

FFmpeg Installation Guide

Install the video-processing tool used by ClipForge to cut, convert, and combine clips. Instructions cover macOS and Windows.

Before you begin

FFmpeg is free, open-source software. ClipForge does not upload your videos; the exported project runs FFmpeg on your own computer.

Use only video you own, have permission to reuse, or are otherwise legally authorized to download and edit.

macOS installation

1. Open **Terminal** from Applications > Utilities.
2. Check whether Homebrew is already installed:

```
brew --version
```

3. If Terminal says the command was not found, install Homebrew from:

<https://brew.sh>

4. Install FFmpeg:

```
brew install ffmpeg
```

5. Confirm the installation:

```
ffmpeg -version
```

A version number means FFmpeg is ready.

Windows installation

1. Open **Windows Terminal** or **PowerShell** as a normal user.
2. Install FFmpeg using Windows Package Manager:

```
winget install -e --id Gyan.FFmpeg
```

3. Close and reopen Terminal after installation.
4. Confirm the installation:

```
ffmpeg -version
```

A version number means FFmpeg is ready. If Windows still says the command is not recognized, restart the computer and test again.

Video walkthroughs

Mac: [How to Install FFmpeg on Mac](#)

Windows: [How to Install FFmpeg on Windows \(2025\)](#)

Mac and Windows overview: [Basics of Installing and Using FFmpeg](#)

Official references

[FFmpeg download page](#)

[Homebrew FFmpeg formula](#)

[Windows winget package page](#)

Updating later

Mac:

```
brew update  
brew upgrade ffmpeg
```

Windows:

```
winget upgrade -e --id Gyan.FFmpeg
```

Troubleshooting

Command not found: Close and reopen Terminal, then try again. On Windows, restart the computer if needed.

Permission prompt: Enter the administrator password requested by macOS or approve the Windows installation prompt.

ClipForge script still stops: Run `ffmpeg -version`. The exported script cannot continue until that command works.