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1 Introduction

Movie Collector catalogs your personal movie collection with a minimum of typing. After adding your movies to the database you can browse your movie collection on screen (as a list or as a gallery of cover images), search the database for movie information, print sorted lists, track your loans, export to an iPod, and more.

You can add movies to the database by typing the movie titles or by scanning your barcodes with the Collectorz.com laser barcode scanner. All movie data (year, director, cast, crew, cover image, etc...) will be automatically downloaded from various sources on the internet, including our own Collectorz.com™ Movie Database.

Movie Collector is part of the Collectorz.com™ series of collection managers. This series includes software for cataloging your CDs, DVDs, and books.

Get Started Now
To get up and running as quickly as possible, please read the Getting Started topic. We also have other forms of customer support.

Background Information
For more detailed information about common and advanced tasks, the screens and reference information please use the corresponding items in the Table of Contents.

2 Getting Started

The Main Screen
Let's start with the main screen of Movie Collector. This is the heart of the program, and understanding its layout is necessary to use the program. The movies in the database are displayed in a flexible screen:
The software comes with an example database so you can get a quick overview of the features of the program. Feel free to play around with it by selecting different movies to see how the main screen changes.

Now that you know something about the main screen, let's add a movie!

**Adding a Movie**

The first thing you want to do, is start adding your own collection! Start by clicking on the toolbar icon or selecting the menu **Edit | Add Movies Automatically**...

**Step 1:** Select which criterion you would like to search on, and click **Continue**.
Step 2: Enter the title (which is chosen here, alternatively enter the barcode) and click continue.

Step 3: The following screen can be used to select the info sources you would like to search on. You will normally not change the sources that often once they are set to your preference. The next screen displays the search results found on Collectorz.com. Scroll through the list to find the movie you have and select it by clicking on the radio button. Double-clicking on the search result will show the result in the Preview pane on the right. This helps you to determine which result is the correct one. Clicking on the continue button will display search results for each of the info sources used. Click continue until the movie is added to the database.
Step 4: The last step of the wizard will let you choose from three options. Choose the one you prefer and hit Finish. You've just added your first movie to the program! The next step in learning more about Movie Collector is to read about the following common tasks: Editing Movies, Browsing your database, and Printing.

Read Add Movies Automatically - Wizard for more detailed information about the wizard you just used.

**Recommended reading for basic program operations**
- Browsing your database
- Finding a movie in your database
- Managing lookup lists

### 3 Support

Besides this Help manual there are several other sources for getting help or learning more about Movie Collector:

**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)**
There is a comprehensive listing of answers to commonly asked questions, click here.

**Forums**
There is an online community of Movie Collector users, click here. Many people, including experienced users of our software, have discussions with each other and the developers about Movie Collector and movies in general.

**Customer Support**
If you're having a problem or would like to share your thoughts about Movie Collector you can contact Collectorz.com through our website, here. There is an online form for submitting questions/comments.
**Premium Support**
We always try to reply to all support requests as fast as possible.
We do however give priority to requests from people who purchased the Premium Support; for them can we guarantee a response within 24 hours.

4 **Buying Movie Collector**

The Collectorz.com products can be ordered online through our website. To go to the purchase page, click here.
Before purchasing you are advised to read the License Agreement.

If you require more than one license for Movie Collector, please visit the volume license order page. You can also use our support forms on the web site.

Movie Collector is available in Standard and Pro editions. The following chart explains the differences:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Edition</th>
<th>Pro Edition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• No export features</td>
<td>• Export to HTML, iPod, Text and XML formats</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Print simple lists only</td>
<td>• Print lists and other layouts (includes user created templates)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• No loan management</td>
<td>• Integrated Loan Manager</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Trial Edition**
A free trial edition is available here on our website. The trial version has all the features of the Pro edition. It is limited by the number of movies you can store (50). After buying the software this limit is removed. Any data you enter in the trial edition will remain available.

**Buying Software**
When you place an order through our website, we automatically process it and send out a license email minutes after receiving the order. The webpages containing personal data and credit card information are protected by 128-bit encryption - ensuring that nobody else can see what you enter.

If you haven't already, download the program from our website, here. You can download the trial edition; once the software is installed, enter your license to unlock the full edition. Do this through the menu **Buy - enter license info**. Entering the license will convert the program into the Standard or Pro editions depending on what you purchased.

**License Validation**
This is the Enter License screen:
A Movie Collector license has two parts: License Name and License Key. Enter these values into the appropriate data fields and then click on the 'Check' button.

Please note that you have to enter the license name exactly as given in your license message, with the same spacing and case, e.g. if your license name is "J. Doe", then typing "J.Doe" won't work, neither will "j. doe" or "John Doe". Make sure you enter the key exactly, including all 12 digits. Also check if there aren't any spaces before or after the name or key (this happens sometimes when copying and pasting).

The Movie Collector software will contact our website to validate the software. You must be connected to the Internet for this to work properly. If you're using a computer that doesn't have internet access, please contact Support and we can assist you.

**Related Topics**
Support

**5 Common Tasks**

The topics in the 'Common Tasks' section describe how to perform some of the most common things you want to do with Movie Collector. They are described in a step-by-step format to make it as easy as possible to follow.

For less common tasks - i.e. things you don't need to know immediately to get started with the program - please see the Advanced Tasks section.
You can find background information about menus, screens and fields in the Reference section.

## 5.1 Adding Movies Automatically - Wizard

Movie Collector makes it quick and easy to create a database of your movie collection. You can search online for information, so you don't have to type everything yourself. Movie Collector downloads data from multiple info sources (online databases) providing rich detail on each of your movies, sometimes including cover art.

There are two screens for adding movies: the Add Movie Wizard screen and the Add Movies (Advanced Mode) screen. We recommend to use the Wizard screen at least a few times before switching to the Advanced Mode. This will help you familiarize with the process and understand the way movies are added by combining information from multiple sources.

**Step 1:** Click on the toolbar icon or select the menu **Edit | Add Movie Automatically**

**Step 2:** Enter a movie title, such as 'Wizard of Oz'. Or, enter a barcode by typing it in or scanning with a barcode scanner. If you have a Flic or Collectorz.com barcode scanner, use the menu **Tools - initialize Flic scanner** prior to opening the add screen to enable scanning.

**Step 3:** After clicking the **continue** button, and selecting the info sources Movie Collector will search the selected info sources. The following screen displays the returned results for each info source. After the search completes successfully, you will go to the next page of the wizard automatically. If there is any kind of error message, you will see it displayed in red.

**Step 4:** This screen displays the search results found on Collectorz.com. Scroll through the list to find the movie you have. Double clicking on the search result caption, will preview the available information in the Preview pane on the right side. Clicking on the **Next** button will display search
result screens for each of the info sources used.

**Step 5:** Once you reach the following screen, the movie has been added to the database. Any field defaults will also have been applied.

After clicking continue, you will have three choices:

- **Stop searching online:** Close the wizard and return to the main screen
- **Do another search:** Go through the wizard again to add another movie.
- **Edit the Movie:** Close the wizard, and open the Edit Movie screen to make changes to the movie
you just added...

The Advanced button switches the wizard to the Add Movies (Advanced Mode) screen.

The Settings button opens the Search Settings screen where adjustments can be made to the searching and downloading of data from the info sources.

IMPORTANT: Don't add movies to the sample database (named Example Collection.mvc). The demo database is removed when you uninstall Movie Collector and may be overwritten if you re-install or update it. Always create a new database (File | New) before adding your own movies. You can recognize which database file you're using because it's written in the top bar of the main screen. For example, in the screen below the database filename is 'Henk-Jan.mvc'.

Related Topics
Add Movies - Advanced Mode
Adding Movies help hints
Barcode scanning
Editing Movies
Collectorz.com Movie Database

5.2 Editing movies

Step 1: To edit a movie, double-click on the entry in the List view, use the toolbar icon Edit Movie or select from the menu Edit | Edit Movie. This opens the Edit Movie screen:
Step 2: Navigate screens: the Edit Movie screen is broken up into tabbed sections. Click on the tabs along the top of the screen to access different sections.

Step 3: Edit text fields: The information in these fields can be added/edited by clicking your cursor in the proper area and entering the text you want.

Step 4: Edit lookup fields: Some of the data fields are called lookup fields. They have values that are used many times over, such as the Genre field. These values are kept together in a list, called a lookup list.

The lookup fields have an auto-complete function. Start typing a value and a drop down list will appear to match the entry you are typing. You can also scroll through the list manually. Note that the drop down lists in the Edit screens always show the sort names of the lookup items.

To add a new value, just type it in. For example, to add a new release year just type the value '2007' in that field.
For fields that can have multiple values, like the Genre field, click the checkboxes to indicate which genres apply. Using the menu Tools | Edit lists you can manage these lookup lists.

Step 5: Edit Cast or Crew: To edit the Cast or Crew use the buttons at the top of the field. Use the
add actor, and remove actor buttons to make changes to entries. The edit actor button opens a separate screen where you can edit the first- and last name of the actor.

The Crew data field works in a similar way.

**Step 6:** Movie Covers: on the Covers tab you can manage the cover images for a movie. The cover images are stored separately from the database and linked through the Picture File path shown. You can change the cover by using the Choose button to select another image.

**Related Topics**
- Edit Movie screen
- Automatically updating movies
5.3 **Browsing your database**

Once you have added your movies to your database, it's time to see what you've got. There are several ways to display your data:

**List view**
On the left side of the main screen, is a spreadsheet-like listing of the movies in the database. Go to menu **View | List** to see this.

Use the scroll bar, on the right of the panel, to move through your list.
To sort the collection, click on the column heading you want to sort by. (here done on index, ascending)

To change the displayed data, use the menu **View | Columns**. To learn more, click here.

**Image view**
A nice feature of Movie Collector is the ability to look through your movies as a gallery of cover images. Go to menu **View | Thumbnails** to see this.
The slider control above the thumbnails adjusts the display size of the covers.

**Details view**
When a movie is selected through the List or thumbnail view, the full details appear on the right side in the Details view of the main screen.

Use the menu View | Details View Template to change the colors and layout of the details view. Select one of the templates from the list to see how it changes the details view. To learn more, click here.

Folder view

When a movie is selected through the List or thumbnail view, the full details appear on the right side in the Details view of the main screen.

Instead of a single list showing all your movies, Movie Collector can also group your collection.

For example: to group your collection by genre, go to menu View | Folders | Genre. Your collection will be grouped into genre folders. Click on a folder to see the contents. The List view is now moved to the top-right area of the main screen.

The Folder view can be turned off through menu View | Folders | No Folders or the toolbar icon . To learn more about the Folder view, click here.

Note: Folder view only displays your data differently, the data itself is not changed!

Related Topics
5.4 Finding a movie in your database

There are a number of ways to search for movies within the database. They are listed here from simple to more complex.

List view sorting
Step 1: The List view is the left panel of the main screen. Click on the column header and the movie listing will be sorted on that field in ascending order (i.e. from 'a' to 'z').

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Movie Release Year</th>
<th>Running Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alien, 1979</td>
<td>1 hr ... min</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>American Psycho, 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Baron Munchhausen, 1988</td>
<td>2 hr 6 min</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Blade Runner, 1982</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Blair Witch Project, 1999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 2: Click on the column header again and the listing will be sorted in descending order (i.e. from 'z' to 'a').

You can sort on multiple fields, for example: first on Genre, within the Genre on Year and within the Year on Title. This is done through menu View | Sort Order which brings up the Sort field selection screen.

List view incremental search
Step 1: In the List View on the main screen, click on the data column you want to search by. The heading will indicate with an arrow that it is selected:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Movie Release Year</th>
<th>Running Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Alien, 1979</td>
<td>1 hr ... min</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>American Psycho, 2000</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>The Blair Witch Project, 1999</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Step 2: Type the first few letters of the search term you're after and Movie Collector will highlight the movie with this value. In the screenshot above, entering 'b' will select 'Baron Munchhausen'. Then typing 'l' will select 'Blade runner'. If there is a pause between the the 'b' and 'l', the first movie starting with the 'l' is selected instead of the 'bl' from 'Blade runner'. Note that this way of searching is only useful if you are looking for text at the beginning of the field.
Quick Search

Step 1: You can open the Quick Search screen through menu Search | Quick Search. This performs a search through all the database fields. It may also be accessible through the toolbar icon on the main screen. To use it, type a term like ‘Schwarzenegger’ and press Enter. This will show all movies that contain the phrase ‘Schwarzenegger’ anywhere in their fields.

