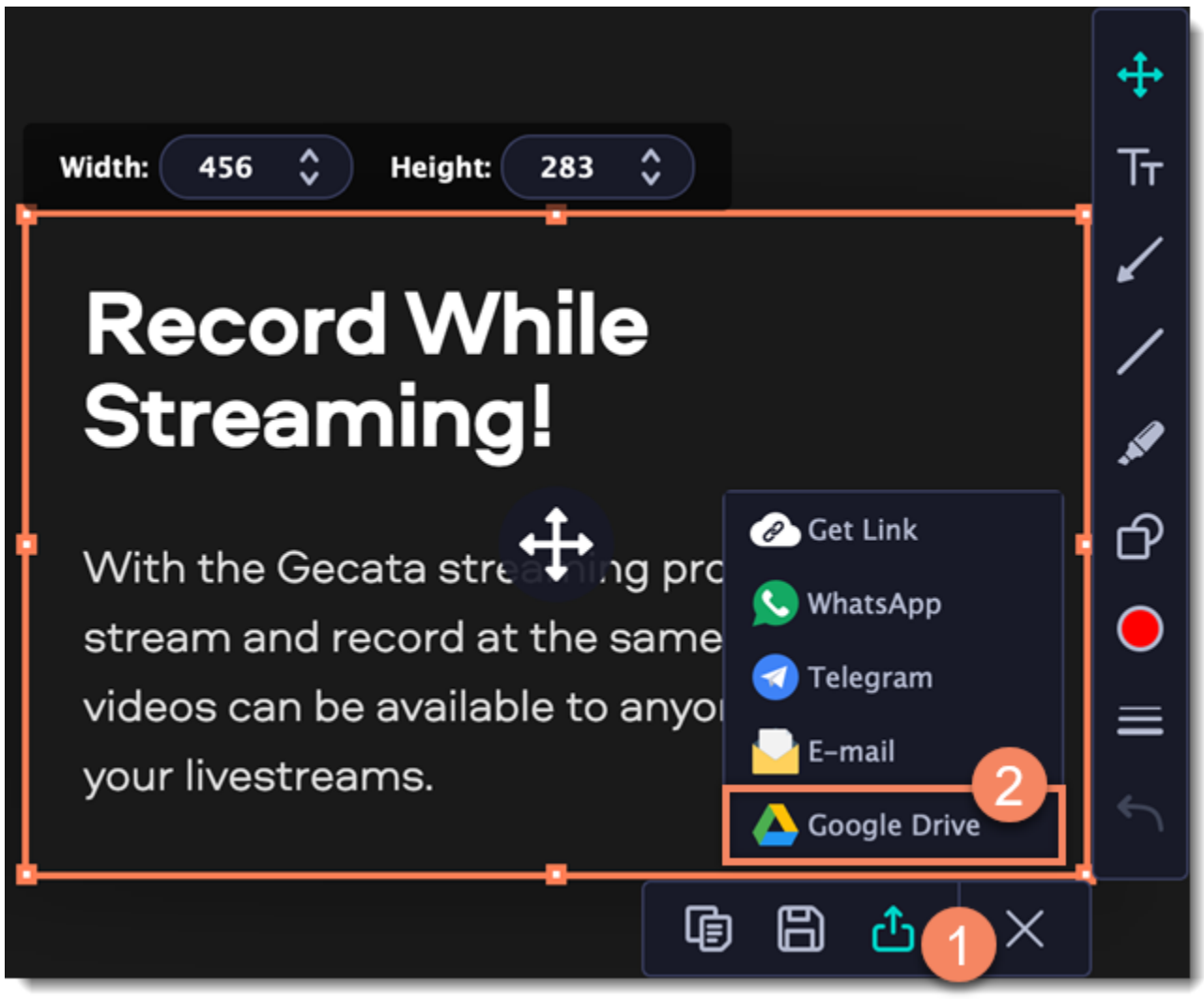
Where are the screenshots stored?

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

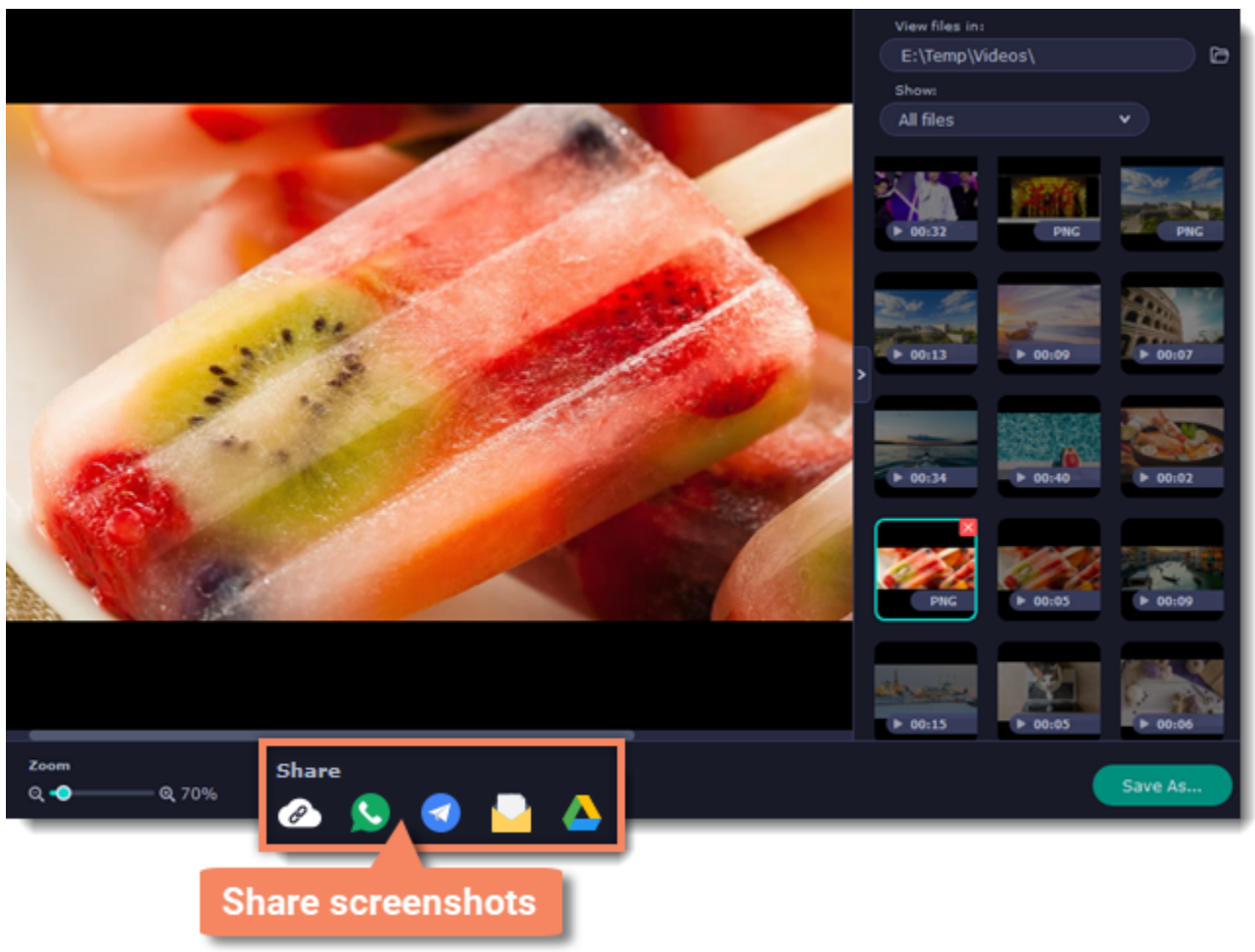
Sharing screenshots

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

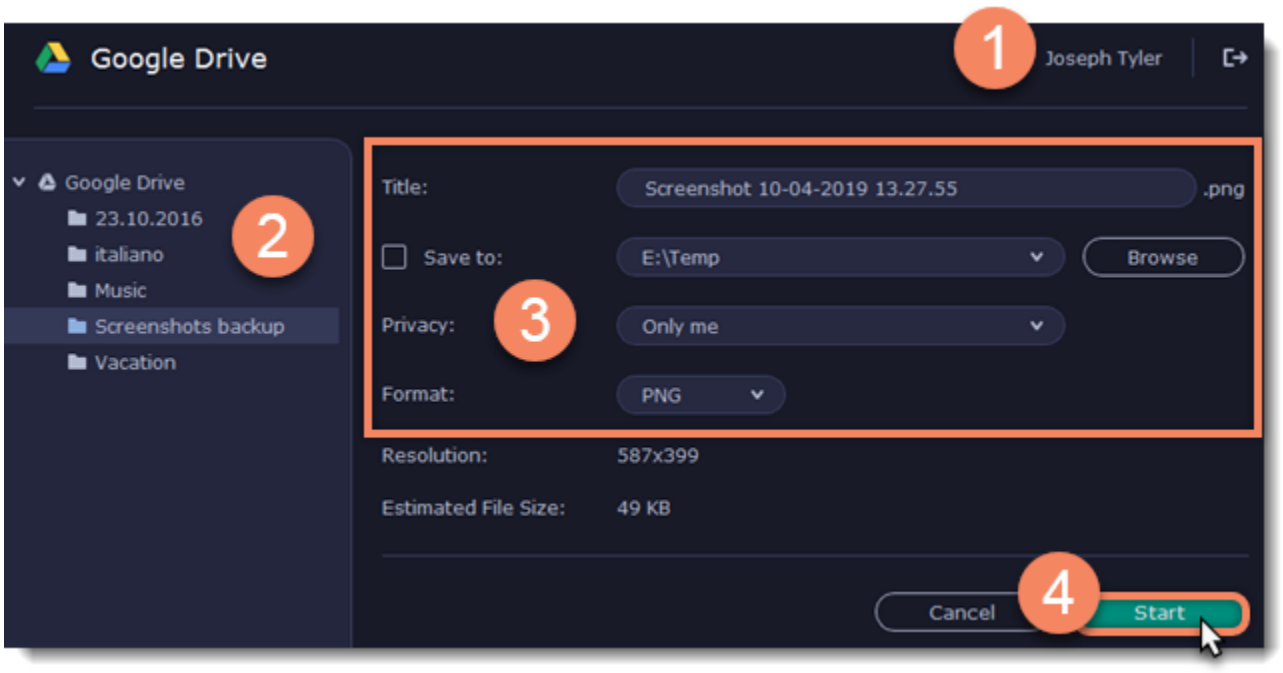
Uploading images to Google Drive will take you a couple extra moves.

