

LEGACY SOFTWARE

Legacy Compressor Pro

Smaller files. Same creative intent.

USER MANUAL • VERSION 0.2.1

macOS Apple Silicon and Windows 10/11 x64

1. Welcome to Compressor Pro

Legacy Compressor Pro compresses video, audio, and image files locally using production-aware presets. Source media is never uploaded. Each completed file is written as a new export, leaving the original untouched.

Local and private. Compression runs on your computer with the included FFmpeg engine. You remain responsible for keeping backups of important media.

What is included

- Video compression to MP4 (H.264 video with AAC audio).
- Audio compression to M4A (AAC).
- Image compression to JPEG.
- Four presets: Smallest, Balanced, High Quality, and Broadcast Proxy.
- Queue progress, cancellation, collision-safe filenames, saved preferences, and local history.

System requirements

Platform	Supported system	Package
macOS	Apple silicon Mac running a current macOS release	ARM64 application ZIP
Windows	64-bit Windows 10 or Windows 11	x64 setup installer

2. Install and start the trial

macOS Apple Silicon

1. Open the macOS ZIP and drag Legacy Compressor Pro.app into Applications.
2. Open Applications, then launch Legacy Compressor Pro.
3. For an unsigned test build, Control-click the app, choose Open, review the notice, and choose Open again.

Windows 10 or 11

1. Open Legacy-Compressor-Pro-Setup-0.2.1-x64.exe.
2. Choose the installation folder and complete the setup.
3. If SmartScreen appears for this unsigned test build, choose More info only after verifying that the installer came directly from Legacy Software, then choose Run anyway.

30-day Full Feature trial

The trial starts on the first application launch and persists between restarts. The remaining-day count appears in the sidebar. All compression features are available during the trial. After 30 days, compression is disabled and the trial-complete screen appears. Reinstalling the application does not intentionally reset application data.

Clock protection. Moving the system clock backward does not extend the recorded trial period.

3. Overview and Queue

Add media

- On Overview, choose Video, Audio, or Images.
- Select Add media and choose up to 100 files.
- Review the Queue. Duplicate paths are not added twice.
- Choose a preset and output location, then select Start compression.

Queue controls

- Add files adds more media for the active type.
- X removes an item before processing.
- Cancel stops the active compression safely, removes the incomplete temporary export, and leaves remaining items unprocessed.

- Show reveals a completed output in Finder or File Explorer.
- If a proposed export would be larger than the source, Compressor Pro removes that export and marks the file Already Optimized, except in High Quality mode.

Output behavior

When Same folder as each source is selected, every file exports beside its own source—even when the queue contains files from different folders. Existing exports are never overwritten: subsequent results receive -2, -3, and later suffixes.

Before each export, Compressor Pro checks available disk space. It writes to a hidden temporary file, validates the result, and only then gives the export its final name. Failed or cancelled jobs clean up incomplete files automatically.

Keep free space available. Video exports may temporarily require substantial disk space. Avoid compressing onto a nearly full drive.

4. Presets

Preset	Best for	Output behavior
Smallest	Sharing and storage	Video CRF 31; audio 96 kbps; compact JPEG
Balanced	Everyday delivery	Video CRF 27; audio 128 kbps; balanced JPEG
High Quality	Master-quality review	Video CRF 21; audio 256 kbps; quality-first JPEG
Broadcast Proxy	Editorial workflows	1280px-wide H.264 proxy with AAC audio

Choosing well

- Start with Balanced for web delivery and review copies.
- Use Smallest when transfer size matters more than fine detail.
- Use High Quality when preserving detail matters more than maximum savings.
- Use Broadcast Proxy for editing responsiveness, not final delivery.

Estimated savings are guidance only. Actual results depend on source codec, duration, resolution, noise, motion, and existing compression.

5. History and Settings

History

Every completed queue records its date, preset, item count, saved bytes, and successful output paths. Use Show output to reveal a result. Clear history removes only the log; it does not delete media files.

Settings

- Default quality preset: the preset selected at startup.
- Default output folder: a shared export folder; leave blank to export beside each source.
- Reveal completed output: automatically shows the first successful result after a queue finishes.
- Preserve source metadata: retains supported embedded metadata instead of stripping it.
- Diagnostic report: exports a privacy-conscious activity log from Settings for troubleshooting. The log records filenames and processing events, not media contents.

Privacy. Settings, trial state, and history are stored in the operating system application-data folder. No account or internet connection is required for compression.

6. Supported formats and troubleshooting

Input and output formats

Media	Accepted input	Export
Video	MP4, MOV, MKV, WEBM, AVI, M4V	MP4 / H.264 + AAC
Audio	MP3, WAV, FLAC, AAC, M4A	M4A / AAC
Images	PNG, JPG, JPEG, TIFF, WEBP	JPEG

Common issues

Problem	What to do
The app will not open	Use the unsigned-test-build instructions above, and verify the package source.
Compression fails immediately	Confirm the source still exists, the output folder is writable, and adequate disk space is available.

Output is larger	Use Balanced or Smallest. Compressor Pro automatically discards larger results outside High Quality mode.
A file is marked unsupported	Convert it to one of the accepted formats or choose the correct media mode before adding it.
Cancel takes a moment	The app must stop the active FFmpeg process safely before returning control.

7. Safe testing checklist

- Use expendable copies for the first test.
- Test one file from each media type.
- Run each of the four presets.
- Confirm the original remains unchanged.
- Confirm outputs from mixed source folders land beside their own sources.
- Repeat a filename and confirm the new export receives a numeric suffix.
- Restart the app and confirm settings, history, and trial days persist.
- Test Cancel during a longer video job.
- Confirm Clear history does not remove output files.

Build status

Version 0.2.1 is a release-hardening test build for macOS Apple Silicon and Windows x64. It adds disk-space protection, validated temporary outputs, automatic incomplete-file cleanup, sleep prevention during active jobs, single-instance protection, and diagnostic reporting. Public distribution still requires Windows code signing and macOS Developer ID signing and notarization.

Support information

When reporting an issue, include the operating system, source format, chosen preset, approximate source size, destination folder, and the complete error message displayed by Compressor Pro. Do not send confidential media unless specifically requested through an approved support channel.