Step 2: To get back to the unfiltered list, simply press the little cross next to the name you just typed in. The name will be removed as filter, and the complete list will be shown again in the main screen.

A barcode scanner can be used in the Quick Search. To do so, select the Quick Search text box and scan a barcode. Then press Enter to search for it.

Turning a filter on or off

The search filter can be turned on/off through menu Search | Filter On/Off. Turning the Search Filter off will display all movies in the database.

Advanced filtering

To search in specific fields, or search in multiple fields at the same time, you need to create a filter in the Filter screen.

Note that the bottom of the main screen will always let you know in case a filter is currently in place:

In this example, although your complete collection counts 30 movies, only 15 will be shown due to the filter. One of these 15 happens to be selected in the main screen.

Related Topics

Main screen
Filter screen
Customizing the program
Proper sorting

5.5 Printing

The print functions of Movie Collector are quite flexible. To quickly start with creating a simple list of your collection, you can follow these steps:

Step 1: Open the print screen through the icon Print or through menu File | Print:
Step 2: Choose 'Movie Collector' from the third drop down box as indicated in the screen above. Select the option 'All Movies' to print out your entire movie collection.

Step 3: Check the 'Select Template' box, and from the drop down selection choose "Listing of all movies".

Step 4: Click on the Print button.

For a more in depth explanation of the Print Screen, click here.

Related Topics
Print screen
Data field meanings
XSL Templates
Data field selection screen

6 Advanced Tasks

The topics in the 'Advanced Tasks' section describe how to perform tasks that you will use once you have become familiar with Movie Collector. They are described in a step-by-step format to make it as easy as possible to follow.
For more common tasks - i.e. things you need to know immediately to get started with the program - please see the Common Tasks section.

You can find background information about menus, screens and fields in the Reference section.

6.1 Adding Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode

Adding movies using the Advanced Mode screen is based on the same steps as the Add Movie Wizard, but here all steps are done in a single screen. This gives you more freedom to do things in the order you want, especially when adding multiple movies at the same time. Advanced Mode lets you prepare multiple searches in the Search Queue (e.g. by scanning multiple barcodes) so that you can search, select results and add movies in batch.

Open this screen by clicking on toolbar icon or through menu Edit | Add Movie Automatically.

If you get the Wizard screen, click on the Advanced Mode button there.

The blue dots are area markers with descriptions below.

If you're looking to use the simpler Wizard mode, click on the Wizard Mode button (near point 6).
Step 1: Enter search criteria
Point 1 is where you enter the movie search information. You can search on title or barcode. After typing in the data, press enter or click on the Add to Queue button to add the entry to the search queue (point 2).

The Advanced mode screen can be used to search for many movies in one step. Simply add multiple entries to the search queue. You can quickly add a batch of barcodes using barcode searching.

Step 2: Search info sources
Once entries are made, choose which info sources (point 3) should be used. It may be helpful to read through our section on Hints for Adding Movies Automatically. Click on the Search button (point 4) to trigger the search. After the Search button is clicked it turns into a 'Stop' button. Notice the Message Log section (point 5), which provides information about how the searching of info sources is progressing. The Settings button (point 6) is where adjustments can be made to the searching and downloading of data from the info sources.

Step 3: Select from results
After the searching of info sources is complete, there will be a set of results for each entry in the search queue (point 2). Click on a movie in the search queue to view its results in the search results panel (point 7). The search results can be quite long because there can be multiple results for each of the info sources you used. Select the correct result from the search results panel. It’s a good idea to choose results from each of the info sources, Movie Collector will combine the information into one entry in the database. The results can be viewed in the Preview Pane (point 8) by double clicking on them. If none of the results are the correct one, choose the [No Match] item.

Step 4: Add Movie
Once the correct results have been chosen, click on the Add result button (point 4) to add the movie to the database. Use the Close button (point 9) to exit this (advanced) add screen.

When a movie is added to the database, for some data fields there are default values set and an Index value is assigned. The default values are controlled through the Field Defaults screen.

Add Movie Manually
If the movie cannot be found through the info sources, it can be added manually through the menu Edit | Add Movie Manually.
This feature is well suited for adding home-made movies that are not listed in info sources.

Related Topics
Wizard Mode
Importing from text
Barcode scanning
Hints for Adding Movies Automatically
Search Settings screen
Field Defaults screen

6.2 Editing multiple movies
If you need to apply the same change to more than one movie (e.g. set the format to DVD for all of them), you can do this with Movie Collector in the following way:
Step 1: In the List view, click on multiple movies while holding down the command or Shift key on your keyboard.

Step 2: Next through menu Edit | Edit Multiple movies an edit screen will appear which is very similar to the normal Edit screen. The big difference is that all the fields are empty. Use this screen to change the value of a data field for all the movies that have been selected. For example, if you set 'Steven Spielberg' as the director, all movies selected will be set to have that value as its director field. The previous value will be overwritten.
Step 3: Enter values in the data fields you want to change and it will be changed for all the movies selected.

Step 4: To clear a data field, click on the field and press F8.

Step 5: Click on the Apply button to store the changes.

Note: If a field can have multiple values (like the genre field), all previous values will be overwritten with the new ones. You cannot add values to the existing ones. You can, however, select more than one new value to use for all movies. Also, you can use drag & drop in Folder View to add or replace specific values.

When clearing the Crew field, all values will be cleared. It is not possible to clear only one specific role.

Related Topics
Edit Movie screen
Main screen
Data field meanings

6.3 Searching with a filter

Movie Collector allows you to “filter” the items that are displayed in the main screen, making it only show a part of the database. For example, you might want to see only your DVDs and not your VHS tapes. Or you might want to list all movies that have “Die Hard” in their title. This is possible using filters.

If you just need to search for a phrase or name anywhere in your database, the Quick Search is usually easier. To search in one specific field or search on multiple values, create a filter:

Step 1: Click the Set Filter icon or select the menu Search | Set Filter to open the Filter screen.

Step 2: Click on the Add Filter icon in the top left corner to select which data field to search, for example Credits | Actor.
Step 3: Click under the Value column and enter the search term, for example 'Pacino, Al'. If the data field is a lookup field, then a drop-down list will appear which has auto-complete. Start typing a term and the list will select the entry that matches.

Step 4: Click OK to activate the filter.

Note that once a filter is in place, the bottom of the main screen will always let you know that a filter is currently in place:

In this example, although your complete collection counts 30 movies, 18 will be shown due to the filter which filters out movies categorized as either 'Action' or 'Drama' as genre.

To turn off a search filter, click the toolbar icon or use menu Search | Filter On/Off.

For a more detailed explanation and example, see the Set Filter screen topic.

Related Topics
Set Filter screen
Finding a movie in your database
6.4 Managing lookup lists

Lookup fields are a special type of data field in Movie Collector. They are used when a specific value is used by multiple movies. For example, genre is a lookup field because many movies share the same genre, like Comedy or Action. Because these values are shared, when you change them the new value is automatically shown for all movies that use it. The list of values for a lookup field is called a lookup list.

When you need to change the values in this list, e.g. to correct a typo, add a new value, or remove a duplicate, you can do so in the Edit Lookup Lists screen.

**Step 1:** Click on the Edit Lists toolbar icon or select menu Tools | Edit Lists. On the screen that appears click on the folder icon to choose the List to edit.

**Step 2:** Use the following icons to add, edit or delete entries in the list. See the Lookup List Reference topic for more detailed information. Note that you can only delete entries that have a use count of zero.

The following screen is shown when editing a lookup value:
The folder views are generated automatically from the lookup lists. The folder view enables you to group your collection; for example when you group on genre, all action movies are grouped together in the Action genre folder.

If you are using a folder view and would like to add a folder, this is done through the Edit Lookup List screen. For example, if you want to add the genre 'Film Noir', open the Edit Lookup List screen, select the Genre list, and then use the Add button to do so.

Related Topics
Lookup List Reference
Proper sorting
Options screen

6.5 Adding movies using barcodes

Many info sources in Movie Collector can be searched with a barcode. This usually delivers a more accurate match than searching by title because the barcode identifies exactly which edition of a movie you have. You can search for barcodes by typing them in by hand, or by using a barcode scanner:

Adding Movies using barcodes

Entering the barcode manually

Step 1: Click on the Add Movies icon or select menu Edit | Add Movies Automatically. Make sure you're using the Add Movies Automatically (Advanced mode) screen. If you're in Wizard mode, press the 'Advanced Mode' button.

Step 2: Enter the barcode in the Barcode field and click the 'Add to Queue' button to add the barcode to the search queue.
Entering the barcode with a barcode scanner

**Step 1:** Make sure your scanner is configured correctly, see also the Setup Instructions.

**Step 2:** Connect the scanner, and let the software initialize the scanner. Use the menu **tools | Initialize Flic** scanner to do so.

**Step 3:** Scan the barcodes of a number of movies. Scan only a few to begin with until you're comfortable with the process. You can do so while keeping the scanner connected or by taking the scanner to the items to be scanned.

**Step 4:** Connect the scanner to your computer through the cable (if separated before). The add screen will appear, if more than one barcode was scanned the advanced add screen will come up and the Search Queue section should be populated with the barcode values you have scanned or typed in.

**Step 5:** When you open the screen the Search Queue section should be populated with the barcode values you have scanned or typed in.

**Step 6:** Choose info sources appropriate for where the movies are from. For example if purchased in
the United States use the Collectorz.com and Amazon US info sources. To see which info sources support searching by barcode, click here.

**Step 7:** Search the info sources and add the results to your collection, as described here.

**Related Topics**
- Barcode scanning reference
- Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
- Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

### 6.6 Loaning movies

If you have a large movie collection, chances are your family and friends regularly borrow movies from you. In the Pro edition of Movie Collector you can track the lending of movies, so that you won’t forget who borrowed what.

**Step 1: Loan Out** - A movie can be loaned out by selecting it in the List view on the main screen and choose the menu **Loans | Loan Item**. You can filter out a certain movie by using the barcode scanner to scan the ISBN of the movie or by simply typing the title into the quick search box. Just scan the barcode of a movie that is in your collection and it will be filtered out. Scanning multiple movies at once is not supported here.

Once the movie is selected, click the loan out icon.

This brings up the Loan Out dialog:

![Loan Out Dialog](image)

**Item** specifies the movie being loaned out.

The **Loaned To** field is where you enter the name of the borrower or, if they have borrowed before, choose their name from the drop down list, or simply type in a new name. The names of the people to loan to are lookup list items, and can be managed from the manage lists screen. A special button is created so you can directly access names from your address book contacts.
After entering such details you will return to the loan item screen, where you can set the remaining
details regarding the loan.
From the displayed dates **Loan Date**, **Due Date** fill in automatically and can be adjusted manually.
The time frame between these two can be controlled using the menu **Loans | Loan Settings**

**Step 2: Return Movie** : A movie can be returned by selecting the movie, and using the menu **Loan | Return Item**. This brings up a dialog similar to the Loan Movie dialog. For returning a movie, the loan
details can be adjusted here and the return date can be specified. By default, it is set to the current
date.

**Related Topics**
* Manage Loans screen
* Printing
* Print screen
* Barcode scanning

### 6.7 Making backups of your data

Regular backups of your data are very important to prevent losing your work when your hard disk
 crashes or you accidentally delete the wrong file:

**Step 1** : The first step is to know the name of your active database file. The name of the open
database file is displayed on the main screen in the upper bar in the middle. Note that the Movie
Collector database file ends with `.mvc`. In this case the database filename is ‘Henk-Jan.mvc’.
Step 2: Next find the file location by going to menu File | Open. An "open dialog" screen will come up showing the folder of your database file. By default this path is ~/Library/Application support/Movie Collector (the "~" stands for your Mac account name, found in the left bar of the open dialog, beneath the Desktop icon.)