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

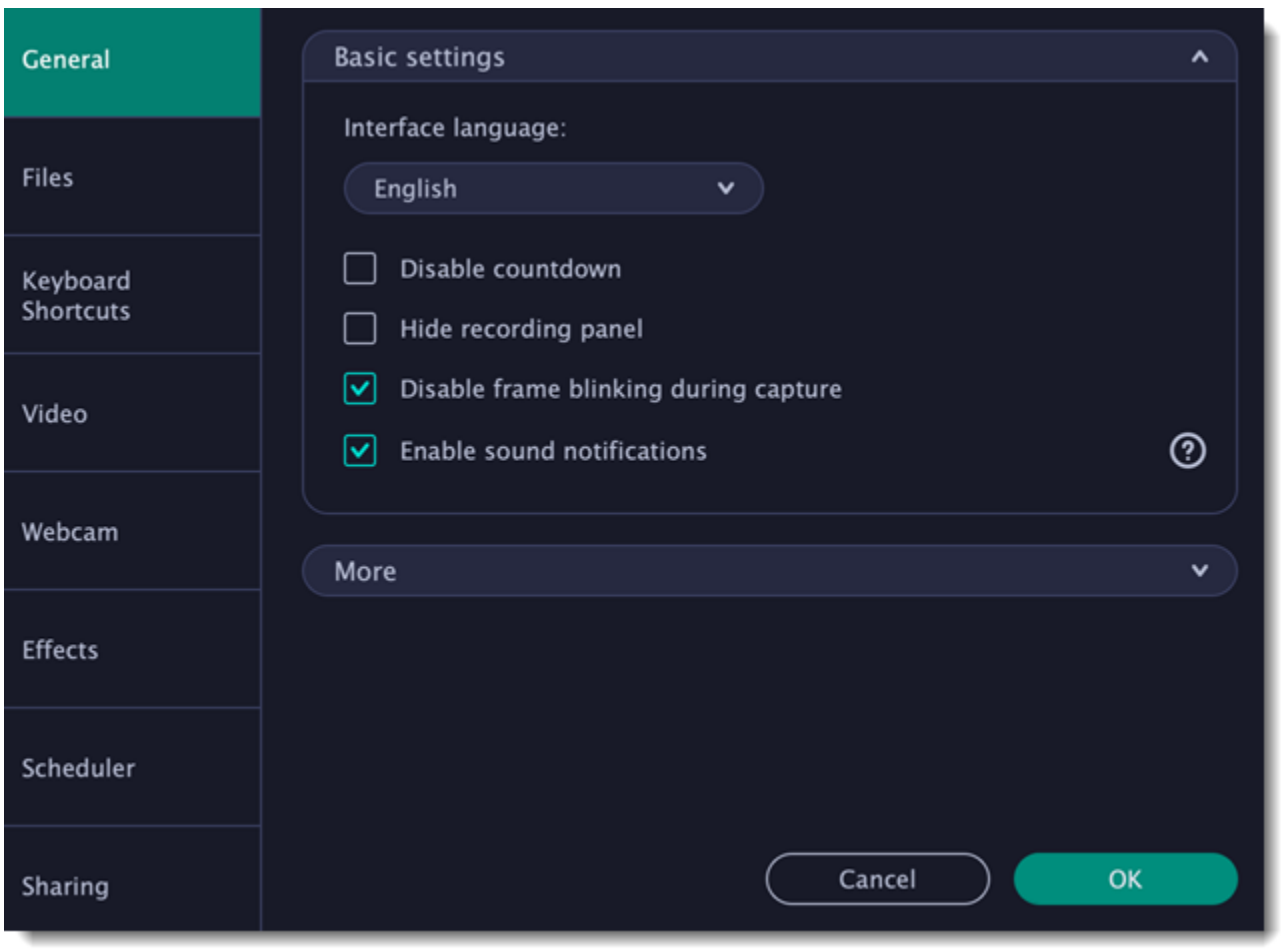
To open the program settings for Movavi Screen Recorder, click the **cogwheel** button on the control panel:

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.

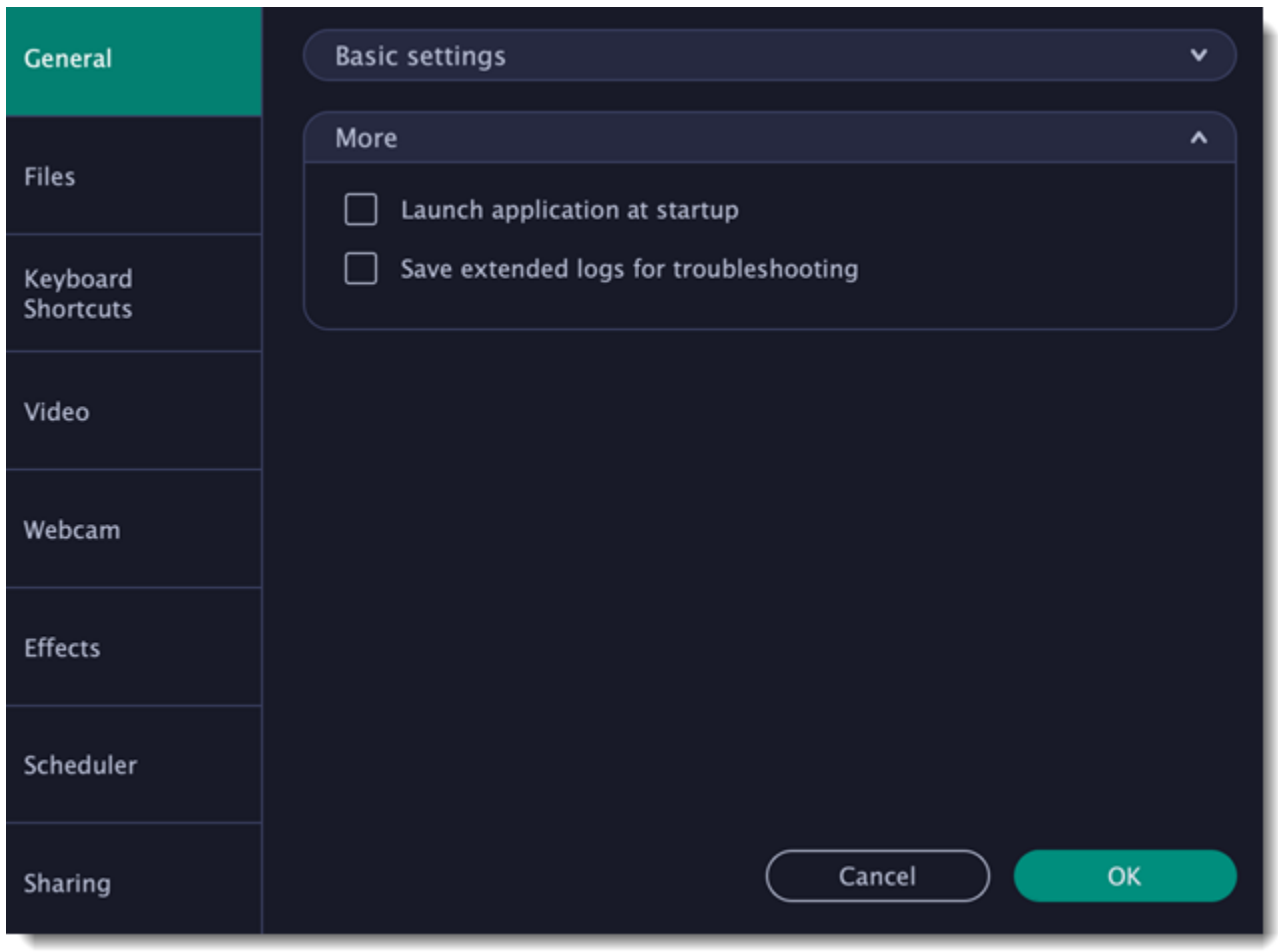
Disable frame blinking during capture

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

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

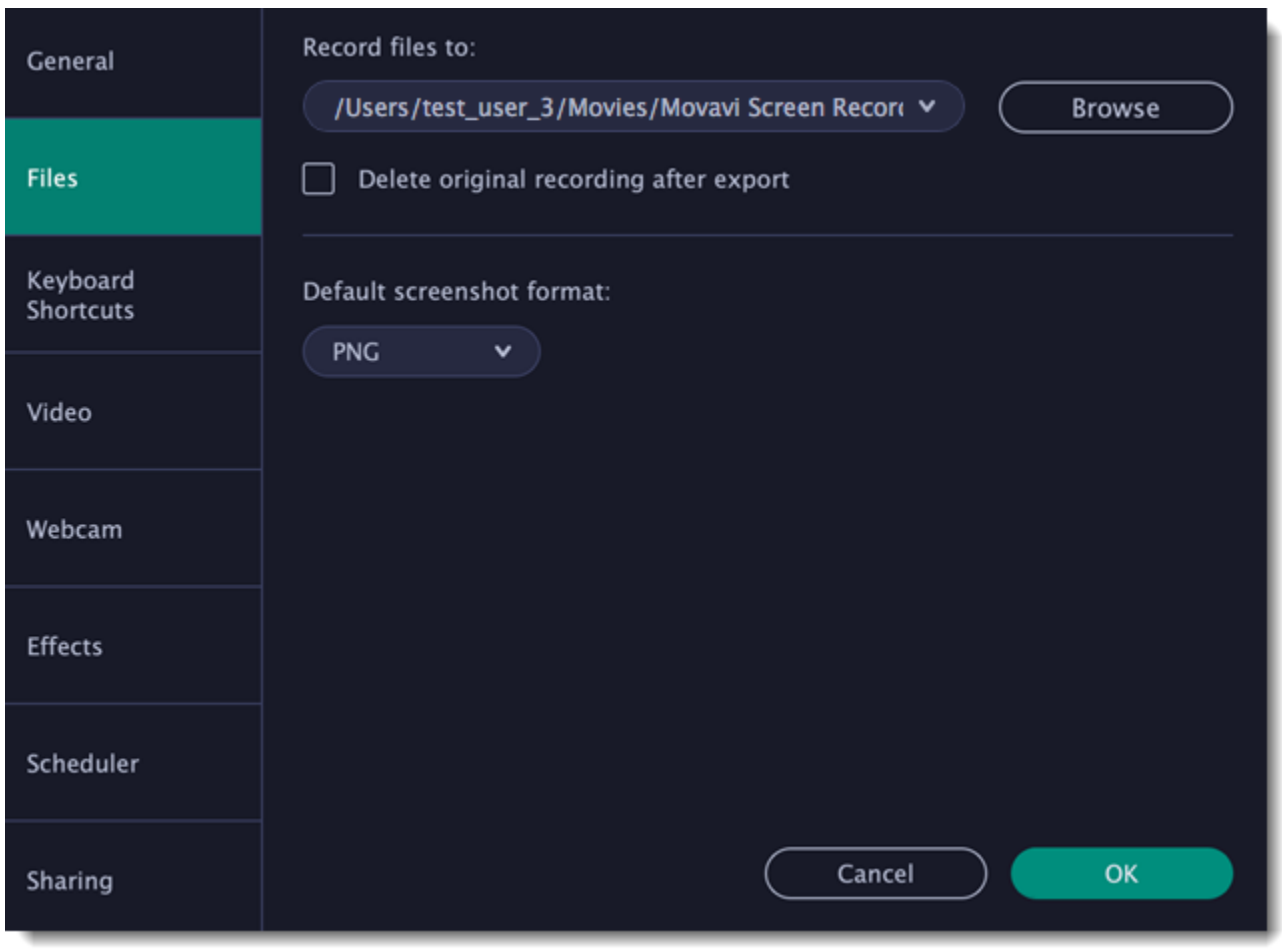
With this option enabled, Movavi Screen Recorder will start when you log in and run in the background. This way you will always be ready to capture your screen.

