

# Soft4Boost Help

## S4B Video Capture

[www.sorentioapps.com](http://www.sorentioapps.com)

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# Contact Us

If you have any comments, suggestions or questions regarding **S4B Video Capture** or if you have a new feature that you feel can be added to improve our product, please feel free to contact us.

When you register your product, you may be entitled to technical support.

**General information:** [info@soft4boost.com](mailto:info@soft4boost.com)  
**Technical support:** [support@soft4boost.com](mailto:support@soft4boost.com)  
**Sales:** [sales@soft4boost.com](mailto:sales@soft4boost.com)

## Technical Support

**S4B Video Capture** do not require any professional knowledge. If you experience any problem or have a question, please refer to the **S4B Video Capture Help**. If you cannot find the solution, please contact our support staff.

**Note:** only registered users receive technical support

**S4B Screen Recorder** provides several forms of automated customer support

### **Soft4Boost Support System**

You can use the **Support Form** on our site to ask your questions.

### **E-mail Support**

You can also submit your technical questions and problems via e-mail to [support@soft4boost.com](mailto:support@soft4boost.com)

**Note:** for more effective and quick resolving of the difficulties we will need the following information:

- Name and e-mail address used for registration
- System parameters (CPU, hard drive space available, etc.)
- Operating System
- Detailed step by step describing of your action

# Resources

Documentation for **S4B Video Capture** is available in a variety of formats:

## In-product (.chm-file) and Online Help:

You will be able to use help file (.chm) through the **Help** menu of the installed **S4B Video Capture**.

**Online Help** include all the content from the In-product help file and updates and links to additional instructional content available on the web. You can find the **Support** at our web-site - <http://sorentioapps.com>. Please note, that the most complete and up-to-date version of **S4B Video Capture** help is always on the web.

## PDF Documentation

The offline help is also available as a pdf-file that is optimized for printing. PDF help file is available for download at the program page at **Soft4Boost** web-site. To be able to read and print **S4B Video Capture** PDF help file you will need to have a PDF reading program installed.

## User Guides

You have access to a wide variety of resources that help you make **S4B Video Capture**. The step-by-step user guides will be of help not only to the novice users but also to the users that face a certain task to be performed and look for a way to do it. Please, visit our **Support** section of **Soft4Boost** web-site at to read the detailed instructions for various software and tasks.

## Technical Support

Visit the **Support** at our web-site <http://sorentioapps.com> to ask your questions concerning **S4B Video Capture** installation, registration and use. Feel free to also use our e-mail address [support@soft4boost.com](mailto:support@soft4boost.com)

## Downloads

Visit the **Downloads** section of our web-site to find free updates, tryouts, and other useful software. We constantly update the software, new versions of the most popular programs and new software are also frequently released.

# Overview

**Soft4Boost Video Capture** is a utility that enables you to transfer video from any video capture device connected to your computer and save it on hard disk drive.

Using **Soft4Boost Video Capture** you can quickly and easily perform the following tasks:

- transfer video from DV and VHS cameras and recorders to hard drive and create movie DVDs;
- capture video from external video capture devices connected to TV tuners and WEB cameras;
- encode video directly to MPEG-2 instead of native hardware uncompressed video format and save free space on your computer.

To start **Soft4Boost Video Capture** go to **Start** menu and choose **All Programs -> Soft4Boost -> Video Capture → Video Capture**.