Remember the folder you see here and press Cancel.

Step 3: Copy the contents of the above folder to another storage device such as another hard drive or CD-ROM. It's best to use another storage device in case your current hard drive fails.

It's a good idea to copy the entire directory because some of the Movie Collector information is not stored in the database file. Most importantly, the cover pictures are not stored inside the database file. These are stored separately. See the File Management topic to learn about the different types of files.

You can configure Movie Collector to automatically make a backup copy every time you open your collection via the Preferences screen. This will however still store on the same physical harddrive in your computer, and only copies the database once successfully opened. So it is wise to also maintain a backup of the database and images on a secondary place.

Related Topics
File Management
Options screen

6.8 Customizing the program

The user interface of Movie Collector can be customized by adjusting the toolbar icons, editing fields names, and customizing the Details View:

Customize Toolbar

Step 1: The toolbar at the top of the main screen can be customized through the menu View | Customize Toolbar. Drag any of the icons from the big selection screen to the toolbar to include the icon. To remove an icon from the toolbar drag it from the toolbar into the big selection screen.
Advanced Tasks

Change Field Names

Through the menu Tools | Field Names, the names for the data fields can be changed. This is useful if you would like to re-assign the purpose of a data field. See Changing field names for more information.

Change Details View layout

The Details View on the main screen can be 'skinned' with templates to show different colors or layouts. Change the template via menu View | Details View Template. For more information on creating templates, see XSL templates.

Related Topics
Main screen
Changing field names
XSL Templates

6.9 Automatically updating movies

You can update the data about a movie in your collection using the info sources. This allows you to retrieve newer data which was missing at the time you originally added the movie. For example, when a cover image or plot description has been added.

Step 1: Open the Edit Movie screen and click on the Update button as shown below. This option is also available by selecting movies in the List view, and menu Edit | Update Movie Automatically.
Step 2: Clicking on the 'Update' button will open a screen similar to the Add Movie Automatically - Advanced screen you already know from adding movies, but now in Update mode. The tab-pages for adding searches to the queue are not available now and the Search Queue has been pre-filled with the information from the movies you selected. Also, the Add to Collection button has been replaced by an Update button.
Advanced Tasks

Searching Info Sources and selecting the correct results is done the same way as in Add mode.

**Step 3:** When you’re done selecting the correct results, choose **Update** to update your movies with the new information.

*Note: the Update feature never overwrites existing information, it only adds information. In other words, it only fills fields that are still empty in your existing movie entries.*

There are two exceptions to this:
- The IMDB number is updated (provided you have IMDB selected as an info source)
- The front- and back cover are updated if the image file no longer exists on your system

**Related Topics**
Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

### 6.10 Updating the software

Movie Collector is regularly updated with new features and bug fixes. The software has an integrated function to upgrade to the latest release:

**Step 1:** Go to menu **Help | Check for Update**. As a licensed user you are entitled to free bug fixes
and minor updates. When you upgrade, all data entered in the previous version will be preserved. Of course, it is always a good idea to maintain a backup of your data.

**Step 2:** Movie Collector will try to contact the Collectorz.com website to check for an updated version of the software. If there is a new version you will see a message such as this one.

![Check for update](image)

**Step 3:** Click on the **Download link** to start downloading the new version.

**Step 4:** After the download has finished, you will be asked to agree on the license terms. Click **Yes**. This will start the downloading of the updated version. Agreeing will place the installer App into the download folder of your web browser. The file is called **Collectorz.com Movie Collector Installer.app**

**Step 5:** Start the installer by double clicking on the .app file. Once installed, an icon will be placed on the desktop to start up Movie Collector.

**Update Frequency**

You can set how often the program should check for updates via Movie Collector | Preferences, on the update check tab.

**Related Topics**

Making backups of your data

### 6.11 Importing movies

If you have a list of your movies in more than one Movie Collector database, or previously used the Windows version of Movie Collector or the Mac software Delicious Library you can import those movies into your current database.

- **Import from text file**
  Movie Collector can import files consisting of the fields **Title** and / or **UPC (barcode)** from any text file.
  You can prepare such a file using Excel, or any other spreadsheet or text editor.

  Open the add advanced screen using the menu **Edit | Add Movies Automatically**. From the add
screen, click the **import** button.

The following screen will appear, in which you can navigate to the file you wish to import.

![Import Screen](image)

Note the **text format** options, where you can define in what way the fields are separated and if there are text delimiters present.

As an example see the (above) **importfile.txt** opened in the **Textedit** application. As you can see, the fields are not in any quotes, and they are separated by semi-colons. This matches the settings in the screen above regarding the **Text format**.

```
Casino Royale;043396149598
The Sopranos: Season 1;026359927324
The Simpsons: The Complete Fourth Season;024543119173
The Matrix Reloaded;085392864629
The Da Vinci Code;043396148369
Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace;024543086952
```

The file will be imported into the search queue of the add screen, so you will have to follow the steps of the add screen to search online and add these items to your collection.

**Import from other collection**

This is a merge feature, that will let you select a database file to merge into the current open Movie Collector database. Be careful about importing the current database file because this will lead to duplicates appearing.
The lookup lists of the two databases are merged by comparing the Sort Names of the lookup items: two lookup items with the same Sort Names are merged to one item. This will not directly import Windows versions, which will have to be imported through XML (see below).

- **Import from Delicious Library**
  This feature works by importing all movie entries you currently have in your Delicious Library database. All details will be copied into a new Movie Collector database, and the images copied to the images folder of Movie Collector.

  **Step 1:** Select menu **File | Import From | Delicious Library.** Once the import has been completed, you will be asked to provide a name for this new database.

  **Step 2:** If you would like to merge this new database with an already existing Movie Collector database, use the previous method, called "import from / other collection."

- **Import from XML**
  To import a collection that was created with the Windows version of Movie Collector, do the following:

  **Step 1:** On your Windows computer, select **File | Export to | XML.** Make sure to export all movies, and that your language is set to English prior to the export (**Tools | Languages | English**).

  **Step 2:** Copy all the cover image files which are stored under the Data folder. The full file path is specified through **Tools | Options, Images** tab on your Windows computer.

  **Step 3:** Copy both the XML file and the Images folder over to your Mac. The default folder on the Mac to be used for the images is ~/Library/Application Support/Movie Collector/Images.

  **Step 4:** On the Mac, go to **File | Import From | XML.** This will import the XML-text information.

  **Step 5:** For the Images you need to go to **Tools | Update Image Links.** This will re-link the movies to the image files.

There is currently no direct, full data text import for the database.

**Related Topics**
- Automatically updating movies
- Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

### 6.12 Play movie files using Movie Collector

It is becoming more common that movie collections are stored on computer harddrives. In Movie Collector it is possible to link a movie to the movie file on your computer and play it.

**Step 1:** Open the Edit Movie screen and go to the Links tab.
URL refers to a web link, generally starting with http://www. However, you can also use this field to define files on your hard drive. An example of such a reference is: file:///Users/[your user account name]/movies/The departed.mpg as is done here.

**Step 2:** Once the link is created you can trigger the track to be played through the Movie link created in the details view on the main screen. This will start the default mpg player.

Also see the section on Playing Movies using Movie Collector.

**Related Topics**
Edit Movie Screen
Editing Movies

### 6.13 Exporting data to HTML

The Export to HTML function creates HTML pages of your movies, for use on your homepage or website. You can create one index page listing all movies (with one line per movie) which link to detail pages with one page for each movie. Image - and hyperlinks are automatically generated to function correctly.

**Step 1:** Select the menu **File | Export to | HTML.**
Step 2: Choose a destination folder for the export.

Step 3: Select the option Select list template and from the drop down selection choose the "listing of all movies, with thumbnails".

Step 4: Select the "create detail pages option" to create individual pages for each movie.

Step 5: Click the 'Export' button to create the webpages.

Step 6: After you have exported the files, you need to upload them to a server that hosts webpages (web space). For uploading you need File Transfer (FTP) software like Cute FTP for the Mac.

Quite often Internet Service Providers (ISP’s) will give you free web space along with your internet connection service. Your ISP will provide the details required to setup your own website.
6.14 **Exporting data to text format**

If you’re looking to share your collection information with your friends this is a simple method to use. Create the text file, attach it to an email and send it. This feature can also be used to transfer data into Excel or other database programs like MS Access.
Step 1: Select menu **File | Export to | Text**.

Step 2: Specify the file destination and filename in the 'Destination File' area. You can also use the 'Choose' button to overwrite an existing file.

Step 3: Click on the 'Exported Fields' button in the middle to adjust what data is exported and what the column order is. To learn more about the Data Field Selection screen.

Step 4: Click the 'preview' button to see a preview of what you are about to export (slide out screen below the Text export options screen).

Step 5: Click on 'Export' to create the file.

If you want to import the data into Excel use the file extension .csv (Comma Separated Values). This format is recognized by Excel and will be read correctly.
6.15 Exporting to XML and iPod

The information stored by Movie Collector can be exported to an iPod. There is also an XML export for use in external databases.

*Note:* These export functions are only available in the Pro edition.

- **Export to XML**
  
  XML stands for EXtensible Markup Language. It is a format that includes meta tags around the data that is exported. For example the purchase date for a movie would look like this `<PurchaseDate>2006-08-19</PurchaseDate>`. XML comes in numerous data formats. In other words an XML file from two programs most likely will not be written in the same way. In the Export to XML screen you can export the full list of movies or a partial listing.

  The definition of the Movie Collector XML format is fixed, and it is also used by the Export to HTML, Print and Details view XSL stylesheets. The easiest way to study it, is to create a movie entry, enter data into all fields, and then right-click in the Details View to export this record to XML.

  If you have used the Windows version of Movie Collector and are now starting to use the Mac, the Movie Collector database and images can be transferred over using the XML export feature on the Windows machine. The XML import functionality on the Mac version of Movie Collector. Image files will need to be moved over separately. See the detailed instructions.

- **Export to iPod Notes**
  
  You can export your collection to an Apple iPod through menu **File | Export to | iPod**. This brings up the screen:
Step 1: Make sure your iPod is connected to your Mac, and access the menu `File | Export to | iPod`. If there is not 'Destination Ipod' listed, cancel the export screen to connect the Ipod and access the menu again.

Step 2: Choose whether to export your complete list or selected movies.

Step 3: Choose whether to Include the "In Collection Status" indicators. This shows as a marker flag on the iPod screen.

Step 4: Choose to include Detail pages or not. If you choose to, there is the option of using the Default Layout or Custom Layout. The Custom Layout lets you choose which data fields are exported and in which ordered. This is done through the 'Exported Fields' button.

Keep in mind the iPod export only works correctly for a listing of 1000 items or less. This is a limitation of the iPod itself.

Related Topics
Data field meanings
Data field selection screen

6.16 Viewing collection statistics

Numbers about your collection are useful for various purposes, e.g. calculating the total value of your collection for your insurance. Or you can see your favorite genres or directors:

Step 1: Select the toolbar icon `Statistics` or menu `Tools | Statistics`. On the right side of the screen are summary statistics about the collection.
Step 2: In the upper left corner choose a data field you would like statistics on through the drop down field called 'field name'. In the example above 'Genre' was chosen.

Related Topics
Statistics screen
Lookup Lists

6.17 Adding images manually

Sometimes when using the online info sources no cover image for a movie is found. You can still add covers for these movies manually:

- Browsing your system
  If the image is already stored on your computer, add it like this:

  Step 1: Open the Edit Movie screen, and select the Covers tab.

  Step 2: Click the Choose button, navigate to the image file, and open it.
Adding a cover from the internet

**Step 1:** Open a web browser like Safari or Mozilla Firefox. Go to a search engine, like Google.com, to find a webpage with the cover image.

**Step 2:** Open the Edit Movie screen, and select the Covers tab.

**Step 3:** Click on the image on the webpage and drag it onto the Edit movie screen, release the mouse button at either the front (left) or backcover (right) panel.