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.

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

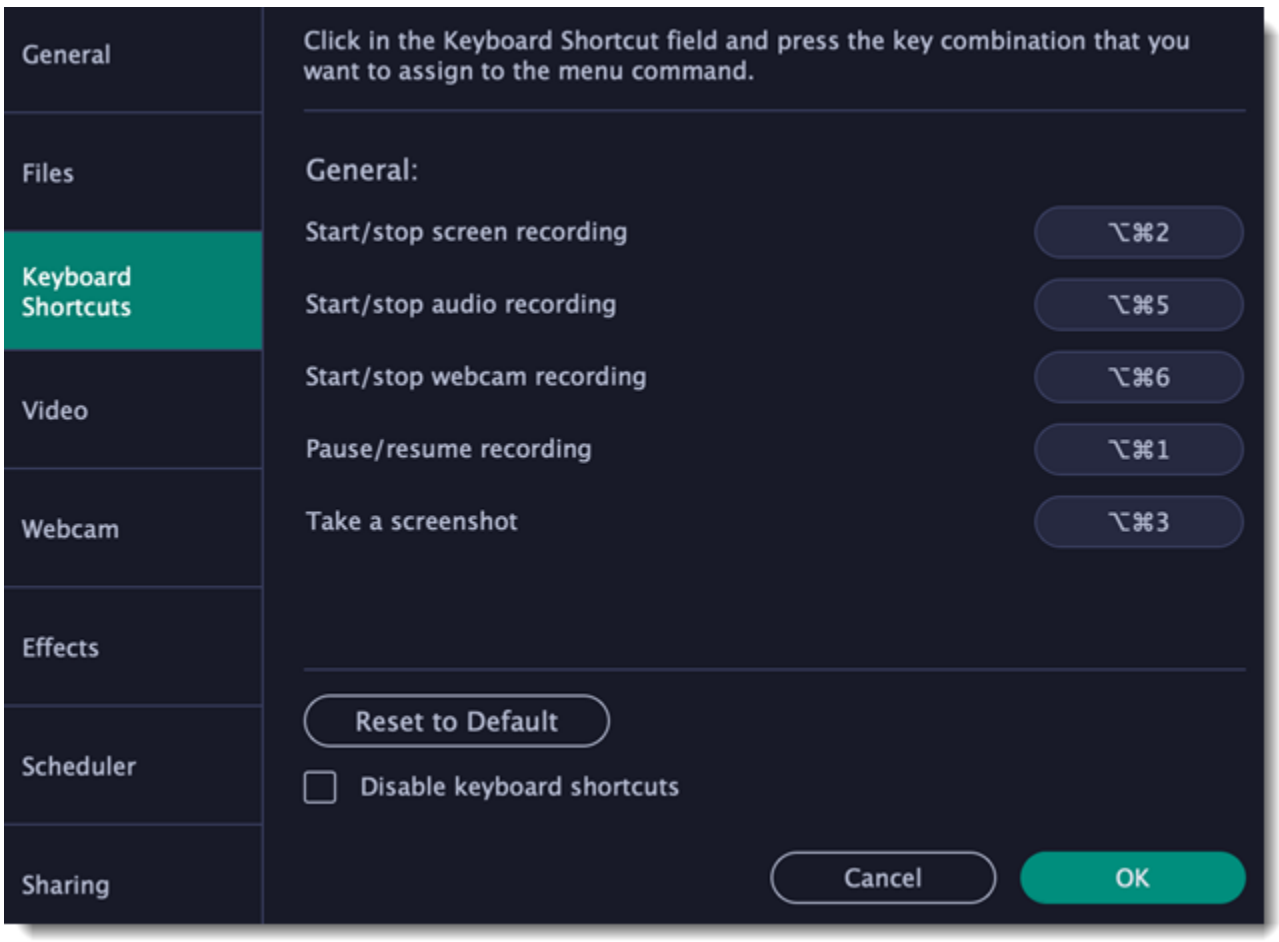
If you save the recording in a different format or trim the file, the original will be deleted.

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:

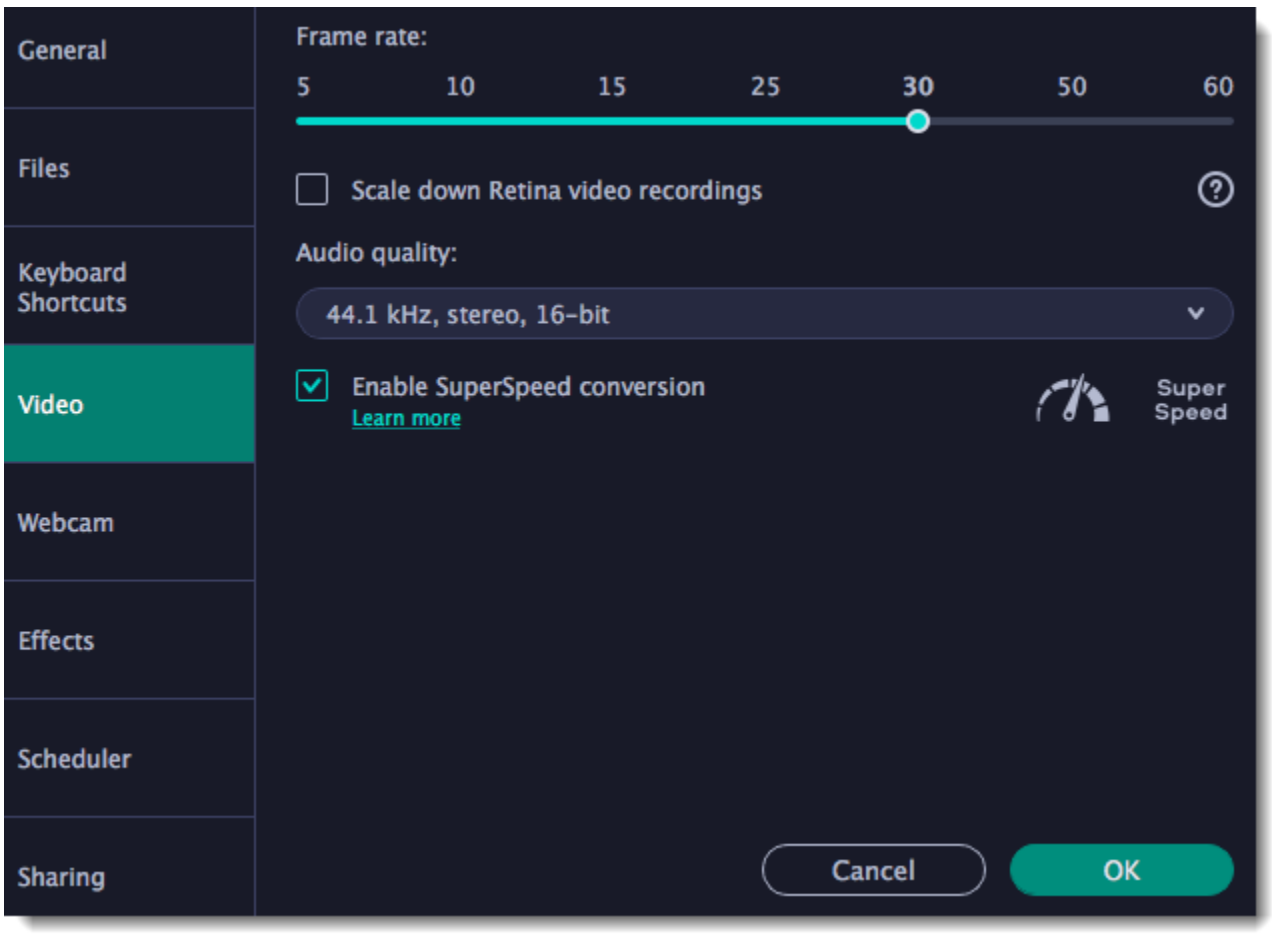
1. Click inside the box with the shortcut you want to change. The box will become blank.
2. Simultaneously press on keyboard the keys you want to use as a shortcut to the selected action. The box will now display your custom shortcut.
3. Click **OK** to apply the changes. To reset all the keyboard shortcuts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

If there's a keyboard shortcut you want to use in other software while Screen Recorder Movavi 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

