



Skwid Internet Video Capture Users Manual

Thank you for downloading Skwid Video Capture, the best way to record your favorite videos via internet, stream, or from your own personal files! Skwid Video Capture offers the following features:

- Records a desktop activity and saves it as an AVI file with the option to include sound.
- Comes with multiple codecs preinstalled, plus any codec you have installed in your computer.
- Special lossless Screen Capture Codec.
- Targeting Video Windows in your screen is easy “Window” capture option.
- Pause and Resume modes just like VCR recording.
- Allows you to capture any video streaming from Web browser, Media Player, DVD or Internet movies.
- Enables you to convert the recorded AVI files to Macromedia Flash movies which you can publish on the Web.

Installation

After extracting the Skwid Video Capture files, double click the Skwid_setup icon and follow the directions in the installation wizard. Choose a destination folder to install Skwid and read and agree to the Skwid License agreement. Skwid Video Capture should launch immediately following installation, if it does not, click on its icon in the start menu.

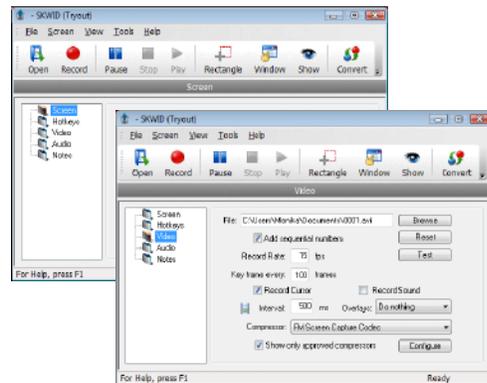


Getting Started

After launching Skwid Video Capture, the first screen you see will be “Screen” window.

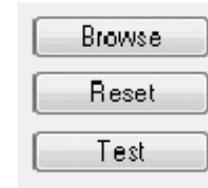
Click on the “Video” folder in the left window. Here, you determine where your recorded video will be saved in the File: field. Click on “Browse” to change the save location.

In this window you can also adjust Record Rate, Key frames, Determine Overlay recording and choose the compressor used for recording. You can also click on “Record Sound” depending on whether or not you want to include sound with your video.



Testing

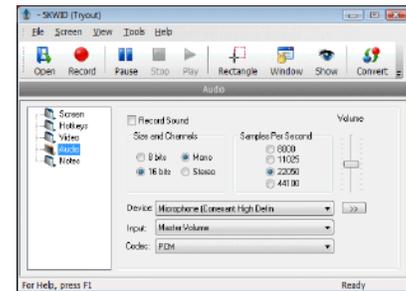
In the “Video” window, you can also conduct a test to determine your computer’s performance. Start with the default setting as shown below, and press the TEST button to test video recording performance. To adjust the recording performance, you can adjust the recording rate, and audio sample rate under “Audio”. Key frame number affects the video performance slightly, but is not a major factor.



Setting Up Audio Recording For Video Capturing

If you want to record sound together with your video, set up the sound option in the “Audio” screen. Remember, the higher the sample rate is, more the CPU power is taken for recording sound. It is generally best to keep this set at less than 22050 unless you have a very powerful processor. Similarly, stereo recording (As opposed to monaural) recording also requires more processing speed.

Another important setting for sound recording is the sound source, or “Device”. In the “Audio” screen, you can also change the “Input” for recording and Codec. Click on the button to the right of “Device” for additional audio options, including Audio buffer and Interleave.



Control Keys for Starting and Stopping Video Capturing

With Skwid Video Capture, you can set up your own custom control buttons. There are two ways to control recording: Using hot keys or using the mouse. Hot keys can be changed in the “Hot keys” screen and it is best to customize them in order to avoid conflicts with other software hot key assignments.

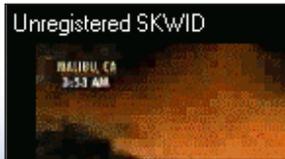
When you use the mouse, clicking the “Record” button starts video recording. To stop recording, click the “Stop” button.



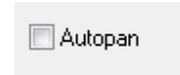
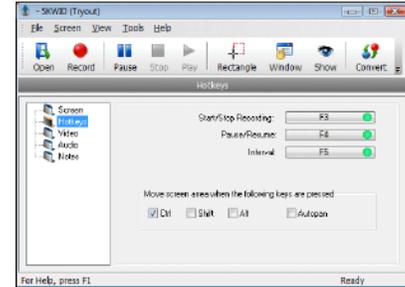
Here you can also determine a hot key combination to move the screen area during recording. If the Autopan option is checked, a screen area will follow the mouse pointer until the recording is stopped.

You are now ready to start recording!

Note: If you are using the free download version of Skwid Video Capture, all of the videos you record will have a watermark, if you wish to record video without the watermark you must purchase the full version of Skwid Audio Capture from www.skwidmedia.com.