---

**Related Topics**
Options screen
File Management

**6.18 Transfering data to a Mac (from Windows)**

It is possible to transfer data from the Windows edition to the Mac edition of Movie Collector. In order to transfer the data you need the Pro edition.

**Step 1:** Make sure to export all movies, and that your language is set to English ([Tools](#) | **Languages** | **English**) on the Windows machine then Select **File** | **Export to** | **XML**.
Step 2: Copy all the cover image files which are stored under the Data folder. The full file path is specified through Tools | Options, Images tab.

Step 3: Copy both the XML file and the Images folder over to your Mac.

Step 4: On the Mac, go to File | Import From | XML. This will import the text information.

Step 5: For the Images you need to go to Tools | Update Image Links. This will re-link the movies to the image files.

The data cannot be transferred from Mac to Windows.

Related Topics
File Management
Export to PDA, iPod and XML

6.19 Transferring data to a new computer

Step 1: The best way to get the program running on a new computer is to do a “fresh” install, using the original installer. If you do not have that installer anymore, you can download it from the Download page.

Step 2: Run the installer on the new Mac to install the program.

Step 3: Now you only have to transfer your data. The file path to the database folder can be found through menu File | Open Database...

Now copy this file to the new computer and place it in the correct folder on the new system. By default that is the ~/Library/Application support/Movie Collector folder.

Step 4: Next you will have to move the cover image files. The default folder for cover image files is the Images folder in your data folder (i.e. ~/Library/Application support/Movie Collector/images by default). The full file path to images can be found through menu Movie Collector | Preferences, the Images tab. Copy the contents of this folder to the new Mac too, preferably in the same location.

Step 5: Now start the program on the new Mac and use File | Open to open your database file, that is, the database file that you just copied. After that, you should see your own data again.

Note: if the version of Movie Collector on the new system is newer than the one on your old system, the program may convert your database to a new format. This will keep your data intact.

Step 6: If the location of the cover images on the new Mac is different, you have to use the Update Image Links screen to let the program update the cover image links automatically.

Related Topics
File Management
Updating File Links

6.20 Updating image links

When using Movie Collector you may see a blue question mark in the Details View as follows:
In Movie Collector the image files are stored outside the database file and referenced by a link in the database. The question mark means the link is broken. This could be caused by moving or deleting the image files.

Files defined as Links can also be repaired with this function.

**Step 1:** Check if the image files are still on the computer, if so, you can repair the links through menu **Tools | Maintenance | Update Image Links**.

**Step 2:** Click on the ‘Choose’ button to locate the folder where the image files may be.

**Step 3:** Next click on ‘Search’ and Movie Collector will try to locate the missing image files. (the new folder column will then be filled).

**Notes:**
- This will only find files if they have been moved, not if they have been renamed.
- If there are multiple files with the same name, the first one will be used.
Step 4: Click on 'Update' to re-link the missing image files.

Step 5: Once you're done fixing the links, click on the 'Close' button to exit the screen.

If the image files have disappeared from your computer, it may be possible to download them again through Automatically updating movies.

Related Topics
File Management

6.21 Changing field names

All field names in Movie Collector can be changed to your own liking. For example, if live in the United States, you might want to change the "Audience Rating" field to "MPAA Rating". This is done through menu Tools | Field Names.

![Change field names dialog]

Step 1: DoubleClick on an entry in the Your Name column (left column).

Step 2: Edit the name in the left column to customize the field name as it appears in the program.

Related Topics
Customizing the program

7 Reference

The topics in the Reference section provide a comprehensive listing of background information about the software, its menus, screens, fields, and more.

For common tasks - i.e. things you need to know immediately to get started with the program - please see the Common Tasks section.

For less common tasks - i.e. things you don't need to know immediately to get started with the program - please see the Advanced Tasks section.
7.1 Menus

Select one of the main menus to see information about it:

Movie Collector | File | Edit | Search | View | Loans | Tools | Buy | Help

7.1.1 Movie Collector

About Movie Collector Display information screen about Movie Collector. This is useful if you want to know the exact version and build number you are running.

Preferences Configure the user settings of the program. See Preferences screen

4 Mac generic menu items

Quit Movie Collector Close the program, saving changes.

7.1.2 File menu

New Create a new database file. The software will ask for the file name when you try to close the software or switch database files.

Open Open an existing database file. It brings up a file browser where you can search and find database files. Movie Collector database files end in *.mvc. Learn more about File Management.

Open Recent Will show a list of recently used database files from which you can select one to open.

Save Save changes to the database. Changes are also saved to the database file automatically after every change you make.

Save As Save the database under a different name. Useful for renaming the database file.

Import from | Other Collection Import data from another collection into your collection. See Importing a Movie Collector database

Import | XML Import data from a text file into your collection. See Importing from XML

Import from | Delicious Library Import data from Delicious Library into your collection. See Delicious Library import

Export to | HTML Export your collection to HTML. See Exporting data to HTML and HTML export screen

Export to | Text Export your collection to a text file. See Exporting data to text format and Text export screen

Export to | XML Export your collection to XML. See Exporting to XML

Export to | iPod Export your collection to an iPod Notes section. See Exporting to iPod
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page Setup</th>
<th>Opens the dialog of changing the printer settings.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Print</td>
<td>Print your movie data. See Printing and Print screen</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 7.1.3 Edit menu

- **Undo**
  Undo the last action performed in the edit screen of a movie.

- **Redo**
  Redo an action which was just undone, see the item above.

- **Cut**
  Cut a selection of text from the edit movie screen.

- **Copy**
  Copy a selection of text from the edit movie screen or the details view.

- **Paste**
  Paste a text section which has been cut or copied before, see the items above.

- **Select all**
  Selects all movies in the List view. This is useful if you want to take an action on a part (and not the whole) of your collection, such as printing a list of loaned items or a specific genre.

- **Select random**
  Let Movie Collector select a random movie in your database.

- **Add Movie Automatically**
  Add a new entry to your database by downloading data from online sources. See Add movies automatically.

- **Add Movie Manually**
  Add a new entry to your database by typing the data yourself. See Add movie manually.

- **Edit Movie**
  Change the values of any field for one movie. See Editing movies and Edit movie screen.

- **Edit Multiple Movies**
  Change the values of any field for multiple movies at the same time. See Editing multiple movies.

- **Duplicate Movie**
  Copy a movie entry including all its fields. This is useful if you’re adding a movie series manually.

- **Remove Movie(s)**
  Remove a movie entry from the database. A confirmation screen will come up by default. This can be controlled through menu Movie Collector | Preferences.

- **Update Movies Automatically**
  Update entries in your collection by downloading data from online sources. See Automatically updating movies.

- **Submit Movie to Collectorz.com**
  Submit entries over the internet to the Collectorz.com Movie Database.

### 7.1.4 Search menu

- **Quick Search**
  Search for a phrase anywhere in your database. See Find a movie in your database.
| **Set Filter** | Filter your database on a specific value in a specific field. See Filter screen |
| **Filter On/Off** | When you have a filter defined, turn it on or off. See Find a movie in your database |

### 7.1.5 View menu

| **Folders** | Group your database into folders. See Folder view |
| **Show Empty Folders** | Display folders which contain no movies for the grouping field. See Folder View |
| **List** | Display movies in a list with one row per movie. See List view |
| **Image** | Display movies in a grid, showing the cover image. See Image view |
| **Columns** | Select which fields are shown in List view. See Browsing your database |
| **Sort Order** | Select in which order your database is sorted. See Find a movie in your database |
| **Details View Template** | Select the color scheme and layout for the Details View. See XSL Templates |
| **Hide / Show Toolbars** | Show or hide the program toolbar. See Customizing the program |
| **Customize toolbar** | Customize which buttons you prefer to see in the toolbar. See Customizing the program |

### 7.1.6 Loans menu

| **Loan Item** | Mark a movie as loaned out. See Loan movie |
| **Return Item** | Mark a movie as returned. See Return movie |
| **Manage Loans** | Show all outstanding loans. See Managing loans |
| **Loan Settings** | Set the default loan period. See Loan settings |

### 7.1.7 Buy menu

*This menu is only visible in the trial edition.*

| **Buy Now** | Visit the Collectorz.com website to purchase Movie Collector. |
| **Upgrade Now** | 'Upgrade Now' is shown if the program detects a license key from a previous version. |
| **Enter License Info** | Enter your license information to unlock the licensed edition. See Buying Movie Collector |
7.1.8 Tools menu

Field Defaults
Set the default values to be used when creating a new entry. See Field defaults

Field Names
Rename the fields in the database. See Customizing data field names

Edit Lists
Maintain the lookup lists. See Managing lookup lists

Statistics
Show statistics for your database. See Collection statistics

Maintenance | Update Image Links
Fix broken links to cover images and other external files. See Update image links

Maintenance | Reassign Index Fields
Reset the values of the index field. This is useful if there are gaps in the index and you want to renumber starting from 1.

Maintenance | Convert Currency
Change the value of the price fields (cover price, purchase price, and current value) by a factor. This is useful if you want to change all prices from, say, dollars to euros.

Maintenance | Factory defaults
Reset the screen sizes and positions, and other user settings to the default configuration. This is useful if the program has become stuck in an unusable state.

Initialize Flic scanner
Search your system for a connected barcode scanner. See Adding movies using barcodes

7.1.9 Help menu

Manual
Open the Help manual for Movie Collector

Getting Started
Open the ‘Getting Started’ guide

Collectorz.com Website
Visit the Collectorz.com website

MovieCollector.net
Visit the Collectorz online movie database

Customer Support
Visit the Support section of the Collectorz.com website

Check for Update
Check if there is a newer product version. See Update the software

Your License Info
Display your license information. See Ordering Collectorz.com Products

Note: This menu item is only shown if your copy is licensed.

7.2 Screens

Select one of the screens to see information about it:

Main screen
Add Movie automatically screen
Edit Movie screen
7.2.1 Main screen

This is the main screen of Movie Collector. The blue dots identify sections of the screen. Descriptions are below:

1. Menu bar of drop down menus with Movie Collector features.
2. Toolbar for quick access to Movie Collector features. The toolbar can be customized so the most
used features are positioned for your convenience.

3. List or thumbnail view. Clicking on the List style button in the toolbar, the left side gives a spreadsheet-like listing of your movies. The right half of this toggle button will show your movies as a gallery of cover images. In this screenshot List View is selected. On the left side of the List View are icons representing the In Collection status of a movie. These icons can be turned off through Movie Collector | Preferences, the general tab.

The list view can be sorted using the column headings, and the columns can also be changed through the Column field selection screen.

Using the menu view | Thumbnails, you can also toggle between a list view and a thumbnail view for this area..

To select a movie at random (useful to decide what to watch :), press Ctrl+R.

4. Details View, which provides detailed information about the currently selected movie in your collection. The Detail View can be adjusted to different templates through menu View | Details View Template

Movie icons

In the main screen, you may notice not all movie entries have the same icon in front of the names in the list. First, the (normally) green tick is shown, referring to the collection status of the movie. This collection status indicator can be turned off using the preferences screen.

Next, an icon is shown referring to the format of the movie, as it can be entered on the edit screen. You can choose "DVD", but also "Blu-Ray", "HD-DVD", "DivX", and many more. See also the edit lookup lists screen.

The layout of the main screen can be changed by dragging the divider between the tree and the list (if any) and the divider between the list and the Details View. The center parts of the dividers (the parts with the small arrows on it) are small "buttons" that can be used to hide a section completely, click it again to make the section reappear. Note that you cannot drag the divider there.

Notice the bottom bar of the main screen, where you can see the total amount of movies in collection, the number of selected movies, and what sort of filter is set on the collection. This is a good way to check why certain movies are obscured in the main list.
For more information about using the main screen, see Browsing your database.

**Related Topics**
Folder View
Lookup Lists
Finding a movie in your database

### 7.2.2 Add Movies Automatically Advanced screen

Open the Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode through the toolbar icon or through menu **Edit | Add Movie Automatically**.
For a tutorial on how to use this screen, see Add Movies Automatically Advanced.