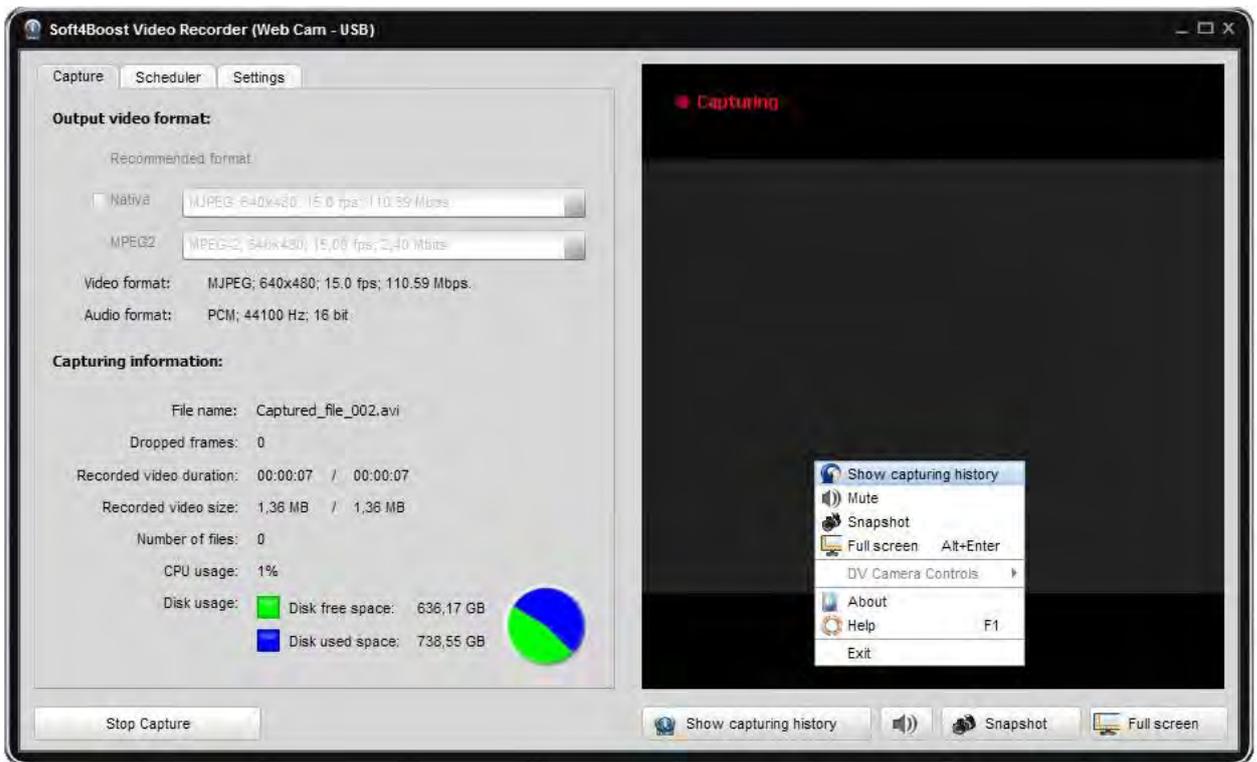
# Getting Started

Although there are different capture devices, supported by **Soft4Boost Video Capture**, the succession of actions necessary to capture video from them is always the same and is quite easy. Follow these guidelines to capture video from the capture device connected to your personal computer:

- 1) For an **internal video device** - turn off your personal computer and unplug it. Remove the case and insert your capture video device into a proper empty slot (usually it is a PCI slot, so you should see your capture device and computer motherboard manual for more instructions on how to install the capture device properly).

For an **external video device** - connect your device to your personal computer using an appropriate cable (usually a USB cable).

- 2) Turn on your capture device (if needed) and your personal computer.
- 3) After the operating system boots, install the device drivers from the disc supplied with the device or go to the device manufacturer web site and download and install the necessary drivers. After that you might need to restart your system.
- 4) Start **Soft4Boost Video Capture**. If you have several capture devices connected to your computer, you will see the main window.
- 5) Select a video capture device (in case you have several) clicking it in the device list and set up its parameters.
- 6) Set the **scheduler** in case you plan to stop capturing automatically at a certain time or when the captured video file size exceeds some value.
- 7) Change the audio format and device settings using the provided options.
- 8) Start capturing.



You can additionally manage the video while capturing it using the buttons below the preview window:

- The **Show capturing history** button is used to see the list of captured files and select the operation to proceed (edit, convert, trim etc). As soon as you click this button, it will turn into the **Return to preview mode** button to continue capturing your video.
- The **Mute** button is used to switch the sound of the captured video on and off.
- The **Snapshot** button is used to take snapshots from the video that is currently being captured. After you press this button the **Save** window will be opened and you will be able to save the current frame from the captured video into an image file in .bmp format.
- The **Full Screen** button is used to switch the program into full screen mode. You can also double-click the preview window to go into full screen. Double-click again to return to window mode.

After you finish capturing the list of the captured video files will be displayed for you to watch them, edit, convert or upload to some mobile device. You can also go to the location of the file and watch the captured video using some software video player or record the video onto a disc using or edit your resulting video.

