



Having fun with iMovie

Why iMovie?

iMovie is fun and very easy. The application is free with any Mac computers. It is a very simple to use, with clear symbols.

It is especially good for working with little people as the features on the program are very clear and easy to share.

Finding iMovie

iMovie can normally be in the computers applications. The full title for iMovie is iMovie HD

You will normally find the icon for iMovie in the Dock. The dock is the funny panel at the bottom or side of your screen, which will magnify itself when your mouse scrolls over it.



The iMovie logo

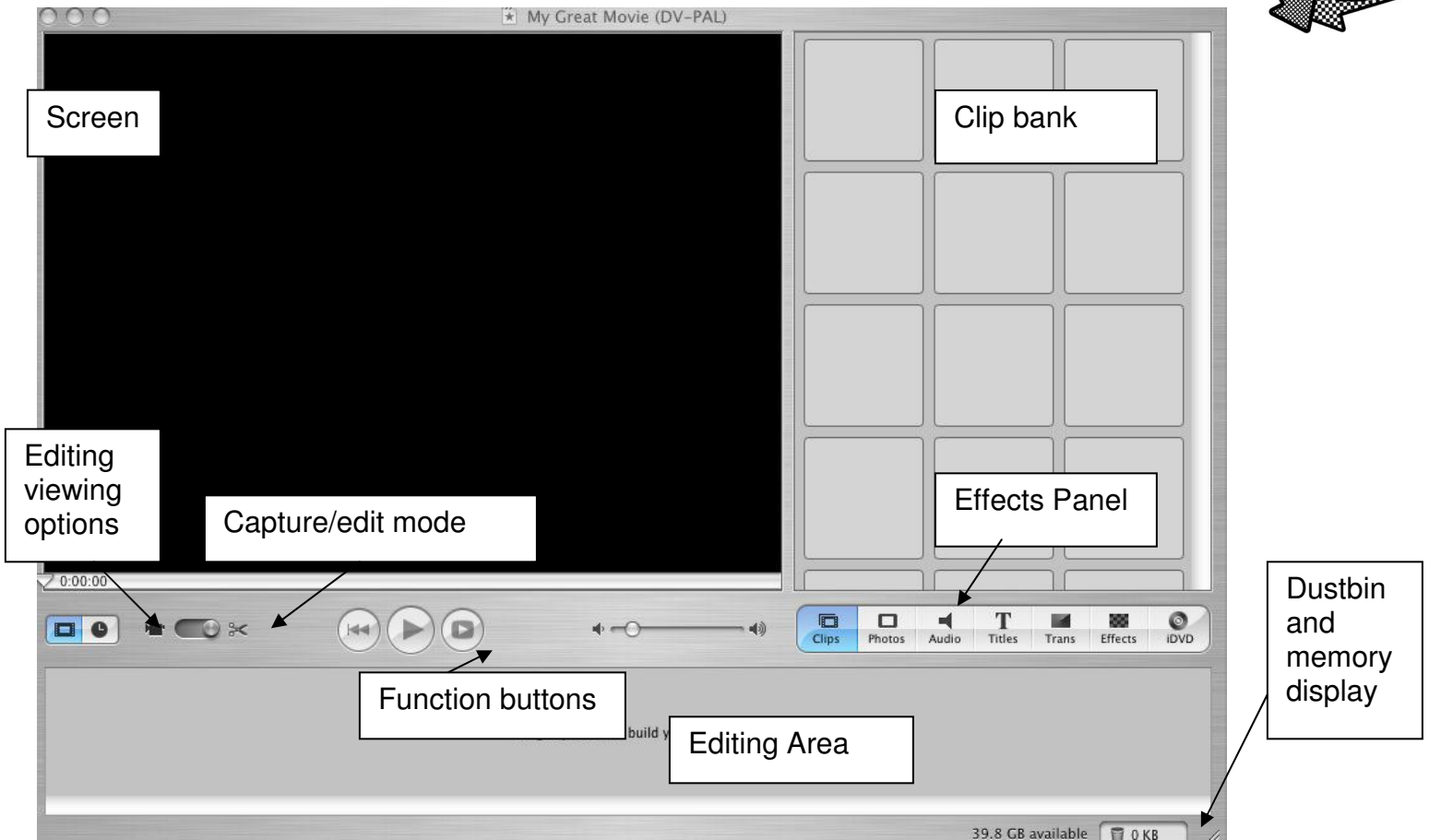
Double click on the icon and iMovie will load up



if you have never used iMovie before or are starting a new film click on the Create a New Project icon. This will load up a new iMovie Project . iMovie will ask you what you want to call your film and where you want to save it. iMovie will also ask you what format you would like to capture and run your film as.



