



# Installing Your Software

This booklet is intended to get you up and running as quickly as possible and covers the following:

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Be sure to also review the Before You Install Final Cut Express HD document (on the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD). For the latest information on Final Cut Express HD, go to the Final Cut Express HD website at [www.apple.com/finalcutexpress](http://www.apple.com/finalcutexpress).

**Important:** Before you install QuickTime and Final Cut Express HD, connect and turn on your video equipment so Final Cut Express HD can automatically detect your method of video capture. For more information, see the *Final Cut Express HD Getting Started* book.

## About the Contents of Your Final Cut Express HD Box

Your Final Cut Express HD box contains software and documentation to enhance your video editing experience.

### DVDs

The following DVDs contain software, documentation, tutorials, and additional media.

- *Final Cut Express HD installation DVD*: This is your installation disc. Use this DVD to install all of the application software, presets, and tutorials.
- *LiveType and Soundtrack content DVDs*: These DVDs contain data files for animated fonts, objects, and textures in LiveType and libraries of audio loops for Soundtrack.

### Printed Documentation

You can find the following printed instructional material included in your Final Cut Express HD box:

- *Final Cut Express HD Getting Started*: Provides step-by-step instructions for setting up, acquiring media, basic editing, working with audio, creating transitions, adding effects, creating titles and credits, and sharing your movie.
- *New Features in Final Cut Express HD*: Provides an overview of new features in Final Cut Express HD.
- *Final Cut Express HD Quick Reference Card*: Lists commonly used keyboard shortcuts for menu commands.
- *Frequently Asked Questions About Final Cut Express HD*: Provides answers to common questions about Final Cut Express HD.
- *Apple Pro Training Pamphlet*: Provides information about Apple Authorized Training Centers for Apple professional products.

### PDF Documentation

The following PDF documents are located in the Documentation folder on the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD.

- *Getting Started*: A PDF version of the *Final Cut Express HD Getting Started* book provides bookmarks and search capabilities for easy onscreen access to information.
- *Final Cut Express HD Help*: Provides information and instructions on capturing, editing, and outputting DV. Final Cut Express HD Help is a complete reference for information related to the application. Refer to this document for information not included in the *Final Cut Express HD Getting Started* book.
- *LiveType Help*: Provides information and instructions on creating and animating titles for use with Final Cut Express HD projects.
- *Soundtrack Help*: Provides information and instructions on creating musical compositions and scores for Final Cut Express HD projects.
- *Quick Reference*: A PDF version of the *Final Cut Express HD Quick Reference* allows you to search for Final Cut Express HD keyboard shortcuts onscreen.

- *Frequently Asked Questions*: A PDF version of the *Frequently Asked Questions About Final Cut Express HD* document allows onscreen access to answers to common questions about Final Cut Express HD.

## Tutorials

Tutorials are located in the Extras folder on the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD. Tutorials include media and are accompanied by PDF documentation.

- *LiveType Tutorial*: Takes you through the steps for creating an animated titling element, which you create in LiveType and then add to a sequence in Final Cut Express HD.
- *Soundtrack Tutorials*: Provide step-by-step instructions for creating and saving projects, adding media files to a project, working in the Timeline, editing audio clips, mixing a project, and making roundtrips between Soundtrack and Final Cut Express HD.

## About Onscreen Help

Onscreen help, Late-Breaking News documents, and New Features documents are located in the Help menu of each application included with Final Cut Express HD.

### Onscreen Help

Help gives you access to information onscreen while you're working in the applications.

#### To access the onscreen help for an application:

- Open the application, then choose the application name from the Help menu.

### Late-Breaking News

Each application also contains information about issues with third-party hardware and software and known bugs. This information is found in the Late-Breaking News section of the onscreen help.

#### To access Late-Breaking News for an application:

- Open the application, then choose Help > Late-Breaking News.

### New Features

Each application has a New Features document describing features that have been added or enhanced since the last version. This information is found in the New Features section of the onscreen help.

#### To access the New Features document for an application:

- Open the application, then choose Help > New Features.

**Note:** LiveType does not have a New Features document.

## Upgrading Mac OS X and QuickTime

Before you install Final Cut Express HD, update your system software to make sure that you have the latest versions of Mac OS X and QuickTime. QuickTime is an industry standard for working with digital video and is required to capture, play back, and output video with Final Cut Express HD.

### To update your system software:

- 1 Choose Apple menu > System Preferences.
- 2 Click Software Update.
- 3 Click the Update Software tab, then click Check Now.

When Software Update finishes installing the required updates, you will most likely be prompted to restart your computer.

## Installing Software, Entering Your Serial Number, and Setting Up Final Cut Express HD

When you install Final Cut Express HD, its components are placed in the Applications folder on the hard disk you specify, typically your startup disk. Some additional software components may be installed, depending on the video capture interface you're using. For information about installing and configuring a third-party video capture card, see the Final Cut Express HD Help.

**Warning:** If your system does not meet the minimum system requirements, Final Cut Express HD will not be installed. Refer to the Before You Install Final Cut Express HD document on the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD for a list of minimum system requirements.

