

Forum:[Hack Forums](#)

Thread: [\[TUT\] How to make an animated .GIF from a screen recording](#)

Silicon - December 4, 2011, 8:10 am

Hey there HF. This time I'm popping into the Gfx section to share my method of making a screen recording and turning it into a .GIF file.

Software you will need:

- Photoshop CS3 or above (if you have CS2, I think ImageReady can do this)
- CamStudio (and prior knowledge of how it works)
- Something you want to record

First of all, you need to record a section of your screen and make sure the filesize is preferably under 50MB. To do this, go to Options > Video options and make sure everything looks similar to this:

[img]http://dl.dropbox.com/u/17329819/rec-tut/options.png[/img]

Also, go to Options > and tick Do not record audio. These steps will ensure ample quality for a simple GIF recording, and also keep the filesize at a minimum.

The next step is to go to Options > Program Options > Name of .AVI file > tick Ask for file name. This will give us a Save box to specify the location of the file.

Then, Go to Region > and tick Region. (the top one). Then click the big red circular button, draw the rectangle of where you want to record and record it. When you're done press the blue square to stop. When you stop you should be presented with a save box - save it and note the location. It should be saved as an .AVI file. If it isn't go back and check to see if you've done anything wrong.

Now, open up Photoshop (I'm using CS5 for this, it may look slightly different for you if you're not). At the top select Window > Animation. This will bring up the animation pane:

[img]http://dl.dropbox.com/u/17329819/rec-tut/anim-pane.png[/img]

Now, open your file. You can add layers and stuff to like you normally would, just make sure to stay clear of the layer with the recording in case you mess something up.

When you're done adding fancy watermarks and stuff, go to File > Save for Web & Devices. If you start getting out of memory errors at this point then your file is too large, go back and lower the recording framerate and try again.

[img]http://dl.dropbox.com/u/17329819/rec-tut/export.png[/img]

Have a play around with the options in this pane - just make sure the combobox at the top says GIF. Remember a larger amount of colours means a larger filesize and longer loading times, so use the lowest amount possible that doesn't lower the quality. There's also a play-pause-stop-rewind-ffwd button near the bottom-right that you can use to preview your animation.

Finally click [Save] and save the .gif file. Upload it to somewhere like imgur.com and use it like a normal image file. Well done, you now look professional! :D

(I couldn't make one for this tutorial as it's too long, sorry)

EDIT: Added another picture

Accident - December 4, 2011, 10:19 am

This is pro.

I've always wanted to know how to do this..

Silicon - December 4, 2011, 1:11 pm

Thanks. Glad you like it.

I'm starting to get into the swing of making guides. It's really easy. :3

Bluening - December 5, 2011, 5:07 am

Good informative tutorial. Good job! thanks for taking the time to post this :)

Silicon - December 5, 2011, 8:21 am

(Dec 5, 2011 06:07 AM)Bluening Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Good informative tutorial. Good job! thanks for taking the time to post this :)

Are there any ways that I can improve it?

Thanks for the feedback, by the way. Appreciated! :)

TradeMark™ - December 5, 2011, 8:26 am

Very nice guide. Thanks for posting it up. I might try it that was. What I did was use quick time player, photoshop, and clips from hypercam. It would process through quick timer, and then I would open up photoshop, and drag the clip into it. :D

Bluening - December 6, 2011, 11:50 am

Really like the tutorials here. So HQ and useful. Thanks a lot!

Silicon - December 6, 2011, 1:27 pm

(Dec 6, 2011 12:50 PM)Bluening Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) Really like the tutorials here. So HQ and useful. Thanks a lot!

Thanks. I appreciate being complimented once in a while :)

Kimberlyy - December 25, 2011, 9:33 am

Thank you !!!

This tut is real good

keep it up

alok541 - December 30, 2011, 1:58 am

use demo-charge. its really cool software.

HastyLife - December 30, 2011, 12:19 pm

(Dec 30, 2011 02:58 AM)alok541 Wrote: [\[CITE\]](#) use demo-charge. its really cool software.

Hmm. nice program. thanks for the post xD

dolores - January 1, 2012, 2:39 pm

Thanks now i can make GFX's my siggy!

Montie-Kin - January 4, 2012, 8:33 pm

Sweet, thanks. I was just about to ask this question in another thread but all I had to do is look. lol You're a life saver... or time saver, since a life saver is a candy... Whatever, I appreciate the fact that you made this thread (there we go). XP

rsbotmoo - January 5, 2012, 12:46 pm

thanks for the turtorial keep it up :)

NicoleH - January 6, 2012, 4:37 am

Thanks for this tut, really helped.

Silicon - January 8, 2012, 4:39 am

No problem guys. This is perfect for signatures as well by the way, as well as turning YouTube video clips to GIFs (with your own watermarks!).

webdev77 - January 9, 2012, 1:17 pm

Nice tutorial, I still just use camtasia though. It works better on my old piece of crap laptop than photoshop. I do like this method as well though. I will use it on my newer desktop for video to gif conversion.