iMovie for iPhone

This appendix, written by Abe Handler, is designed to accompany iPhone: The Missing Manual, Fourth Edition.

A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away, it took tons of expensive equipment to produce a movie. Today, you can shoot, edit, and distribute a film using a simple app on your iPhone 4. The buttons may be tiny and the screen may be cramped, but if the force is strong with you, you'll find that Apple's iMovie app has got the tools to carry your vision to the silver screen.

This appendix guides you through every step in the process: getting iMovie onto your iPhone, navigating the app's main control screens, and combining songs, clips, and videos into a polished film. It also explains how to publish your finished masterpiece to YouTube or send it to your computer and burn it to a DVD.

Note "iMovie for iPhone" is a bit of a mouthful, so for the sake of brevity, whenever this appendix mentions "iMovie," it's referring to the iMovie for iPhone app—unless otherwise specified.

Getting Started with iMovie

You guessed it: You download iMovie from the App Store (Figure D-1). For a refresher on finding and installing apps, head to page 171 of the book. If you'd rather download the app from iTunes, page 175 explains how. Either way, the app will cost you five bucks.

Tip You can also get a *free* video-editing app from Vimeo.com—see the box on page 3 of this appendix.

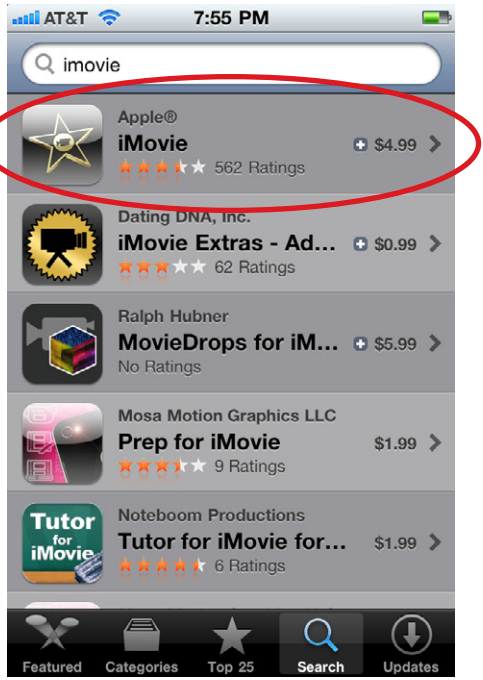

Figure D-1. Make sure you download the right app. Type imovie *into the Search box (don't worry about caps) and you'll see a list of iMovie-related apps. You want the one circled here.*

Note You can also use your copy of iMovie on an iPad 2 or fourth-generation iPod Touch. Happily, you only have to buy it once. Just head to the App Store on your other device and then follow the steps outlined above. When you go to "buy" iMovie again (using your same Apple ID), Apple will see that you've already purchased a copy and let you download the app again for free.

Downloading iMovie takes a while. Your iPhone displays the iMovie icon with a little blue bar under it that shows the download's progress. Once the bar disappears and the pale iMovie icon brightens, you're ready to go. Tap the icon to launch the app.

Note When you open iMovie for the first time, it displays a little box that says iMovie would like you use your current location. Tap OK—it'll save you headaches in the future. Page 165 of your Missing Manual has the lowdown on geotagging, and the box on page 13 of this appendix explains how to fix your headaches if you tap Don't Allow on this screen instead.

Alternate Realities

Free Video Editing with Vimeo

iMovie for iPhone ain't the only game in town.

In March of 2011, Vimeo.com released a much-anticipated app—creatively called Vimeo—that lets you shoot and edit movies from your iPhone: *http://tinyurl.com/47xuspu*. The best part: it's *free*.

Why pay Apple for the iMovie app when you can edit video for nothing? Here are a few reasons iMovie might be worth the price:

- **Sync projects with other devices.** iMovie for iPhone syncs with the iPad 2 (see page 34 of this appendix for details). That means you can start a movie project using your iPhone, then make finishing touches on the iPad's big (or at least *bigger*) screen.
- **Geotagging.** iMovie embeds your location info into your video (see page 165 for details). Vimeo can't do this.
- **Looks and feels like iMovie for the Mac.** If you're used to iMovie for the Mac, you'll *almost* know how to use iMovie for the iPhone. You'll see that same reassuring yellow box when you go to trim a clip, that same playhead that marks your progress, and those same little triangles that mark transitions (see Figure D-20).
- **Easily share projects to YouTube.** YouTube is Vimeo's big rival, so Vimeo's app doesn't make it easy for you to post movies on that competing site. To put videos on YouTube using Vimeo, you'll need to export them from the Vimeo app to your iPhone's Camera Roll and *then* upload them (page 164 explains how). iMovie, on the other hand, uploads to YouTube with just a few taps (page 33 of this appendix has details).

The Home Screen

iMovie's home screen looks like an old-fashioned movie theater marquee (Figure D-2). You'll use this screen to get working on your movies-in-progress (iMovie calls 'em *projects*)—plus share, delete, and preview your films.

The first time you open iMovie, the marquee simply says Coming Soon, and a message tells you to tap + to start a new project. Each time you create a new project, iMovie adds a poster to this screen, as shown in Figure D-2. When you want to work on one of your movies, just swipe left or right to flip through the posters, then tap one to get cracking.

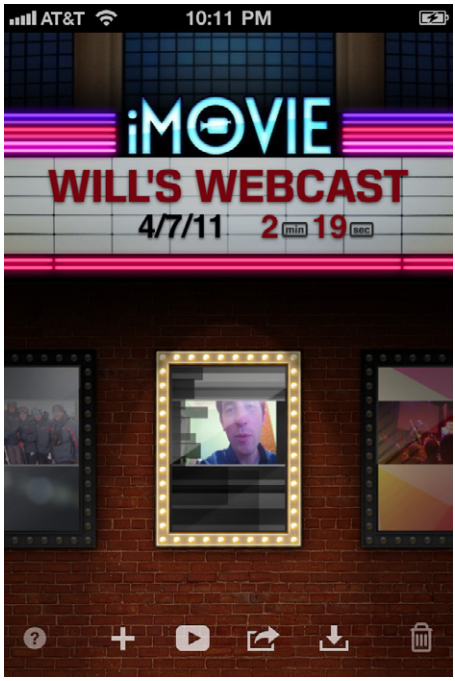

Figure D-2. iMovie's home screen looks like an old-time movie house. Swipe your finger across posters in the middle of this screen to flip through your movies-in-progress. As you skim through your projects, iMovie displays each movie's name, the date you last edited that project, and its running time in the marquee. Simply tap a poster to get back to work on that movie. To rename a project, double-tap its name in the marquee.

Use the buttons at the bottom of this screen to share, delete, or preview your films.

Here is a rundown of the screen's controls:

- **?** Nobody's perfect. If you're still confused about something in iMovie after reading this appendix, tap this button to open Help. Tap one of the topics that appear to learn more, or tap the 🔍 in the top right of the screen to search for a certain term.
- **+** Tap here and iMovie creates a brand-spanking-new project.

- ▶ This button launches full-screen Play mode so you can watch your masterpiece in three-and-a-half-inch glory. If you want to stream your movie onto another Apple device with a bigger screen via AirPlay, Play mode has got your covered, as explained in Figure D-3.
- Tap here when your movie is finished and you're ready to show it to the world. Page 32 of this appendix has details.
- If you started an iMovie project on an iPod Touch or iPad 2, you can use this button to get it onto your iPhone so you can finish the work. First, send the movie-in-progress from your iPod (or iPad 2) to iTunes (see page 34 of this appendix for details; the steps are the same on all three devices). Next, plug your iPhone into your computer, open iMovie, and then tap this button to transfer the project from iTunes to iMovie. Your phone opens a pop-up showing all the importable projects in iTunes; just tap the one you want.
- Tap this button to delete the project listed in the marquee. Once you trash a film-in-progress, your work will be lost forever (unless you've already shared a finished copy), so iMovie asks you to confirm your decision. Tap Delete Project to get rid of your film, or Cancel if you change your mind.