# Setting Capture Parameters

Once the necessary capture device is selected from the list of available ones (this is only possible if you have several capture devices connected to your computer) or in case you have a single capture device in your system, you will need to configure the main capture parameters for the device.

**Note:** you need to install all the device drivers supplied by the capture device manufacturer before you can start capturing from it. The drivers might be supplied on a disc or downloaded from the device manufacturer web site. Please, **install** the device drivers before you start **Soft4Boost Video Capture**.

You will need to use the Capture tab to set the parameters. The following parameters are available:

**Recommended format** - lets the program decide what format will be optimal for the output video. In most cases it will be best to leave this option. **Soft4Boost Video Capture** will see if the capture device is capable of saving video in compressed format or not. In case a format with compression is supported by the capture device this format will be used to save the captured video. If the capture device supports uncompressed formats only, one of the supported compressed formats will be used instead by default.

**Native** - shows the list of all the video formats supported by the capture device. This list differs depending on the capture device used and you can select one of the listed formats for your output video.

**MPEG-2** - lets the user select one of the program presets. Currently the program lets you save your video into MPEG-2 compressed video format. You can select one of the profiles that suits your purposes best.

Whichever format you choose the selected format parameters will be shown in the lower part of the **Select output video format** section - you can see the **Video format** and **Audio format** details under the **MPEG-2** option.

**Output path** - the folder on your computer hard disk drive used to store the captured video. You can leave the default setting or select the necessary folder clicking the **Browse** button next to the Output path field.

**Note:** you must select a folder on your computer hard disk drive even in case you plan to record your captured video onto an optical disc afterwards.

The available free disk space will be shown in the **Disk space available on drive...** field measured in gigabytes and approximate duration of the video (hours:minutes:seconds) captured with the current settings.

# Changing Audio Format and Device Settings

The **Settings** tab is used to change the additional audio format properties and capture device settings. Select the Audio format and set:

**Audio Codec** - the audio codec used to encode the audio track of your captured video. It can be selected from the drop-down list.

**Bitrate** - the rate used to code the audio in your captured video. Can be selected from the drop-down list.

**Sample Rate** - the audio frequency used to encode the audio track of your captured video. Can be selected from the drop-down list.

**Audio Channels** - the number of channels that will be present in the audio track of your captured video. You can select the value from the drop-down list.

**Note:** the available audio codec and its settings will depend on the video format selected in the **Capture** tab.

The Device settings section comprises the video and audio additional device parameters.

## 1) Video Device Settings

Use the **Video Device Input** field to select the video input jack used to connect the video input source to your capture device. For instance, when you capture video from a VHS tape-recorder/player connected to your TV-tuner card, you will need to select here the input used to connect the recorder - S-Video or Composite.

If the image is black-and-white or distorted, you can try and change the **Video Standard** used by the device selecting it from the appropriate drop-down list.

## 2) Audio Device Settings

To correctly record audio from your capture device you will need to set it up correctly. This can be done in the Audio Device section of the main program window.

First you should select an audio device from the list of ones installed on your personal computer. To do that click the **Pull Down** button of the Audio Device drop-down list and select one of the available audio devices in case have more than one input device installed on your computer.

**Note:** select your capture device from the **Audio Device** drop-down list if it is available.

After that select the audio input jack - **Audio Device Input** - active on the device. The following audio input jacks might be available depending on your input device configuration (the list might differ on your personal computer):

**Mono Mix** - allows you to record the sound from a program player or a hardware tuner connected to your personal computer in mono mode;

**Stereo Mix** - allows you to record the sound from a program player or a hardware tuner connected to your personal computer in stereo mode;

**SPDIF** - allows you to record the sound from any external device connected to the digital input jack of your computer sound card;

**Aux** - allows you to record the sound from any external device connected to the Aux (auxiliary) input of your computer sound card;

**CD Player** - allows you to record the sound from a laser audio disc in your computer CD/DVD-ROM drive;

**Line In** - allows you to record the sound from any external device connected to the Line In input of your computer sound card;

