



liquid Video Improve v2.x

Installation Instructions for Windows, macOS, Adobe  
Lightroom

Manual

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## Installation Instructions for Windows

### Required Hardware & Software

- PC with 64-bit processor, min. 4GB RAM
- Windows XP or later in a 64-bit version

### Installation

When downloading the executable installer (liquid\_video\_improve\_setup\_x64.exe) the installation process is started by opening this file. During installation, you will be able to choose the destination directory.

### File Saving Location

During execution the application will save data to the following folder:

Windows: C:\Users\`username`\AppData\Roaming\liquid

To completely remove liquid from your computer, you may have to manually delete this folder.

## Installation Instructions for macOS

### Required Hardware & Software

- Mac with Intel 64bit-processor, min. 4GB-RAM
- macOS v10.9 or later

### Installation

When downloading the executable installer (liquid Video Improve.pkg) the installation process is started by opening this file. The program will be installed to the default applications folder.

### File Saving Location

During execution the application will save data to the following folder:

/Users/`username`/Library/liquid/

To completely remove liquid from your computer, you may have to manually delete this folder.

## Installation Instructions for the Adobe Lightroom Plugin

Liquid Video Improve is also available as a plugin for Adobe Lightroom (version 4.0 and later). The „Required Hardware & Software“ as well as the „File Saving Location“ are the same as described above.

## Installation

You are downloading a ZIP file (for Windows) or a DMG file (for macOS) containing a single folder named „videoimprove.lrplugin“. Unpack this folder and save it to your computer, then add it to Adobe Lightroom: Start Lightroom and in its main menu go to *File -> Plugin Manager...* -> *Add* -> find the unpacked folder (videoimprove.lrplugin) on your computer and select it -> the list of Lightroom plugins now contains „Liquivid“.

To use the plugin, go to Lightroom's main menu to *File -> Plugin Extras -> Edit in Video Improve*. The files selected in your Lightroom catalog (except for RAW, DNG and PSD files) are opened in Video Improve, where you can edit and export them. Files exported from Video Improve can automatically be imported into the Lightroom catalog.

Other than that, the Adobe Lightroom Plugin behaves in exactly the same way as the standalone application and can be activated with the same activation key.

## Trial Period and Activation

If you download Video Improve from our website and launch it, the software starts in Demo mode. This is shown by two things:

1. In the window's upper right you will see



2. All edited files will contain a "Video Improve" watermark (both on the preview inside the app and on the exported files)



Watermark aside, the demo version has no limitations whatsoever.

To use the software without a watermark, you will need to purchase an activation key. Click on the "Buy" button in the upper right or go to <http://liquivid.com/webshop/>

The activation key is a 64-character string provided to you by email after completing the purchasing process. Copy and paste this activation key into the input field found in the above dialog. The application will tell you whether the key is valid.



Once you have a valid key, the software will automatically work in standard (non-demo) mode and remove the watermark. No additional software download is required.

A key can be used to activate liquivid Video Improve on up to 3 computers (activating both the stand alone application AND the Adobe Lightroom Plugin on the same computer counts as a single activation). Should you need more than 3 activations, you will need to purchase an additional key. Please note that modifying your computer's hardware can lead to liquivid not recognizing your computer anymore, making it necessary to activate the software again.

After activation, the activation key dialog can be opened by clicking the respective link in the application's about dialog.

## Editing Photos and Videos

Liquid Video Improve can edit both videos and photos using a unified user interface. Following filters are available:

- **Lens Distortion**  
Remove fish-eye effect from videos and photos (defishing), as caused by action cameras and other wide angle lenses. The app comes with a series of built-in camera profiles and you can easily create profiles for any camera and lens you use.
- **Exposure & Colors** (advanced mode only)  
Allows you to change exposure, levels, saturation, white balance and more.
- **Effect**  
Applies visual effects to your photo or videos, modifying colors.
- **Tilt/Shift**  
Apply selective blur
- **Sharpen**
- **Noise**  
Noise is caused by shooting in low light or with high ISO. Depending on your computer and the video resolution, computing times can vary between 100 milliseconds and several seconds per video frame.
- **Rotate & Crop**
- **Stabilize** (videos only)  
Reduce camera shake in your videos, ideal for hand-held footage and action camera clips.
- **Deflicker** (videos only)  
Reduces flickering from time lapse videos or clips taken under difficult lighting conditions.
- **Speed** (videos only)  
Change the video's play speed. Many action cameras can record video with 60fps or more. However, to achieve a slow-motion effect when watching your clips, you must often change a clip's play speed. Additionally, you can also choose the desired output frame rate (normally you will want 25 or 30fps).
- **Text** (advanced mode only)  
Add text to your videos and photos.
- **Meta Data** (advanced mode only)  
Set meta data like author, copyright info and file title.
- **Basic video cutting and merging**  
You can select individual sections from a video clip and export them individually (one output video file for each section) or merged together (one output file containing all sections). It is also possible to combine several videos and photos into a single output clip.  
Effects like transitions, blending, picture-in-picture and similar are not supported.

