SQUISH

Professional Video Compressor for macOS

Complete Application Documentation

Features · System Requirements

1. General Overview

Squish is a native macOS application designed to compress high-quality videos and significantly reduce file size without sacrificing visual quality. The application is built with modern Apple technologies (SwiftUI and AVFoundation) and leverages the hardware acceleration of Apple Silicon chips to deliver fast and efficient compression.

Squish is aimed at content creators, video editors, students, professionals, and any user who needs to reduce video file sizes for storage, sharing, or uploading to online platforms. The interface is minimalist and intuitive but offers advanced controls for users who need professional precision.

2. Application Features

Below are all the features and functions offered by Squish:

2.1 Video Compression with Modern Codecs

> **Support for H.264 and H.265 (HEVC)**
>
> Squish allows you to compress videos using two industry-standard codecs. H.265 (HEVC) offers up to 50% better compression than H.264 while maintaining the same visual quality, ideal for saving space. H.264 offers maximum compatibility with older devices and platforms that don't support HEVC.

2.2 Multiple Output Resolutions

Squish supports a wide range of resolutions to adapt to any need:

Resolution	Dimensions	Recommended use
SD (480p)	854 × 480	Messaging, archiving, old videos
HD (720p)	1280 × 720	Web, social media, presentations
Full HD (1080p)	1920 × 1080	Quality standard for streaming and YouTube
2.5K / QHD (1440p)	2560 × 1440	Gaming, professional content, QHD monitors
4K UHD (2160p)	3840 × 2160	Professional production, top-quality archiving
Original	Unchanged	Only reduce size while keeping dimensions

2.3 Custom Configuration with Interactive Sliders

Professional control of every parameter

Advanced users can manually adjust all compression parameters using real-time sliders: video bitrate (from 200 kbps to 60 Mbps depending on resolution), frame rate (15 to 60 fps), audio bitrate (64 to 320 kbps), and codec selection. Default values automatically adjust when changing resolution to offer the best recommended quality.

2.4 Real-Time Size Estimator

Accurate prediction before compressing

Before starting compression, Squish automatically calculates the approximate final file size based on video duration, video bitrate, audio bitrate, and MP4 container overhead. It also displays the estimated savings percentage compared to the original file, allowing the user to adjust parameters before processing.

2.5 Built-in Preview with AVPlayer

Native video player

Squish includes a built-in video player based on AVPlayer (Apple's native technology). Users can preview the video before compressing, navigate the timeline with a progress slider, see the total duration, and play or pause with a single click.

2.6 Video Trimming

Edit the video before compressing

The trimming function allows you to select the start and end of the video to be compressed using two independent sliders with real-time preview. This is useful for removing unnecessary parts before compression, saving even more space. The selected duration is displayed in MM:SS format and is automatically used in the size estimator.

2.7 Smart Drag & Drop

Drag videos from anywhere

Squish supports drag & drop in two ways: dragging files directly into the application window with animated visual feedback, and dragging files onto the Squish icon in the macOS Dock. The application is registered as a video file type handler, allowing videos to be opened directly with a right-click from Finder.

2.8 Batch Processing

Process multiple videos simultaneously

Batch mode allows you to add multiple videos to a processing queue. Each video displays its own status (pending, processing, completed, or error), individual progress bar, and savings percentage upon completion. When the batch is finished, Squish displays total statistics: number of processed videos, total original size, total compressed size, and accumulated savings.

2.9 System Notifications

Alerts when the job is done

Squish uses Apple's UserNotifications framework to send system notifications when an individual compression or a complete batch finishes. Users can continue working on other tasks and receive a notification with a summary of space savings when everything is ready. Notifications appear in the macOS Notification Center.

2.10 Three Predefined Presets

For users who prefer simplicity, Squish offers optimized presets:

Preset	Resolution	Bitrate	Ideal for
Extreme	720p	~800 kbps	WhatsApp, messaging
Balanced	1080p	~2 Mbps	General use, social media
High Quality	1080p	~5 Mbps	Archiving, superior quality

2.11 100% Local and Private Processing

Your videos never leave your Mac

All compression is performed locally using the native AVFoundation and AVAssetWriter frameworks. No internet connection is required, nothing is uploaded to the cloud, and the user's videos remain on their device at all times. This guarantees total privacy and maximum speed.

2.12 Hardware Acceleration

Optimized for Apple Silicon

On Macs with M1, M2, M3, or M4 chips, Squish takes advantage of the HEVC hardware codec built into the processor, resulting in compressions up to 5 times faster than software-only compression and much lower battery consumption on portable MacBooks.

2.13 Multilingual Support

Available in 3 languages

Squish is fully localized in three languages to reach an international audience. The application automatically detects the operating system's language and adapts without any manual configuration. The entire interface, status messages, notifications, and help texts are professionally translated.

Languages available at launch:

Language	Locale code	Flag	Target markets
Spanish	es / es-ES / es-MX	🇪🇸 🇲🇽	Spain, Latin America, Hispanic USA
English	en / en-US / en-GB	🇺🇸 🇬🇧	USA, United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, global market
German	de / de-DE / de-AT	🇩🇪 🇦🇹 🇨🇭	Germany, Austria, Switzerland (DACH)

💡 Strategic advantage of multilingual support

Apple highlights apps localized in multiple languages on the Mac App Store, which increases organic visibility in the corresponding markets. With Spanish, English, and German, Squish is ready for the following key markets:

• Spanish-speaking world: over 500 million people (Spain, Mexico, Argentina, Colombia, etc.)

• English-speaking world: coverage of the global market and highest purchasing power (USA, UK).

• DACH region (Germany, Austria, Switzerland): mature tech market with high willingness to pay for quality software.

3. System Requirements

Squish is designed to work on a wide range of Macs, but some advanced features (such as 4K UHD compression) require more powerful hardware. The two levels of requirements are detailed below:

3.1 Minimum Requirements

These are the requirements to run Squish with full functionality, ideal for compressing videos at resolutions up to 1080p:

Component	Minimum specification
Operating system	macOS 12 Monterey
Processor	Intel Core i5 (2018+) or Apple M1
RAM memory	8 GB
Disk space	200 MB for the app + temporary space equivalent to the largest video
Screen resolution	1280 × 720 (HD)
GPU	Integrated (Intel UHD Graphics or Apple GPU)
Internet connection	Not required (100% local processing)

3.2 Recommended Requirements

For an optimal experience, especially when compressing videos in 2.5K, 4K UHD, or batch processing multiple files:

Component	Recommended specification
Operating system	macOS 14 Sonoma or higher
Processor	Apple Silicon M1 Pro / M2 / M3 / M4 (hardware HEVC codec)
RAM memory	16 GB or more (essential for 4K UHD and batch processing)
Disk space	1 GB free, ideally on internal NVMe SSD
Screen resolution	2560 × 1440 (QHD) or higher, ideally Retina
GPU	Integrated Apple GPU with Media Engine (M1 Pro or higher)

Component	Recommended specification
Storage	SSD with at least 50 GB free for working files

3.3 Important Performance Notes

> ⚠ **Performance considerations**
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> • Compressing 4K UHD videos requires considerably more RAM and time. On Intel Macs without HEVC hardware acceleration, a 4K compression can take several times the duration of the video.
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> • On MacBooks, it is recommended to keep the device plugged into power during long compressions to avoid thermal throttling and excessive battery consumption.
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> • Temporary disk space must be at least equal to the size of the input file during processing.