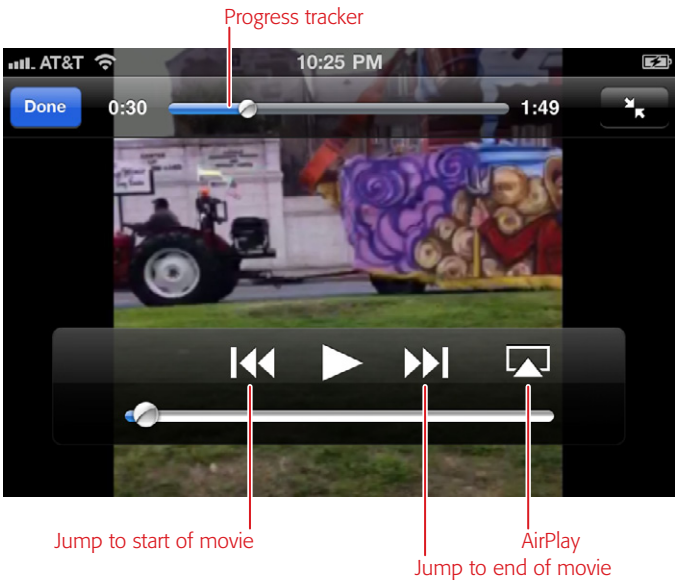

Figure D-3. Play mode isn't quite a movie theatre—but it does make the most of your tiny screen! Hit Play to start watching. The progress tracker shows your progression through the movie. The button makes your film fill the whole screen.

If you have an Apple TV, tap the AirPlay button and iMovie prepares an AirPlay broadcast of your movie so you can watch it on the big screen.

Tip You can always rotate your phone to switch between portrait (tall and skinny) and landscape (widescreen) modes.

Creating iMovie Projects

To start a new project, simply tap the + at the bottom of the home screen. iMovie creates a new project and displays an editing screen like the one shown in Figure D-4.

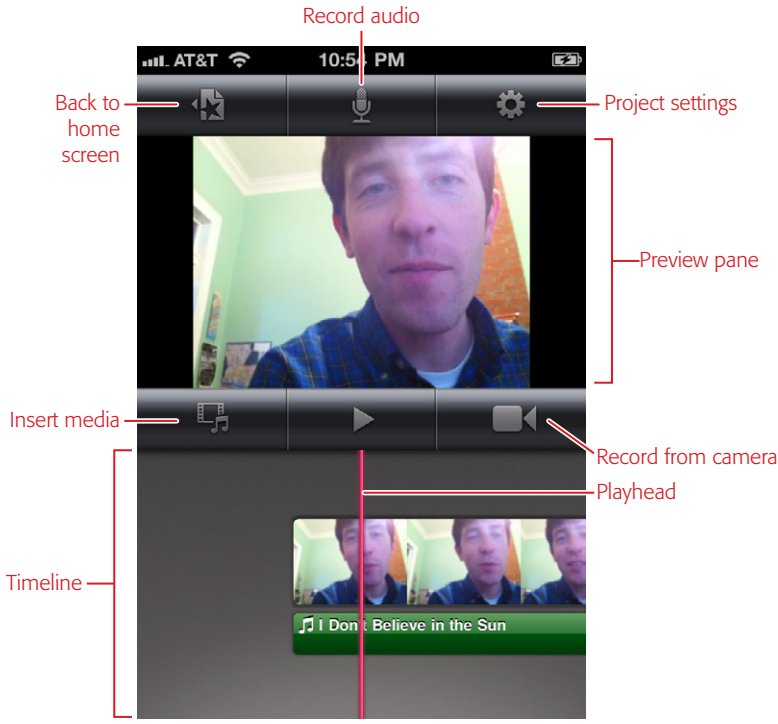

Figure D-4. iMovie's editing screen is your main dashboard for making a film. Just like all the screens in iMovie, it rotates as you turn your phone, so you can edit in portrait or landscape mode.

Part cockpit, part director's chair, this screen holds all the tools you need to shoot and edit a movie. This is where you'll add audio and video from your iPhone, record clips and sounds, and then edit your masterpiece until it shines.

You'll use a few basic parts of this screen over and over as you make films in iMovie:

- The **preview pane** gives you a sneak peek of what's happening at each instant in the movie.
- The **timeline** shows the clips, images, and sounds in your movie in chronological order.
- The **playhead** indicates which part of your project you're seeing in the preview pane. Slide your finger across the timeline to view a different part.

Here's what the rest of the editing screen's controls do:

- **Back to Main Menu.** This button sends you back to the home screen so you can to preview or share your work.
- **Record audio.** Lets you step up to the mike and record sound for your project. See page 14 of this appendix for details.
- **Project settings.** Use this button to pick a theme for your movie (page 16 of this appendix) or set up looping audio (page 18 of this appendix).
- **Insert media.** Tap here to add songs, clips, and pictures to your project (page 8 of this appendix).
- **Play.** It's helpful to know what your final movie will look like as your make edits. Tap this button (▶) to kick back, relax, and take a look.
- **Record from camera.** Who needs a camera crew when you have an iPhone? Check out page 12 of this appendix to learn how to use this button to record videos straight into iMovie.

Tip If you start making long films in iMovie, scrolling all the way across the timeline to edit something at the end of your movie will start to get annoying. Instead, tap the far right side of the timeline and hold down your finger; iMovie jumps to the end of your flick. The same trick works for hopping to the beginning of your movie: just tap and hold your finger down at the far left of the timeline.

Adding Video, Photos, and Audio

Filmmaking has changed a lot in the past 100 years. Sixty years ago, legends like Hitchcock and Kurosawa shot footage and then compiled it into a movie. But these days, plenty of folks make films just by combining old footage in totally new ways. So if you want to, say, splice photos from your office party with clips from old Charlie Chaplain films, all to a soundtrack by Earth, Wind & Fire, iMovie can help you. Just head to the editing screen and tap "Insert media" (Figure D-4). iMovie opens the three-paned *Add Media* screen shown in Figure D-5. (Tap Cancel to go back to the home screen if you get cold feet).

Tip Remember, you can transfer songs, pictures, and videos from your computer onto your iPhone so that you can add them to your movie project. Check out page 313 of your Missing Manual if you need help doing that.

Figure D-5. The Add Media screen has three tabs along the bottom: Video, Photos, and Audio. Tap any tab to see your choices, and then double-tap a clip, photo, or audio file to add it to the timeline. Keep reading for the details.

Note If the Add Media screen doesn't show the clips and videos you're looking for, head to the box on page 13 of this appendix for help.

The three tabs on the Add Media screen (Figure D-5) are all pretty similar, but each one has a few special quirks:

- **Video.** Clips are listed here chronologically, with newer ones at the top. If you're not quite sure whether a snippet is right for your project, tap it and hold your finger down to get a preview. When iMovie opens a tiny viewing window, slide your finger across the clip to check it out and, if you'd like, use the yellow trim handles (explained on page 24 of this appendix) to cut down your clip. Double-tap a video here and iMovie adds it to your project *after* the clip or image shown in the preview pane.
- **Photos.** The photos here are grouped by album and organized alphabetically, so the album from your trip to Abbeydale is at the top. Tap an album to see its photos, then tap and hold down on a picture to get a get a bigger preview of it. Double-tap a photo to put it after the item in the preview pane.
- **Audio.** On the surface, adding audio files to iMovie seems really easy: Just head to this tab, where you see an iPod-style menu (Figure D-6) that you can use to drill down to the track you want (see page 116 of your Missing Manual if you need help).

Note You can't add audio to your project until you've added at least one clip or image.

However, things are a little more complicated than that when it comes to audio in iMovie. The way iMovie sees it, not all audio tracks are created equal. It divides audio into four different categories that all behave a little bit differently. You'll need to know the difference (it's nothing tricky) or you'll end up banging your phone against the wall. The next section has the details.