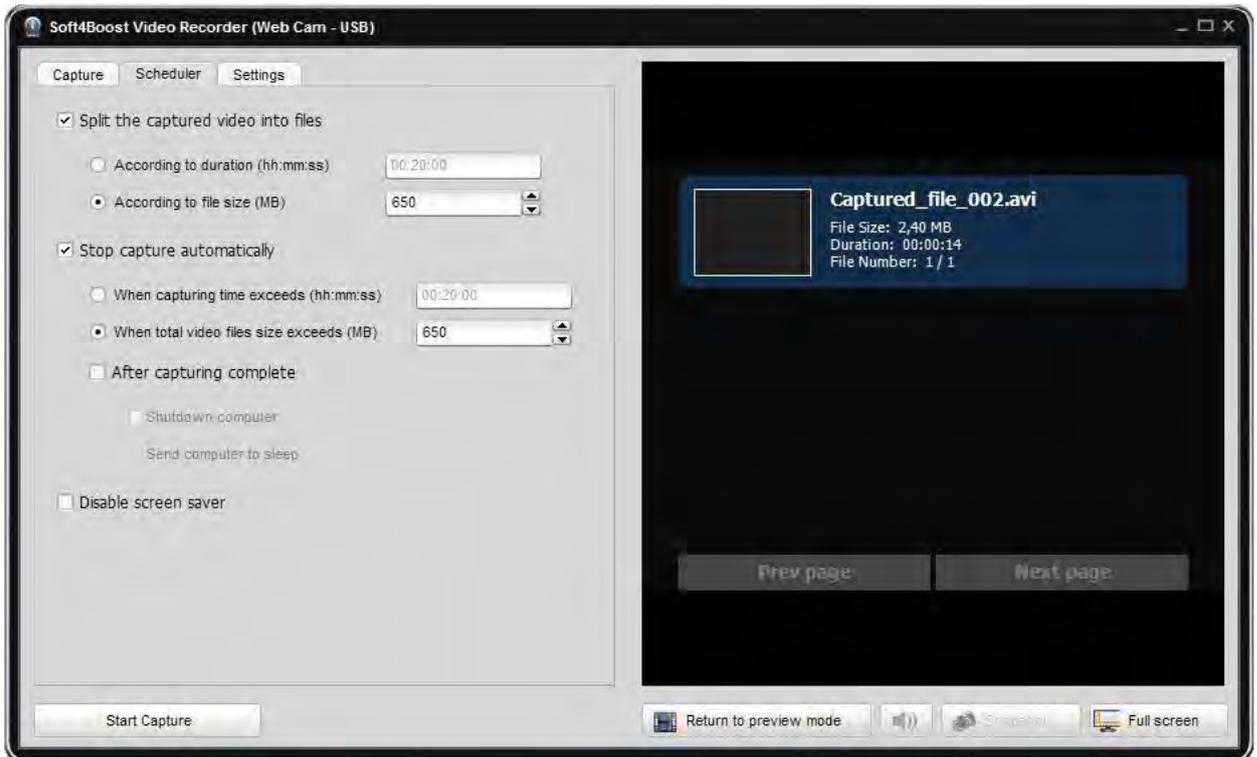
**Microphone** - allows you to record the sound from a microphone connected to the Microphone input of your computer sound card;

**Phone Line** - allows you to record the sound from an external device connected to the Phone Line input of your computer sound card;

Usually you should select either **Mono Mix** or **Stereo Mix** options. If the audio output from your device is connected using a cable to the line in of your sound card, then select the **Line In** option. If you would like to overlay your voice onto the video from the capture device, you should choose the **Microphone** option.

# Setting Scheduling Options

The **Scheduler** tab lets the user set the following options:



1) **Split the captured video into files** - mark this option for the program to automatically split the captured video into parts. The splitting can be done either.

**According to duration** (hh:mm:ss) - set the necessary period of time here. When the captured video exceeds the entered time a new file will be started - might be useful if the video that you capture is somehow can be divided into equal time stamps and can be captured according to them;

**According to file size** (MB) - set the necessary file size. When the captured video exceeds the entered size a new file will be started - might be necessary if you use the FAT file system as it cannot manage files with size more than 4 gigabytes, thus you will have to set the size of 4000 megabytes here.

2) **Stop capture automatically** - mark this option for the program to stop the capturing automatically either.