## Importing Files

Files are imported by dragging and dropping them onto the application window. Alternatively, you can use a standardized file dialog opened by clicking the „Open“-Button in the program window's upper right corner.

All imported files are shown in a list. You can remove files from this list by clicking on the [X] button in the list entry's upper right.

## Saving Settings

All your settings (selected filters and their parameters as well as the list of imported files) are saved automatically when you make them. There is no need (or way) to manually save your work.

Settings for individual files are persisted even when you remove a file from the list and re-import it at a later time, even if you move the file to another location on your computer. The app identifies files based on their file name and file size.

## Quick Mode

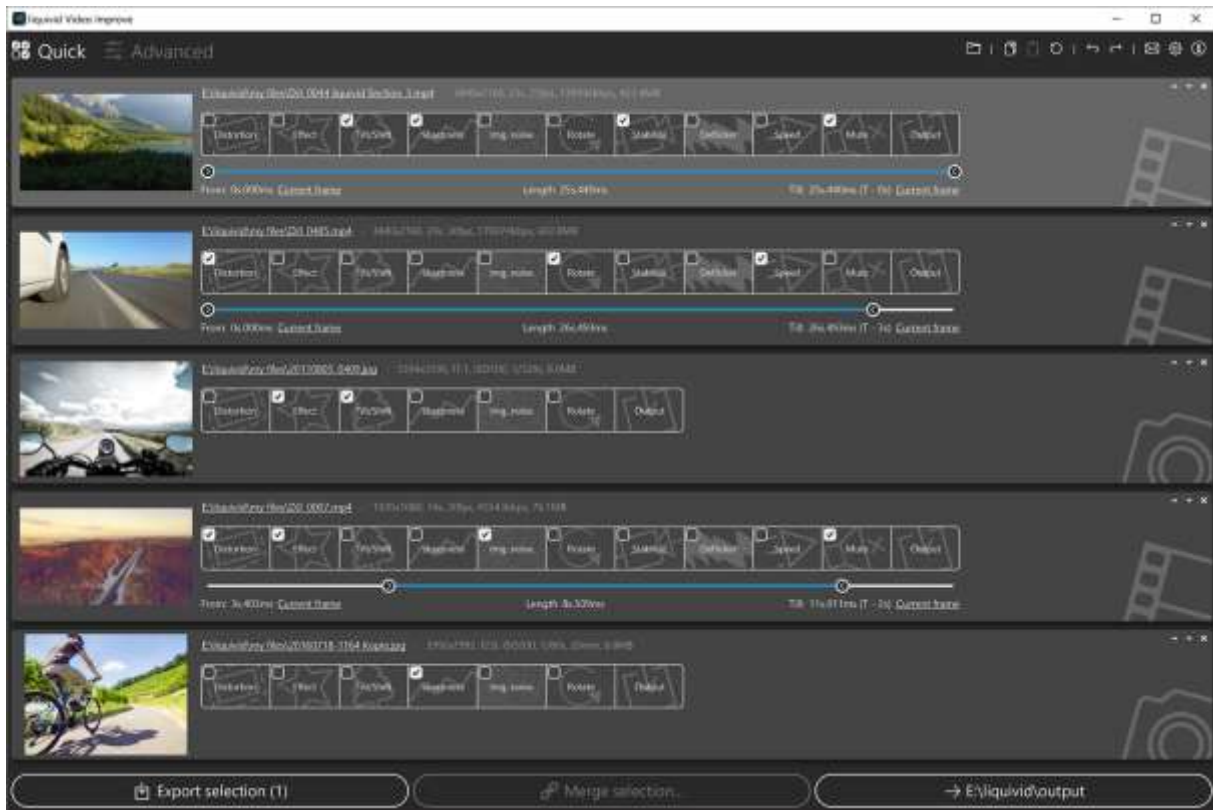
The quick mode is made for fast and easy single-click-correction of files. The quick mode is activated by clicking on the text "Quick" in the program window's upper left corner.