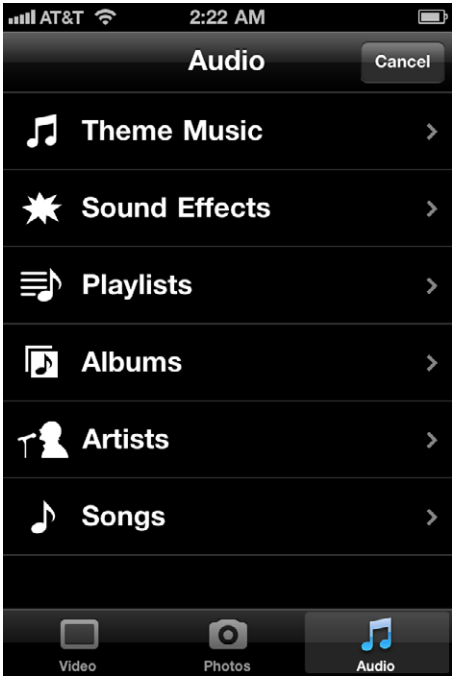

Figure D-6. If you use your iPhone as an iPod (page 117), the Add Media screen's Audio tab should look pretty familiar. Just tap different categories to select one of the songs stored on your phone.

This menu also includes two categories that don't show up in your phone's iPod mode: Theme Music and Sound Effects. Use these menus to add in these kinds of sound (the bullets below explain more).

Types of audio

Here's everything you need to know about the four types of iMovie sound:

- **Background music.** In iMovie, background music is sort of like a tablecloth: You lay it down and then put other stuff (in this case, other audio) on top of it. In nitty-gritty terms, that means only one background music track can play at any given time in an iMovie project.

  You have don't have to do anything special on the Add Media screen's Audio tab to add a sound file as background music. Simply double-tap an audio file and iMovie adds it to your project as background music, putting the beginning of the song at the beginning of your timeline. iMovie represents background music as green bars in the timeline, as shown in Figure D-7.

iMovie automatically sets all background music on loop, meaning it'll keep replaying the song throughout your film until the last clip or image is over (you'll see a little gray divider in the green bar each time the track restarts). If you want more than one song to play in your movie, you'll need to turn looping off (page 19 of this appendix explains how). That way, each audio track you pick from the Audio tab is placed in the timeline after the previous song. If you add in a second song ***without*** turning off looping, iMovie will nix the first song you selected and just play the second tune on loop instead.

- **Theme music.** iMovie comes with eight songs designed specifically to accompany each of its eight ***themes*** (page 16 of this appendix has the details). Apple calls these songs "Theme Music," but they're basically just background music. Each one gets a green bar on the timeline; you can add these songs to any project, no matter which theme you choose; and each can be set to loop or not loop.

  iMovie adds these songs for you (on loop) when you apply a theme to your project. But if you really like a theme's song, you can add it in from the Audio tab the same way you add background music. Just tap "Theme music" on the Audio tab and then double-tap the name of the catchy tune.

- **Sound effects.** iMovie comes with a nice collection of sound effects you can add to your movie, sparing you the trouble of tracking down recordings of a police siren or audience applause. Sound effects are conveniently grouped into their own category on the Audio tab menu (Figure D-6), but, confusingly, you can also find them mixed among your standard music tracks in the Songs menu. When you double-tap a sound effect's name in either menu, it gets added to your project as a blue bar (Figure D-7) wherever the playhead currently is in the timeline. The sound effect is *pinned* to the clip or image shown in the preview pane, meaning that if you move that clip or image, the sound effect gets moved, too.

- **Recorded audio.** This is audio that you record directly into iMovie (page 14 of this appendix tells you how). Confusingly, you can't add it to your project via the Add Media screen—you can only do so by recording it into a specific project. Recorded audio gets a purple bar and goes into the timeline after the playhead. This kind of audio also gets pinned to the clip or image that's shown onscreen when you start recording. In other words, if you move the clip or image, the recorded audio travels to the new spot, too.

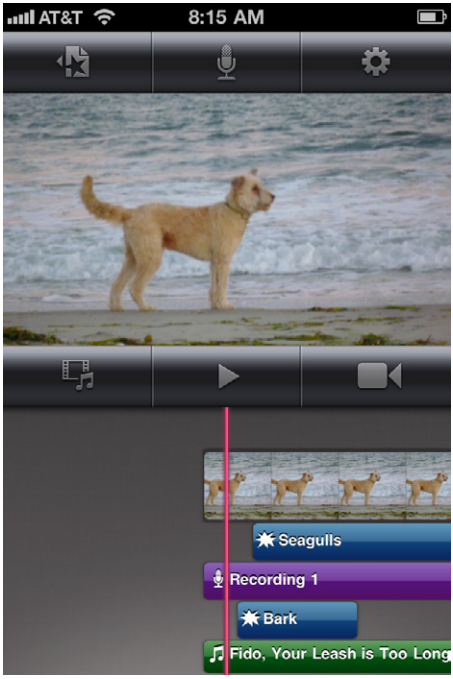

Figure D-7. iMovie can play up to four audio tracks at once: A background music track and three sound effects or recorded audio clips (or a combination of the two types), as shown here. And if your video clip includes sound, that brings the total up to five audio sources at once.

Recording Video

Why carry around a bulky video camera when you can shoot high-quality footage with your iPhone? To record clips straight into iMovie, head to the editing screen and tap "Record from camera" (its icon is a little video camera; see Figure D-4). Page 160 of your Missing Manual explains the controls.

Once you're finished shooting, iMovie displays a preview screen that lets you take a look at your shot before you add it to your project. Just tap the ▶ button at the bottom of the screen to watch what you just recorded. If you like what you see, tap Use to add the clip to your project; if you don't, tap Retake and reshoot it.

Tip Serious movie makers should consider buying a tripod for steadier shots. Here's one option: *http://tinyurl.com/3sq3uv9*.

Troubleshooting Moment

The Mystery of the Missing Files

Help! I can't find pictures and videos that I know *are stored on my iPhone. What gives?*

Imagine you've got a *great* idea for a YouTube video and you're all set to create your masterpiece using iMovie. You open the app, create a new project, and then tap the "Insert media" button (Figure D-4)—and you don't see any of the clips and images you've added to your phone. Argh!

Here are two possible causes:

- **You've turned off geotagging.** As explained in the Note on page 3 of this appendix, when you open iMovie for the first time, it asks if you want to allow the app to use your current location. If you say no, then when you tap the "Insert media" button, iMovie will say it can't access your photos and videos (Figure D-8, left). If you want to use this stuff in your movies, you'll have to turn on geotagging (page 165) by going to the Home screen (that's your iPhone's Home screen, not iMovie's home screen) and tapping Settings→Location Services→iMovie→On.
- **Digital rights management (DRM).** These days, it's really easy to make a perfect copy of a movie, book, or song and then send it off to tons of people online. In an effort to stem digital piracy, many publishers, record labels, and movie studios place restrictions (a.k.a. *DRM controls*) on media files that make them harder to duplicate. If you have DRM-protected movies or music tracks on your iPhone—such as songs purchased via iTunes—you might not be able to add them to your movie. (Even if you only want to use a few seconds of their material, publishers, labels, and studios want you to pay for the right to do so.) So if you see "(Protected)" in front of the name of a movie or song (Figure D-8, right), blame DRM. (If you're curious about this controversial technology, start your reading here: *http://tinyurl.com/ceoh7*.)

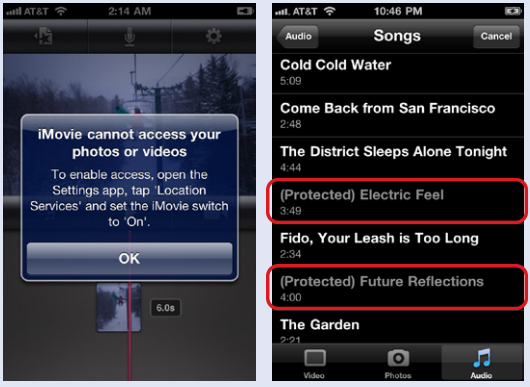

Figure D-8. Adding pictures or music to an iMovie project can be tricky. If you've turned off geotagging, when you go to add items to your project, you'll see the message shown in the left image here. If you're trying to add songs or movies that have DRM restrictions, you'll see them listed as "Protected" like the two songs circled in the right image.