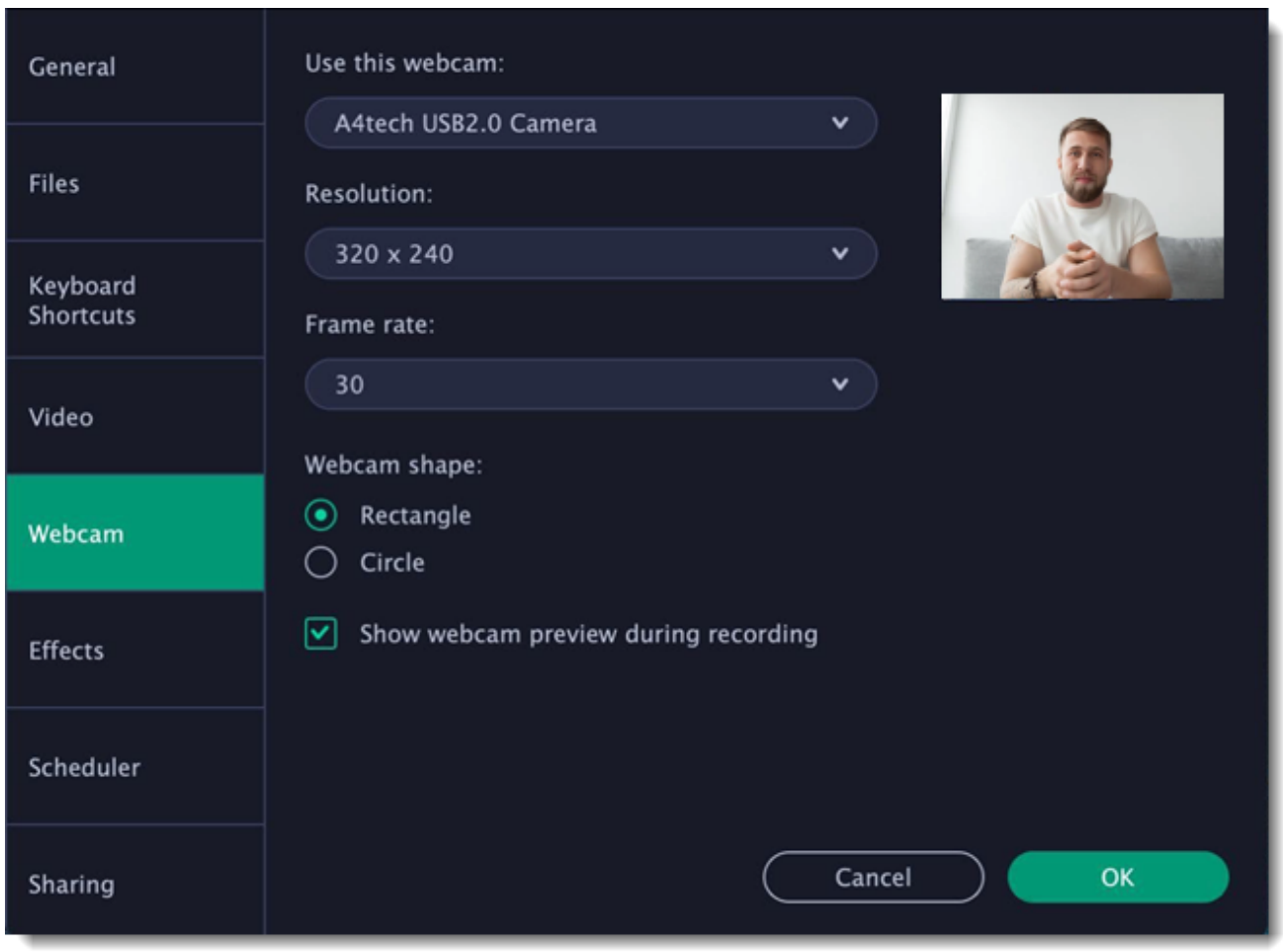
Screen Recorder will record audio at 16 bits, which is the standard bit depth for most audio recordings. This means that every sample contains 16 bits of information to encode sound.

☑ 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.

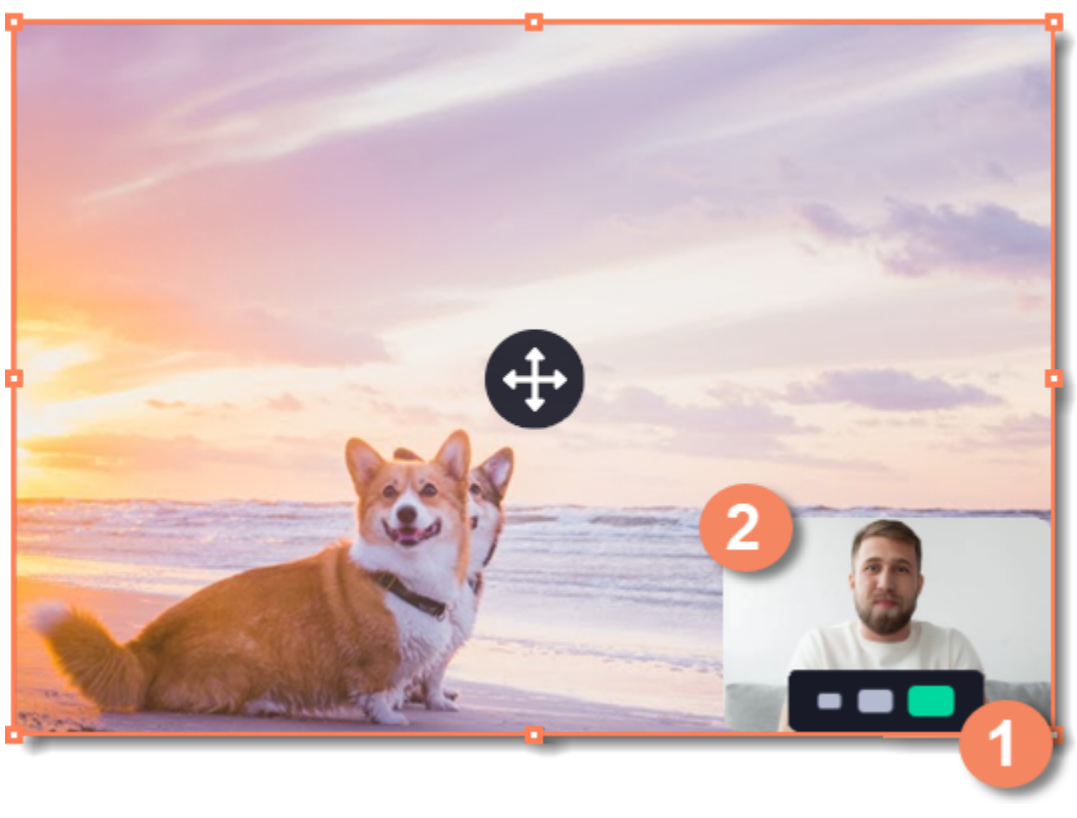
Webcam shape

Select the shape of the webcam overlay.

Show webcam preview during recording

When recording screen with webcam, you will see your webcam overlay preview in the lower right corner (unless you've set a different webcam position on video).

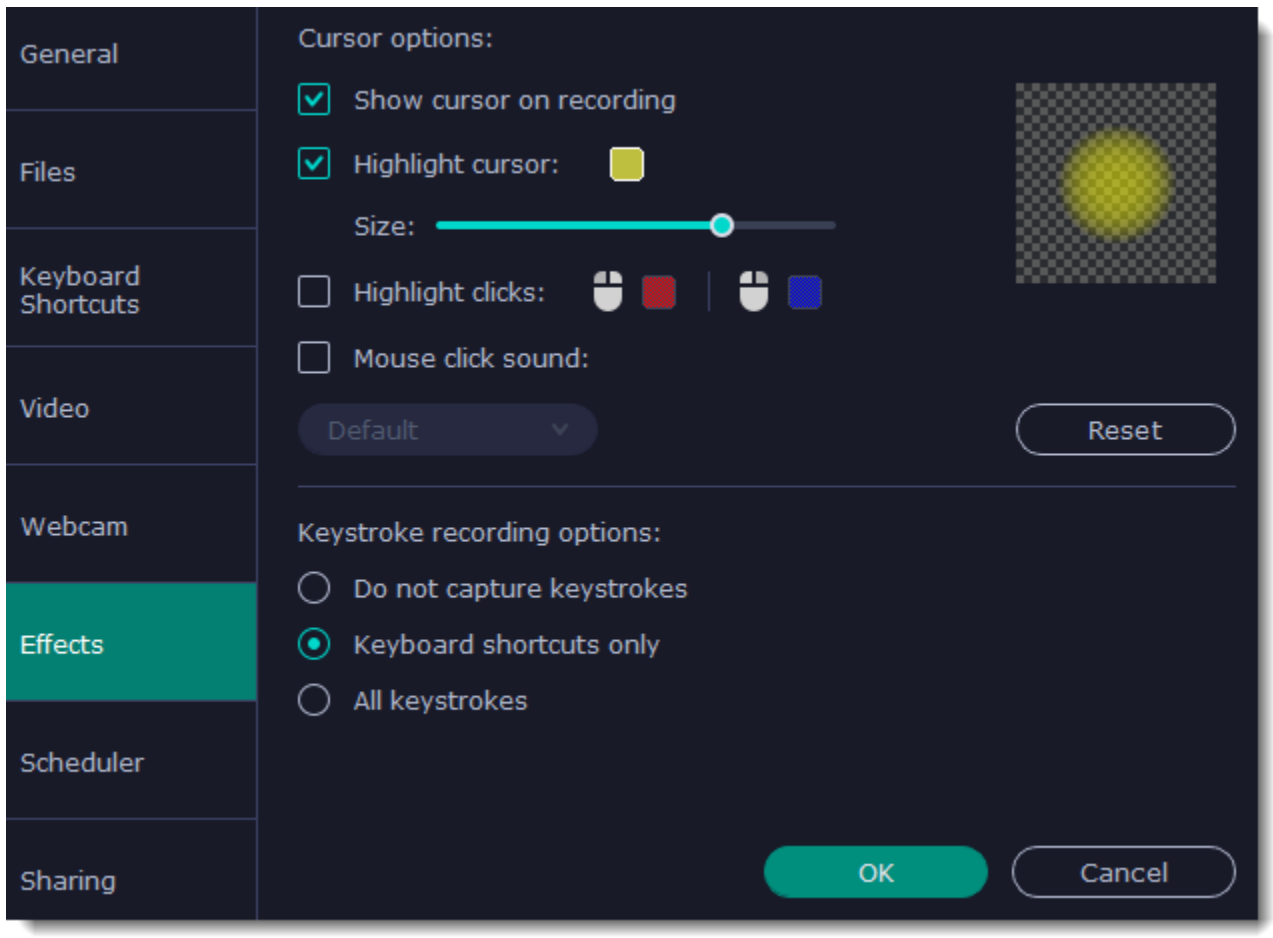
Size and position on video



You can resize and relocate your webcam right on the capture area:
1. Hover over the webcam overlay and select the preferred size on the panel below.
2. Drag and drop the webcam overlay to the desired corner of the capture area.