## Installing Final Cut Express HD

Before you can install the software, you need to log in to your computer as the administrator using the administrator password. To verify that you're the admin user, open System Preferences and click Accounts. The word Admin will appear under your user account name.

### To install Final Cut Express HD:

- 1 Insert the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD into your DVD drive.
- 2 Double-click the Install Final Cut Express HD icon, then follow the onscreen instructions.
- 3 Read the introduction, then click Continue.
- 4 Read the Before You Install Final Cut Express HD document, then click Continue.
- 5 Read the Software License Agreement, then click Continue and Agree.
- 6 In the Licensing dialog, do the following:
  - a In the First, Last Name field, enter your first and last name. Entering an organization is optional.
  - b In the Serial Number field, enter the Final Cut Express HD serial number printed on the front of this booklet, then click OK.

**Note:** Make sure to keep this serial number in a safe place. The serial number is proof of ownership and may be required to reinstall the application or install upgrades.
- 7 Select the destination disk where you want to install Final Cut Express HD and the included software, then click Continue. The destination disk must have the latest version of Mac OS X installed.

**Warning:** LiveType must be installed on the startup disk (the disk or partition that contains the operating system). If it is installed on a nonstartup partition, it will not operate correctly.

- 8 To perform an easy installation, click Install.
- 9 To perform a custom installation, click the Customize button, select the applications you want to install, then click Install. Final Cut Express HD and Pro Application Support are always selected.

When the installation is complete, you are prompted to install the additional media provided with LiveType and Soundtrack. This is optional and not required to use LiveType or Soundtrack. See LiveType Help and Soundtrack Help for additional information.

You are now ready to begin using Final Cut Express HD. See the next section for information on choosing your initial setup.

## Choosing an Initial Setup

The first time you open Final Cut Express HD, you must specify certain settings that determine how Final Cut Express HD works with your particular video setup. You can do this by choosing an Easy Setup, which is a collection of settings Final Cut Express HD uses for controlling your video device, capturing media, editing, and exporting video.

Final Cut Express HD comes with Easy Setups for some of the most common video configurations, and you can create your own custom Easy Setups. Choose an Easy Setup based on the system and media you're using and the type of project you're working on. For example, if you have an NTSC FireWire DV camera, choose the Easy Setup that includes those settings, DV-NTSC. The DV-NTSC Easy Setup includes the following settings:

- *Sequence Preset:* DV NTSC 48 kHz
- *Capture Preset:* DV NTSC 48 kHz
- *Device Control Preset:* FireWire NTSC
- *Playback Output Video:* Apple FireWire NTSC (720 x 480)
- *Playback Output Audio:* FireWire DV
- *PTV Output Video:* Same as Playback
- *PTV Output Audio:* Same as Playback

### To choose your initial setup:

- 1 Double-click the Final Cut Express HD icon in the Applications folder to open Final Cut Express HD. The Choose Setup dialog appears.

**Note:** This window only appears the first time you open Final Cut Express HD. You can change this setup later if necessary. See “Choosing an Easy Setup,” next.

- 2 Specify the following settings, then click OK.
  - *Setup For:* This pop-up menu lets you specify the Easy Setup to use.
  - *Show All:* Selecting this checkbox presents a longer list of presets to choose from in the Setup For pop-up menu.
  - *Primary Scratch Disk:* This is the hard disk where the clips you capture in Final Cut Express HD are saved. It's also where render files are saved. Final Cut Express HD generates render files when you use transitions and effects. For more information, see Final Cut Express HD Help, Chapter 4, “Specifying User Preferences, System Settings, and Easy Setups.”

**Note:** If you reinstall Final Cut Express HD, your settings are cleared and you need to choose an Easy Setup again.

## Choosing an Easy Setup

The Easy Setup you choose becomes your default setup and all projects and sequences use its settings until you change your Easy Setup. You can change your Easy Setup or individual presets and settings at any time; however, you don't need to change the Easy Setup unless you change your video hardware or source media. Changing your Easy Setup only affects new projects that you create. It doesn't change the settings of a project that's already created or that's currently open. For detailed information on Easy Setups and presets, see Final Cut Express HD Help, Chapter 4, "Specifying User Preferences, System Settings, and Easy Setups."

### To choose an Easy Setup:

- 1 Open Final Cut Express HD.
- 2 Choose Final Cut Express HD > Easy Setup.
- 3 Choose an Easy Setup from the Setup For pop-up menu.

A summary of the selected Easy Setup appears below the menu. The summary includes information about the purpose of the Easy Setup, along with a list of the presets and external video settings on which the Easy Setup is based.

**Note:** Make sure your primary scratch disk can accommodate the size of the media files associated with your project. For more information on checking the status of your primary scratch disk, see Final Cut Express HD Help, Chapter 4, "Specifying User Preferences, System Settings, and Easy Setups."

## About Installing Software and Saving Files

Mac OS X provides a multiuser environment so each user has a home directory where he or she can save files that aren't accessible to others. If users are working on some of the same projects, they need to save or place these files in a location where others can access them.

