

Making slide shows faster

In most cases, two factors affect the speed of slideshows: grids and media file size.

Grids: Unless you are using a computer with a powerful processor, slide shows with more than one video channel will place considerable strain on your machine and degrade playback. Experiment with *Half* and *Quarter* video channel grids first before choosing more complex grids.

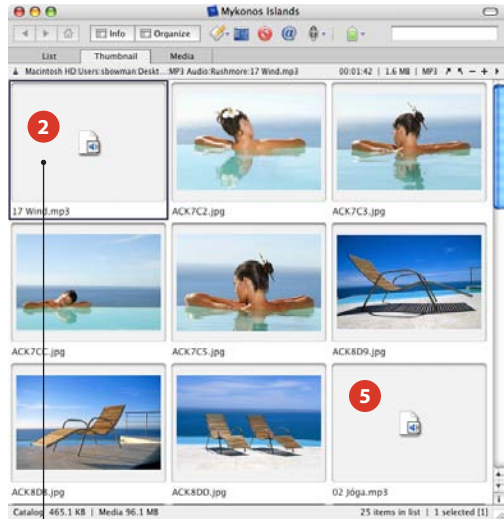
File Size: On computers with slower processors, a slide show of 20 MB image files will run much slower than a slide show with 1 MB image files. What slows MediaPro down is not necessarily the file size, but the actual dimensions of the media. With larger dimensions, MediaPro has to dynamically shrink the image to fit the screen. If the image is the same shape as the screen (4:3 proportion) the delay isn't too noticeable. But for portrait images (vertical), the delay can be a few seconds.

Slide shows on slower computers: If you are having display or audio issues with your slide show, it may be asking too much of your computer's processor or video card.

One solution is to create temporary copies of your images that are optimized for fast on-screen display. You can do this by using *Convert Image Files...* in the Make menu. Here are the parameters that help:

- **Size:** Match your screen dimensions (for example, 1024x768). That way MediaPro won't have to resize the image.
- **Setting:** Match your monitor's color depth, such *16-bit* or *24-bit* (Mac: *Thousands* or *Millions*). This will reduce processor usage.
- **Resolution:** Use 96 dpi (Mac: 72 dpi), same as your screen resolution.
- **File format:** Select an uncompressed format, such as Bitmap (BMP) or PICT instead of JPEG. This way the image file won't have to be decompressed on the fly, during the slide show.

Create a new catalog with the converted images and your slide show will be amazingly fast.



To add a background soundtrack, place an audio file as the first file in your catalog.

Adding a soundtrack to a slide show

Use the following instructions to add a background soundtrack to your slide shows:

1. Create a catalog of images and movies, then organize them in the order you want them to appear in the slide show.
2. Place an audio file (MP3, AIFF, etc.) as the very first file in the catalog.
3. Make sure the audio file is selected and then start your slide show. The music will continue to play throughout the slide show.
4. When you quit the slide show (ESC key), the song will automatically fade out.
5. If at any point you want the slide show to switch to a different song, just place an audio file at that point. MediaPro will automatically fade from the old song to the new one.
6. If you have *Play sound from all movies* selected (in the *Slide Show Options* of the Make menu), MediaPro will also play any soundtracks in your movies, reducing the volume of the background soundtrack for the duration of the movie.