**When capturing time exceeds** (hh:mm:ss) - set the necessary period of time after which the program will stop capturing. This will be useful if you know the duration of the material to be captured;

**When total video files size exceeds** (MB) - set the necessary total size of all the captured video files so that when the program reaches this entered size of the captured video it will automatically stop capturing. This might be useful if you have limited free disk space.

You can also decide here if you want the program to shut down the computer after the capturing is over. Use the **After capturing complete** option to activate this mode, and select the

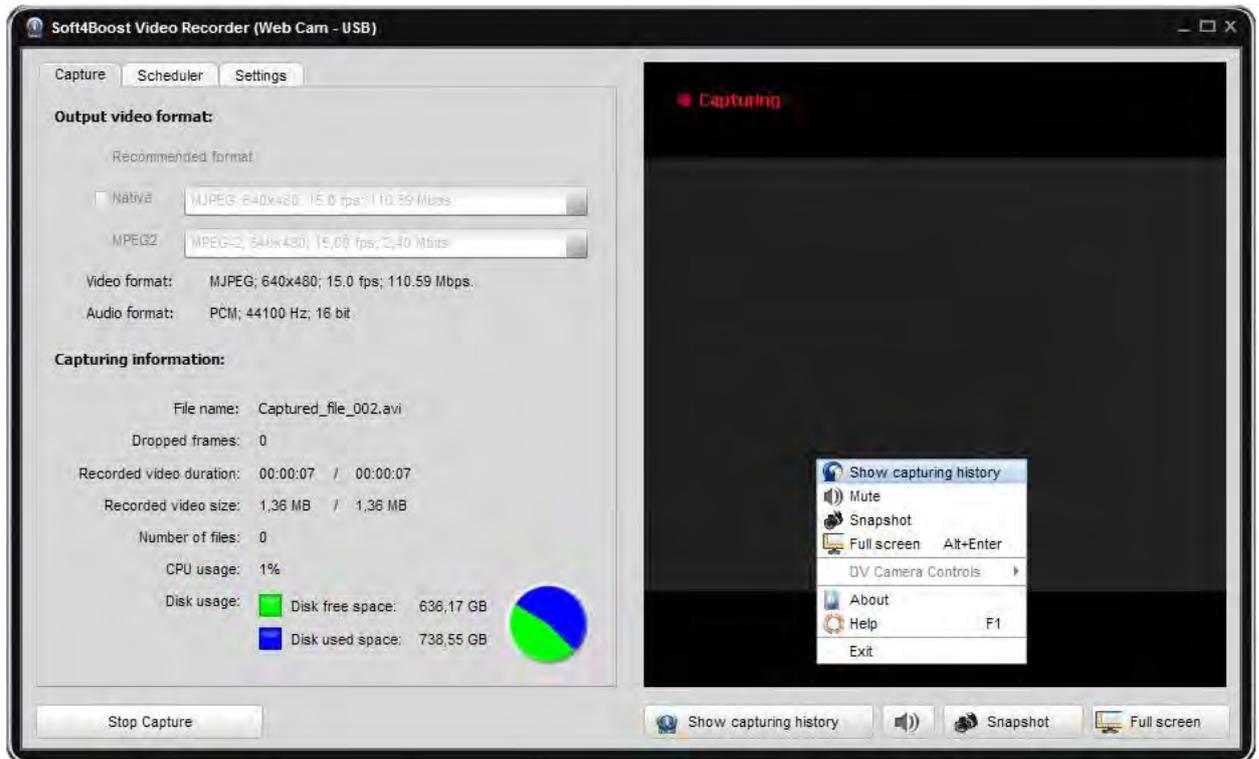
**Shutdown computer** to turn the computer off after the end of capturing or **Send computer to sleep** to make the computer enter the sleep mode with low power consumption and possibility to quickly resume the current state.

3) **Disable screen saver** - use this option to turn off the windows screen saver so that it would not start while the capturing is in progress.

# Capturing Video

After you set up all the capture device, audio and video device parameters and audio format settings, you can start capturing video from the connected capture device.

Click the **Start Capture** button to do that. You will see the capture information in the lower part of **Soft4Boost Video Capture**. The following data is available:



**File name** - the name of the current captured video file.

**Dropped frames** - the number of frames the program had to drop from the source video so that it could keep up with the capturing process. The program can drop frames in case the computer configuration is not strong enough for capturing in real time and the CPU load is too heavy or the free disk size on computer hard disk drive is not enough. This can also happen if the capture device connected to the computer experiences some troubles.