When installing or saving files, including project files, custom Easy Setups, and custom presets, consider who needs access to these items. Use the following to help determine where to place files:

- *Shared folder within the Users directory:* All users have access to this folder, making this a good location to save and store files that you want others to use.

Computer/Volume/Users/Shared

For example, if you want all users to have access to the tutorial media, you'd copy the appropriate folder from the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD to the Shared folder in the Users directory.

- *Public folder within a user's home directory:* The user must turn on file sharing in Sharing preferences so other users can access this folder.

Computer/Volume/Users/Username/Public or Home/Public

- *Volume roots:* All users typically have access to the root level of each volume or hard disk drive. If all users need access to specific applications, such as Final Cut Express HD, make sure you install these applications in an accessible folder at the root level of a volume, such as the Applications folder.

## Memory Usage in Final Cut Express HD

Here are some things to keep in mind:

### **You can't turn off virtual memory in Mac OS X.**

Disk swapping (constant disk activity) may occur if too many application programs request memory at the same time. In situations where you need to use multiple applications simultaneously, you can limit how much RAM Final Cut Express HD uses to avoid having the system start to use virtual memory.

### **You can't specify which disk drive is used for virtual memory.**

By default, the startup disk is used. It's a good idea to avoid having the system use virtual memory by having as much RAM installed as possible. In addition, it's a good idea to specify a scratch disk different from your startup disk.

### **You no longer need to allocate memory to an application.**

Mac OS X uses as much memory as is dynamically requested by an application.

The more RAM available to Final Cut Express HD, the better the performance you get for large projects and software-based real-time effects.

**Note:** Some third-party video capture cards may require more than the minimum RAM requirement. Check the documentation that came with your card for more information.

### **To limit memory allocation for Final Cut Express HD:**

- 1 Quit all open applications, then open Final Cut Express HD.
- 2 Choose Final Cut Express HD > System Settings, then click the Memory & Cache tab.
- 3 In the Memory Usage section, move the slider or enter a value in the Application box for the maximum amount of memory you want available to Final Cut Express HD.

By default, 100% Application Memory Usage is selected, with 10% selected for Still Cache.

## Registering Final Cut Express HD

The first time you open Final Cut Express HD or any included application, the application prompts you for registration information. By default, the Me card information in your Address Book is automatically entered in the appropriate fields.

### **To register Final Cut Express HD to a user other than the user listed in the Me card in your Address Book:**

- 1 Fill out the Name, Address, Organization, and Email address fields.
- 2 If you want Apple news and information about software updates sent to your email account, select the checkbox.
- 3 If you want to review the Apple Privacy Policy, click Privacy Policy.
- 4 When you have finished, click Register Now.

You are now ready to begin using Final Cut Express HD.

**Note:** If you decide to click the Register Later button, you will be prompted to register again after opening Final Cut Express HD or one of the included applications five times.

## Installing Tutorial Files

LiveType and Soundtrack include several tutorials to give you hands-on experience and help you learn how to use the programs.

Before you go through the tutorials, you need to copy the media files to your hard disk.

### **To copy the tutorial media files to your computer:**

- 1 Insert the Final Cut Express HD installation DVD into your DVD drive.  
This DVD contains the tutorial media for LiveType and Soundtrack.
- 2 If necessary, double-click the DVD icon to open it.
- 3 Drag the appropriate tutorial folder from the DVD to your hard disk.

For information on using the tutorials, refer to the individual tutorial PDFs.

## Contacting AppleCare Support

Apple provides several levels of support options. Whatever your issue, it's a good idea to have the following information immediately available. The more of this information you have to give to the support agents, the faster they will be able to address your issue.

- The Support ID number of Final Cut Express HD.

**Note:** The Support ID number is separate from the product serial number and is found on the front of this booklet.

- The version of Mac OS X you have installed. You can find the version of Mac OS X by choosing Apple menu > About This Mac.
- The version of Final Cut Express HD you have installed. You can find the Final Cut Express HD version number by choosing Final Cut Express HD > About Final Cut Express HD when Final Cut Express HD is open.
- The model of computer you are using.
- The amount of RAM installed in your computer, and how much is allocated to Final Cut Express HD. You can find out how much RAM is installed by choosing Apple menu > About This Mac. You can find out how much RAM is allocated to Final Cut Express HD by choosing Final Cut Express HD > System Settings, and then clicking the Memory & Cache tab.
- What other third-party hardware is connected to or installed in the computer, and who the manufacturers are. Include hard disks, video cards, and so on.
- Any third-party plug-ins or other software installed along with Final Cut Express HD.

### To get technical support for Final Cut Express HD, go to:

- <http://www.apple.com/support/finalcutexpress>

### To learn more about support options and to contact AppleCare Support online, go to:

- <http://www.apple.com/support/products>

### To find AppleCare phone numbers and links to websites for each country, go to:

- [http://www.apple.com/contact/phone\\_contacts.html](http://www.apple.com/contact/phone_contacts.html)

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