

The iMovie '11 Window

The iMovie window is divided into three basic sections: **events, projects, and a movie viewer**. The movie viewer is at the top right section of iMovie.

The Event section takes up the entire bottom half of the iMovie window. The right side of the Event section is the Event browser. The Event browser displays the video you import from your camcorder, iPod, iPhone, or other source. The left side of the Event section is the Event Library, which displays a list of all of the video you've ever imported into iMovie, organized into folders by year.

The top left section of the iMovie '11 window is the Project window. This is where you'll spend most of your time. The Project window actually has a dual personality, depending on what you're doing. It serves as the Project Library, which is a list of current and past iMovie projects. It also has an Edit Project tab, which takes control when you import and start editing clips from the Event browser. The Project window uses a storyboard interface, displaying a movie as a series of filmstrips.

The Toolbar A toolbar runs horizontally through the middle of the iMovie '11 window. The **left section** contains a camera import icon that lets you capture footage from a web cam or import video from another source; a swap windows icon that lets you swap the placement of the Project window and the Event window; and a slider that lets you reduce or enlarge the size of the filmstrips in the Project window. The **center and right sides of the toolbar** include icons that provide access to some of the most commonly used iMovie '11 features and tools.

Editing: Selecting and Creating Shots - In the Project browser or Event browser, drag across the thumbnails of any clip to select a frame range. A yellow border appears around the range you've selected.

When a filmstrip breaks onto two lines, you can select a frame range extending over the break simply by continuing to drag across the break. When you reach the edge, the pointer jumps to the next line.

- Click a clip in the Event browser. By default, a frame range of four seconds of video, starting at the point where you clicked, is automatically selected. In iMovie preferences, you can [change](#) this default setting so that clicking an Event clip selects a minimum of one second of video or a maximum of ten seconds of video.

Trimming Using this method extends or shortens a clip in one-frame increments.

1. Choose iMovie > Preferences, and then click Browser at the top of the preferences pane.
The iMovie menu appears in a light gray bar across the top of your computer screen.
2. Select "Show Fine Tuning controls."
3. In the Project browser, move the pointer over a clip, and then click one of the blue fine-tuning (double-headed arrow) buttons that appear at either end of the clip.
An orange selection handle appears.



4. Drag the selection handle to increase or decrease the clip's duration one frame at a time.

As you drag, an indicator (+1, +2, -1, and so on) appears to show you how many frames have been added or removed.

You can extend or shorten a maximum of one second at a time, which means up to 30 frames for 30 fps projects and up to 24 frames for 24 fps projects. To shorten or lengthen a clip by more than one second, repeat steps 3 and 4.

Using the Clip Trimmer: Using this method extends or shortens a clip in intervals of one-tenth of a second.

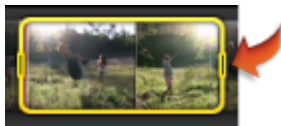


1. In the Project browser, move the pointer over a video clip, and then choose Clip Trimmer from the Action pop-up menu (looks like a gear) that appears in the lower-left corner of the clip.

The Clip Trimmer appears, with the selected clip outlined in yellow. The dimmed frames are those from the original video clip that aren't currently used in your project.

2. In the Clip Trimmer, do either of the following:

- Drag the handles at either end of the yellow clip selection to set a new startpoint and endpoint.



- Move the handles one frame at a time by placing the pointer near the handle that you want to adjust, then hold down the Option key as you press the Left Arrow or Right Arrow key.
- Move the entire yellow selection box to the left or right by pressing the Left Arrow or Right Arrow key, or by clicking within the box and dragging. Using this technique, you can change which video frames are selected without changing the duration of the selection.