**Recorded video duration** - the current duration of the captured video, measured in hours:minutes:seconds (current file/total files). In case you know the total duration of the video you would like to capture, you will be able to find out how long you still have to capture.

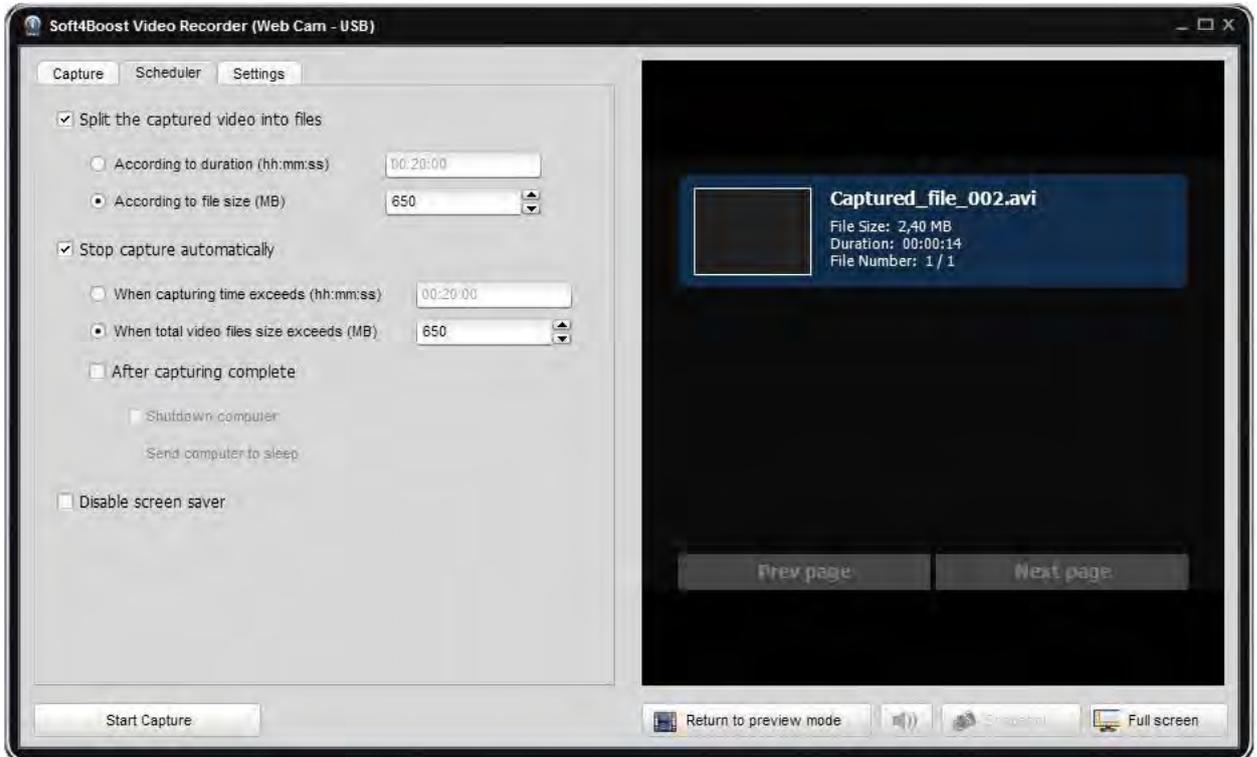
**Recorded video size** - the current size of the captured video file, measured in megabytes (current file/total files). It will depend on the selected video and audio format and format settings. You can use this data to make sure that there is enough free disk drive space on your computer hard disk drive in the current folder or partition.

**Number of files** - the number of the captured files.

**CPU usage** - the load on the central processing unit measured in percent.

You can also control the free and occupied disk space in the **Disk free space/Disk used space** section or watching the colored diagram where the **green** color is used to display the current value for the free space and the **blue** color shows the place occupied with files.

You can stop capturing any time if you press the **Start Capture** button once again (actually it will turn to **Stop Capture** once the capturing process is started).



Use the **Previous file** and **Next file** buttons to navigate between the captured video files and **Start Capture** to capture more files.