**Context Menu**
The Search Queue has a context menu that you can open by right-clicking in the Search Queue area.
The context menu has commands related to Search Queue entries:

- **Search Selected**: Search the info sources for just the selected entries in the Search Queue. Note that the search queue supports multiple selection.
- **Add Selected**: Add the found results to the database. The 'Add Selected' is also an override option. It will add a movie, even if it already exists in the database. The 'Add Selected' doesn't work if there are no results selected.
- **Lock Selected**: Sometimes when searching the info sources the results may contain more than one movie you want to add to your database. For instance if you're searching for a movie series like 'Star Wars'. Normally the Advanced works that once a movie has been added the search results are deleted. To add multiple movies, use the 'Lock Selected' option. This way, the search results will remain after you add a movie. After you add one movie, go back to the results, select the next movie and add again.
- **Unlock Selected**: Once you have added all the movies you want based on one search, use the 'Unlock Selected' and 'Remove Selected' to delete the results.
- **Remove Selected**: Remove the selected entries from the Search Queue. To remove all the entries from the Search Queue, first use the 'Select All' command and then 'Remove Selected'.
- **Reset Selected**: Clear the search results for the selected entries, so that you can search for them again.
- **Select all**: Select all movies in the search queue

**Preview pane**
The lower right corner of the screen is the Preview pane. A preview of the result information is shown if you click on the link in the Preview pane or by double clicking on the search result. There is the option to change the Preview Pane XSL template. This is done by right-clicking in this region and selecting from the template list.

**Message Log**
The Message Log panel, at the bottom left of the screen, provides information about how the searching of info sources is progressing. If there are problems, warning messages will appear there.

**Add to queue**
The add to queue button will put the title or barcode you entered into the search queue. This will allow for batch searching.

**Update in queue**
The update in queue button allows you to modify the title or barcode of items already placed in the search queue. Just click an item in the search queue, and type in the new title or barcode. Clicking the update in queue button will make the entry in the queue change accordingly.

**Import**
The import button allows you to import a CSV text file, see the section on importing.

**Settings**
The settings button is for controlling options related to adding movies automatically. For more information see the search settings screen section.

**Wizard mode**
This will change the add screen to the wizard mode add screen.

**Related Topics**
Add Movies Automatically
Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
Importing from text
Hints for Adding Movies Automatically
Automatically updating movies
Search settings screen
XSL Templates

7.2.3 Edit Movie screen

Open the Edit Movie screen by double-clicking on a movie in the List view, through menu Edit | Edit Movie.

For an overview of the basic functionality of this screen, see Editing Movies.

**Buttons**

*Previous* and *Next*: Navigate through your movie collection without having to open the Edit screen each time. The active tab and field are remembered. The order of the movies is determined by their sequence on the main screen.

*Update*: Fill in more data using the online info sources; see Automatically updating movies.

*Cancel*: Cancel changes made to the entry you are editing. Depending on the Preferences you set in the program, a confirmation screen may pop up asking you to confirm the cancellation of the changes.
Apply: Apply the changes made to the entry and return to the main screen.

Throughout the edit screen's Tab pages, you will encounter a number of icons.

To add a person, the "type" of person will depend on where the button is used to add a person.

To edit a person.

To remove a person. Note that this will not remove the person's details as they are stored in the lookup list, but will only remove the person for the movie you are editing.

You will also come across the icon  . This will allow you to edit an existing (and selected) lookup list entry directly from the edit screen (instead of having to navigate to the menu Tools | Edit Lists. Note that this will in fact edit the lookup item, which will affect all entries for which the value has been used.

Links
The Links tab is intended for connecting to files outside of Movie Collector. There are many types of links you can define there.

To add a link. Editing a link can be done simply by clicking directly in either the description field or the URL.

To remove a link.

To set the order in which the links appear can be done using the arrow up and arrow down icons.

Note: URL refers to a web link, generally starting with http://www . However, you can also use this field to define files on your hard drive. An example of such a reference is : file:///Users/[your user account name]/movie/trailer.mov
This will start up your defined .mov player program on the Mac, playing this particular video file. Also see the section on Playing Movies using Movie Collector.

Related Topics
Editing Movies
Data field meanings
Adding Images manually
Playing Movie files using Movie Collector
Automatically updating movies
List management
Lookup Lists
Collectorz.com Movie Database

7.2.4 Print screen

Movie Collector provides a variety of controls for printing the contents of your collection. For a quick step-by-step description on how to print, see Printing.
The print controls are separated into a General and a Template tab. The layout of the printed report is defined by a "print template". The template defines how the printout should look.

**General tab**

**All / selected Movies**
This print option allows for printing the entire list of movies in the database or a partial list. For a partial list, the movies first need to be selected in the List view. To select individual movies, click on them while holding the COMMAND key. If the List view shows a partial list because of an applied Search filter, you can also use **Edit | Select All** to select that partial listing.

**Sort Order**
Sets the sort order in which the records should be printed. Choose ‘Custom setting for printing’ if you want to define a customized sort order specifically for printing. Press the 'Edit' button to bring up Sort field selection screen to indicate which sort fields to use. Choose 'Use main screen setting' to apply the sort order you are already using to display your collection in the main screen. Note: sort fields with a descending sort order are preceded by a ~ symbol.

**Print Layout**
Lets you define what template you wish to use for printing, of through the 'custom list template' lets you define what specific fields you wish to print. Is the 'custom list template' is selected, the 'edit' button will reveal the following screen and options.
Custom list template (edit).

**Title** - specify the title of the report which will also show on the first page.

**Choose Font**
- adjust the character style.

- Including the *report creation date* will print the current date at the top of the first page.

- The *row shading* option will print rows in alternating cell shades, making the individual lines standout and making reading from the print easier on the eyes. (see the picture below).

- Through the *choose fields* button you can select which field you would like to print and in what order. This screen resembles...
After choosing from the other options in this screen, you can save these settings to your own template, using the 'save in template' checkbox for later use.

For more information on templates see the XSL-templates section for more information.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Movie Release</th>
<th>Genre</th>
<th>Director</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shrek</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Comedy, Family Viewing</td>
<td>Andrew Adamson; Vicky J andon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alien</td>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Horror, SciFi</td>
<td>Ridley Scott</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyze This</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Comedy, Crime</td>
<td>Harold Ramis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baron Munchausen</td>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Adventure, Comedy, Fantasy</td>
<td>Terry Gilliam</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Select template.**
Allows you to choose what predefined template should be used to print, see also the section about XSL-templates.

**Preview**
Opens the Print Preview screen that shows how your printout will look.

**PDF**
Opens the PDF save options to save the document as shown to you using the Preview button to a PDF file.

**About XSL Templates**
With the Pro version of Movie Collector there are a number of ready to use print templates. More user defined templates can be found in our online Template Gallery. You can select one of the included templates by choosing the “Select Template” setting and then selecting a template from the drop down list. (Hint: you can preview the result by clicking the Preview button).

It is possible to create new templates or edit existing ones. For more information about this, visit the Template Tutorial on the Collectorz.com website.
7.2.5 Set Filter screen

With a filter you can locate specific entries in your database that fulfill certain criteria. The rest of the database is hidden while the filter is active.

For a quick step-by-step description, see Setting Search Filter.

Open the Set Filter screen through menu Search | Set Filter.

The Set Filter screen supports searching by multiple filters.

For example if you wanted to find all Blu-ray type movies that you have loaned to your friend Philip, this would be done by setting two filters.

The filter screen could look like this:

If you fill multiple fields you have to specify how to combine them with the Combination selector. Choose AND if you want to see all items that satisfy ALL conditions, choose OR if you want to see all items that satisfy one or more conditions.

Check the Case sensitive checkbox to make the filter case-sensitive (causing it to take note of upper case and lower case).

To create a filter that shows all records except those that match the filter definition, use the NOT
filter results checkbox.

Another example search would be trying to find all the movies you are of the Genre 'Action' or 'Comedy'. This can be done by setting two filter and using the OR option.

A third example is setting a filter to find all movies that have a Format other than DVD. This can be done by choosing a filter on Format with value set to 'DVD'. Select the option 'Show all EXCEPT filter results'.

![Edit Filter]

Note: While setting filters you will see the main screen change in the background, synchronizing with what the filter conditions are you are working on.

To remove filters, click on the Clear Filter button or the icon .

You can quickly enable and disable a filter with the Filter On/Off menu item or toolbar button. The currently active filter is shown in the status bar as the funnel icon .

Related Topics
Find a movie in your database
Creating a Search Filter

7.2.6 Column field selection screen

To select which fields should be displayed, use the Column Field Selection screen.

Open it via menu View | Columns or toolbar icon Columns.
For example, in the screen below the fields Title, Movie Release Year and UPC (Barcode) are selected as columns:
On the left are the list of available data fields to select from. On the right are the selected data fields and the order they will appear in.

Choose a data field by double clicking on the entry or highlighting and using the plus / minus buttons in the middle. It is also possible to drag/drop items between the two listings of data fields.

Resorting the data fields can be done by highlighting a data field and using the up/down arrows to the right of the plus / minus buttons.

**Related Topics**
- Browsing your database
- Exporting data to HTML
- Printing
- Exporting data to text format
- Exporting to PDA/iPod/XML

**7.2.7 Sort field selection screen**

To group on a field or a another field in a field, you need to use the Sort Field Selection screen.

Open it via menu View | Sort Order or toolbar icon Folders, and choose one of the fields in the list, or choose custom to get the complete field list. To sort on a single field, you can click on the column
header of that field in the List view. If you want to sort on multiple fields at the same time, you need to use the Sort Field Selection screen. Open it via menu View | Sort Order or toolbar icon Sorting.

For example, to sort the movie listing by Genre, Actor and Title:

On the left are the list of available data fields to sort by. The right side is for selected data fields including an icon for indicating that the data field is set for ascending or descending.

Choose a data field by double clicking on the entry or highlighting and using the plus / minus buttons in the middle.

Resorting the data fields can be done by highlighting a data field and using the up/down arrows to the right of the plus / minus buttons.

You can control ascending (i.e. from a to z) or descending (i.e. from z down to a) by selecting a data field in the right column and then using the radio buttons for Ascending or Descending.

This is the same screen that will show up if you wish to reassign index values using the menu Tools | Maintenance | Reassign index fields. When used from there, the fields selected in the right pane will serve as main sorting criteria by which to assign new index values to the albums in your database.
7.2.8 Folder field selection screen

To group on a field or a field in a field, you need to use the Sort Field Selection screen.

Open it via menu View | Sort Order or toolbar icon . and choose one of the fields in the list, or choose custom to get the complete field list.

For example, to group on release year, and within the year groups on Title:

On the left are the list of available data fields to sort by. The right side is for selected data fields including an icon for indicating that the data field is set for ascending or descending.

Choose a data field by double clicking on the entry or highlighting and using the plus / minus buttons in the middle.

Resorting the data fields can be done by highlighting a data field and using the up/down arrows to the
right of the plus / minus buttons.

You can control ascending (i.e. from a to z) or descending (i.e. from z down to a) by selecting a data field in the right column and then using the radio buttons for Ascending or Descending.

Related Topics
Browsing your database
Exporting data to HTML
Printing
Exporting data to text format
Exporting to PDA/iPod/XML

7.2.9 Manage Loans screen

The Manage Loans screen manages all outstanding and previous loans. You can loan and return movies from there, search the loans, and print out the list of loans.

It can be accessed through the menu Loans | Manage Loans. The following dialog will appear:

![Manage Loans dialog]

This displays a list of the loans of the movies in your database. You can use the following toolbar icons:

- ![Edit loan details]
  - Edit the loan details

- ![Return a movie]
  - Return a movie

- ![Remove loan entry]
  - Removes the loan entry for a movie. This effectively means the movie was not loaned out.

- ![List loaned movies]
  - Lists all movies that are currently loaned out

- ![List overdue movies]
  - Lists the movies which are overdue

- ![Loan history]
  - Displays the entire loan history

You can use the Collectorz.com barcode scanner to loan or return movies conveniently. When you scan a barcode from the main screen, the program checks if it is in your collection and if so, will filter that specific movie out of the collection and will select the movie.
This means that after scanning a barcode of a movie in your collection, you will only have to use the menu Loans | Loan Item to mark that movie as loaned.