Recording Audio

Want to add a voiceover to your flick or fill your gritty street drama with the true sounds of L.A.? iMovie has got you covered. Here's how to record your own audio tracks:

1. Slide the timeline until the playhead is over the part of the movie where you want the recorded sound to go.
2. On the editing screen, tap "Record audio" (Figure D-4).

   iMovie opens a little panel in the preview pane that says "Ready to Record."
3. Tap Record.

   iMovie displays a "Prepare to Start Recording" Message, and flashing red numbers count down from 3 and you hear 3 beeps. You can tap the red Stop button if you get cold feet.
4. Record your sound.

   After the countdown, iMovie says "Recording" to show that it's laying down a track (Figure D-9, left). In the timeline, a red overlay shows how much recording has been done so far, and where the recorded audio will be in your movie.

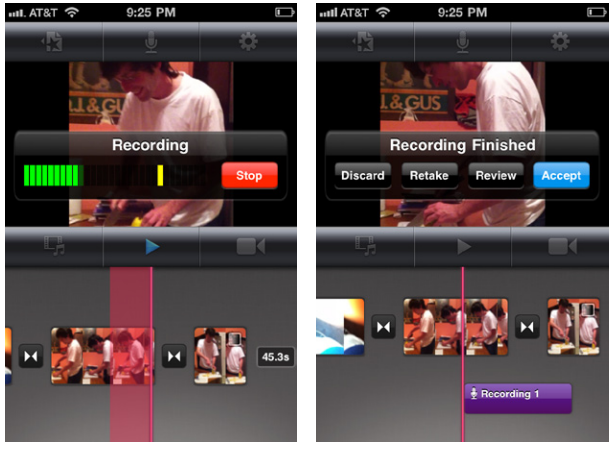

Figure D-9. The image on the left shows an audio recording in progress. The red overlay represents the recording so far. The image on the right shows what happens when you hit Stop: The timeline hops back so that the playhead is at the beginning of the audio track you just recorded, which is represented as a purple bar (creatively named Recording 1), and iMovie asks what you'd like to do with your new track.

5. Hit Stop and decide what to do with your new recording.

   When you hit Stop, the timeline jumps back so that the playhead is where it was before you began recording. iMovie adds a purple bar to the timeline representing your new track (it's in the same place the red overlay was) and asks what you want to do with your freshly minted audio. You have four choices (Figure D-9, right):

   - **Discard.** Tosses out your new recording and takes you back to the editing screen.
   - **Retake.** If you think you need a second shot, tap this button.
   - **Review.** Lets you listen to what you just recorded.
   - **Accept.** If you like what you did, tap this button to close the audio-recording panel and get back to editing your project.

There are a few things about recorded audio that you'll want to keep in mind as you work on your project:

- You can only hear your recording as part of your iMovie project—your track *isn't* saved as a separate audio file on your iPhone. If this bugs you, use Voice Memo to record tracks instead (see page 223) and then add 'em to your iMovie flick (page 8 of this appendix explains how).
- The first audio recording you make is called Recording 1, the second is Recording 2, and so on—you can't rename them.
- You can have up to three recorded audio tracks playing at once, so you can add your very own multi-part harmony to your slideshow.

Editing Your Movie

Editing is a huge part of movie making. Even after you've taken your last shot and settled on a soundtrack, you still need to arrange your grab-bag of sounds and images into a final film. iMovie's editing tools help you get the job done. This section explains how adjust overall settings and tweak specific parts of your project. (If you've used other movie-making programs, check out the box on the next page.)

Power Users' Clinic

What iMovie for iPhone *Can't* Do

The iMovie app is really neat. Who'd have thought, even 10 years ago, that you'd be able to make a film on a phone? Even still, as you might expect, small-screen, ultra-portable movie making comes with a few limitations.

If you're used to making movies with a mouse and keyboard, here are a few things you probably do frequently that, alas, you can't do in iMovie for iPhone:

- **Speeding up or slowing down a clip.** iMovie can only play clips at the speed they were recorded.
- **Using lots of different transitions.** In iMovie, you have three choices when it comes to how one clip switches to the next: a cross-dissolve, the theme's transition (page 16 of this appendix), or no transition at all.
- **Adjusting the location of your title(s).** There's only one way to position titles (onscreen text) in iMovie: pick an Opening, Middle, or Ending caption as described on page 28 of this appendix. You can't move titles from those spots.
- **Tweaking the look of your titles.** You can't change the font, size, or color of an iMovie title.
- **Changing the volume of part of an audio clip.** iMovie lets you adjust the overall volume of a clip (page 20 of this appendix), but you can't customize the volume of various parts of a song.
- **Including title and credits pages.** White text on a black screen looks great for opening titles and closing credits, but in iMovie you can only get this effect with a workaround. First, simulate a black background by shooting a completely dark photo with your phone's camera (cover the lens with a heavy blanket, say). Then, add the photo to your project and double-tap the photo to add a title (page 27 of this appendix), and then head to the Project Settings menu and pick the white-lettered Simple theme (page 16 of this appendix). Now you've got a black screen with white lettering, just like a standard title (or credits) screen!
- **Stabilizing footage.** iMovie '11 for Mac and Final Cut Pro can automatically steady your wobbly footage, but iMovie for iPhone can't.

If you really need these features, you can always edit clips in a more robust program, transfer them to your phone (see the "Drag files onto the iPhone icon" bullet on page 315), and then add them to iMovie (page 8 of this appendix).

Project-wide Settings and Themes

Just like pants, hairdos, and belt buckles, movies come in different styles. For example, you'll want one look for your corporate training video and another to show off your nephew's skateboard tricks. iMovie's answer: ***themes,*** which determine the look of titles (onscreen text) and transitions in your project. iMovie gives you eight choices, each suitable for a different kind of flick.

Note For more on titles and transitions, flip to page 26 of this appendix.

Figure D-10 shows how themes determine the mood of a video.

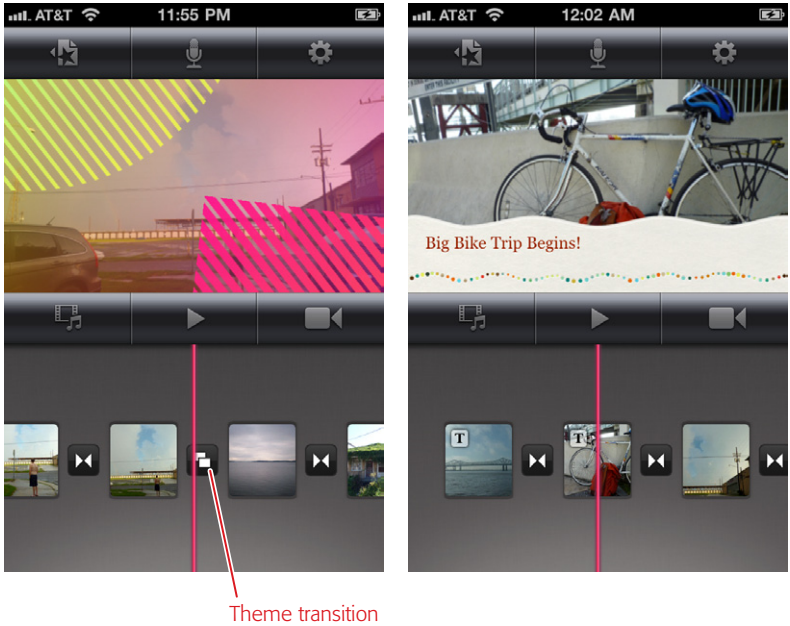

Figure D-10. Themes create the overall feel of your movie by using different title screens and transitions. The left image shows the transition for the Neon theme. The right image shows the title for the Playful theme.

