

NOTE: all links in the presentation can be found live here: <http://bit.ly/sandbox-scr>

Tools:

Jing and Screencast.com – capture a single image (screenshot) or up to 5 minutes of activity (screencast) on a screen with audio narration; upload to Screencast.com to share.

- Jing: <http://www.techsmith.com/jing/>
- Screencast.com: <http://www.screencast.com> (registration required, you'll be prompted)

Jing requires free software to be installed on your PC.

Download and install Jing from here: <http://www.techsmith.com/download/jing/>

Jing tutorials are available here: <http://www.techsmith.com/learn/jing/>

Screencast-O-Matic (SOM)– capture up to 15 minutes of activity on a screen with audio narration; upload to screencast-o-matic.com or YouTube to share. You can also save the video file on your PC.

- Screencast-O-Matic: <http://screencast-o-matic.com/> ; tutorial is on this page

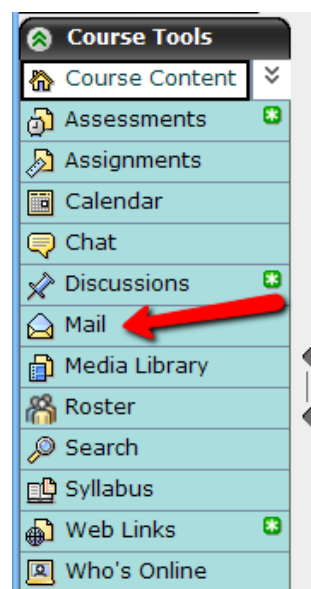
Screencast-O-Matic does not install any software on your PC. It requires that you have a browser and Java installed.

- You can install Java from here: <http://java.com/en/download/index.jsp> .
- Supported browsers are listed here: <http://screencast-o-matic.com/#faq1>

I think Jing is great for capturing screenshots (still images) and Screencast-O-Matic is better than Jing for short screencasts – it's a little more flexible and easier to use.

Example – Capture Screen Image using Jing

I became aware that a student wasn't reading her email within WebCT, so I sent a message to her external email with instructions how to find WebCT email, and I embedded an image captured from the WebCT screen, using Jing.



Example – Screencast

Suppose you got a phone call from a student, panicked because he couldn't figure out how to login to WebCT. You can make a quick video to demonstrate the steps, and then email the link to him. Here's an example. This was made using Screencast-O-Matic.

<http://www.screencast-o-matic.com/watch/c66Trm6fw>

I could have done the same thing with Jing, but I like SOM better for making screencasts.

You can also use SOM for making longer screencasts, such as explaining a tricky concept from your course. Create the screencast, and then post the link on your website, WebCT, or give it to your students in an email.

Demos

Demo: Capture an Image using Jing and paste it into a Word Document

Capturing an image is demonstrated clearly in the tutorials under "Capture" on this page:

<http://www.techsmith.com/learn/jing/>. [It's easier to do than it is to read about it.]

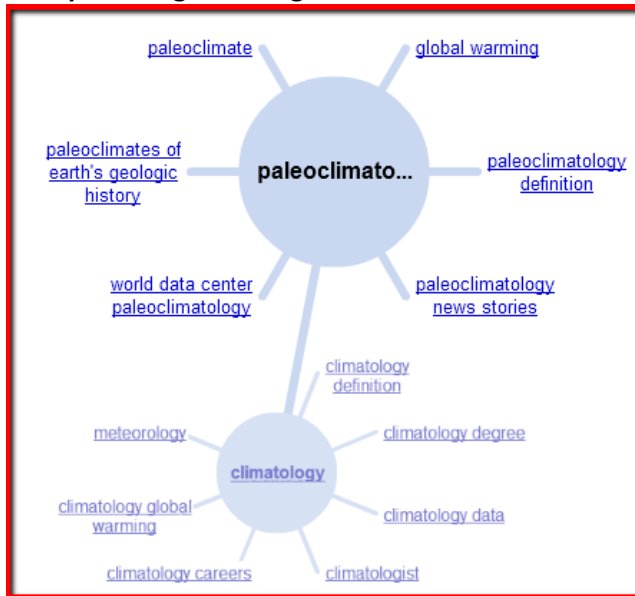
1. Identify the material you want to capture as an image.
2. Put your mouse cursor on the "sun" on your screen, and then click on the "+" on the left "ball" that comes out of the sun. This will put yellow cross-hairs on your screen.
3. Left-click and hold with the mouse to position the crosshairs at the upper left of the screen region you want to save, and while holding down the left mouse key, drag to the lower right to select the remainder of the region.
4. After your release the mouse key, you can use your mouse to adjust the size and position of the area you want to capture. The selected area will appear in a gold frame with tool buttons underneath.
5. Click on the "capture image" icon on the toolbar under your selected area (icon on left).
6. A window containing your image will pop up, allowing you to label or mark-up your image (use the tools on the left).
7. When you are satisfied with your image, you can click on the tools under the image.
 - a. **Assign a name** to the image (otherwise it will be given the date-stamp name that appears in the Name box).