Video Manipulation: With the cursor above a shot in the project window, click on **Video Adjustments** in the Action pop-up menu (gear or asterisk icon pictured above) and you can alter exposure, brightness, contrast, saturation, color, or other image changes. By clicking **Clip Adjustments**, you can make speed changes, stabilization, and you can access the **video adjustments** sub-menu to flip the screen direction of the shot or make other changes. You can also **Crop or Rotate** a clip in the Action pop-up menu. Many of these adjustments can also be accessed through the **Clip** menu at the top toolbar in iMovie.

Audio To manipulate and edit audio, the audio track must be detached from video. See menu commands to detach audio from original video. When adding music, it must be in separate track below video in order to split audio (right click or advanced options from

asterisk) and subsequently delete sections of music track, fade, or adjust levels of separate sections of audio tracks.

Music: Background music you add to a project plays behind the audio recorded with your video, so that you can hear both tracks of sound at the same time. You can adjust the volume of the background music so that it plays more loudly or softly, which allows you to layer sound in interesting ways.

The music in your iTunes library is automatically available for use in iMovie projects.

1. If your project isn't already open (showing in the [Project browser](#)), double-click it in the [Project Library](#) to open it.
2. Click the "Music and Sound Effect" button at the right end of the iMovie toolbar.



The "Music and Sound Effect" browser appears.

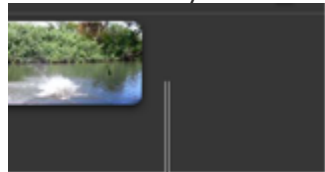
3. Choose one of the music options (not the sound effects options) from the options at the top of the Music and Sound Effect browser; you should see either a list of options or a pop-up menu from which you choose an option.

For example, if you choose iTunes, you see a list of everything that's in iTunes. If you choose Music, you see just the music you have stored in iTunes. If you choose a specific playlist, you see just the music in that playlist.

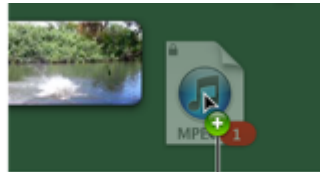
4. Scroll through the list to find the song you want to add, and then click the song so that it's highlighted with a blue bar.

5. If you want to **edit and selectively manipulate levels of your music or sound effects** at precise points in the movie, drag the song directly over the point in your video clip at which you want that audio to begin. It will open as an audio file below the shot.

If you want to work with your audio file as a **single music clip**, drag the song to the Project browser, to the dark gray area to the right of the last clip in your project, making sure that you don't drag it over a clip. You drag by holding down the button on your mouse or trackpad as you move the selected song to the Project browser. Release the mouse button when you see a green Add button.



The background music well appears after the last clip in your project.



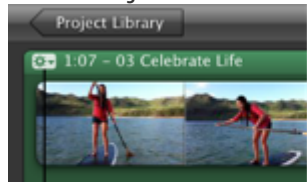
Drag an audio file to the well, and release the mouse button when you see a green Add symbol.

The background music well of your project is then shaded with green, representing the background music clip. The music begins at the start of your project and ends with

your video, even if the song is longer than your video.

If the music doesn't cover your entire video, you can add more music by dragging it to the background music well of your project.

6. To adjust the volume of the background music, click the Action pop-up menu (looks like a gear) in the upper-left corner of the green background music well, and then choose Audio Adjustments. If the audio is separate from video, you can cut it and change levels.



The Action menu for the background music well



The Action menu in its open state

7. In the window that opens (called an inspector), drag the volume slider, which appears at the top, to the right or left to increase or decrease volume, and then click Done.

Titles (onscreen text)

You can add onscreen text to any video in your project using one of the many title styles available in iMovie. Onscreen text can be used to add a title and credits to your movie, to visually “narrate” the scenes in your movie, to create textual segues from one scene to the next (for example, “Ten years later” or “Later that same day”), and so on.

1. If your project isn’t already open (showing in the [Project browser](#)), double-click it in the [Project Library](#) to open it.
2. Click the Title button at the right end of the iMovie toolbar.