In iMovie for iPhone, themes don't include opening animations or closing credits (like you might expect if you've used iMovie '11 for Mac).

When you first create a project, iMovie automatically applies the Modern theme. That means that, when you go to add in a title (page 27 of this appendix), you'll get simple white letters set against a grayish-black bar—and when you apply the theme's transition (page 17 of this appendix) you'll get some sleek bars (you could even call them *modern*) that slide across the screen as your movie shifts from shot to shot. To pick a different theme, on the editing screen, tap the ⚙ icon to open the Project Settings menu (Figure D-11).

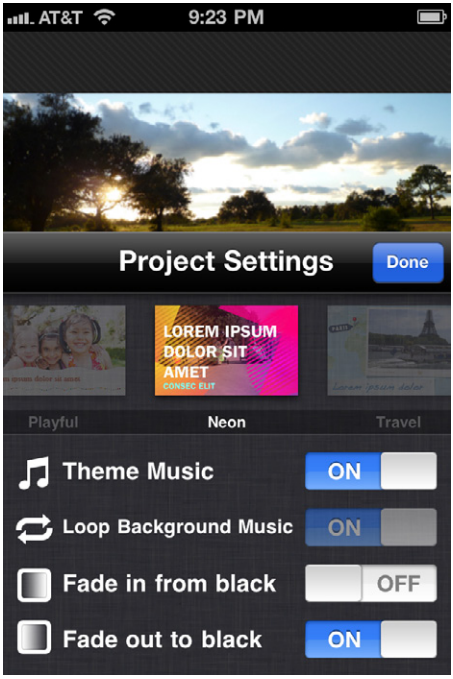

Figure D-11. The Project Settings menu holds all the project-wide controls for your movie. This is where you pick a theme, control whether background music loops, and determine how your project fades in and out when it begins and ends. Just tap any of the switches to turn them on or off.

Here's what this menu lets you do:

- **Theme.** Slide your finger across the theme menu (the strip right below the words "Project Settings"), which includes images that give you a sense of what each theme looks like. When you find one you like, tap to select it. iMovie changes all your titles and transitions to reflect that theme. (Don't worry if you change your mind later: you can always come back to this menu and pick a different one.)
- **Theme Music.** As you learned on page 16 of this appendix, the folks who created the iMovie app came up with songs that "match" each theme. So when you add a theme, iMovie turns this switch on and adds the corresponding song as looping background audio. But if you don't like the theme's song, it's easy to change it: Just go to the Add Media screen (page 8 of this appendix) and pick a better one. iMovie replaces the theme music with your new tune and turns off the Theme Music switch here.

- **Loop Background Music.** When you start a new movie, this switch is turned on, which means that any background music you add repeats until your film ends. Turning off looping lets you fill your timeline with multiple audio tracks, sparing your audience the annoyance of listening to the same song four times in a row.

> **Note** When the Theme Music switch is turned on, the Loop Background Music switch is automatically turned on too—you have to turn off Theme Music before you can turn off looping.

- **Fade in from black.** Normally, the first clip or image in your movie pops right onscreen at the start of the show. But if you turn on this switch, your film will fade in from a black screen. iMovie adds a little box to the beginning of the timeline (circled in Figure D-12) to represent this fade.
- **Fade out to black.** This one works like you'd expect: Turn it on and your movie fades out instead of ending abruptly. iMovie adds a little box to the last item in the timeline to indicate this fade, as shown in Figure D-12.

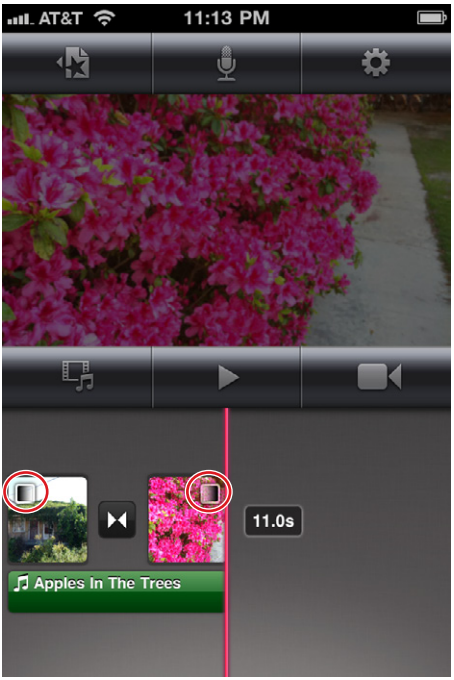

Figure D-12. Left to its own devices, iMovie starts your movie by popping your first clip onto the screen and then cutting to black as soon as your last clip finishes. Turning on "Fade in from black" and "Fade out to black" eases your audience in and out of your masterpiece. (You can't adjust the speed of these fades.) The boxes circled here show that this movie has both a fade in and a fade out.

Clip and Photo Settings

When you double-tap a video or image in the timeline, iMovie displays the Clip Settings or Photo Settings menu. These menus are really similar. You'll use them for two things:

- **Inserting and changing titles.** The Clip Settings and Photo Settings menus are your path for setting up titles. Page 27 of this appendix has all the details.
- **Adjusting the volume embedded in a video.** If you filmed your buddy's homer in the bottom of the ninth, you'll want to make sure that you can hear the crack of the bat in the highlight reel. Double-tap a clip in the timeline to open the Clip Settings menu, and then use the volume slider (it has a speaker icon next to it) to turn up the video's sound. Of course, this method also works when you want to turn the clip's volume *down*. To mute the clip completely, tap the On/Off slider to its right.

Adjusting Audio

As you learned earlier, iMovie lets you add lots of different kinds of audio to your projects. You can lay down background music, add sound effects, *and* record your own narration. But once you start piling on tracks, things can quickly start sounding muddled: That Guns N' Roses soundtrack was supposed to make your friend seem even tougher on his new motorcycle, but now you can't hear the engine roar.

Happily, you can double-tap any audio track in the timeline and use the Audio Clip Settings menu (Figure D-13) to get each track's volume just right.

Note Remember, you use the Clip Settings menu (explained above) to adjust the volume of your *video* files. For instance, that menu lets you turn up the sound in the video of your friend roaring by. The Audio Clip menu's settings are exclusively for audio tracks.

Figure D-13. Drag this slider to adjust the volume of an audio track. The On/Off switch lets you mute an audio clip so you can see how you like your movie when you nix some of the music (without actually deleting the track). This saves you the trouble of re-importing the audio if you decide that your file sounded better with the tunes.

This screen also lets you axe a song: tap the red Delete Clip button at the bottom of the menu and the track is history.

Note You *can't* change the volume of little *parts* of an audio track—it's all or nothing.

Adjusting Your View

Making movies on an iPhone screen can feel a little cramped. Luckily, iMovie lets you zoom in to make small precise edits and zoom out to slide quickly across big swathes of your film. If you're used to using the iPhone, zooming in and out is a no-brainer: just pinch and spread to expand and shrink the items in the timeline, respectively, as shown in Figure D-14. (Check out page 24 of your Missing Manual for a refresher on these essential techniques.)

Spreading is particularly helpful when you want to trim or split a clip (as described in the next section). In Figure D-14 (right), the video snippet has been spread, making it bigger in the timeline. That means that iMovie now has room to give you previews of what's happening at a few different points in the clip (the previews are shown as different little images along the timeline). That way, when you trim or split, you'll know what's happening in the clip as you cut.