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Start Recording With Proper Screen Area Setting

Before you start recording, you need to select the area or windows where the recording is targeted.

There are two different ways to define a target area:

- (1) Use the “Rectangle” button with the size typed in the X and Y parameters.
- (2) Use the “Window” button and select a window by moving mouse and click the target window. If you are not sure which area of your screen is set as the target, you can click “Show” button to display it.



Click the “Show” button to determine what area is targeted. Use the X and Y parameters to adjust the area.

An important parameter here is “Capture layered windows.” If you play back your recording, and see only a black screen, you will likely to turn on this parameter. This will allow Skwid to see accelerated graphic objects that are painted ‘over’ the screen.

Note: Turning on this parameter requires restarting your computer.

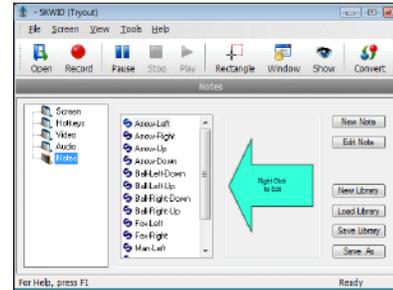


Capture layered windows

Additional Features:

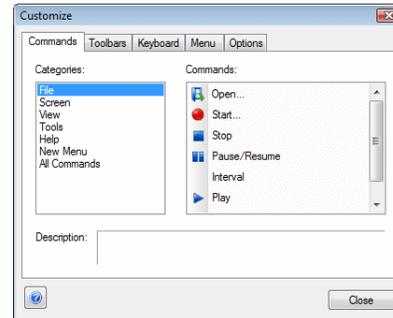
Notes

From the “Notes” window, you can annotate videos during recording. Click the right mouse button to edit the note and text size as well as other parameters. You can also create your own notes and note libraries.



Customizable Interface

Skwid Video Capture has a fully customizable interface. By going to View/Toolbars/Customize... You can drag and dock toolbars and panels, choose from many interface styles, add/remove toolbars buttons, assign keyboard shortcuts, and more.



Conversion

Sometimes you may need to re-compress AVI video by using another video/audio compressor. Use the “Convert” button or go to Tools/Convert to re-compress your AVI file. The resulting file will be an AVI file as well.

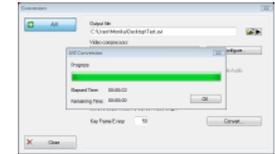
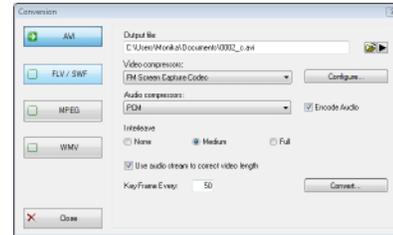
You can also make an Adobe Macromedia Flash movie from the Conversion window.

You can also change video and audio settings: size, frame rate, video quality, and more. A converter has two video codecs: Demo (lossless) and Movie (lossy). Demo codec is intended for demonstrations/tutorials. Movie codec is intended for movies. Almost all common video and audio formats are accepted: Windows Media (AVI, WMV, ASF, WMA, WAV, using any AVI/WM codecs like DivX, XviD etc.); QuickTime (MOV, QT, DV, AAC, AIF/AIFF, using any QuickTime codecs); MPEG (MPEG-1, MPEG-2, MPEG-4, MP3); Mobile phone formats (3GP, 3G2).

This means you can also use Skwid Video Capture as an independent audio/video FLV/SWF converter!

Converting to Flash and other formats

This function is available only for “PRO” version. Please check www.skwidmedia.com for updates on Skwid Video Capture Pro.



Tips and FAQ

Q: I recorded a video, but when I play it back, I see only a black screen.

A: You need to click on “Capture layered windows” in the “Screen” window. This allows Skwid Video Capture to see accelerated graphic objects that are painted ‘over’ the screen.

Capture layered windows

Q: When I playback my video, it says “Unregistered Skwid” at the top.

A: You are using the free download version of Skwid Video Capture. To record video without a watermark, purchase the full version of Skwid Video Capture from www.skwidmedia.com.



If you wish to record video without a watermark, you must purchase the full version of Skwid from www.skwidmedia.com.

Q: I recorded video, but no audio was recorded.

A: You need to enable audio recording in Audio section of main menu. This enables audio recording, but make sure tht windows allows audio recording. Right click sound icon and open property and make sure recording option is enabled at WINDOWS LEVEL.

Record Sound

For recording long videos, try these tips:

1. Use the “FM Screen Capture Codec.”
2. Reduce the FPS (frames per second) value. For demonstrations, tutorials and seminars 5-7 fps is enough.

To reduce the file size for real videos, don't use the “FM Screen Capture Codec.” It may generate huge AVI files on real videos. It is advised that you use the XviD codec at www.xvid.org. You can download the latest version of XviD from <http://www.koepi.org/xvid.html>.