Effects

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

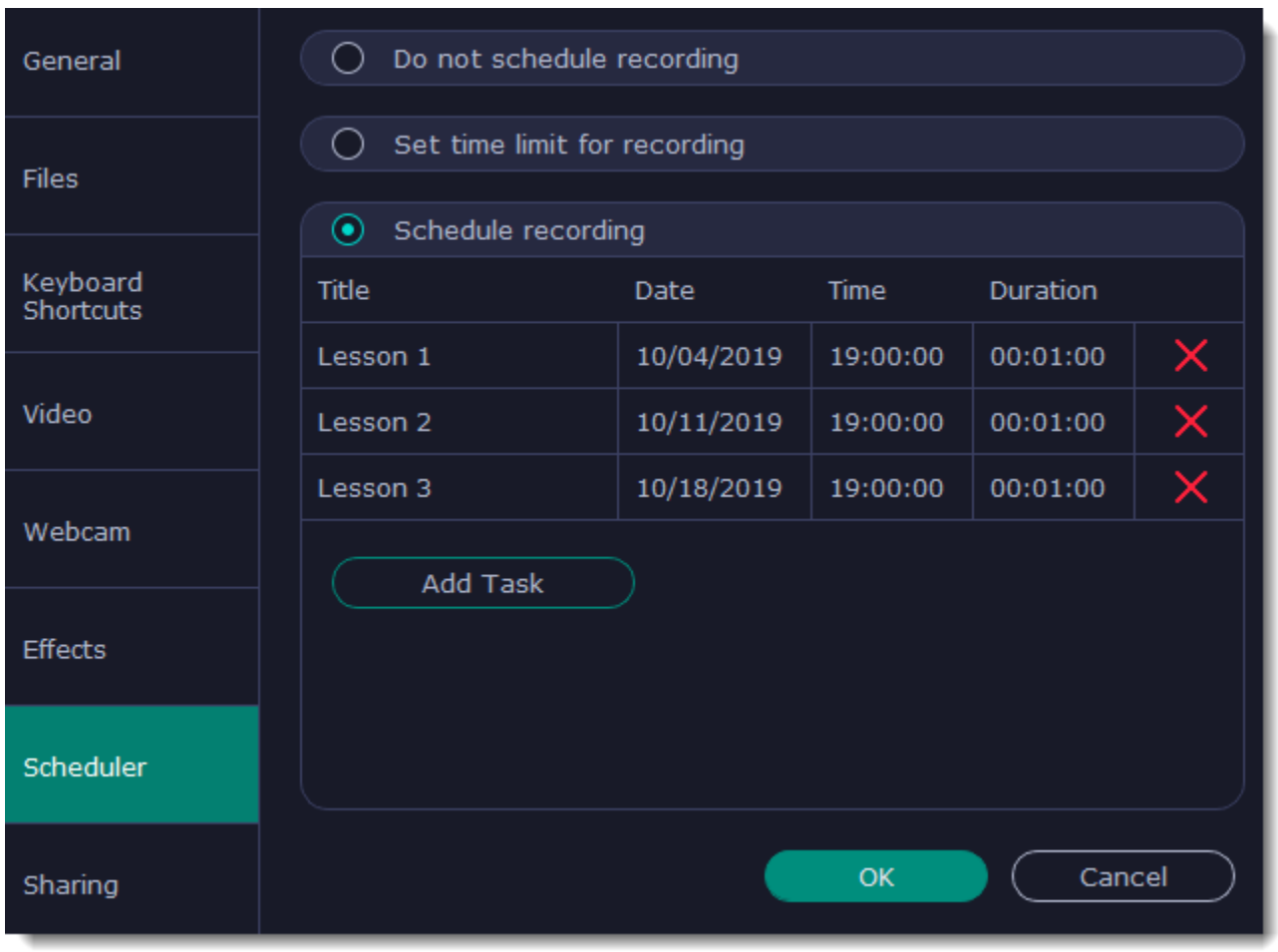
A clicking sound will be played every time you click the mouse to draw attention to your actions.
1. Enable the **Mouse click sound** option. The default mouse click sound will be used.
2. **(optional)** If you have a file with a different sound effect you want to use, open the box under ' Mouse click 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, ⌘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

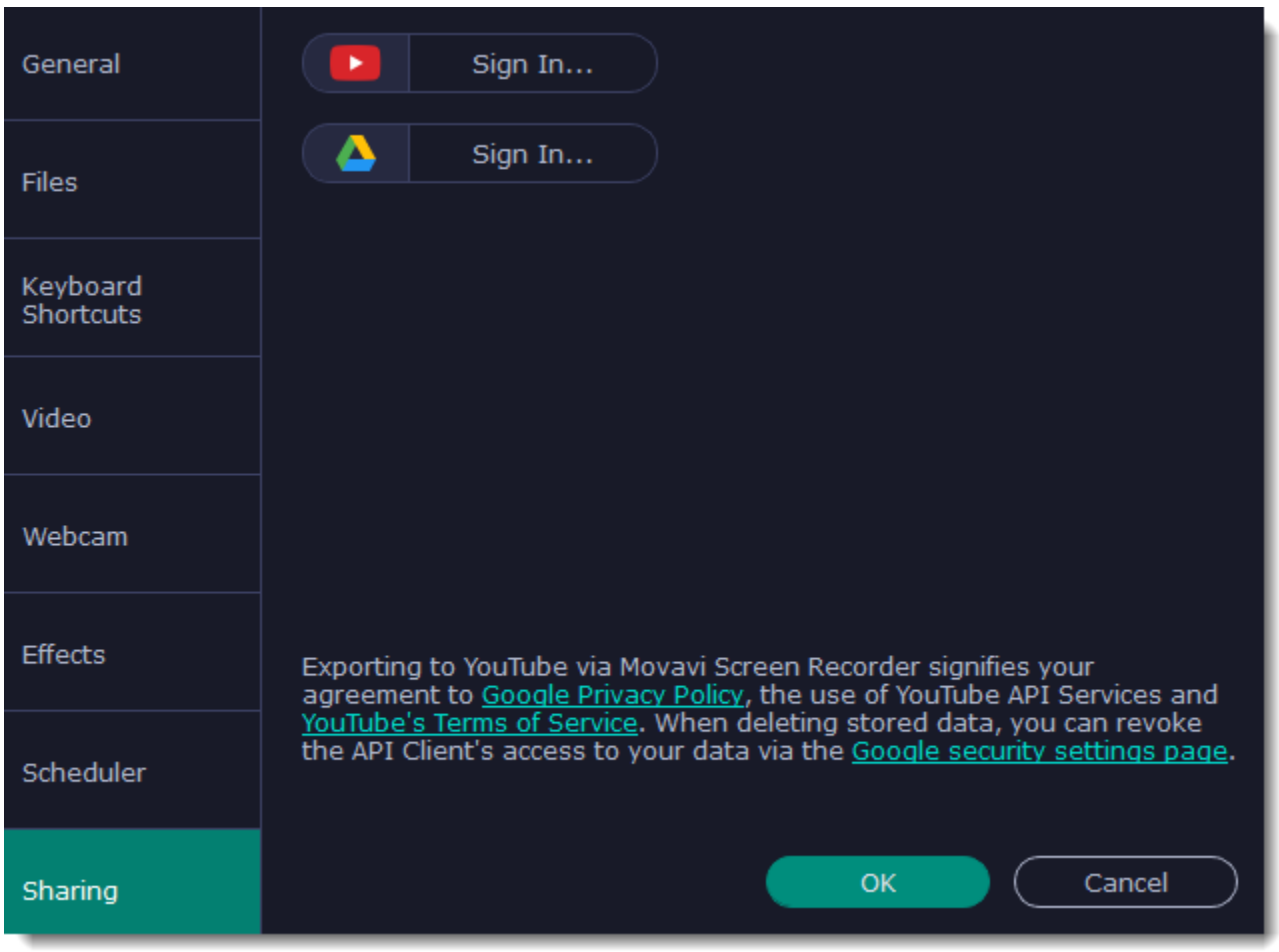
Scheduling a recording

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

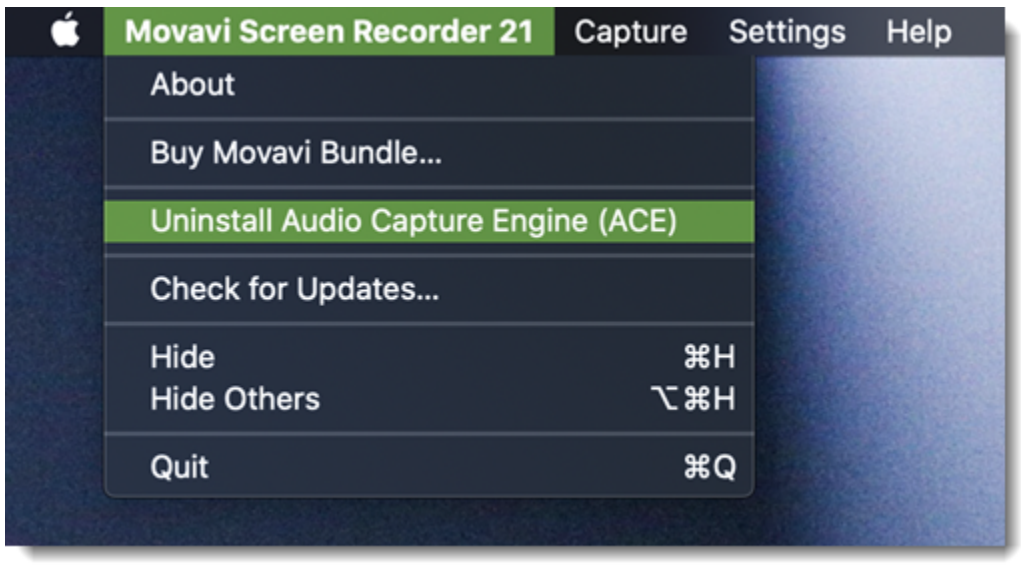
Fill out a support form

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.

Sound troubleshooting

Movavi Screen Recorder uses Audio Capture Engine (ACE) for system sound recording on macOS. 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)**.

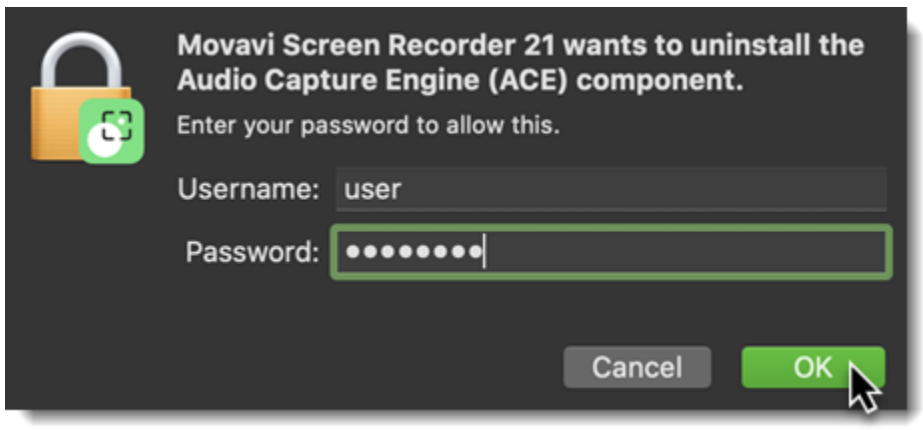


ACE is installed

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:

Download Movavi Sound Grabber

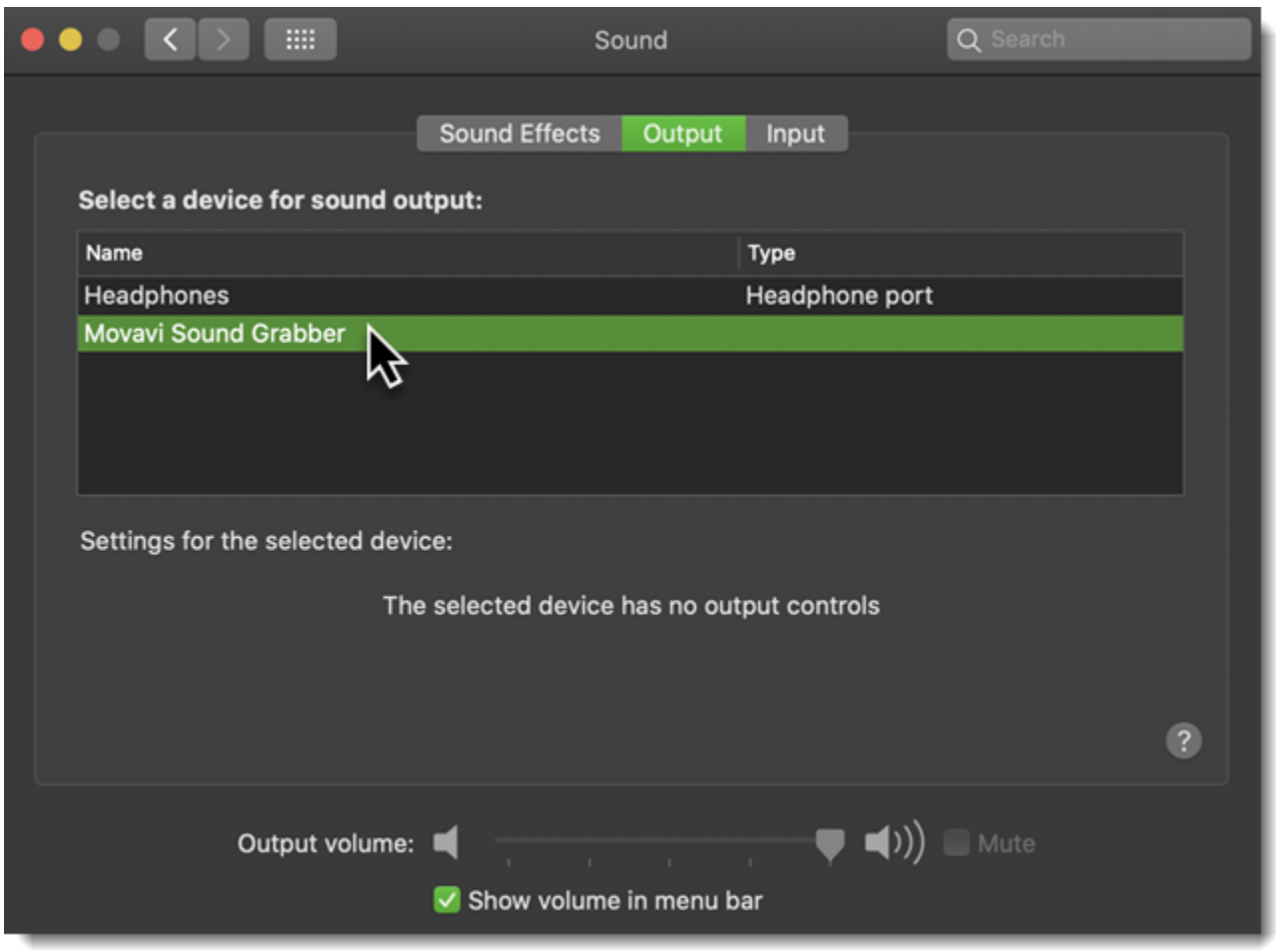
Learn more: Installing Movavi Sound Grabber

I don't have ACE installed. Is that bad?

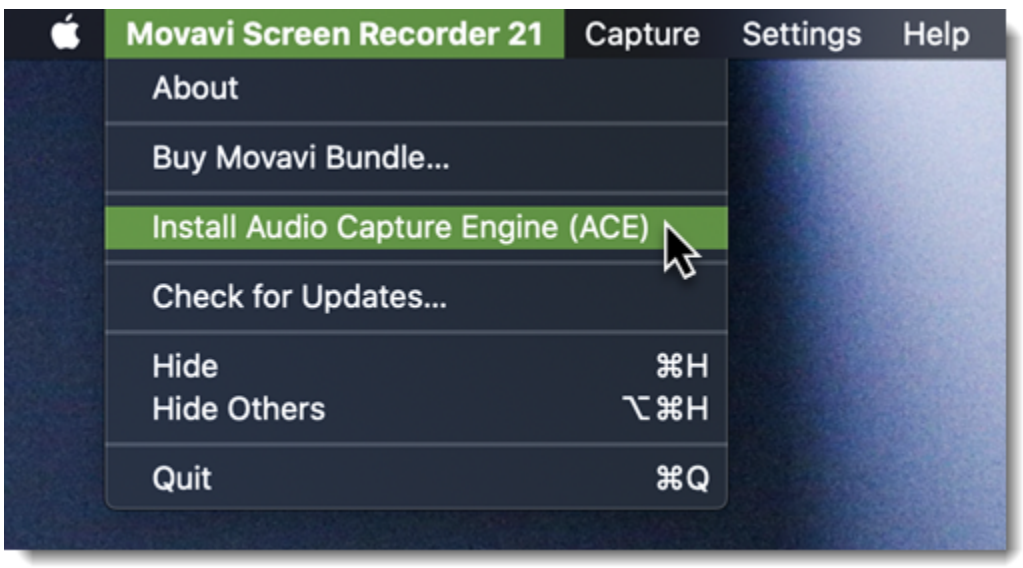
ACE is only installed on 10.12 and higher versions of macOS X®. For macOS X® 10.10 and 10.11, Movavi Sound Grabber is installed on your Mac together with Movavi Screen Recorder.

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 as the output isn't your speakers or headphones, but it will be there on your finished video.



• For macOS X® 10.12 and higher: open the program menu and install Audio Capture Engine (ACE).

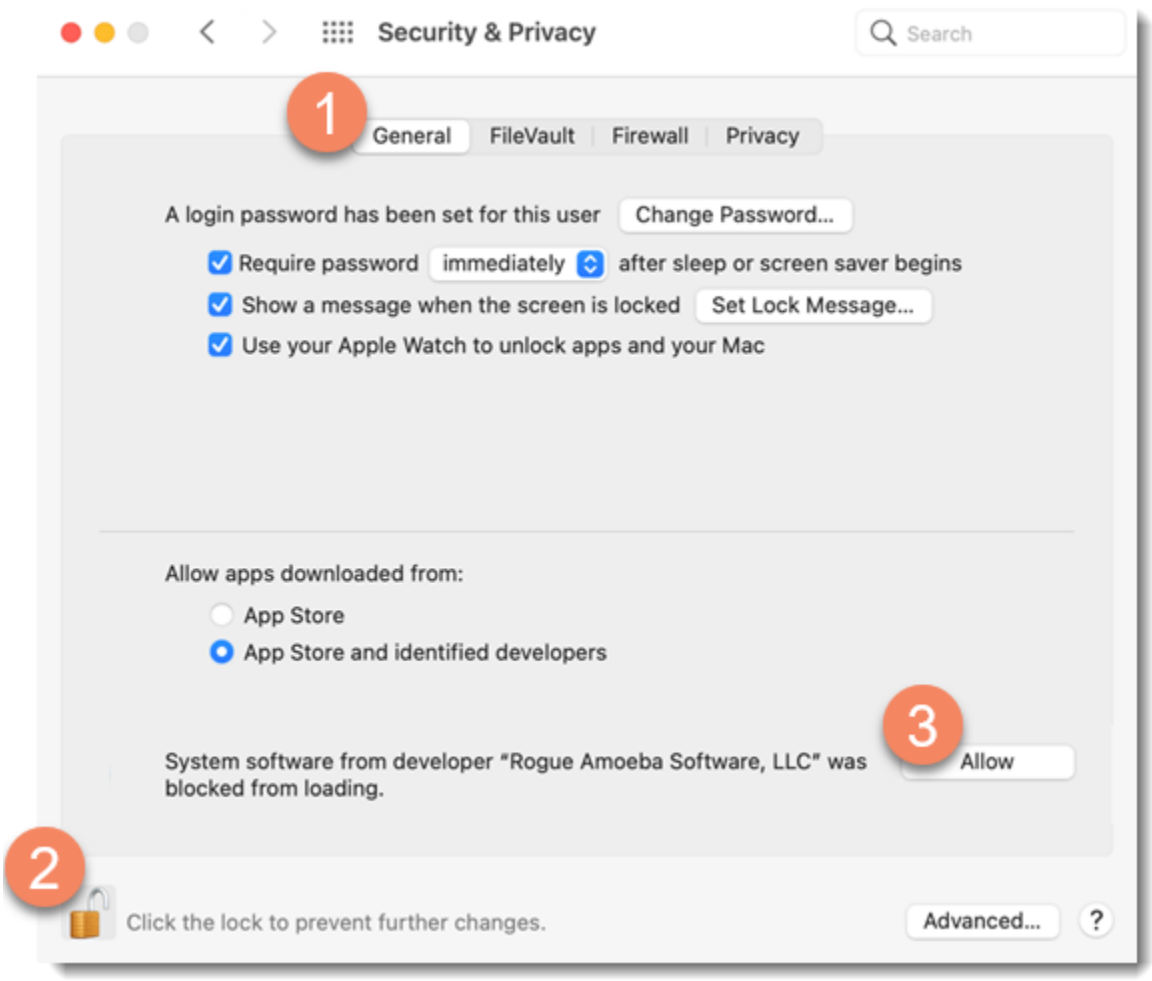


• Try to uninstall and reinstall Movavi Sound Grabber.

My Mac is running on macOS 11. How do I install ACE?

The installation process is the same; however, you will have to give additional permissions.

1. Go to the **General** tab of the Security & Privacy settings.
2. Click the **lock** to make changes and enter your user password.
3. Click **Allow** to permit ACE to run on your Mac.



Note that the M1 chip Mac configuration will require some extra steps in the Recovery environment of macOS. You will need to change your system's security policy to allow the usage of system extensions.
Please see the detailed step-by-step guide here: Installing ACE on the M1 chip Mac with MacOS 11 (Big Sur)

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

Contact our support team by any convenient means:
• 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 macOS 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.

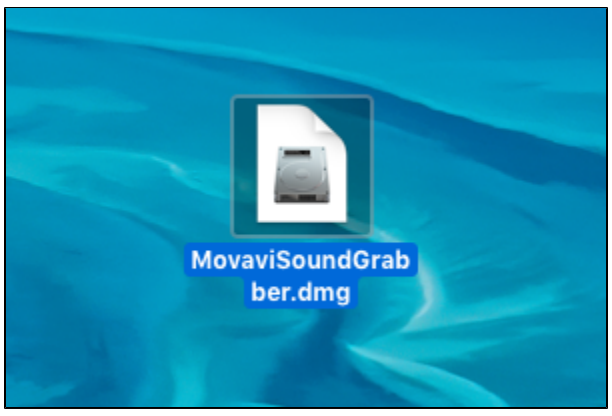
However, if you have trouble capturing sound from certain devices (e.g. wireless Bluetooth headphones), have uninstalled Movavi Sound Grabber or it is missing from your system, you will need to reinstall it in order to capture system sounds.