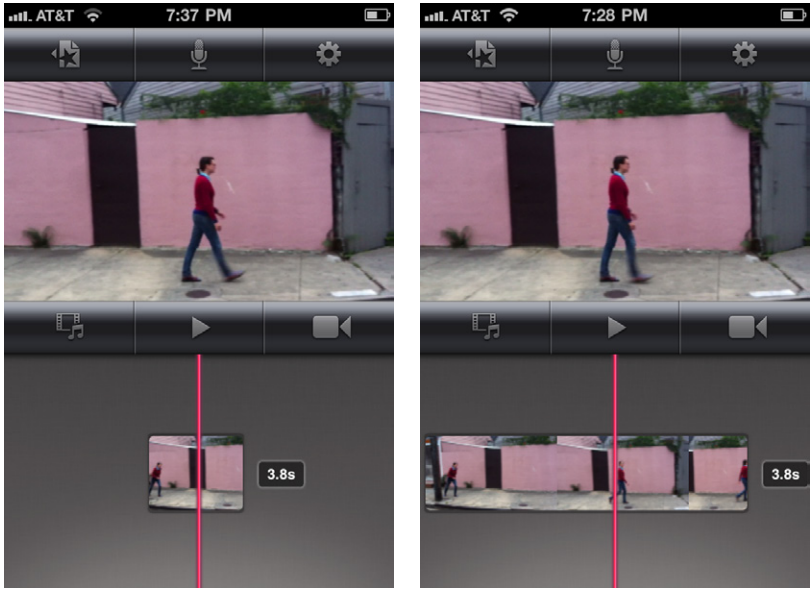

Figure D-14. iMovie lets you zoom in (and out) on the clips and photos on your timeline.

The two images above show the same 3.8 second video of a woman walking from left to right. In the left image, the screen has been pinched so that all 3.8 seconds are compressed to a little part of the timeline. In the image on the right, the screen has been spread so that that same video now fills most of the timeline—meaning that iMovie has more room to show little snippets of the woman walking.

Editing Items in the Timeline

Editing clips and images without a keyboard and mouse takes some getting used to. But you can do *a lot* in iMovie with just your fingers:

- **Move a clip, image, or sound.** This one's easy: Just hold your finger down on a bar in the timeline. Once the bar jumps up a quarter inch on the screen, you can drag it to a better spot on the timeline. (Note that this *won't* work for looping background music, however, because that kind of audio automatically spans your entire movie; see page 10 of this appendix for the details.)

Tip You can even move clips, images, and sounds to parts of the timeline that you can't see onscreen. Just tap a bar and hold it until it jumps, then push it to one side of the timeline (holding your finger down the whole time). The timeline scrolls in the direction you push.

- **Rotate a clip.** If your clips are sideways or upside down, you can rotate them until they look normal. Just slide your finger across the timeline until the playhead is over the troublesome clip, then press two fingers onto the preview pane and twist clockwise or counterclockwise. iMovie displays a white arrow in the preview pane indicating which direction the clip will rotate when you lift your fingers. When you let go, the clip rotates ninety degrees in that direction. (If you're having trouble, imagine that one finger is the center of a circle. Then trace an arc around that circle with your other finger. When you do it this way, iMovie usually gets that you're trying to rotate a clip.)
- **Delete a clip, image, or sound.** In iMovie, you delete things from your film by dragging them out of the timeline. Simply hold your finger down on a bar until it jumps out of position, then slide it off the timeline into the preview pane and let go. You'll see a little puff of smoke appear in the preview pane—that's the dust kicked up as your clip gets swept away. You can also double-tap an item in the timeline to open the Clip Settings, Photo Settings, or Audio Clip Settings menu and then tap Delete Clip.

- **Split one clip (or image) into two.** Think of the playhead as a paper cutter that can chop your clip in two. To divide a clip, slide it into position so that what you want to be the first portion is to the left of the playhead, and the rest is to the right of the playhead. Tap the clip (you'll see a yellow outline around it) and then swipe down over the playhead—*hiii-ya!* Footage to the left of the bar is now one clip; footage to the right is another (Figure D-15).

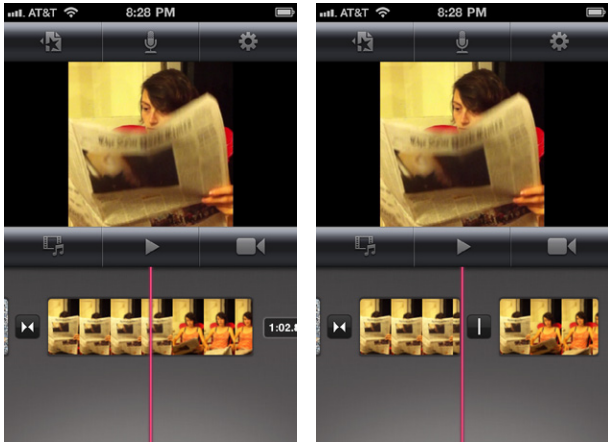

Figure D-15. You can chop a single clip into two. Just slide the clip underneath the playhead, tap it once, and then swipe your finger down over the playhead. Voila—now you've got two separate clips you can position wherever you want. (iMovie doesn't insert a transition between the two clips, so you might want to add one; see page 26 of this appendix.)

- **Trim a clip, image, or song.** You can use trims to cut out the boring parts of videos or axe the slow starts to songs—but it can be tough to get the hang of the motions. Here's what you do: Tap an item in the timeline to reveal circular yellow *trim handles* (Figure D-16), and then drag either handle towards the center of the clip and lift your finger to cut away unwanted images and sounds. In practice, however, this maneuver can be tricky. You sometimes have to repeat the motion a few times before iMovie does what you want. When working with clips, zooming in (by spreading your fingers in the preview pane or timeline) makes the whole process a little easier (page 21 of this appendix).

Tip To undo or redo your last edit, shake your phone and then tap Undo or Redo. Page 45 has the details.

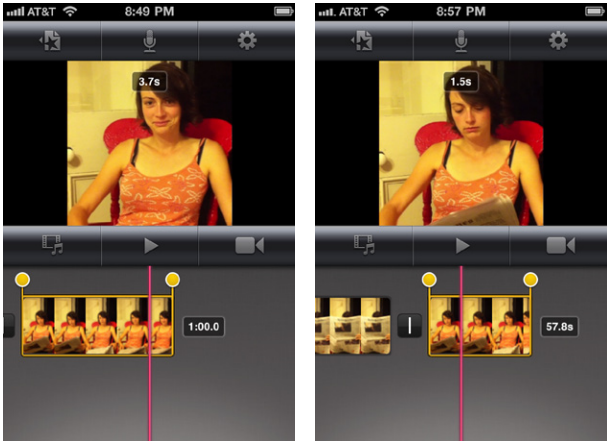

Figure D-16. You can trim away the boring parts of the clips in your movie. Just tap once to reveal the yellow trim handles shown here. Then tap and hold one of the handles and drag it towards the center of the bar, across the part of a clip that you want to cut. When you lift your finger, iMovie chops away this footage. In the images above, this technique has trimmed 2.2 seconds off the end of a 1-minute clip.

If you change your mind when trimming video, just shake your phone and then tap Undo.

- **Add Ken Burns effects (a.k.a. panning and zooming) to a photo.** If you've ever seen a documentary by Ken Burns (*The Civil War, Jazz,* and so on), you know how he loves to pan across still photos to add a sense of motion. The folks at Apple like this effect so much that they *automatically* apply it to any images you add to your project.

  If you're a fan of this effect, then you're all set. But if you don't like it or want to adjust exactly which way iMovie pans and/or zooms, you can take matters into your own hands (literally). Tap the image in the timeline and then, in the preview pane, move the image so that it looks the way you want it to when it first appears onscreen, and then tap the Start button. (You can also zoom in or out on the image by pinching or spreading.) Next, drag the image to the final position you want, and then tap End. Finally, tap Done, and iMovie saves your changes. Now when you play your movie, the camera moves across the image and zooms the way you told it to. If you don't want any panning or zooming, set the same Start and End positions for the image.

Note iMovie sometimes switches the start and end points you set for the Ken Burns effect. So if the app zooms the opposite way you want, try tapping the End button when your photo is where you want it to start, and the Start button when it's where you want it to end. (Just pretend it's Opposite Day.)

Power Users' Clinic

One Project, Lots of Devices

Making movies on an iPhone can be irritating. The iMovie app works great if you just want to throw together a few clips from your kid's soccer game. But if you need a really polished-looking movie for your brother's wedding or want to start splicing together lots of little clips and images to make a slick webcast, you'll probably get frustrated working with the app's tiny buttons on your phone's palm-sized screen.

