

Screen Capture Tips

Materials: *SnapZPro X (Mac, \$29) or Snagit (Win, \$29 educ.) or HyperSnap (Win, \$39)*

See: www.ambrosiasw.com (SnapZ) or www.hyperionics.com (HyperSnap) or www.techsmith.com (Snagit)

Setting: There are many occasions when preparing class materials or presentations when a quick screen capture to the clipboard will provide just the graphic you need, even if you search Google images for pictures. Beyond the built-in screen capture to Mac and Windows OS, many shareware utilities like the two show here provide much improved control over the capture process. In general, save the images you capture as JPG format; med to high quality resolution; and you may add drop shadow for effect or a border. On the 2nd page, tips are provided for a screen "recording" of video showing a series of actions within an application.

Objects: button, dialog boxes, windows

The image shows a 'Smart Shape Palette' with various drawing tools and a 'Fit Music' dialog box with options like 'Lock Layout with 4 Measure(s) per System' and 'Treat Multimeasure Rests as One Measure'.

Mac/SnapZ: Apple+Shift+3 activates the screen on the right. Then select: Screen, Object, Selection, or Movie capture; then chose where you want the file saved: desktop, clipboard, printer, etc. Choose any of the Image Settings, then press RETURN to finish the capture

The image shows the Snapz Pro X interface with a 'Screen...' button selected. Below it are 'Capture Options' (Send to: desktop, Open after saving, Choose file name, Stick around) and 'Image Settings' (Selection style: Normal, Width, Height, Color change, File type: .jpg, Scale: 100%, Border, Quality, Cursor Visible).

Menus: showing cursor position

Regions: show things in context. Arrange screen carefully; may add graphic highlighting

The image shows a MIDI menu with options like 'MIDI Setup...', 'MIDI Thru...', and '32-bit MIDI Driver'. It also shows a 'Layers' menu in Logic Pro 6.4.1 with options for Layer 1, Layer 2 (checked), Layer 3, and Layer 4.

Combination shots w/graphic edits

The image shows a 'Window' menu with various tool palettes checked, and an 'Advanced Tools' palette with icons for selection and editing.

PC/Snagit: Select profile (e.g., Region), click Capture button, click+drag+release, edit image and save.

The image shows the Snagit interface with 'Quick Launch' buttons for Snagit Editor and Catalog Browser, and 'Profiles' for Region, Window, Full screen, and Scrolling window. It also shows 'Profile settings' for Input, Output, Effects, and Options, and a large 'Capture' button.

Taking Your Capture

- Click and hold the left mouse button as you drag to select a region.
- Release the button to capture.
- To cancel, right-click or press <ESC>.

X= 631 Y= 460

Screen Capture Tips, continued

Materials: *SnapZPro X (Mac) or HyperCam (Win); SnapZ Pro shown here.*

Screen Recording Format:

10 fps/16-bit color

320 (W) x240 (H) screen size

Don't capture audio!! (You can use WireTap from same developer to capture audio)

Saved as QuickTime

Screen Recording Hints:

Set "cursor visible"

Set Camera Mode to "follow cursor"

Set selection style to "fixed size" 320x240

Framerate to "10"

Make slow deliberate movements

Pause at points of reference

Let pop-up titles show if available

QuickTime Encoding/Export Setting:

I bring SnapZ QT mov's back into QT and I edit out any frames or motion I don't need.

Then I export using the "animation" codec, and step it down to 5 fps, 16-bit color. Greatly reduces file size and has very little blurring of motion before frames.

See: http://www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/snapzprox/images/spx2_demo_movie_record.mov

