

Media metadata

The Info Panel

When a media file is created by a computer or digital device, information is embedded into the file to describe it. This information is called metadata, and is used by software programs to accurately understand the media file.

MediaPro uses the Info Panel to provide an instant look at the aggregate properties and metadata of a media file, such as file type, size, dimensions, resolution, caption, capture date and duration. Naturally, this information will change based on the media type.

You can edit and check the accuracy of information within this single user-configurable list with no need to remember to open multiple dialogs. The data inside the Info Panel is split into various sections. To show the data from one of these groups, click the arrow next to the section name.

Some files will have large amounts of information. To view all metadata, you can scroll down the panel, or you can hide various sections using the List Configuration menu (see figure right).

Media properties

Media Info: This section displays non-editable embedded media-related metadata. Some fields your computer assigns to a file, such as type, size, creation date and modification date.

Other fields display information based on the media type. For example, image files will display dimensions, resolution, bit-depth, color space and profile. Audio files display the type of encoding, length of the music, audio channels and data about the quality of the sound.

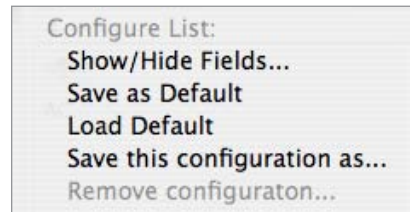
MediaPro also displays the size of text annotations, audio annotations and thumbnail associated with an item in this section.

Special, extended media-related metadata are displayed in their own section. They are:

Photo EXIF: For images created by digital cameras, the Info Panel will display special data (EXIF) that was captured and embedded in the photo



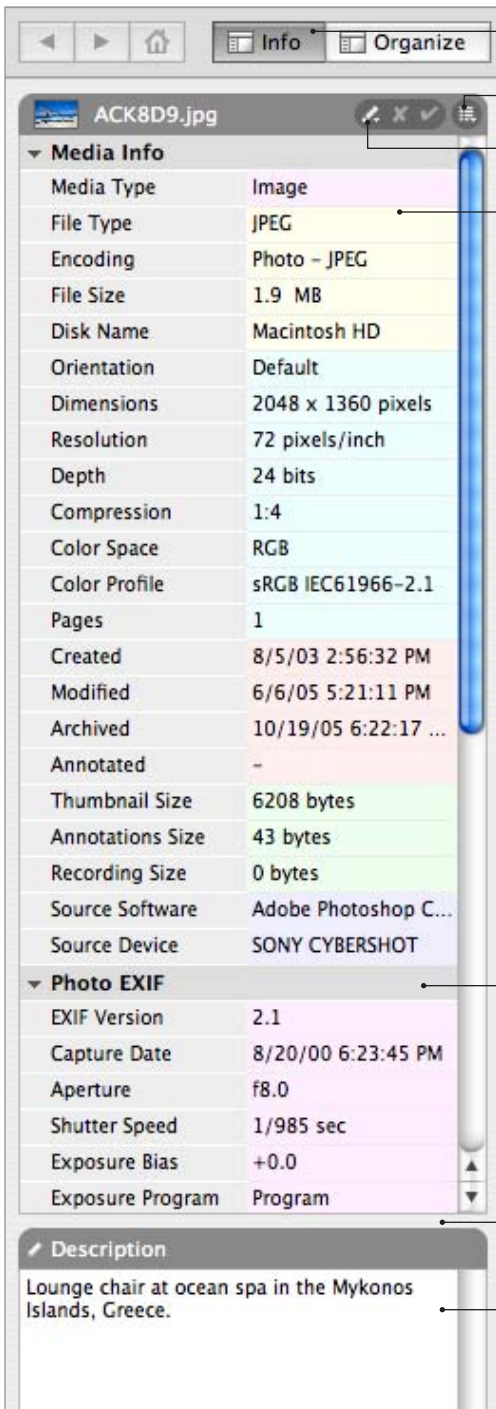
To add a group to the annotation groups Categories, Keywords and People, double-click the empty field and type the name of the new field.



Configure list: Use the List Configuration menu to show or hide properties, annotations or groups. *Save as Default* stores the current Info Panel configuration as the default which can be loaded into existing or new catalogs.

file. This metadata includes the date and time a photo was taken (Capture Date), as well as camera-related information, such as shutter speed, aperture and exposure. GPS (Global Positioning System) information is also displayed in this section. Different cameras record different amounts of EXIF data. Only the EXIF data captured by your digital camera will be displayed here.

Cue Points (Audio and Video): Some audio or video media files contain markers, or cue points, which define special time stamps in the file. For example, an audio file might have cue points that mark the chorus, bridge and solos of a song. MediaPro lists the name and time stamp for all cue points of an item in this section.