Editing options (e.g. sharpening) can be turned on and off by activating or deactivating the corresponding buttons. If a filter requires additional parameters, either a default value will be used (e.g. strength of noise reduction or sharpening) or an additional input window will be shown (e.g. for choosing the distortion lens profile or for setting a rotation angle).

By clicking the button "Output" the output format, quality and resolution can be chosen.

Filters and output settings can be set for multiple files simultaneously: If more than one file are selected in the list (selected files have a light grey background, unselected ones are dark grey), all changes to filters and/or output settings affect all selected files.

You can also trim videos by selecting the section to export (from ... till ...). You can trim multiple clips at once by selecting the desired files and then dragging the section end points. You can create more than one section per clip in the advanced mode, but the quick mode will always show only the first section.




Screenshot: Quick Mode


## Advanced Mode

The advanced mode is made for detailed editing and filter customization as well as video cutting. Also, some editing options like exposure and color correction and text adding are available in this mode only.

The advanced mode is activated by clicking on “Advanced” in the program window’s upper left corner.

In the advanced mode, a bar containing detailed settings for all filters is displayed on the program window’s right side. All parameters can be set here while a live preview of your settings is shown in the centre of the window. The preview can be turned on and off using the  button situated near the video player controls (for videos) or in the lower right next to the zoom control (for photos).

## Custom Presets

You can create custom presets for filter settings you use often. Click on  in the lower left to create a new preset, then choose a name and select the filters which you want to be part of this preset.

## Video Cutting

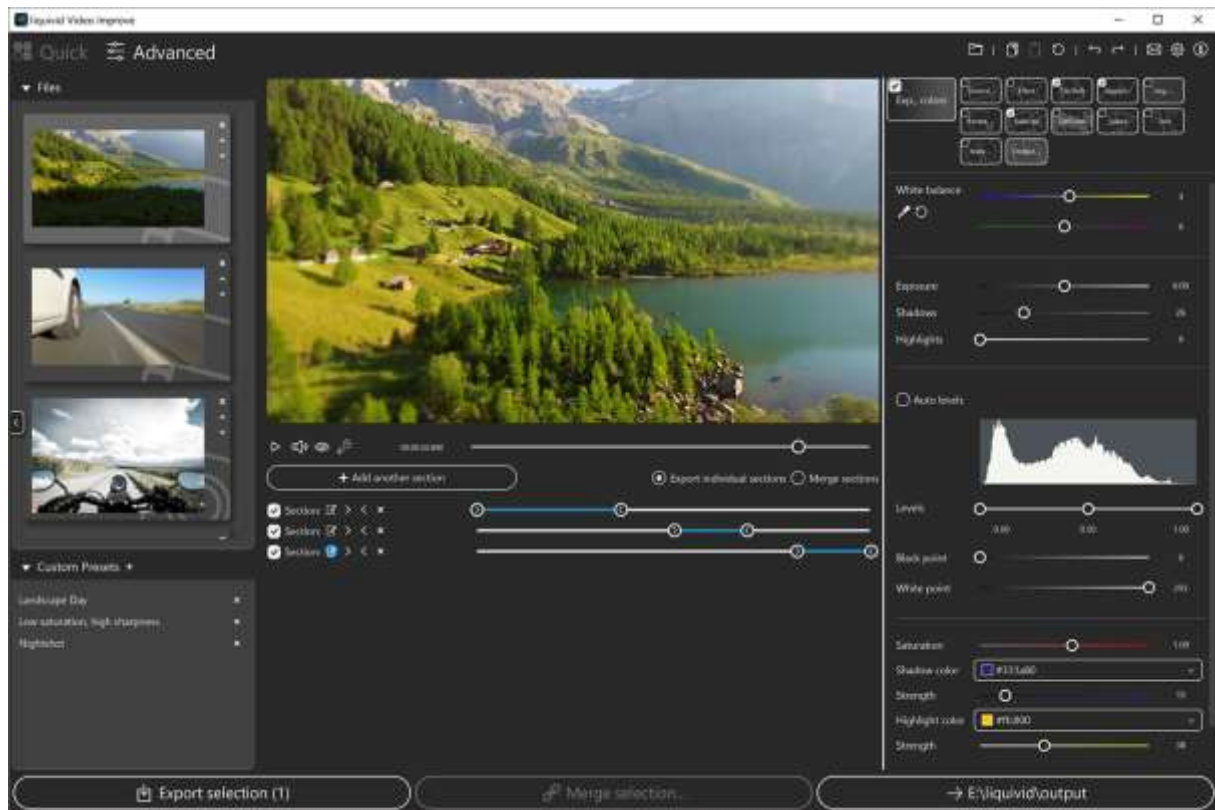
You can select one or several sections to export from a video. Video data which lies outside of any section will not be exported.

