

iMovie Basics

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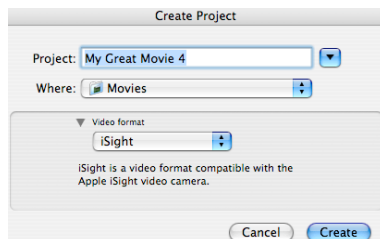


iMovie is the video editing application included in the iLife suite. iMovie allows you to import video from a digital video camera or your iSight to create engaging video projects that incorporate animated titles, still photos, transitions, and a number of other effects. iMovie allows you to add a music soundtrack to your project (using your iTunes library), or your own narration. iMovie '06 also includes a number of themes you can use to create professional looking movies in a matter of minutes.

Capturing Video

The first step in creating a movie is to capture video from your digital video camera as follows:

1. Connect your camcorder to your computer using a Firewire cable and make sure it is turned on and in the correct mode for transferring video (this will depend on your model but is usually Play/VCR).
2. Launch iMovie by clicking on its icon in the Dock. iMovie will start up and open the last project you worked on.
3. Select File > New to create a new project (or click on the Create a New Project button in the iMovie splash screen).
4. In the Create Project dialog box, provide a name for your project file, choose the location where you want to save it, and select a video format (DV is recommended).



5. Click on Create.
6. Set iMovie to capture mode by using the Camera/Edit switch below the preview area.

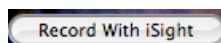


To use an iSight as the capture device, click on the camera icon to the left of the switch and select Built-in iSight.

7. Use the controls below the preview area to play, rewind, and fast forward the contents of the tape until you find the footage you want to capture.



8. Once you find what you need on the tape, click on the Import button (Record with iSight if you're using an iSight) or press the Spacebar on your keyboard and iMovie will create clips in the clips pane based on each time you started and stopped recording with your camera.



9. When you're finished capturing, click on the Import button again (or press the Spacebar on your keyboard) and iMovie will stop

capturing video from your camera.

10. To preview any of the clips created by iMovie during the capture, select it in the clips pane and click on the Play button below the preview area.
11. Save your project once you have captured your video by selecting File > Save Project.
12. Start building your movie by dragging the clips captured by iMovie to the timeline at the bottom of the window. iMovie will switch to edit mode as you drag your first clip to the timeline.



Working with Clips

It is easier to work with clips in the timeline when it is in Clip View (click on the Film Strip button).



- **Adding:**
To add a clip to the timeline, drag it from the Clips pane (on the right hand side of the iMovie window) and drop it on the timeline at the bottom of the window.
- **Previewing:**
To preview a clip in the preview area, click on it once to select it and press the Play

button in the preview area. To preview your entire movie, first make sure no clip is selected in the timeline by clicking outside of it, then click on the Play button in the preview area.

- **Reordering:**

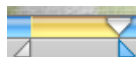
To change the order of a clip in the timeline, select it (it will have a blue background) and drag it to a new location.

- **Splitting:**

To split a clip, first select it and use the playhead in the preview area to select where you want the split to occur. Next, select Edit > Split Video Clip at Playhead (or press Command + T).

- **Cropping:**

To crop a clip, first select it so that it is displayed in the preview area. Next, place the playhead where you want your video to begin once it is cropped. Place your cursor underneath the playhead, and drag to create a selection (it is displayed in a gold color). The portion of video that is outside the selection will be removed once you select Edit > Crop (or press Command + K).



- **Removing:**

To remove a clip from the timeline so it is not part of your movie, drag it from the timeline to the Clips pane.

Once you have set the order of your clips on the timeline, you can switch the timeline view by clicking on the Clock icon.



You can then change the length of a clip by moving the pointer to the beginning or end of a clip until a bar with an arrow is displayed. You can then drag in

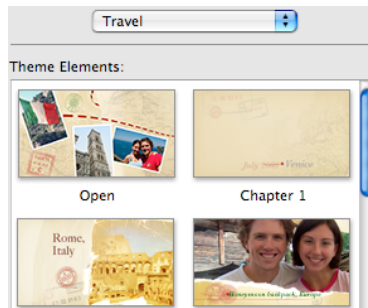
with your mouse to change the duration of the clip.