Info Panel: To show the Info Panel, click this button. To hide it, click the button again.

List Configuration menu

Use Metadata Template to save/apply a group of annotation terms to media files.

Media information depends on the file type. The example at left shows a JPEG photo; the one below shows info for an MP3.

Media Info	
Media Type	Audio
File Type	MP3
Encoding	ms
File Size	5.6 MB
Disk Name	Macintosh HD
Orientation	Default
Duration	00:06:07
Data Rate	15.6 KB/sec
Audio Channels	Stereo

Embedded metadata depends on the file type. The figure at left shows the info for a JPEG photograph. The example below shows the Movie Tracks for a QuickTime movie.

Movie Tracks	
#1 Video	
Encoding: Sorenson Video	
Start Time: 00:00:00.0	
Duration: 00:03:38.3	
Data Size: 10.9 MB	
Data Rate: 51.3 KB	
Frame Rate: 12	

Annotations

Click arrow to expand and collapse data groups.

Resize the Description window by dragging this bar up and down.

Descriptions are a free form way of describing media, useful for additional explanation or thoughts. Descriptions embedded into files will automatically be shown here.

Movie Tracks (Audio and Video): Movie files usually contain two tracks of digital information: one for video and one for audio. However, movies can contain multiple video and audio tracks.

This section displays the type of encoding, start time, duration, data size, data rate and frame rate for each video track of the movie file. For audio files, which only contain one track, this section displays the type of encoding, start time, duration, data size and data rate.

Annotations

MediaPro supports a set of pre-defined fields for annotating your media. This set (also known as the IPTC Core) includes fields that enable you to define the author, event date, event information, copyright, labels, ratings and more.

IPTC stands for the International Press and Telecommunications Council. Since the late 1970s, the IPTC has focused on developing industry standards for the interchange of news data. The IPTC annotation fields used by MediaPro comply with the standard set by this organization.

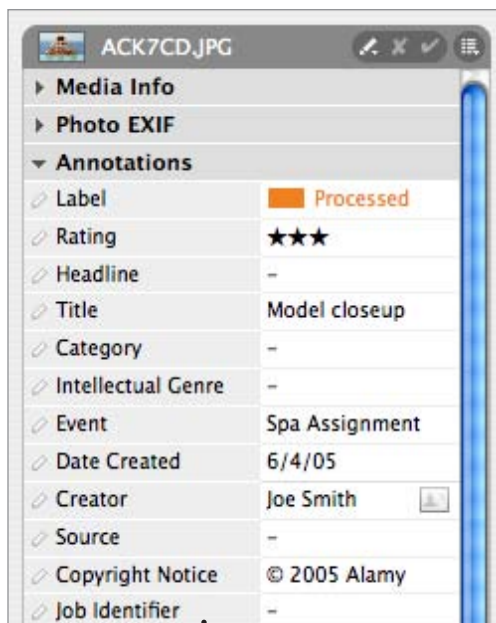
These fields are also part of Adobe's metadata standard called XMP (Extensible Metadata Platform). MediaPro can read XMP metadata in four image file types: JPEG, TIFF, PNG and Photoshop.

Creating or editing annotations in a MediaPro catalog does not affect the original files, unless you choose to synchronize the catalog items with the original files (see page 58).

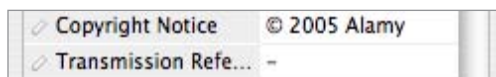
Description: The Info Panel also provides an area to write descriptions of media, useful for additional explanation or thoughts. Descriptions embedded into files will automatically be shown in this field.

QuickTime equivalent mapping: Some files such as MP3s or movies have QuickTime annotations embedded. These are mapped to annotation fields.

For example, the *Author* annotation field is mapped to the *Artist* field of an MP3, *Product* to the *Album* name and *Title* to a song's *Full Name*. For more information on mapping, see page 147.



Field names: Some software programs use different names for the various IPTC/XMP field names. For example, Photoshop CS calls the IPTC Job Identifier field, Transmission Reference (see below). MediaPro provides you with option of choosing which field names to display: The official IPTC Core names; those names used in iView MediaPro 2; or those used in Photoshop CS. To change the field names displayed, see the *Field Names* drop-down menu of the *Edit > Preferences > General* dialog. Field names do not affect how annotations are written (synchronized) into media files. It is merely a visual preference designed to help you choose the appropriate field when annotating files.



People, Keywords, Categories, Scenes, Subject Codes are metadata groups useful for describing and organizing the content of your media. These groups are part of the IPTC and XMP annotation standards.

Catalog Sets displays all associated MediaPro sets in the Organize Panel to which an item belongs. Catalog sets are a free form, hierarchical method of organizing media files. *For more, see page 75.*