**Loan Settings**
Through menu Loans | Loan Settings the default loan period can be adjusted. This is the number of days after which a loaned movie becomes overdue.

**Related Topics**
Loaning movies

### 7.2.10 Field Defaults screen

When adding a new movie to Movie Collector, a number of its fields can automatically be set to a default value. This is useful if the field always has the same value and you don't want to enter it manually every time (e.g. personal fields like the location field).

Open this screen through menu Tools | Field Defaults:

![Field Defaults screen](image)

If you add a movie automatically the data field values provided by the info sources may override the Field Default settings. This is true for fields: Genre, Movie Release Year, Country, Format, Region, Release Year, Language and Color.

The personal fields will keep the field default settings you define in this screen.

**Related Topics**
7.2.11 Statistics screen

This screen is available through menu Tools | Statistics. It provides summary information about movies in the database.

At the bottom of the Statistics screen are numerical values related to the movie listing.

The main portion of the screen is a graph. It displays histograms related to the data field specified. Only lookup lists can be displayed on the graph; you can select which field to display in the graph with the folder icon in the top-lefthand corner.

The icon orders the x-axis entries by count or by name (alphabetizing) alternating when clicking the icon.

The icon applies the filter set through the menu Search | Set Filter screen. The graph will then
only consider entries that are permitted by the search filter.

Related Topics
View collection statistics

7.2.12 Preferences screen

The Preferences screen is accessible through menu Movie Collector | Preferences. It provides a variety of general controls for Movie Collector.

General tab

Initialize Flic scanner automatically: If you have a Flic/Collectorz.com barcode scanner, activate it immediately when the program starts. This makes it ready for scanning without having to use the Tools | Initialize Flic scanner menu.

Textured Window: Enable the "brushed metal" look.

Confirm before removing items: Display a Yes/No confirmation screen when you remove a movie from the database. This is useful to prevent accidental deletions.

Confirm before cancelling changes: Display a Yes/No confirmation screen when you cancel the Edit Movie screen. This is useful to prevent accidental discarding of editing you've done.

Show sort Names as lookups: Controls the display for Lookup List names within Movie Collector. The software displays the last name first if it is provided, e.g. "Pacino, Al". If this option is disabled, it displays as "Al Pacino".

Show "in Collection " Indicator: Display a small icon in the left-most column in the list view that indicates the value of the Collection Status field.

Show Cast sorted on Actor name: In the Details View, change the order of the cast to be alphabetical instead of the order defined in the Edit Movie screen.
Automatically Increment Index: when a movie is added to Movie Collector an Index value is assigned. This feature increments the Index value for each movie added.

Start with Index: controls which is the Index value next assigned to a movie added. This can be useful if you are grouping movies by index and want to assign a range of numbers to a specific group.

Update Check tab

Update Check: Set the frequency of automatic checking with the Collectorz.com webserver for a newer version of the software. When enabled, this check is performed at program startup with the interval of your choice.
See Updating the software

Images tab
**Default Folder for Images:** When cover images are downloaded from the info sources, this is the folder where they are stored. The default value is ~/Library/Application Support/Movie Collector/Images.

**Backup tab**

The backup tab allows users to automatically backup their collection. Users can select a folder for automatic backups. The default folder for backups is also shown in the image: ~/Library/Application Support/Movie Collector/Backup.
Automatically backup collection: When Movie Collector starts up it will create a copy of the active database file and place it in the Backup folder. The format of the file name is "Backup of <current filename>.mvc". For more information on backing up your data, also see 'Making Backups'.

Notes
1. This function only copies the database itself, not cover art files.

Related Topics
List management
Updating the software
Making backups of your data
File Management
Adding Images manually
Barcode scanning

7.2.13 Search Settings screen

This screen is for controlling options relating to adding movies automatically.
Open this screen with the 'Settings' button in the Add Movies Automatically screen (both Wizard and Advanced mode).

Main tab

Close window when Search Queue is empty
Normally, the Add Movies screens stays open after adding the last item to the collection, which allows you to add new searches immediately. In some cases, it may be preferable to have the screen close automatically when the search queue is empty, e.g. if you are adding your movies one by one.
Open Edit Window after adding single item  This opens the Edit Movie screen after a movie has been added to the database. This only works if you're adding one movie at a time.

Download front covers  Check this option if you want front covers downloaded.

Download back covers  Check this option if you want back covers downloaded.

Preferred source for covers  Select which info source is preferred for covers. This is useful if you prefer your cover to come from one specific site, instead of the first one in the list. Note that you still need to select a result from the selected info source.

Automatically update scripts  For some Info Sources the program uses external Perl scripts to parse search results and full result details. When a website changes their layout, these scripts need to be updated. That's why the program automatically downloads new script updates from our webserver, the first time you search. In general, you should never uncheck this setting. Only uncheck it if you are modifying the Perl scripts yourself and want to prevent the program from overwriting your changes.

Movie details tab

IMDB Site URL  Location for alternative IMDB website addresses can be added. For example:
UK version: http://uk.imdb.com
Also Known As (AKA) : http://akas.imdb.com

Maximum number of downloaded credits  Set the number of crew members downloaded from the info sources. For example, if you want to increase the number of actors listed, increase the value here. This is useful if an info source can deliver very long lists, like IMDB.

Retrieve character  For cast info: only retrieves the name of the actors, not the role they played.
names in the movie.

Enable adult online sources
Determines if adult info source Adult DVD Empire is made available in the info source listing. By default this is turned off.

Amazon search returns
When searching Amazon info sources, this determines whether DVD or VHS information is returned.

Related Topics
Add Movies Automatically
Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

7.2.14 Text export screen

Text export is the simplest form of exporting the information in your database. Once the export file is created it can be viewed in your Textedit application or any other word processor type application. For a quick step-by-step description, see Export to Text.

The Export to Text function writes Movie Collector data to an ASCII (standard text) file, one item per line, enclosing all fields with a text qualifier character and separating the fields with a delimiter character.

Open the Export to Text screen through menu File | Export to | Text.
The **Destination File** field is where the exported file name and path are specified. The text export can be read by spreadsheet programs like Microsoft Excel. This is done by using the file extension `.csv` (Comma Separated Values).

You can set whether to export the entire collection by selecting **All Movies**, or you can export only the records that are currently selected in the main screen by selecting **Selected Movies**. The number in brackets indicates how many records will be exported.
Check the **Export Field Names** checkbox to make Movie Collector include an extra first row in the export file that holds the field names. A number of applications (like Microsoft Excel and Microsoft Access) can use this information.

The **Sort fields** button allows you to set the sort order in which the records should be exported. It will bring up the Sort field selection screen to indicate which sort fields to use.

Use the **Exported Fields** button to choose which data fields you would like to export. The screen that will come up is the data field selection screen.

Use the options '**Separators**', '**Quotes**' and '**Line breaks**' buttons to define the characteristics of the text file that will be exported to.

The **separator** is the character that will be exported between the fields (sometime also called the field separator).

The **quotes** are the characters that encloses all fields in the export.

The **line break** is used for keeping records on one line; otherwise line breaks would cause the item to continue on the next line, which usually is not what you want in ASCII exporting.

The **Preview pane** gives a sample of what the export will look like.

**Note**: this feature is not available in the Standard edition.

**Related Topics**
- Exporting data to text format
- Data field meanings
- Sort field selection screen
- Data field selection screen

### 7.2.15 HTML export screen

HTML exporting allows you to create a website that displays your collection in a web browser. There are two kinds of pages: **index** pages that show an overview of your collection, and **details** pages that show detailed content for one movie. These pages are created with the HTML language using two templates: one for the index, and one for the details pages.

For a quick step-by-step approach on how to generate an HTML export, see here.

Open the HTML export screen through menu **File | Export to | HTML**.
Movies to export
The HTML export can be done for the entire list of movies or a partial list. For a partial list, the movies first need to be selected in the List view of the main screen. To select individual movies, click on them while holding the COMMAND or SHIFT key. If the List view has a partial list, you can also use Edit | Select All.

Destination folder
Here the export folder is chosen, along with the index file name. All the HTML files, stylesheets and images are placed there.

There is the option to Overwrite existing Detail files and image files each time the export is done (the bottom of the screen). If unchecked, only new pages will be made and thus updating the website will be faster. There also is a checkbox at the bottom that once the export is done, the results can be opened in a web browser. This is useful to check that result is what you expected.
Custom list template.
The Export to HTML feature uses XSL templates to define the layout and look of the exported HTML pages. For the Index page, you can export a simple list of items using the Custom List Template setting, or use other list layouts by Selecting a Template from the list. For an explanation of the list template options under the 'edit custom' button, also see the print screen explanation which works in a similar way (only to store the customized settings in an export template instead of a print template). Again, if you want to keep this layout for later use, click on 'Save in Template List' button and the generated template will appear in the Select Template list with the Description you entered.

Select from list
Movie Collector comes with a number of ready to use list templates for the Index page. You can select one of the included templates by choosing the “Select Template” setting and then selecting a template from the drop down list. The generated HTML index page is called index.html and is located in the destination folder. If the template uses a CSS stylesheet it will be copied there as well. Note: this feature is not available in the Standard edition. Read more about XSL Templates.

Create Detail pages
Use the Create detail pages checkbox to activate the creation of detail pages. One detail page is generated for every exported movie. Select the template you want to use for the detail pages with the 'Template for detail pages' dropdown box. This template describes the layout of the HTML page, and which fields are shown. The name of the generated page is [id].html, where [id] is the value of the ID field of the movie. The pages are located in the details subfolder of the destination folder.

More user defined templates can be found in our online Template Gallery. It is also possible to create new templates or edit existing ones. For more information about this, visit the Template Tutorial on the Collectorz.com website.

Copy images: Place the cover images used by the exported webpages in the images subfolder of the export destination. This is useful if you want to upload the website to a internet server, without breaking the links to the images. If you choose yes, then the addressing with be relative. If not chosen, then the addressing includes the full file path on the computer you’re on.

Related Topics
Exporting data to HTML
Data field meanings
XSL Templates
Sort field selection screen
Data field selection screen

7.3 Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

The following sections give tips and background information for adding movies to your database automatically. This applies to the Add Movies Automatically screen (both Wizard and Advanced mode).

Searching by Barcode
The most accurate and quickest way to find your movie is to search by barcode. If there is a result, it is usually exact. This means you don't need to go through the search results choosing which movie is yours. Movie Collector will automatically select the result if there is exactly one.
Another benefit of searching by barcode is that Movie Collector can use the title information from the barcode result to search the remaining info sources. This is useful because some sources cannot be searched by barcode, only by title.

The barcode or UPC (Universal Product Code) is a unique identifier for the movie you have. It does not contain information about the movie such as title, but it is a label for the specific version of the movie you have. For example sometimes movies are sold as director's cut or extended versions, etc. Keep in mind that movie barcodes are regional according to continents. This means that it's no use to search Amazon DE by barcode for a movie from the United States. The barcodes are usually different per region. When searching by barcode it is best to use the Collectorz.com info source along with info sources of regions from where you purchased the movie.

The easiest way to enter a barcode is by using a barcode scanner.

**Benefits of searching with multiple info sources**

You can use one or multiple info sources. There are two main benefits for using multiple sources:

First, if a unique result is returned from one info source, this information is used to search the remaining info sources. For example: when searching Amazon for a barcode, Amazon can produce an exact match, which will automatically fill in the Title field of the search item. This extra information can then be used to search DVD Empire etc... If the Amazon info source is listed below DVD Empire, this will not work. In most cases, the default order of the Info Sources is the best order.

Second, if you choose results from multiple sources, Movie Collector merges the information into one entry in the database. The information from the selected results is combined to create a movie item in your collection. This combining on results is done in the order of the Info Sources, that is, the information from the info sources higher in the list are given higher priority. In other words, the first info source that delivers a value for a particular field determines the final value of that field in the movie. For example: if IMDB gives you director and title, the info sources that are lower in list will never overwrite IMDB's director and title information, they will only add values for other fields, e.g. studio or cover image.