Themes

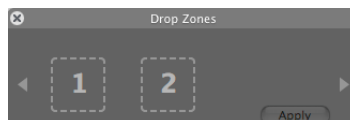
The latest version of iMovie includes a number of Apple-designed themes that can be used to add a professional look to your movies.

To use a theme in your movie:

1. Click on the Themes pane.



2. Select one of the five categories using the drop-down menu at the top of the pane.
3. Use the scroll bar to navigate through the theme clips available in each category. Each time you select a theme clip, a preview will be displayed on the preview area. Click Show Preview if you don't see it.
4. Make sure the Drop Zone Editor is visible. Click on Show Drop Zones to display it if it is hidden.
5. Begin dragging your video clips into the drop zones marked 1, 2, etc. The preview will update to show how the theme clip will display your video clips once it has been inserted into your movie.

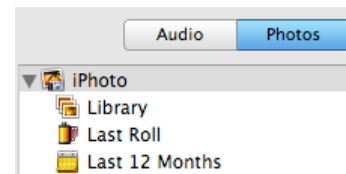


6. Most theme clips allow you to add one or more titles. To add a title, type your text in the fields available in the Themes pane.
7. To add a theme clip to the timeline once you've set all your options, click on the Apply button (you can also click on the check mark displayed on the toolbar below the preview).
8. You can move the theme clip to another location on the timeline by dragging and dropping, just as you would with a regular clip.

Photos

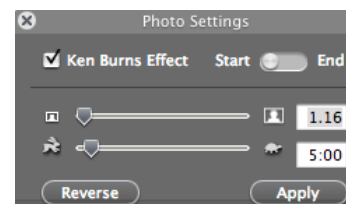
To add a photo to a movie:

1. Switch to the Media pane, then click on the Photos tab at the top.



2. Select the iPhoto library or one of the albums you have created, then choose a photo you want to insert to your movie.
3. Before you add your photo to the movie, you can add a "Ken Burns" effect. This adds a panning and zooming effect to a still image.

To add a Ken Burns effect, click on the Show Photo Settings button. This will open up a window with a number of options.



To turn off the effect for an individual photo, select it and uncheck the box next to Ken Burns Effect. To change the zoom level, use the switch to select either Start or End, then move the top slider until you find a zoom level you like.



To change the speed of the effect, use the bottom slider. When you're finished setting your options, click on Apply to add the effect to your photo.

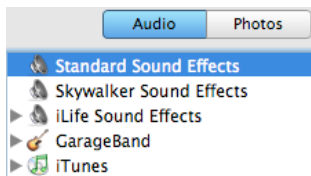


4. To add the photo to your movie, drag it from the Media pane to the timeline. Once the photo is in the timeline you can move it around just as you would any other clip.

Audio

To add background music to a movie:

1. Switch to the Media pane, then make sure the Audio tab is selected at the top.



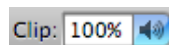
2. At the top of the window, select music or audio files from your iTunes library, audio files created in Garageband, or one of the three categories of sound effects (Standard, Skywalker, and iLife).
3. Before adding your audio clips, switch the timeline view by clicking on the

clock icon.

4. Add an audio clip to the timeline by dragging it to either the second or third timeline (you can also place the playhead where you want your sound effect or music to start, then click on the Place at Playhead button). If you are adding narration, place the playhead where you want to start your narration and then click on the red record button.



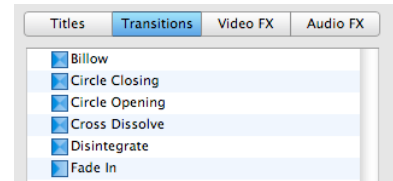
5. Add audio effects by selecting the Audio FX tab in the Editing panel. To apply an effect, select it from the list, use the sliders to change its options, and click on the Apply button.
6. To change when the sound clip will play, select it (it will turn blue when you click on it) and drag it to a new location on the timeline.
7. To trim the audio clip, position your pointer at the beginning or end of the clip until a bar with arrow appears. If you click and drag while the arrow is visible, you can change the length of the audio clip.
8. To adjust the volume of the audio clip, click on the speaker button below the timeline and use the slider to adjust the volume level.