The good news: You can transfer projects from your little, bitty iPhone onto your iPad 2 (or iPod Touch). Just go the home screen, tap the button (page 5 of this appendix), and then pick iTunes (page 33 of this appendix) to export your project to your computer. Then, connect another device to your computer, open the iMovie app on that device, and then tap iMovie's button (page 5 of this appendix) to retrieve your project.

The bad news: You *can't* export whole projects directly into the full-fledged version of iMovie on your Mac. If you want to start making a movie on your iPhone and then continue working on it using your computer, you'll have to settle for sending your project as an ordinary *clip* (instead of as an iMovie project, which holds all the little parts of your movie). Here's what you do.

1. Save your project as a video file in your phone's Camera Roll (page 32 of this appendix).
2. Send your movie to your Mac. You can send small files by email (page 150 has details). For big files, use iTunes instead, following the instructions on page 331 (the steps for photos work for videos, too).
3. Open iMovie on your computer and click File→Import→Movies. iMovie will ask what video file you'd like to import. Direct it to the iPhone movie stored on your hard drive.

That's it. iMovie opens the project you started on your phone and you can resume editing it until it's ready for the big screen.

Finishing Touches: Titles and Transitions

Titles (onscreen text) and *transitions* (how one shot switches to the next) can make your movie look polished and fancy—distinguishing it from all those amateurish videos on YouTube. This section gives you the rundown on adding these slick bells and whistles so you can impress your friends.

Note Themes give the titles and transitions in your project a consistent look. Check out page 16 of this appendix for details.

Titles

Unless you're an experienced filmmaker, you've probably never realized quite how much reading you do when watching videos. When a movie ends, you read the credits. When an expert is talking to a news anchor, the person's name and title appear at the bottom of the screen. In the movie-making world, these onscreen captions are called ***titles***.

Note If you've used other movie-making programs, you'll notice that iMovie for iPhone takes a pretty broad view of titles: some titles change the look of the whole screen instead of just adding text. If you want a simple title, go with the Simple theme (see page 18 of this appendix for help applying it to your project).

iMovie makes it easy to add titles to your project: Just double-tap a clip or image in the timeline and iMovie opens the Photo (or Clip) Settings menu. Tap Title Style to bring up the menu shown in Figure D-17 (left).

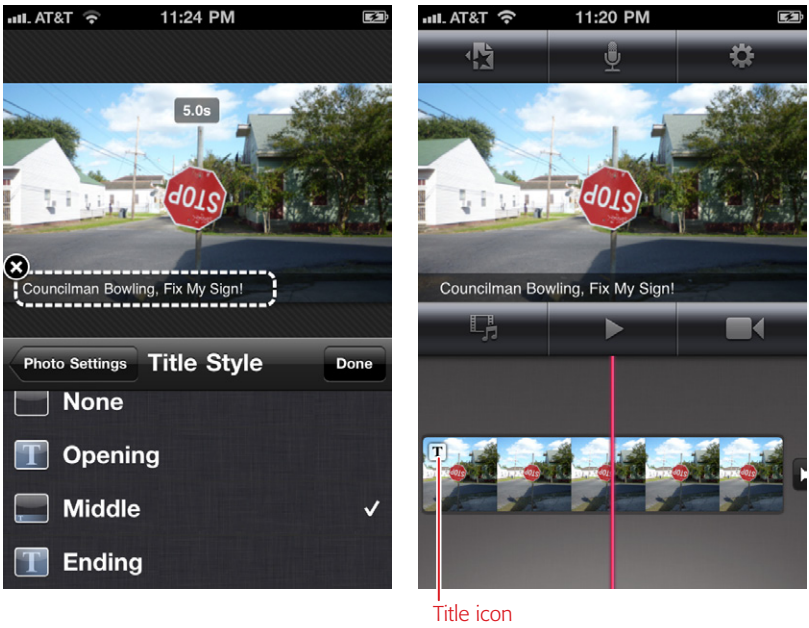

Figure D-17. Left: Here's where you choose what kind of title to add to your image or clip. (Your options are explained in a sec.)

Right: After you add a title, iMovie stamps a little T icon on the clip or image in the timeline.

You can choose among three different kinds of titles: Opening, Middle, and Ending. These names are a bit misleading. You might think that an Opening title would come on at the start of a clip, while an Ending title would come on at the end. But actually these names have nothing to do with *when* a title appears. Add any title to a clip or image and it stays onscreen for the full duration of the picture or video you added it to.

So what do the names mean? Not much, really. They just refer to the spot onscreen where Apple feels a particular style of title would fit best. And remember that the theme you've chosen for your movie determines what the titles look like. In most themes, Opening titles tend to pop up on the left side of the screen and Ending titles on the right—but there are exceptions. The best way to find out where a title will go is to tap it in the Title Style menu then see where they dotted-line box appears in the preview pane (Figure D-18).

Figure D-18. When you add a title to your project, a box with a dotted outline appears in the preview pane. Tap this box to bring up a keyboard so you can enter your text.

To remove a title, on iMovie's editing screen, double-tap the clip or image with the offending text. On the menu that appears, tap Title Style, pick None, and then tap Done.

Titles and Location Data

As the Note on page 3 of this appendix explains, when you first launch iMovie, the app asks to use your current location. One of the reasons iMovie wants access to this data is so that it can include the name of the spot where you took the photo (or clip) in certain kinds of titles, like the left image in Figure D-19.

If iMovie gets this location wrong or if you want to change what the title says (for instance, change "New York City" to "The Empire State Building"), double-tap a clip or image to open the Clip (or Photo) Settings menu, and then tap Location. iMovie opens a screen like the one shown in Figure D-19 (right), which gives you three ways to modify a clip (or image's) location. Here's what you can do:

- **Set the location to your current whereabouts.** Tap the crosshairs (circled in Figure D-19) and then tap Done.
- **Choose another location.** If you want to add a special location, tap Other and iMovie opens a keyboard so you can type in a name. As you type, iMovie tries to find a match (for instance, if you tap *N-E-W [space] Y-O*, iMovie might guess New York). If iMovie guesses correctly, tap the name to use it in your title.
- **Rename a location.** If iMovie's Edit Title menu lists the right location but you want to give that spot a more personalized name, you can. Just tap the existing name (in Figure D-19, that's "New Orleans, La."), and then use the keyboard that appears to type in a custom name like *Grandma's House*. Tap Done when you're finished.

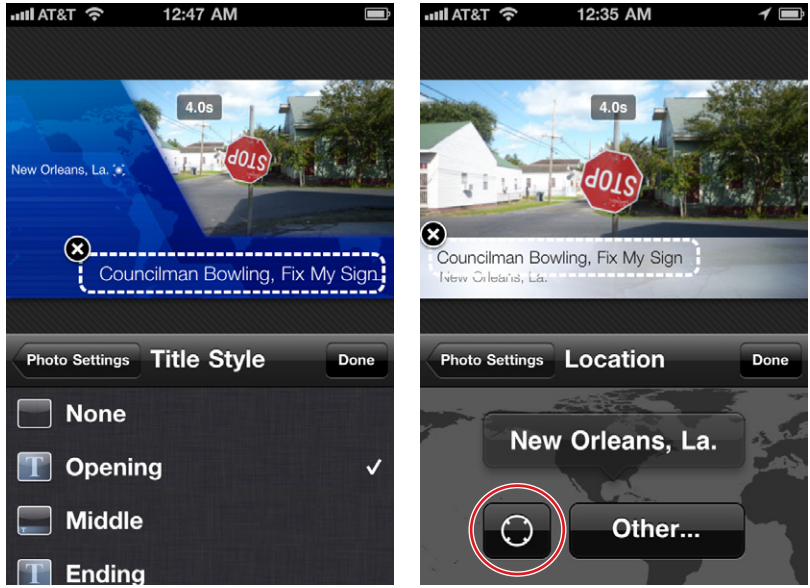

Figure D-19. Left: Some titles, like this one, include geographical info about your clip or image to help set the scene. This particular Opening title for the News theme is extra fancy because it also displays a map graphic that pinpoints the spot where the footage was shot.