**IMDB tricks**

IMDB is one of the largest databases of movies. If you search for a movie with a common term like 'Man' you will have many results and there is a chance that your desired result will not be included. The number of results returned from IMDB is limited to 200. There are 2 ways around this. First you can include the release year in the title search, for example 'A Bug's Life (1998)'. This will narrow down the results. Another option is to create a new movie entry manually through Edit | Add Movie Manually. Enter the IMDB number if you know it and then try Updating the entry against IMDB. This should give an exact match.

**Info Source Matrix**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Info Source</th>
<th>Title search</th>
<th>Barcode search</th>
<th>Regions</th>
<th>URL</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMDB</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td></td>
<td>-</td>
<td><a href="http://www.imdb.com">www.imdb.com</a></td>
<td>Internet Movie DataBase - largest online movie database. No DVD info.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amazon US</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>✔</td>
<td>1</td>
<td><a href="http://www.amazon.com">www.amazon.com</a></td>
<td>Largest online retailer based in USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amazon UK ✔ ✔ 2 www.amazon.co.uk Amazon United Kingdom
Amazon DE ✔ ✔ 2 www.amazon.de Amazon Germany
Amazon JP ✔ ✔ 3 www.amazon.co.jp Amazon Japan
Amazon FR ✔ ✔ 2 www.amazon.fr Amazon France
DVD Empire ✔ ✔ 1 www.dvdeempire.com Online movie retailer based in Pennsylvania
Send It ✔ ✔ 2 www.sendit.com Online movie retailer based in Ireland
DVD-Shop ✔ ✔ 2 www.dvd-shop.ch German online movie retailer
Atlantic DVD ✔ ✔ 4 www.atlanticdvd.com.au Australia's largest region 4 DVD shop
DVD Fr ✔ ✔ 2 www.dvdfr.com Online DVD database from France
Adult DVD Empire ✔ ✔ 1 www.adultdvdeempire.com Online Adult DVD shop

Check Connection
If you get error messages in a red color during a search, the most likely cause is an issue with your internet connection or firewall. For more information, please see the online FAQ on internet connection issues.

Related Topics
Add Movies Automatically
Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
Automatically updating movies
Barcode scanning
Collectorz.com infosource

7.4 Folder view for grouping

The Folder View is fun and powerful way to view your movie collection, grouping it dynamically on one or more fields. The menu View | Folders provides a listing of predefined folder views:
If you choose Genre for example, Movie Collector will display a set of folders based on the Lookup List of genres that are in the program. Each genre folder will include movies within the category. If a movie has multiple genres, it will be listed in all of them. If a movie does not have a genre, it ends up in the [None] folder.

To switch folders on or off, use the toolbar icon **Folders | Hide Folders**.

In the predefined folder list, you may notice that it's possible to have nested folder views. For example Director/Actor will list Director folders and within each folder will be Actor folders. There is a Custom folder option, where you can select a folder view based on one or more data fields. Folder view only works with Lookup Lists.
A quick way to change the folder view is by right-clicking above the folder view. A drop-down list will appear to select a different view:

![Folder View](image)

The folder view can be useful for reclassifying movies. This can be done by drag&drop of movies between folders. By default, dragging a movie to another folder replaces the existing underlying values. If a lookup field can have multiple values, like the Genre field, hold down the Ctrl key when starting to drag to add the new genre to the selected movies.

Notes:
- When dragging to the [None] folder, all values will be cleared if you do not hold Ctrl. If you do hold Ctrl, only the current value will be removed and any other values will be kept.
- This only applies to fields that can have multiple values, like genre. For other fields, the current value is always replaced.

By default, the Folder View only shows folders for lookup items that are in use, i.e. only non-empty folders are shown. The Show Empty Folders option (in the View Menu) makes empty folders appear too. This is useful when you want to drag and drop a movie to another folder while the destination folder is still empty. For example, you are rearranging your movies over the genres and have added a few new genres for this. In the default view, you cannot drag movies to the new genres because they are empty and thus hidden. By enabling "Show Empty Folders" you can make them appear and drag movies in them.

### Related Topics
- Main screen
- Browsing your database
- List management
- Lookup Lists

### 7.5 Lookup lists

Lookup lists are an important element of a Movie Collector database (see List Management for a quick introduction).
They are very useful because:
1. It saves you a lot of typing: once a value has been entered in the list, you don't have to type it, you can just select it from the list.
2. All occurrences of the field value use exactly the same spelling and case, simply because they are stored in the database only once. This also ensures that grouping and filters work correctly: if a different spelling would be used for several occurrences of the same director, the movies of that director would be spread over several groups when grouping on director!
3. It saves disk-space and memory, for the same reason as mentioned above; all values are stored in the database only once.

Lookup lists are a managed through menu Tools | Edit Lists. The following example screen is for Actor names.

Each value in a lookup list is called a lookup item. In this screenshot, 'Bullock, Sandra' is a lookup item in the Actor lookup list. Each actor has multiple subfields, like First Name and Last Name. The 'Used' field indicates how many movies actually refer to this actor. An actor's name can be possibly broken down into First Name, Last Name and The (article words). This is done using the Edit button [Edit]. This brings up the Edit Actor screen:
Use the **Generate** buttons to try to automatically populate the First- and Last Name from the Display Name. The Generate buttons don’t always work correctly if the name has a unique form or has multiple parts.

Once a name is broken down Movie Collector will sort by Last name. The column Sort Name shows how Movie Collector will treat a name if sorted alphabetically (see Proper sorting). The column Display Name shows how a name will be displayed in Movie Collector. There is the option to display Lookup Lists by Display name or Sort Name, depending on the option ‘Show sort names of lookups’ in the Preferences screen. The Display Name cannot be empty.

Some of the lookup lists have extra data fields associated. For example, Actors have an URL field. This can be useful to link to the IMDB entry for an actor. For example the IMDB entry for Arnold Schwarzenegger is "http://imdb.com/name/nm0000216/". Depending on the selected template, the lookup items will appear in the Details view as clickable links which is convenient when you’re viewing your database of movies.

Removing a lookup item is only possible if all the references to it are removed in other words the Used count is 0.

You can also use the button to let Movie Collector automatically select all items that are not in use. Just use the Remove button afterwards to remove all selected items.

The **Refresh** icon can be used to automatically refresh the lookup list after editing a lookup item, so that the changed item is shown in the correct position.

**Merging lookup items**

Over time, duplicate entries may appear in the lookup lists. For example, different versions of a country such as “U.S.A.” and “USA”. This can be fixed using the **Merge** feature. Merging means that multiple lookup items are combined into one, and all movies referring to them are changed to refer to the remaining item.
To merge: select one lookup item you want to merge, and then select the 'add selected item to merge list' button. This will place the first of the items to be merged in the lower panel. You can select more lookup list items, and place them there as well. Once all (but one) of the items you wish to merge are in the lower panel, select the item to be merged into in the top panel, and click the 'merge list into selected item' button. The entry with the highest Used value will remain while the others will be merged into it.

The trash can icon will allow you to remove items from the lower panel, which is not deleting the lookup list item but only deleting the item of the list of lookup list items intended for merging.

**Quick way to change lookup items**
A quick way to change which lookup items a movie uses, is by dragging & dropping on the main screen. For more information, see Folder View.

**Related Topics**
List management
Proper sorting
Folder View
XSL Templates

## 7.6 Barcode scanning

Most DVD cases have a barcode on the back. This encodes a 12- or 13-digit number that uniquely identifies the DVD. You can use barcodes for two purposes:
- Searching info sources with a unique number
- Locating a movie in your collection.

### Searching info sources
You can use a barcode scanner when adding a movie to the collection. This is much faster and more accurate than typing the number manually. See the topic Adding movies by scanning barcodes for more information.

### Locating a movie
To locate a record in your collection, select the Quick Search box on the toolbar, and scan the barcode.

### Adding the barcode to an existing entry
Open the edit screen of any movie in your collection, and scan the barcode after doing so to add the UPC barcode into the proper field on the edit screen.

### Supported scanners
- Collectorz.com scanner: the Collectorz.com barcode scanner is supported directly; the driver is installed when you install Movie Collector. Using the scanner on a USB port
- CueCat: Both modified and unmodified CueCats are supported. You do not need any drivers, the program can decode the data itself. It can be plugged in to the USB port, and is ready for use.
requires you to additionally install drivers for the cable. See the Collectorz.com website for more information. This scanner is sometimes referred to as the Flic scanner.

Mac computers may ask you to use the "keyboard setup assistant", simply close the screen and proceed. The section below to setup and initialize is for the Collectorz.com barcode scanner only.

- Other scanners: any barcode scanner that can function as a 'keyboard wedge' can be used. You usually need to install driver software for this, which should be delivered with the scanner.

**Collectorz.com Scanner Setup**

- **Setting up the scanner**
  1. Insert three fresh AAA batteries in the scanner
  2. Press the scanner's button and verify that it emits a red laser beam.
     No beam? Check the Trouble Shooting Guide.
  3. Now scan a barcode and verify that the scanner beeps and the green light blinks.
  4. No beep or blink? Check the Trouble Shooting Guide.

- **Connecting the scanner to your computer**

**USB connection**

You will have to connect your Collectorz.com scanner to a free USB port using a Serial-to-USB adapter cable included in the package:

1. Please visit our Buy Now page to buy a Serial-to-USB adapter cable separately in case you do not have one.
2. Install the driver software that you can download from the Movie Collector download page (at the bottom) to let your Mac recognize the serial to USB cable. Restart the Mac after doing so as instructed by the driver installer.
3. Connect the scanner to a free USB port on your computer, using the cable that was included with the scanner and your new Serial-to-USB adapter cable.

- **Using the scanner in Movie Collector**

1. Select **Initialize Flic Scanner** from the **Tools** menu.
2. After a few seconds, the program should report "Your Flic scanner has been activated successfully.
3. Do you get the message "Your Flic scanner could not be detected." instead? Check the Trouble Shooting Guide.
4. Scan a barcode. The program should now read the barcode and will search your database for the barcode.
5. If it's found, that item will be selected. If it's not found, the 'Add Movies Automatically' function will start with the scanned barcode already entered.

- **Using the scanner in other software**

If you want to use your Collectorz.com scanner in other software, you can do so by installing the Scanner Wedge software. Scanner Wedge will make your scanner emulate keyboard input, which will allow your scanner to be used in any program or text box that accepts keyboard input.

Note: currently Scanner Wedge is available for Windows only, for the Mac you should check a third party product such as Serial IO.

The Cuecat scanner functions as a keyboard wedge on itself, but the data it passes on it not merely a barcode. It is an coded version of the barcode, and can therefore not be used on its own in other Mac applications.

- **Scanner hints - Collectorz.com- and Cuecat barcode scanner**

- **How to scan - Hints**

The Collectorz.com barcode scanner will have arrived with a leaflet explaining what the best way to scan is.

Basically, the best way is at a slight angle (not at 90 degrees towards the barcode), at a distance of around 4 inches (approx 10 cm).

For the Cuecat scanner, there is no such leaflet. Therefore some basic tips for scanning using the Cuecat scanner.

- Hold the CueCat reader between your thumb and forefinger like a pen or pencil. Place the nose of the CueCat on the left side of the code, but not within the code itself.
- Align the cat's "paws" with the bottom of the code. Tip the CueCat forward so that the nose is also in contact with the surface of the item.
- Move the CueCat reader smoothly from left to right across the code in one fluent motion. Remember to keep the reader in contact with the code throughout the swipe for an accurate reading.

If the barcode does not show up in Movie Collector, swipe in a back and forth motion for another try, moving the Cat a little more up the barcode, away from the bottom.

**Note**: The USB CueCat reader includes a standby or "sleep" feature. After a period of inactivity, the light on your CueCat reader goes out and then flashes periodically. When you point the CueCat reader at an object, it lights up again and is ready to use. If not, just hold your finger over the light until it comes on solid. The light must be on solid before you scan.

**Related Topics**

- Adding movies using barcodes
- Add Movies Automatically
- Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
- Hints for Adding Movies Automatically
7.7 Proper sorting

Title Sorting
When sorting movies in the list view by title, you may see movies that seem out of place. Let's start with an example, say 'The Matrix'. You may see it listed under 'T' instead of 'M'. The software can solve this, by breaking down a title into two parts: the body (Matrix) and the article (The).