Then, you can do one of the following with the image:

- b. **Upload the image** to Screencast.com (3 arrows button). Use this if you want to store the image on the internet and provide a link to the image to someone else. [If you don't have a Screencast.com account, you'll be prompted to create one. If you're not logged in, login at the top of the screen that appears.] Clicking on this button will upload the image and place a link to the image on the clipboard; immediately paste the link in a message or document. (I rarely use this; I usually just save the image on my PC and paste it in a document or message.)
- c. **Save the image on your computer** (floppy disk button). You will be prompted for a name and place to store it.
- d. **Copy it to your clipboard** (2 squares button). You will be notified that it has been copied to the clipboard. Go to your destination and paste it immediately. (It's safer to

save it on your computer and then insert it in a document or message; it can easily be lost from the clipboard.)

Example: Image of Google’s Wonder Wheel for Climatology:

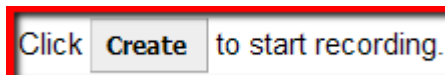


FYI: <http://www.googlewonderwheel.com/>

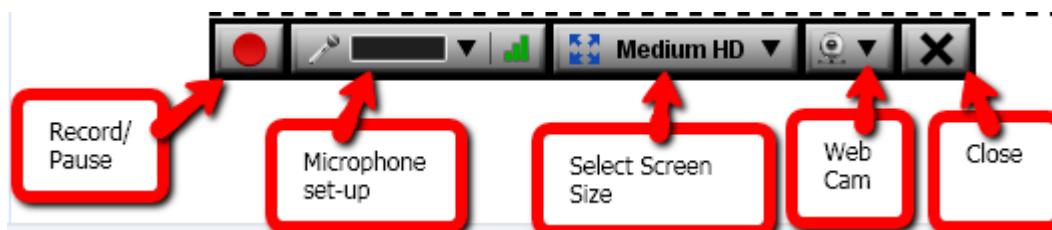
Note: all images in this document were captured and annotated using Jing.

Demo: Create and upload a small screencast using Screencast-O-Matic

1. Identify the material you want to appear in the screencast, open a window on it, and position it on your screen. Plug in your microphone if you’re planning to use it. Take a deep breath – this isn’t as hard as it looks!
2. Open your browser and go to Screencast-O-Matic here: <http://screencast-o-matic.com>



3. On the SOM screen that appears
4. Move the SOM screen out of the way, but DO NOT CLOSE THE WINDOW
5. Set the size and initial location of the recording area (dotted lines). You can move it while recording, but you can’t resize it. You can select “Standard” sizes from the set-up toolbar under the recording area; click on the Screen Size button:



6. If you’re using audio, click on the Microphone set-up button to select your microphone from a menu. If you’re using a webcam, click on the webcam button to select your webcam from a menu.