For every imported video one section spanning the whole duration of the video will be created by default. By dragging the start and end markers the user can set the desired start and end time of a section. The time span which will be exported is displayed in blue.




A new section is created by clicking on „+ Add another section“, an existing section is removed by clicking on „X“. By checking or unchecking the box in front of the word “Section”, individual sections can be activated or deactivated for the next export. Only activated sections are exported.

By choosing between “Export individual sections” and “Merge sections”, the user can select between exporting one video file for each section or exporting a single video file containing all sections one after the other.



Screenshot: Advanced Mode

Most filters can be customized for each individual section by clicking on . If this button is highlighted in blue color, this indicates that custom filters have been set for the corresponding section. Section-specific filters are combined with the filter settings made for the video file.

## Exporting Files

### Exporting Files Individually

The Export is started by clicking the large button on the lower left, titled „Export selection“. This will export all selected files, creating one output file for each input file (or, depending on your settings, one output file for each video section).

### Merging files

If you have selected 2 or more files, the “Merge selection...” button becomes activated. Clicking it will show a small popup window allowing you to choose output options (e.g. video format and quality and also display duration for photos, if any are selected). Clicking “OK” in this popup window will start the export. The app will generate one output video containing all of the selected videos and photos in the order in which they are displayed in the files list. You can rearrange the list using drag and drop.

Effects like transitions, picture-in-picture and similar are not supported.

## Output Folder

Exported files will be placed in an output folder which can be selected by clicking on the button in the lower right (E:\liquid\output in the above screenshot). Right clicking this button opens the output folder in Explorer(PC) or Finder (Mac).

## Application Settings

Clicking the button with the gear icon (top right corner in the main application window) will open the settings window. Here you can:

- Choose which of the built-in camera profiles you want to see in the selection list for “Remove lens distortion”. This will help you avoid seeing long lists filled with profiles you’re not using anyway.
- Choose default export settings: Settings you make here will be applied to each file when you import it for the first time. Use this to set your favourite output formats and quality or to set your name and copyright information to be written into files’ meta data.
- Choose UI language: By default, liquid will automatically choose the UI language based on your OS settings. If you’d like to use another language, choose it here, then restart the application.

## Supported Formats

### Input

- Photos: JPG, PNG, TIFF
- Videos: All common formats and codes (except MPEG-2) in all resolutions

### Output

- Photos: JPG, PNG
  - JPG – The most popular image format, offers good quality at small file size.
  - PNG – A non-lossy format with no quality loss but larger files than JPG and without metadata support.
- Videos: MP4 (h264), WMV, WebM, GIF, Motion JPEG, uncompressed AVI in all resolutions
  - MP4 (h264) – A very good general purpose codec with small files and high quality.
  - WMV – Another very good general purpose codec with small files and high quality, but rather Windows specific.
  - WebM – Ideal for playback in web browsers and HTML5 pages.
  - GIF – Actually an image and not a video format, GIFs are ideal for posting videos in places where you can normally only add images (e.g. websites, social media). Should be used only for short clips with small resolutions and lower framerates (10 fps is a good choice).
  - Motion JPEG – An older video codec with high quality and large file size with very good compatibility with older video playing / editing software.
  - Uncompressed AVI – Very high quality but with very large file sizes (roughly 75MB for one second of HD video at 25fps).

## Troubleshooting

1. Video Improve crashes during normal usage, showing an error window.

There's not much you can do about this kind of errors yourself, but please DO submit the error report to us (using the button at the bottom of the error window) so we can fix this in a future release.

2. Video Improve does generally not behave as expected

Please drop us a line to [info@liquid.com](mailto:info@liquid.com) so we can help you get the problem sorted or fix any issues in a future application release.

3. For Steam users only:

If you experience strange effects (like frequent crashes or other GUI weirdness), try deactivating the Steam Overlay as this is known to cause problems on some machines and OS (particularly on macOS).

To deactivate the overlay, do the following:

In your Steam client, go to -> *Library* -> *Software* -> *liquid* -> *right click*, opening the pop-up menu -> *Properties* -> *General* -> [ ] *Enable the Steam Overlay while in-game*

