

Web Design & Publishing

iMovie '11

iMovie is a video-editing program that is available on Apple computers. It allows you to create and edit movies with titling and effects, so that you can export them to the Web. The current version is iMovie '11. The interface changed a bit with iMovie '08, as Apple made it more of a visual interface than before.

iMovie imports video from DV cameras. It can also import other video files, like MPEG (often used by still cameras or flip cameras).

» Setting Up

To import from the camcorder, you can hook up a DV camera to the Mac via Firewire. The Firewire cable plugs into the I394 I/O on the camera and the Firewire port in the back of the computer.

Sometimes, you need to convert those files need using MPEG StreamClip first.

1. Open file in **MPEG StreamClip**, Choose **Compression**, and use **Apple Motion JPEG, Apple Intermediate Codec**, or **H.264**.
2. Compress sound with **AAC**, choose **Mono** (or Stereo, if it's music).
3. Pick a frame size, probably best to go with **Current**.
4. Click on **Make Movie** and select where you want to save it.

Before you start, create a **New Project** by selecting **File > New Project**. Make sure you choose the proper aspect ration (widescreen or standard). iMovie detects HD or non-HD footage. Do not choose a transition here, unless you want the same one between every clip.



» Import Video

1. Hook up the turned on camera to your computer, and open iMovie.
2. Choose **File > Import from Camera**. You can choose a new event or an existing event when you start to import. You can play the video to the point where you want to begin capturing.
3. Using **Manual Mode**, as you find pieces that you want for the movie, hit **Import** (just slightly before) and hit it again when you are finished with the clip. The tape will continue to play and you can continue importing clips. You will see the clips below with your events.
4. If your clips are already digital from the camcorder (like a Flip or still camera), you can simply use **File > Import > Movie** to import files to your event. This process may take a few minutes.

» Video Editing

- Now you have several clips captured in your event library. You can drag these clips in the order you would like them to appear in the movie to the Project. To select an entire clip, use **Command-A**.
- You can change the view for Events or Projects by using the sliders. Put the play icon anywhere in the clip and hit the space bar to play.
- To **trim a clip**, you must first select it. You can use the selection to select a part of the clip you want to keep or remove. To keep the clip, you can trim to selection. To remove the selection, you

can simply cut the selection.

- To **split a clip in two** (to add an effect between or to discard part) make a selection to the point you want to split the clip. Choose **Edit > Split Clip**. It is best to do all clip editing before applying transitions, because you might have to redo them after a trim. You can also choose **Join Clip** to join two separate clips in the Project.
- In the bottom corner of the clip in the Project, a small gear icon gives you many other editing options. You can **crop** (frame size) and **rotate** as well as make audio and video adjustments.
- As you are editing, you can turn off audio skimming with the control to the left of the waveform.

» Adding Still Images

- Select a frame that you want to include as a still image with the play icon. Ctrl-click on the clip, and choose **Add Freeze Frame**. You get a still that you can use, change the duration.
- You can drag in images from elsewhere into the Project.
- If you want to save a frame as a JPG to use on your Web site, it is easy enough to grab a screen shot of a frame on the screen and then edit in Photoshop. The Mac program Grab for screenshots is good, or you can use the following keyboard shortcuts:
 - » **Command-Control-Shift-3**: Take a screenshot of the screen, and save it to the clipboard.
 - » **Command-Control-Shift-4, then select an area**: Take a screenshot of an area and save it to the clipboard.
 - » **Command-Control-Shift-4, then space, and then click a window**: Take a screenshot of a window and save it to the clipboard.
 - » **Command-Shift-3**: Take a screenshot of the screen, and save it as a file on the desktop.
 - » **Command-Shift-4, then select an area**: Take a screenshot of an area and save it as a file on the desktop.
 - » **Command-Shift-4, then space, and then click a window**: Take a screenshot of a window and save it as a file on the desktop.

» Transitions

1. Get to the **Transitions** browser by clicking on the button on the right side of the screen under the viewer. You will see several effects that you can use to transition between clips.
2. Drag the transition onto the Project in between the two clips that you want to transition. Test the transition. If you want to change it, simply double-click it and change duration or type of transition.

» Titles

You can add some title overlay screens for text by choosing the Titles browser.

- The **Titles** browser is the T icon.
- Your titles can go over a blank screen or pattern or over a frame in the video. Experiment with the different titles.
- iMovie adds the **Titles** clip above the movie clip you are editing.

» Effects

There are several video effects in iMovie you can try.

- Select a clip and choose the tiny corner icon. Select **Clip Adjustments**. You can change the speed, direction, or duration of the clip.
- You can try to add **stabilization** to a shaky clip, but this increases the size of your file, which makes it longer to load. Play around with the effects and then click **Apply**.
- There are also **Video Adjustments** that allow you to change the quality of the frames, color, exposure, brightness, saturation, etc.
- **Audio Adjustments** allow you to control overall volume and add fade-in or fade-out.

» Audio

You can add audio by either using the sounds provided in iMovie or recording sound with a microphone or a sound from a connected device to the microphone port.

- Choose a sound or record the sound from the device, using the **Voiceover** button (looks like microphone in middle of screen). iMovie adds a little audio clip below. You can move the audio clip to another place in the Project.
- You can also import an MP3, .mov, or .aiff. Just drag into the Project. Double-click and you can adjust the clip duration or the audio.
- You can use the audio from one clip over another (maybe using B-roll clip, but want audio from interview), by dragging the clip with the audio from the **Events** over the top of the B-roll in the Project. Choose **Audio Only**. You can also insert and replace clips here.
- You can control the volume or turn off the sound of a particular track (i.e. the video track) if you want only the audio tracks to play. Use the **Audio Adjustments** to reduce volume.

» Exporting

iMovie automatically saves your project as you go, so you do not need to save it before exporting.

1. You will need to export it as MOV, MP4, or M4V format. These are under **Share > Export Movie**.
2. Choose a small size (like Mobile) in **Export Movie** or use **Export Using QuickTime** and make appropriate selections. It is important to keep files as small as possible without sacrificing too much quality. **Export Using QuickTime** gives you the ability to customize. The export process takes a few minutes to complete.

Now all you have to do is load it up to the Web and add a link to your site to either open the file in QuickTime or to embed the player in your page. You can also load these edited movies to a video sharing site like YouTube or Vimeo.

» Using GarageBand to Edit Audio

GarageBand has some easy tools to help you cut or trim clips and make MP3s for audio. You can edit your audio for video with GarageBand before bringing in to iMovie, or just edit in iMovie itself.

Simply do your edits and choose share to get a compressed or uncompressed file.