7. Click on the red dot to record, or to resume recording after a pause; you'll see a short countdown, and then recording will begin, and you'll see this toolbar:





View while recording

- Click on the button with vertical blue bars above to pause, and you'll see this toolbar:



View while paused

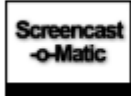
8. Speak into your microphone, move your mouse, click on links, scroll – SOM will capture what you say and do within the recording area.
 - a. If you need to, move the recording area by clicking on the border and dragging it. You can also click on the pause button (blue bars) if you need to make a change in the screen.
 - b. Click on the blue bars to pause, and the red dot to resume recording.
9. To edit (very minimal capabilities), you can record over all or part of what you've just recorded, while you're in the "recording" mode:
 - a. To discard what you've done and start over, click on Restart on either toolbar.
 - b. To partially re-record over a blunder, click on Pause, and then click on the left-pointing triangle to back up to an earlier point in the recording.  If you start recording at this point, you will record over the materials previously recorded after that point. The right-pointing triangle moves you forward in the recording. You can see where you are by looking at the timer to the left of the triangles button. 

10. When you're done recording, click on the **Done** button. If the "Create Screencast" browser window doesn't pop to the front, bring it to the front.

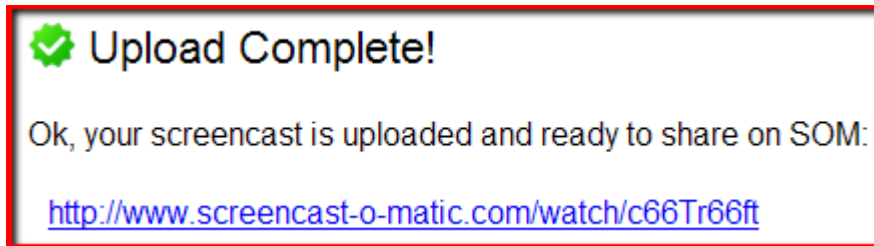
11. You'll see a "Preview" window, which allows you to play what you just recorded. You may have to scroll down to see the controls at the bottom of the Preview section. From here, you can go back and add more to the end of the screencast, or you can save your screencast and upload it (menu is on far right of preview section – enlarge window to see it if necessary).

12. **Saving and Uploading:** The easiest way is to **upload** your screencast to SOM, where you will be given a link to give to other people, so that they can also view the screencast.



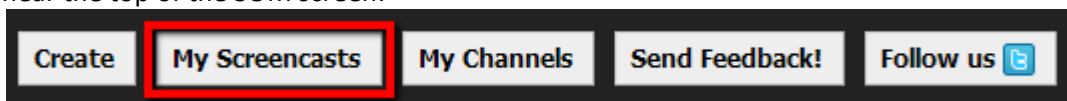
13. Click on . On the screen that comes up, fill in the boxes with a title, description, Language, Notes to insert into the screencast (optional), and check the options you want. Then click on the **Upload** button.

14. If you don't have a SOM account, create one on the screen that comes up. If you do have an SOM account, login now. After you create an account or login, the software will encode and upload your screencast, showing you progress as it happens.
15. When the upload is complete, you'll be given the link to your screencast – copy it and paste it into a document or an email. (You can also retrieve it later.) Give the link to anyone whom you want to see the screencast.



From here, you can go back and do more with the screencast you just made, or you can click on Done.

16. You can manage the screencasts that you've saved by clicking on My Screencasts, on the menu near the top of the SOM screen:



More Information

Advantages of these tools:

- Free!
- Easy to use
- Easier to show some things via video clip than describe in writing
- Can share screencasts with one or many students
- Jing: Capturing and editing a screenshot (image) is very easy
- SOM: Can move frame after screencast recording starts

Disadvantages of these tools:

- Very minimal editing of screencasts (back up and overwrite or redo). SOM has a paid version (\$9.95/year) that provides basic editing tools (delete/insert, zoom, etc.)
- Limited file formats (do you care?)
- Limited duration of video clips
- Jing: Cannot move frame after screencast recording starts
- Jing and SOM: If you are recording the screen while playing something that has audio of its own (such as DVD), the built-in audio WILL NOT be recorded. The only audio that is recorded is the audio you record, via your microphone.

Both of these tools are available in paid versions with more capabilities.

The Lexus of screencast creation tools is **Camtasia Studio**, also sold by Techsmith. It costs around \$180 (academic discount), and it has more of a learning curve, but also many more capabilities.

<http://www.techsmith.com/camtasia/> You can download a free 30-day trial with full capabilities.