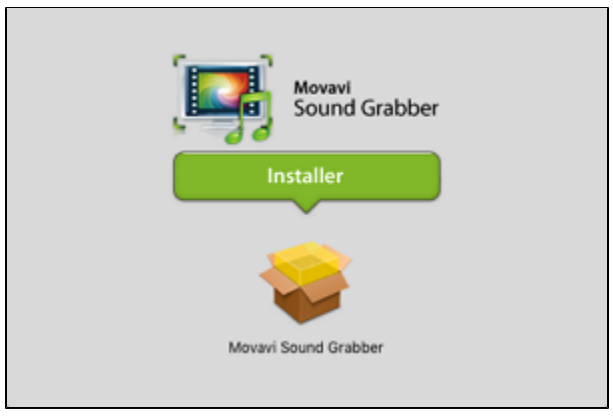
1. Uninstall Movavi Sound Grabber that had been installed automatically. Note that after deinstalling you might need to reboot your Mac.
Learn more: Uninstalling Movavi Sound Grabber

2. Click the button below to download the package:

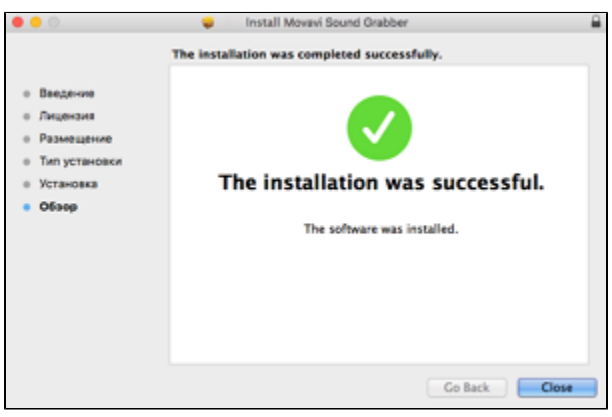
Download Movavi Sound Grabber

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





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.



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

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

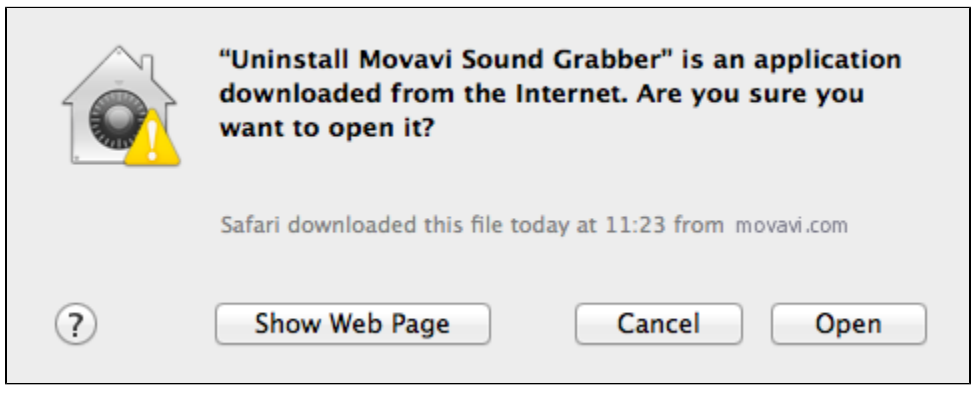
Uninstalling Movavi Sound Grabber

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.

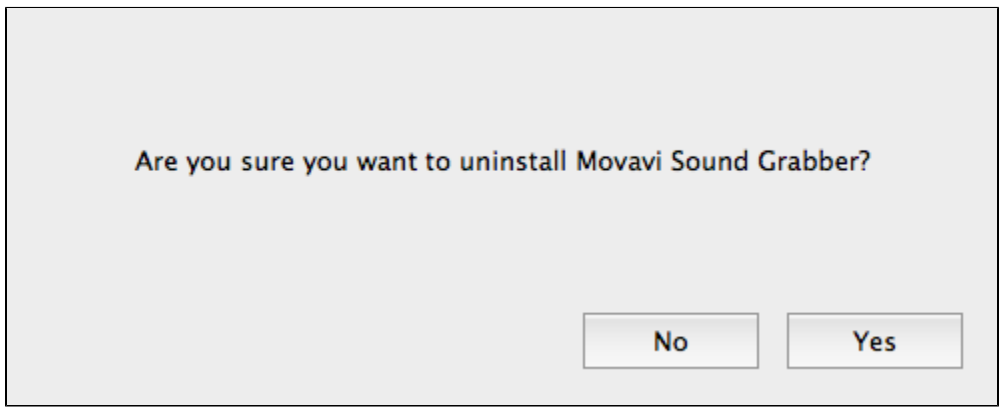
1. Launch **Movavi Sound Grabber Uninstaller** in your **Applications** list, or click the link below to download the uninstaller.

Movavi Sound Grabber Uninstaller.zip - 6.5 MB

2. Make sure that Screen Recorder Movavi 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.

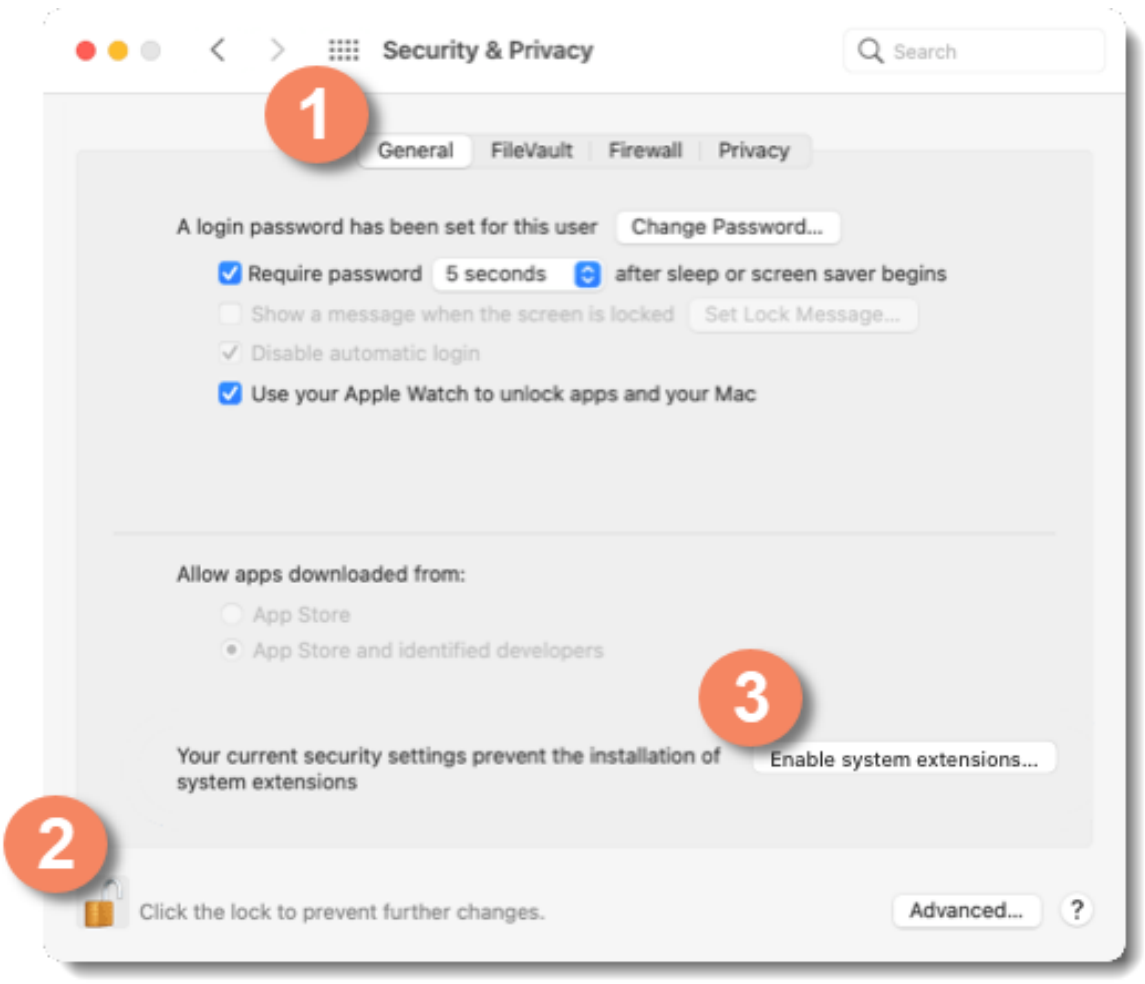


Movavi Sound Grabber will then be removed from your system. If you need to re-install Movavi Sound Grabber for capturing system sounds, please see the Installing Movavi Sound Grabber section.

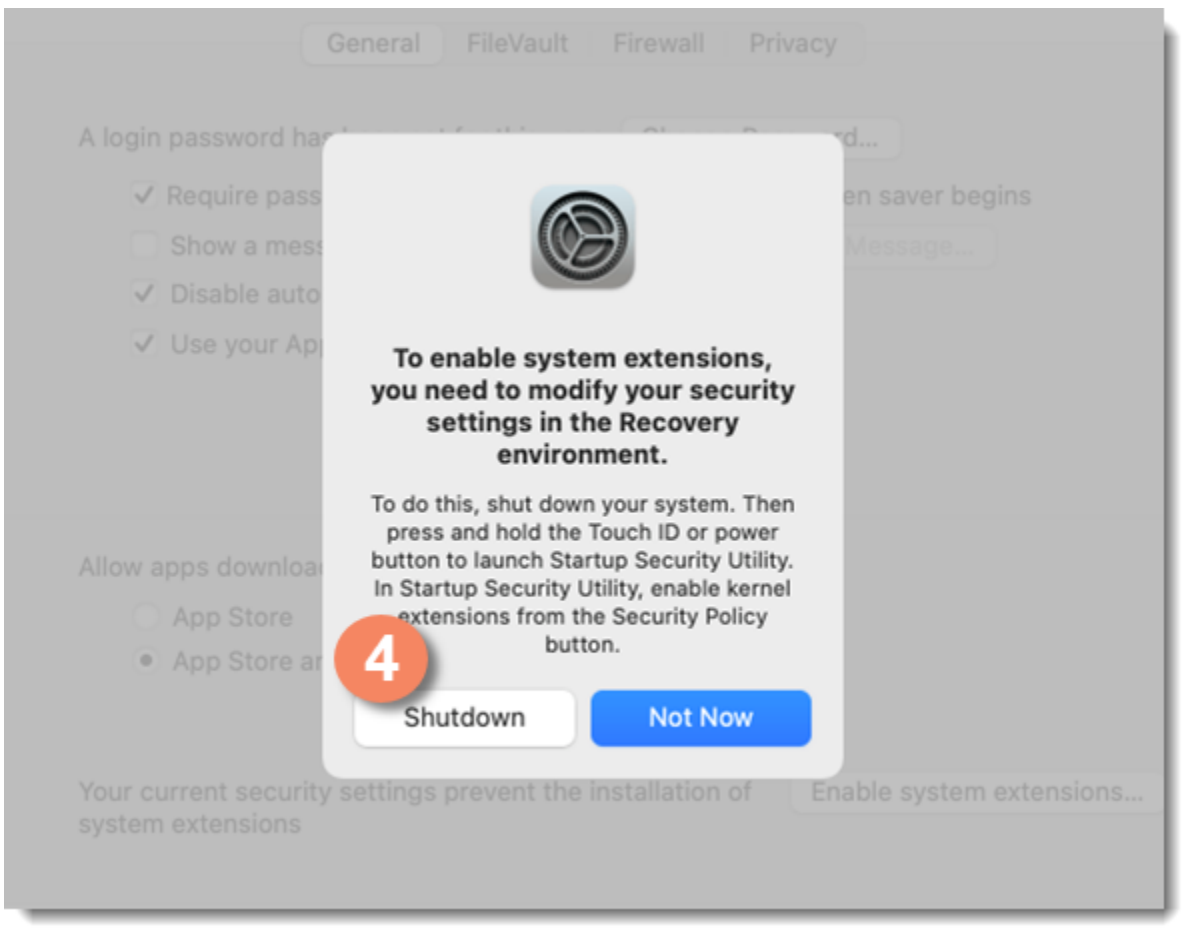
Installing ACE on the M1 chip Mac with MacOS 11 (Big Sur)

On this page, we detail the full, step-by-step sequence needed to install ACE. This is a one-time process, and you'll be up and running in just a few minutes.

