

How To Record Video With Backing Track on a Mac

Do you like to use backing tracks when you record your fiddle? But do you also like to share videos so people can provide feedback on your playing? Ever wondered how to get a backing track into your videos? This guide is aimed at showing you how add a backing track to your videos using free programs that come with your Mac. You'll need to have the following things and have a basic idea how to use them:

1. Webcam
2. External Microphone
3. Garageband
4. Backing track as mp3 or aiff (I use Band in the box realstyles)
5. iMovie

Setting up Garageband

1. Create anew Garageband project.
2. Drag your backing track mp3 into Garageband. Create a new track if there isn't a blank one available.
3. Create a new track for your fiddle
4. I like to move my backing track up a few bars so that I have time to add some bow strokes to sync my video audio and my sound audio (more on that later).



5. Make sure the playhead is at the beginning of the track

Setting up Video

1. This part is super easy, I use the basic QuickTime that comes with any Mac. Start Quicktime then choose File > New Movie Recording

Recording

1. Having your fiddle ready to go, start your recordings in the following order:
2. Start Video recording
3. Start Garageband recording
4. Add three loud bow strokes. You do this so that its easier to sync up the audio and video later.
5. Fiddle away, stop the video and the audio in any order.

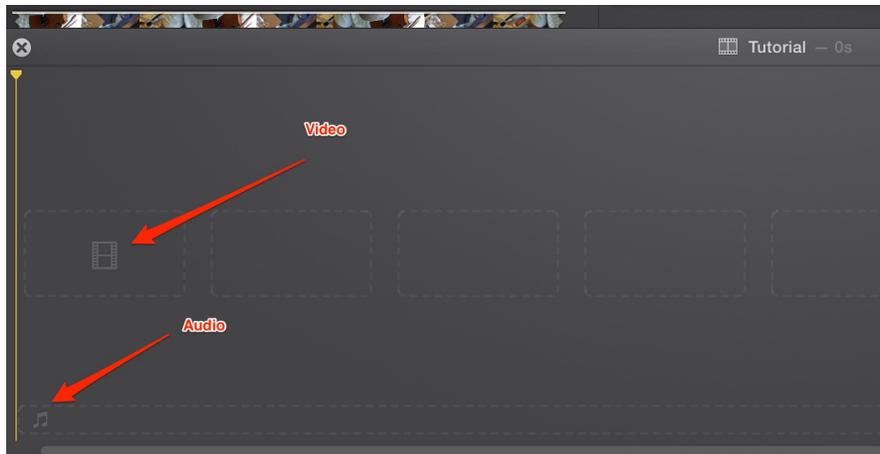
Saving files

1. Once you are done save the QuickTime movie and the Audio Files into a folder on your desktop

Syncing up audio and Video

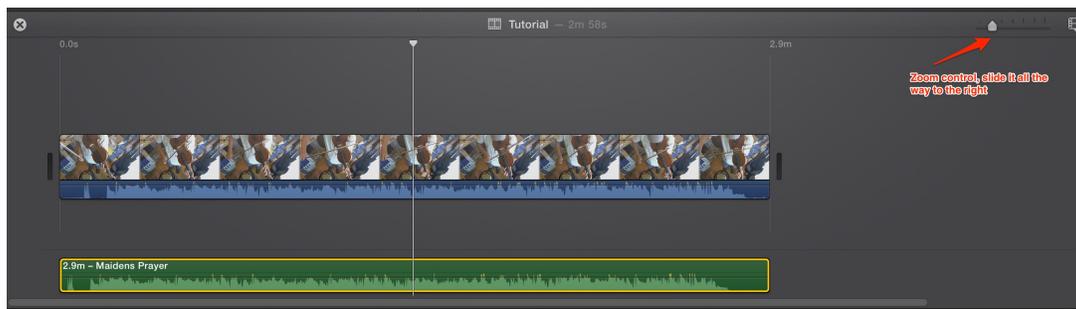
1. Open iMovie and create a new Event.
2. Import your movie and audio into your event
3. Create a new movie
4. Drag your video into the video area

5. Drag your audio into the audio area

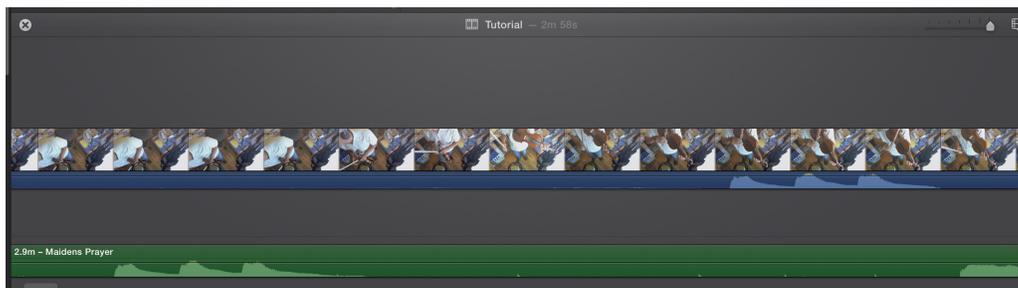


6. Now you need to zoom the view so that you can see as much of the details as possible

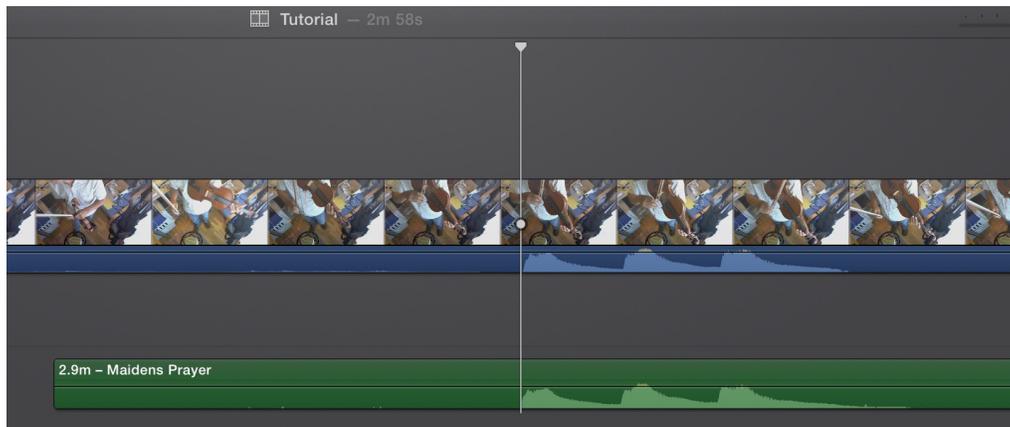
Before zoom:



After zoom:



7. Next you want to look for the three bow strokes you added to your recording so you can line up the audio and video.



8. Once you have them lined up, reduce the sound in the video track and export your video.

Compress your video

I really like using Handbrake to compress my videos before uploading them. It can reduce the file size by as much as 4 times. Here's a pretty good youtube video describing the optimal settings for compressing videos for youtube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dZJjZ9BCNsM>

Lastly here's an example of the final product:

http://youtu.be/_rNrRydcLw

Happy fiddling.

Mark