Right: Tapping the crosshair icon (circled) tells iMovie that the clip (or photo) was taken in your current location. Tapping Other helps you set your own custom location, as described above.

Transitions

Most people don't pay much attention to how one clip or image in a movie switches to the next clip or image. But these transitions make a big difference in the look of a final film. That's why iMovie lets you fiddle with the transitions between the shots in your timeline.

If you just want to keep things simple, have no fear: iMovie automatically inserts an understated cross-dissolve transition between each of your clips (Figure D-20). So, if you don't feel like dealing with transitions (or reading this section), your movie will turn out fine.

If you *do* want to set your own transitions, you'll probably be a little disappointed by the limited options iMovie gives you: the cross dissolve, the theme transition (a transition that corresponds with the project's theme—see page 16 of this appendix), or no transition at all. Each transition gets its own icon, as shown in Figure D-20.

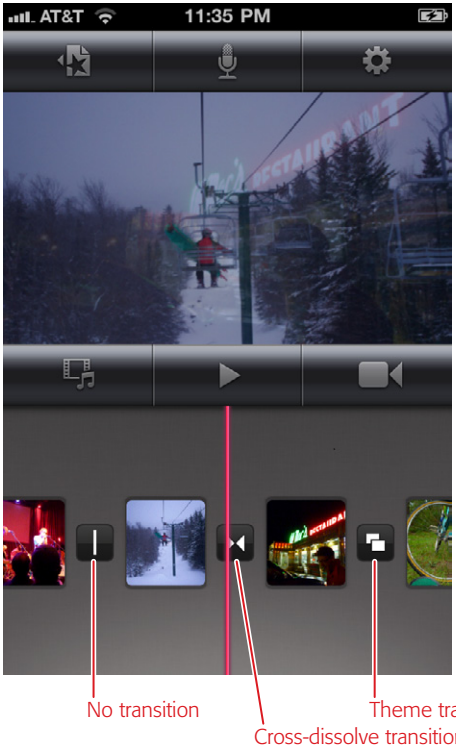

Figure D-20. This timeline shows different transitions that have been added to a project. Here, the playhead is midway through a cross-dissolve transition—the image of the ski slope is dissolving into the image of the restaurant.

iMovie adds in a one-second cross-dissolve before each new clip and image that you add to the timeline.

To change a transition, double-tap its timeline icon to open the Transition Settings menu (Figure D-21). This menu is pretty basic (see the box on page 26 of this appendix if the pickings seem slim): drag to select a transition from the dial on the left, then drag the dial on the right to determine how long the transition takes. Tap Done when you're through.

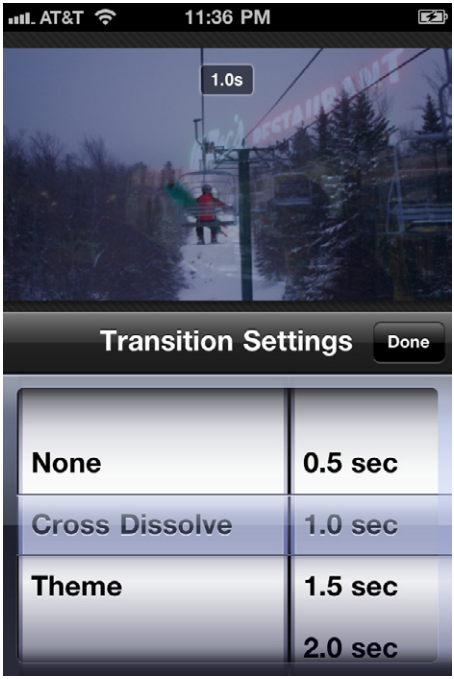

Figure D-21. This menu lets you change a transition's style and duration. If you change the type of transition, its icon will change in the timeline.

Sharing Your Movie

When your film is finished and you're ready for the red carpet, iMovie gives you a couple of ways to show off your work. Head to the home screen, tap ⬈, and iMovie displays the menu shown in Figure D-22.

Here's what each button does:

- **Camera Roll.** Tap this button to send your movie to the Camera Roll, which is where your iPhone stores the pictures and videos that you take using the phone's camera. iMovie asks you to choose an export size before it dispatches your film: pick Medium if you want to send your flick via email, Large if you want to watch it on a standard TV, and HD if you'll be admiring your handiwork on a super-crisp high-definition screen. (If you want to learn about the technical details behind your choices, start reading here: ***http://tinyurl.com/kxopf***). Once you've exported your movie, head to your phone's Home screen and tap Camera Roll to take a look. (Check out page 331 if you need help getting your movies from your Camera Roll onto your computer.)

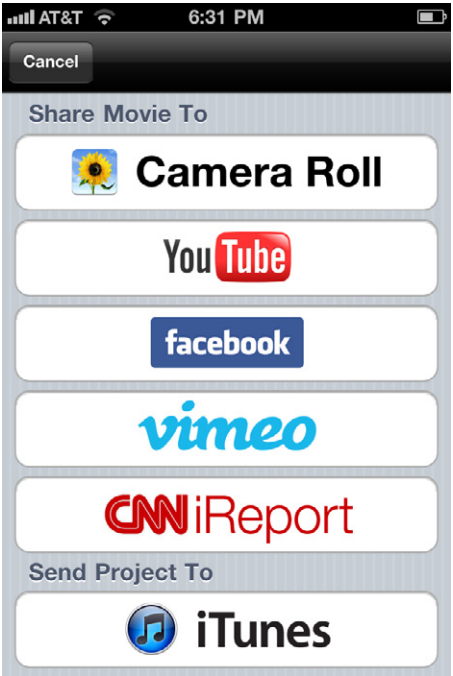

Figure D-22. After you finish perfecting your film, iMovie lets you send it to your iPhone's Camera Roll or publish it straight to the Internet. Taping the iTunes button sends your film-in-progress to your computer so that you can keep working on it on an iPod Touch or iPad 2 (see the box on page 26 of this appendix for more info).

Note You won't see an AirPlay button on the iMovie share screen, but you can still beam your flick to your Apple TV. Figure D-3 on page 5 of this appendix has the details.

- **YouTube.** You guessed it: This button sends your film to YouTube. The first time you go to post a movie there, iMovie asks you for your username and password, then remembers this info to spare you the trouble of retyping it each time you want to upload a flick. Once iMovie has your login, it opens a screen where you give your video a title (you can't post it until you tap one in) and fill in info about its category (like Entertainment or Sports), size, and privacy level (who gets to see your movie). Once you've punched in all the details, hit Share to upload your film.

Note You'll need an account before you can post to YouTube.com, Facebook.com, Vimeo.com, or iReport.Cnn.com. Basic accounts are free; head to one of those sites to set one up.

- **Facebook.** Just tap this button to put your video on Facebook. The next steps are nearly identical to those for posting to YouTube.
- **Vimeo.** Vimeo is a video-sharing site just like YouTube, only it tends to attract higher-quality, artier videos. The steps are almost exactly the same as posting to YouTube.
- **CNN iReport.** CNN iReport collects dispatches from "citizen journalists"—non-professionals who record and edit their own newsworthy dispatches and then post them online. If you've got a great story, just tap this button to share it with the world. From there, you'll need to give your login details and then fill out video info before tapping the blue Share button. If you want to take your video down, you have to send a request to CNN—so be careful what you post!
- **iTunes.** This button is a little different: Instead of sending off a finished video, tapping here transfers your work-in-progress to iTunes (page 303). From there, you'll be able to load it onto an iPod Touch or iPad 2 and resume editing on the new device (see page 26 of this appendix for more info). If that sounds handy, then tap here to export your film-to-be. Once iMovie sends it off, sync your phone with your Mac and look for your project in the File Sharing section of iTunes (on your computer).