Transitions

Transitions allow you to ease the viewer from one clip to the next. To add a transition:

1. Switch to Clip View.
2. Select the Transitions tab in the Editing pane.



3. Select a transition from the list and watch the preview window to see if it is the one you want to use.
4. Set the options for the transition (such as its duration, or the direction in which it is applied) using the sliders and other controls in the Transitions pane.
5. Drag the transition you want to use from the Transitions pane to an area between two video clips in the timeline. The transition will be added to the timeline.

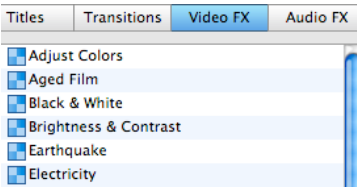
You can change a transition after you have added it to the timeline. Select the transition in the timeline, then change its options or select a different transition and click on the Update button.

Video Effects

Video effects allow you to change the appearance of the footage itself. iMovie ships with a number of effects, including some that allow you to recreate the look of aged film or give a sepia tone to your clips.

To add a video effect:

1. Select the clip you want to apply the effect to.
2. Select a video effect from the Video FX tab of the Editing pane.
3. Set the options for the effect you want to apply to the selected clip using the sliders and other controls in the Video FX pane.



- Click on the Apply button. Unlike transitions, you do not have to drag video effects to the timeline.

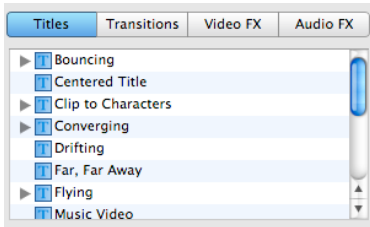
Some of the new effects included in iMovie 06 allow you to preview and update them in real time. These are listed in the Quartz Composer category.

Titles

Titles allow you to add additional information to your clips.

To add a title:

- Select a clip in the timeline.
- Select a title style from the list in the Titles tab of the Editing pane.



- Enter your own text for the title using the fields in the Titles pane.
- Once you select a title style, you can set a number of options before you add it to the timeline. You can change the font family, color, typeface, and size.
- Select Over Black if you want your title on a solid background, which is useful for introduction titles or credits. If you don't select this option, your title will display as an overlay on top of your video.

- Click on the Add button to add a title clip to the timeline.

You can change a title after you've added it to your movie by selecting the title clip in the timeline, changing its options in the Titles pane, and clicking on the Update button.

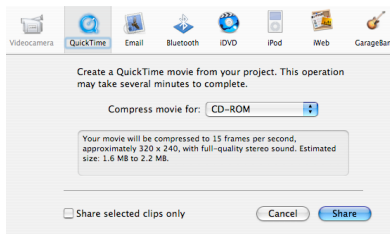
Sharing Your Movie

iMovie makes it easy to share your movies. You can burn them to a DVD, carry them around on your iPod, or post them to an Internet site. Use the Share pane to access all the ways to share your iMovie projects.

You can access the Share pane in two ways:

- choose Share from the menu bar, or
- select File > Export.

In the Share pane, you can select one of these options to change how your movie is compressed for sharing:



- Email: the movie will be compressed and Mail will open up automatically so you can address and send your message
- iDVD: this will create a DVD that you can play on your TV or computer. The DVD can include menus. You can also include Chapters in your movie before you export it to iDVD. These Chapters can be used to skip through the different sections of your movie when it is played on a

DVD player. To add a Chapter, click on the Chapters pane, then place the play-head at each point where you want to add a Chapter marker and click on the Add Marker button.

- iPod: this option will convert your movie into the .m4v format supported by the video iPod. Your movie will be resized to 320 X 240 so that it fits the iPod's screen.
- iWeb: this option will export your movie and open up iWeb so that you can select a template for the web page that will be used to display your movie online.

Once you have set the options for the format you have selected, you can export your movie in the appropriate format by clicking on the Share button.

Useful Keyboard Shortcuts

- Command + T (split a clip)
- Arrow Keys (move the play head one frame at a time in the preview area)
- Shift + Arrow Keys (move the play head 10 frames in the preview area)
- Space Bar (Play/Pause)

Other Resources:

- Apple Learning Interchange: Videography for Educators (http://ali.apple.com/ali_sites/ali/exhibits/1000019/INTRODUCTION.html)
This tutorial includes videos discussing the entire process of planning, shooting, and editing video.
- The Unofficial iMovie FAQ (<http://www.danslagle.com/mac/iMovie/index.shtml>)
This site covers the most commonly asked questions about iMovie.