In the Edit Movie screen, on the Movie tab the title body (Matrix) goes into Title Sort field and the title's article (The) goes into Title The field. Once these two fields are filled in for all the titles, the sorting mechanism will automatically use the Title Sort value when sorting on Title.
Note: it is not necessary to enter the Title Sort for all movies; if it's empty the Title value will be used instead.

Name Sorting
When viewing a sorted list of lookup items you may come across entries that are not in the expected position. For example, when sorting on Actor you may see Al Pacino listed under 'A' instead of 'P'. This can be fixed through the menu Tools | Edit Lists. Make sure the First Name and Last Name data fields are populated. For more info, see List Management.

Related Topics
Browsing your database
List management
Lookup Lists

7.8 Data field meanings

In this section are the explanations for each of the data fields found in the Edit Movie screen. They are grouped by the tab on which they appear.
Note: you do not need to use all the fields; if you don't know what a field means or see no need for it, just leave it empty.

Main

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Title of the movie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Extension</td>
<td>Caption that is sometimes added to a title, for example 'The Director's Cut'.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title Sort</td>
<td>Body of the movie title. This relates to sorting of movies. For example with the movie 'The Wizard of Oz', the title sort should contain 'Wizard of Oz'. See Proper sorting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Title The</td>
<td>The article words of a title. For example with the movie 'The Wizard of Oz', the word 'The' should appear here. Breaking down the title like this leads to sorting of the movies by the Title Sort field. See Proper sorting.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Format</td>
<td>Physical media of the movie, for example DVD or VHS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Series</td>
<td>Many movies are chapters of a story. If they are associated, this can be entered here. For example, the 'Star Wars' series. For TV series, enter the main name of the series (e.g. 'Friends').</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movie Release Date</td>
<td>Date field for when a movie was released in theaters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Release Date</td>
<td>Date field for when the edition you have was released in your region or perhaps when a movie was released on DVD or VHS.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Genre</td>
<td>Categories that describe the type of movie content</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection Status</td>
<td>Status of a movie in the database. The options are: Not In Collection, Wanted, In Collection and For Sale. Use the 'Wanted' value to track movies you want to add to your collection but do not have yet.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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Running Time  The length of the movie, in minutes. You can change how this value is displayed via Tools | Options.

Index  Number identifying the movie. The index value is automatically assigned when a movie is added to the database. It is an increasing numerical value. This can be useful for tracking physical movies. The next index value can be controlled through menu Tools | Options. All the index values can be re-assigned through menu Tools | Maintenance | Re-Assign Index fields.

Edition  Description in case the movie is a special version, such as ‘Widescreen Edition’

Cast  Actors and the roles they played

Movie

Crew  People involved in creating the movie. There are five possible jobs: Director, Producer, Writer, Photography and Musician. There are also two user-definable jobs that you can rename via Tools | Field Names

Studio  The movie studio(s) that created the movie

Audience Rating  What audiences the movie is suited for, for example PG (Parental Guidance)

Country  The country in which the movie was primarily filmed.

Language  The main language of the film.

IMDb Number  The identifying number that IMDb assigns to movies in its database. If you click on the Go button a web browser will open and show you the IMDb page for the movie with this number.

Color / Black and white  Whether the movie is in color or black & white. If it has sections in both, choose color.

Technical

Layers  For DVDs: how information is encoded on the disk. See here for more info.

Subtitles  Language subtitles.

Region  Region(s) for which this movie is recorded. For example an Australian DVD (region 4) might not be playable on a DVD player for the United States (region 1).

Audio Tracks  Audio format(s) that the audio recorded in. For example, Dolby Digital or DTS.

Screen Ratio  The aspect ratio of the recorded movie. The most important factor is whether the recording is fullscreen or widescreen.

UPC  The number encoded in the barcode of a movie.

Packaging  Type of package the movie is stored in. For example, the standard keep case.

Nr. of disks/ Tapes  Set to indicate how many disks / tapes the movie consists of.

Personal

Purchase Date  Date the movie was purchased

Store  Where the movie was purchased from

Purchase Price  Amount paid for movie. Prices are shown in the currency defined by the regional settings of your system.

Current value  Present value of a movie

Owner  Person who owns the movie.

Location  Physical location of the media (e.g. ‘Bookcase 1, shelf 3’).

Viewing Date  Date the movie was watched

Seen Where  Location where the movie was watched
User Lookup 1  Unassigned field that be used in a manner you wish. It is for tracking information that doesn't fit in other data fields. Lookup fields are best used for data that has repeated values. You can rename this field via menu Tools|Field Names.

User Lookup 2  Second user-definable lookup field

User Text 1  Unassigned field that be used in a manner you wish. It is for tracking information that doesn't fit in other data fields. Text fields are best for data that is normally unique for each movie, like Title.

User Text 2  Second user-definable text field

Tape Label  Label of a tape that has a movie on it. This can be useful if there are multiple movies recorded on one tape.

Starting Position  Start time for this movie on a tape with multiple movies.

Tape Speed  Tape speed was the movie recorded at.

My Rating  Your evaluation of the movie. It follows 5 star rating, with the possibility of half stars

Seen it  Has the movie been viewed?

Covers

Front Cover (left)  Picture of the front cover of the movie. See File Management for more details on how images are stored.

Back Cover (right)  Picture of the back cover of the movie.

DVD Features

Standard Features  Bonus features that are often included on DVDs

Extra Features  Bonus features for a DVD which are unique to it

Chapters  The number of chapters of a DVD movie

Plot

Plot  Description of the storyline of the movie.

Notes

Notes  Personal remarks about the movie.

Links

Links to external files on your computer or websites. See Links for more info.

Description  Description of the link; will be shown in the Details View.

URL  The actual link; either a URL for an online link or the absolute filepath for a file on your (local) computer.

Related Topics

Editing Movies

Exporting data to text format
7.9 Collectorz.com Movie Database

Movie Collector connects to the Collectorz.com Movie Database to download movie information. In the Add Movies Automatically screen, it is listed as the 'Collectorz.com' info source. It has a large and quickly growing list of worldwide movie releases and issues on DVD, HD-DVD, BluRay and other formats. You can search it both on title and barcode.

New content is submitted by Movie Collector users like you, who submit their data if a movie is not yet in the collection. All other people can then download it, so each movie only has to be entered once.

On the Collectorz.com website we feature the most requested movies for the previous week.

Submitting to Collectorz.com Movie Database

The database mostly relies on movie information submitted by users of Movie Collector. You are welcome to contribute; please review our submission guidelines before submitting movie info. To submit, select menu Edit | Submit to Collectorz.com Movie Database which brings up:
The screen lists which movies are about to be submitted, their barcodes and whether it has a front or back cover. If your cover images are not scanned by yourself, please uncheck the 'Submit cover images' checkbox.

**Related Topics**
Add Movies Automatically
Add Movies Automatically - Advanced Mode
Hints for Adding Movies Automatically

### 7.10 Storing disks

Movie Collector is great for collecting information about your movie collection. It is also good for tracking the physical media like DVDs and VHS tapes. Here are some tips on how you can organize this:
Index Values
One way to organize your physical movies is by the Index value. This is useful because to find a movie, first locate it in Movie Collector and read off its Index value. Next go to the index position in your collection. When a movie is added to the database an Index value is automatically assigned. The Index number automatically increases, as you add movies to your collection. When you buy new movies, add them to your Movie Collector database. No need to resort your entire collection, Movie Collector will track where everything is.

The next Index value, as well as whether it should be incremented automatically, can be controlled through the Options screen.

Sometimes you may want to change the index values. For example when movies are deleted, a gap will be created in the index sequence. In such a case, you can select Tools | Maintenance | Re-Assign Index fields... to renumber your movies so that the indexes match again. When you select this menu option, a field selection screen will be shown where you can indicate which sort order must be used to assign the index values. For example, when you select the Title field, the movies with a title starting with "A" will get a lower index than titles starting with "B".

Useful fields: Owner, Location, Tape Label and Start Position
If your movie collection is a merging from more then one person, ownership can be tracked through the Owner field. You can then group on the Owner field to see who owns what. If there are multiple places where the movies are kept, you can track this through the Location field.

If your collection contains VHS tapes or other home video tape formats, then the Tape Label and Start Position fields can be useful. See Data field meanings for more information about the mentioned fields.

Related Topics
Editing Movies
Options screen

7.11 Shortcut keys

Main screen

Movie Collector menu
Preferences
Quit Movie Collector

File menu
New database
Open database
Save database
Save database as
Edit menu

Undo last edit action (in the edit panel)
Redo last (undone) action.
Cut
Copy
Paste
Select all
Select Random
Add Movie manually
Edit movie
Edit multiple movies
Duplicate movie
Remove movie
Special Characters

Help menu
Start up this manual

Edit Movie screen
Clear field (only when editing multiple movies)

7.12 XSL templates

XSL Templates are XSL files defining a layout and look for showing, printing or exporting items in your collection. They are used in 3 different situations in the Collectorz.com programs:

- Details View: This is the lower right part of the main screen, where it shows a nice graphical view of the information of the currently selected item. XSL templates are used to define the look of this part of the screen. Right-click the Details View to select a different template.
- Printing: When printing lists of items, XSL templates are used to provide you with multiple different report layouts to choose from.
- Exporting to HTML: With the HTML exporting features you can quickly create nice looking webpages listing your items, each item linking to a separate "detail" page about that item. The look and feel of these webpages are defined by XSL templates. The Export to HTML screen lets you choose from different templates for both the list and the details pages.

Creating your own templates
A selection of templates are included with the program, so that you can choose which look suits you the best. But you can also create your own templates, either from scratch or by modifying existing templates. This gives you even greater control over the way you want your items to look.

Want to know how to create your own templates? Read our XSL Template Tutorial
If you create a cool template, please contact us through Support and we may make it available on the website or maybe even include it in the next release of the program.

**Using templates created by other Movie Collector users**

If you don't want to go through the trouble of creating your own templates, you might want to take a look at this list of templates created by other Movie Collector users.

Here's how to use one of these templates in Movie Collector:

- Close Movie Collector
- Click the download link to download a zip file containing the XSL template and other files.
- Unzip the zip-file and place its contents in the following folder:
  
  `/Library/Application Support/Movie Collector/Templates`

  Make sure you preserve the folder structure in the zip file.

- Start Movie Collector. The new template will now show up in the program. Note that the type of the template (view, export or print) determines where it shows up in the program.

**Related Topics**

- Main screen
- Printing
- Exporting data to HTML

### 7.13 File management

**Database files**

A Movie Collector database is a single file with the extension `.mvc`. When the active database file is opened, a copy of it is made and placed in the Backup folder. The structure of the file name is `'Backup of <filename>.mvc'`. Also see backing up your data.

It is possible to maintain multiple database files. In most cases we recommend storing all your movies in one file and using the data fields to group movies. For example if your movie collection has multiple owners, this can be tracked with the Owner data field. The drawback of using multiple database files is that you cannot search across all of them in one go, and that there is no mechanism for transferring movie information between database files.

The folder location of the database file can be found through the menu **File | Save As**.

**Images**

The movie cover images are stored as individual files, not in the database file. The database files have links to the images. The default storage image folders are specified through menu **Movie Collector | Preferences**, tab **Images**. If you move the images to a different folder, you will need to update the image links to get them to display again.

**XSL Templates**

The software uses a number of pre-defined templates, which are placed in a folder under the location of the program itself: You may also place your own template in that folder:

`~/Library/Application Support/Movie Collector/Templates`

See XSL templates to learn more about their usage.
Search Scripts
Movie Collector uses Perl scripts to search and download from the info sources. By default the software downloads the latest versions of the scripts from our website before performing a search. This can be turned off through the Settings button in the Add Movies Automatically screen. Using this option you can customize the scripts yourself if you're familiar with Perl.

Related Topics
Making backups of your data
XSL Templates
Adding Images manually
Update File Links

7.14 License agreement

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