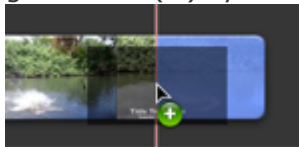


The title styles appear in the Title browser.

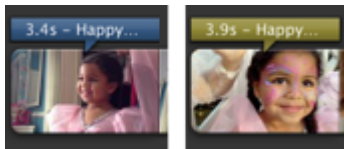
3. Browse the title styles, scrolling through the window if necessary, to find the one you want to use.

Many title styles are animated, which means that they move onto the screen in an interesting way. Move your pointer over the title thumbnails in the browser to see how they animate. If you have set a theme for your project, a number of theme-styled titles appear above the standard titles in the browser.

4. Drag a title to the Project browser directly over the clip where you want the title to appear. You drag by holding down the button on your mouse or trackpad as you move the selected title to the Project browser. You can release the mouse button when you see a green Add (+) symbol.



When you add a title, a blue or gold title bar appears above the video clip to show where the title appears in your video. Blue title bars represent nonthemed titles, and gold title bars represent themed titles.



Placeholder text (text that shows placement only and is meant to be replaced) appears in the [viewer](#) on the right, and some or all of it is ready for editing (which means that it’s selected and ready to be replaced by your own text).

5. Replace the highlighted placeholder text by typing your own text. If you need to select placeholder text, click it until it’s highlighted, and then type.



6. To play back the title (see how the title looks in your video), click the Play button in the upper-right corner of the viewer.



Click Done in the upper-right corner of the viewer.

Transitions iMovie comes with several styles of transitions that you can add between clips to give professional polish to your projects. A transition smooths or blends the change

from one scene to another. For example, a transition can make one clip fade in or out, dissolve into another clip, zoom in to another clip, and so on. iMovie makes all the transitions in your movie the same length. Standard transitions are one-half of a second long, and theme-styled transitions (which are available only if you've set a theme for your project) are two seconds long. You can change these durations if you want.

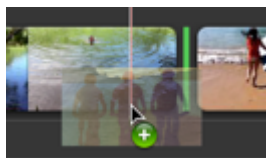
1. Click the **Transition button** at the right end of the iMovie toolbar.



The transition styles appear in the Transition browser.

2. Browse through the transition styles, scrolling the window if necessary, to find the one you want to use. Move your pointer over the transition thumbnails in the browser to see how they animate. If you've set a theme for your project, a number of theme-styled transitions appear above the standard transitions in the browser.
3. Drag a transition to the Project browser before, after, or between the clips where you want it to appear.

You drag by holding down the button on your mouse or trackpad as you move the selected transition to the Project browser. You can release the mouse button when you see a green Add (+) symbol.



The transition effect is represented by a transition icon in the Project browser. (Several icons are shown below; which you see depends on the transition style you added.)



4. To play back the transition effect to see how the transition looks in your video, move your pointer in the Project browser anyplace before the transition effect icon (you see a vertical red line where the pointer is), and then press the Space bar.
5. To change the duration of the transition, double-click the transition icon in the Project browser.
6. In the window that opens (called an inspector), type a new value, in seconds, in the Duration field, and then click Done.

How to Turn on iMovie 11's Advanced Tools

To turn on Advanced Tools, go to the iMovie menu and select 'Preferences.' When the iMovie Preferences window opens, put a check mark next to Show Advanced Tools, and then close the iMovie Preferences window. You'll now see a few buttons in iMovie that weren't there before.

There are two new buttons to the right of the Horizontal Display button in the top right corner of the Project browser window. The left button is a Comment tool. You can drag the Comment button to a video clip to add a comment, not unlike adding a sticky note to a document. The right button is a Chapter Marker. You can drag the Chapter Marker button to each place in a video that you want to mark as a chapter.

The other new buttons are added to the horizontal menu bar that splits the iMovie window in half. The Pointer (arrow) button closes any tool you currently have open. The Keyword (key) button lets you add keywords to videos and video clips, to make it easier to organize them.