Working in iMovie



What all the functions do

Note these are not the official definitions for the functions. They are Sarah definitions and so the Mac Guide may vary!

Screen – this is where you will view your film and film clips. To view clips in the screen either double click on a clip in the clip bank or when a clip is in the editing area press the play button (a function button) which will play your movie on the screen.

Clip Bank- this is where your clips will be held. When you capture your film, your clips will go straight in here. To add clips to your film simply drag the clips from the clip bank onto the editing area.

Edit/ Viewing options- there are two ways in which you can edit your film in iMovie. Editing is essentially about putting clips in an order that makes a clear and interesting film. These clips should (in an ideal world) reflect a storyboard. As the process of editing is quite simple the editing/viewing options give the editor (that's you) a chance to edit in one of two different views





1. Clips view

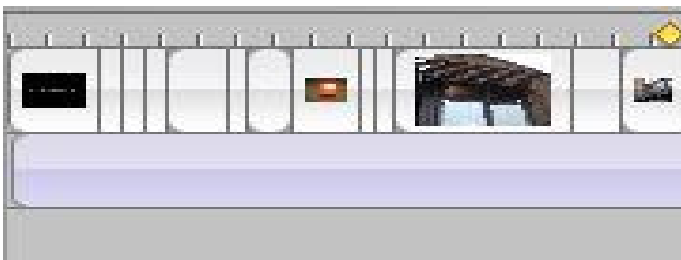
This view shows the first frame of each clip. Pros- a simple way to order your film. Cons doesn't give a good indication of the length of the film. Difficult to edit in effects as the view is quite simple



Initially these clips look the same length. It is only by looking at the time at the top of the clip that we can see the lengths of the clips are different: one just over six seconds and the other just over a minute.

2. Timeline views

In this view you can see the length of the whole clip. Pros – makes adding effects easier, allows you to see added music easier. Cons can become quite complicated as long clips may take up the whole screen thus meaning lots of scrolling from left to right to view the whole film.



When you are viewing/ have highlighted a clip the clip in your editing area will appear blue. The line with the funny triangle at the top is the play head. Wherever the play head is, is where the film will play from. –The play head is not shown in this picture

Capture / Edit Mode

To capture your film (load your film from the camera onto the computer) you will need to connect your camera to the computer using a firewire cable. This cable sends the data on the camera at high speed to your computer- the cable is often silver. As soon as the camera is connected to the computer, the computer should recognise the camera and if you are in iMovie the computer should automatically

Sarah's iMovie Guide



switch to the capture mode. When all the footage has been captured, your computer will switch to the edit mode.



Effects Panel

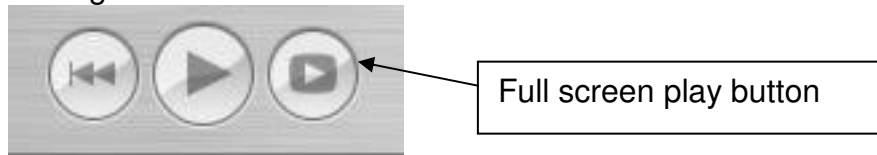
This is where editing get really fun! This is where you can add effects such as titles, transitions, audio and photos. Simply click on the icon that you want to add to your film and iMovie will bring up simple instructions to guide you.



Function Buttons

The function buttons allow you to view your movie. If you are showing your movie to a number of people it is sometimes useful to view your film at full screen. iMovie allows you to do this.

Editing Area



Dustbin/ Memory indicator.

If you delete any clips they will go straight to the dustbin. This means that if you accidentally delete something it is easy to retrieve. Make sure you check the contents of the dustbin before deleting it as once emptied the contents of the dustbin cannot be retrieved.



This will also show you the amount of memory the computer has available . If the memory drops to about 3 GB save your work and start delete the contents of the dustbin. This will ensure that iMovie can work properly.

Editing View Change

This very simply allows you to expand or contract what you can see in the editing area. This does not alter the length of film, but merely changes the view. This is very useful when you are working in the timeline view.