1. Go to the **General** tab of the Security & Privacy settings.
2. Click the **lock** to make changes and enter your user password.
3. Click the **Enable system extensions…** button to proceed.

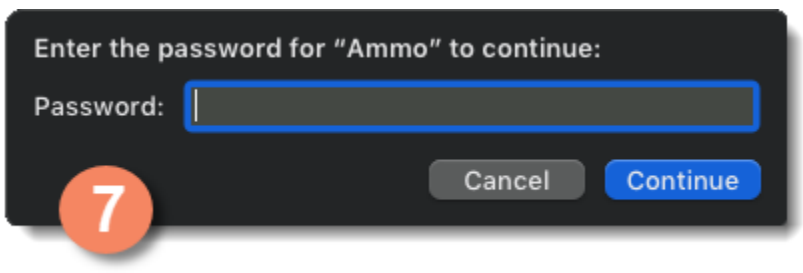


4. This dialog explains how to access the Mac's “Recovery” environment. Click **Shutdown**.



5. To boot to the Mac's “Recovery” environment, press and hold the **Touch ID** or **power** button on your Mac. When the screen says **“Loading startup options…”**, you can let go.
6. Select a user with administrator privileges, then click **Next**.

7. Enter your login password, then click **Continue**.



8. The **Startup Security Utility** should now load automatically. It can also be accessed from the **Utilities** menu.
Click your main system drive to highlight it, then click the **Security Policy…** button. This will enable you to adjust the security policy so system extensions like ACE can run.

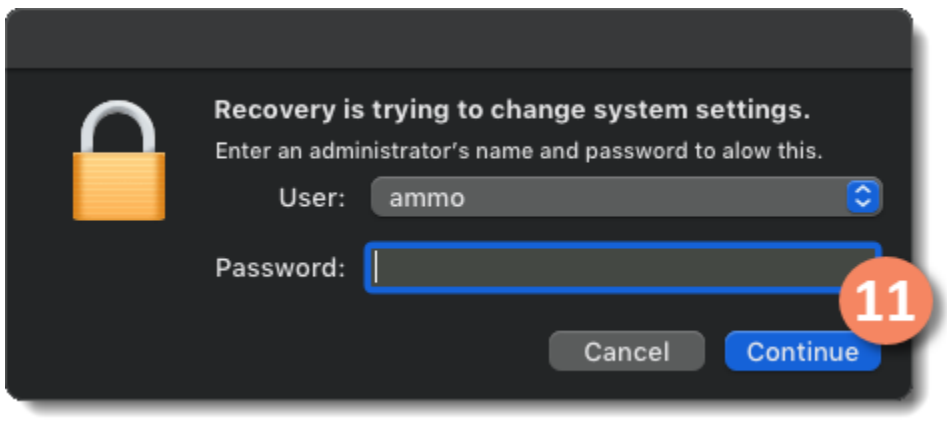
9. Switch to **Reduced Security**.

The "Reduced Security" setting still provides your Mac with powerful security, only allowing operating systems approved by Apple to run.

10. Enable the first checkbox, **"Allow user management of kernel extensions from identified developers"** and click the OK button.

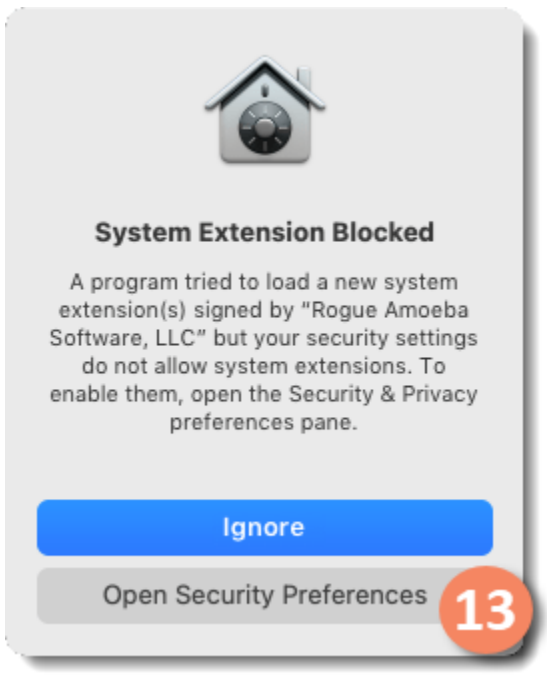
Despite the name of this setting, ACE is not a kernel extension. Instead, it's a standard audio plug-in, which receives enhanced privileges to access your system's audio. MacOS 11 simply uses the kernel extension verification system to allow ACE to load as well.

11. Enter your password, then click the OK button. The new security policy will then be applied. When it's finished, the window will close.

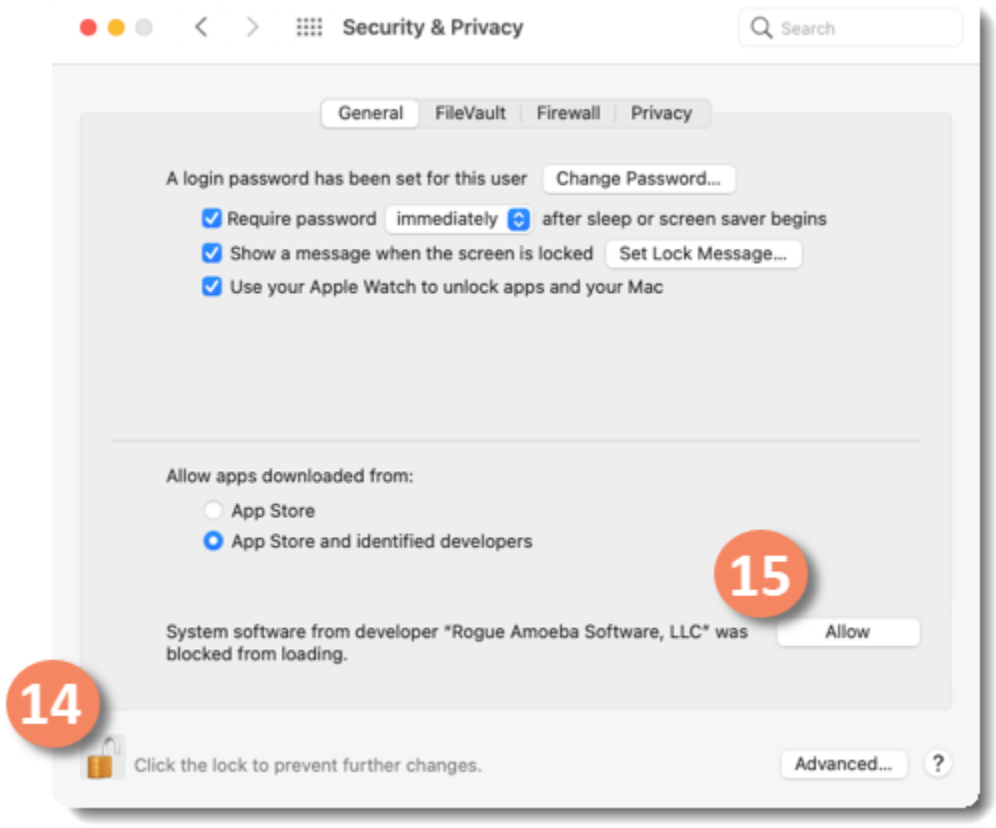


12. You can now click the **Apple (#) menu** in the upper left. Select **Restart**, then log back into your account as normal.
13. You'll now see a message from the system, stating that ACE has been blocked from running. Click the **Open Security Preferences** button to proceed.

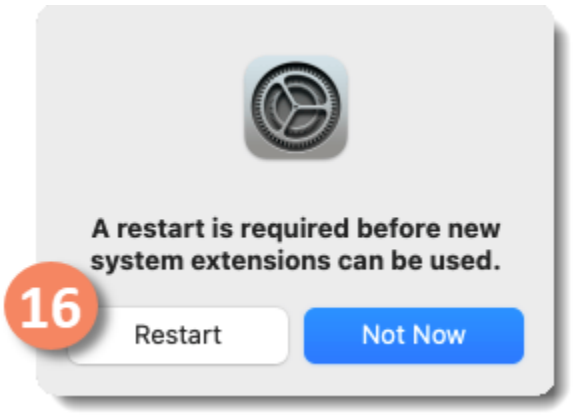
*If you accidentally clicked Ignore, select **System Preferences** from the **Apple (#) menu** in the upper left. Click **Security & Privacy**, then the **General** tab.*



14. Click the **lock** to make changes.
15. Click the **Allow** button to permit ACE to run on your Mac.



16. You're at the final step. Click **Restart**. When you log back in to your Mac, the application will be ready to go. Good work!



System requirements

	Minimum system requirements	Recommended configuration
Operating system	Mac OS X® 10.10 or higher	
Processor	64-bit Intel® processor	
Resolution	1024x768, 32-bit color	1280x1024 or higher resolution
RAM	2 GB RAM	4 GB RAM
Available disk space	300 MB for installation 2 GB for video recording and processing*	10 GB for video recording and processing
	Administrator permissions are required for installation	
Additional features		Sound card for audio recording and playback

** 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

Video Formats	Supported Codecs
Audio Video Interleave (.avi)	H.264
MPEG-4 (.mp4)	H.264
QuickTime (.mov)	H.264
Audio Formats	**Supported Codecs**
MP3 – MPEG-1/2 Audio Layer III (.mp3)	MP3
Image formats	
BMP, JPEG, PNG, GIF	