PRE FLIGHT CHECKLIST

DT Videolabs
For macOS Sonoma/Sequoia
(14.x - 15.x)

1	Disable Display Mirroring	☐
2	Disable Displays Have Separate Spaces	☐
3	Disable Screen Saver and Lock Screen	☐
4	Disable True Tone and Brightness	☐
5	Disable Night Shift	☐
6	Audio Settings	☐
7	Disable Automatic Updates	☐

8	Disable Time Machine	☐
9	Disable Spotlight Indexing	☐
10	Disable FileVault	☐
11	Control Apps on Startup	☐
12	Enable Scroll Bars	☐
13	Disable Clicking on Wallpaper	☐
14	Re-encoding Videos	☐

All of the settings are found under **System Preferences** and should be changed prior to launching PlaybackPro or PlaybackPro Plus.
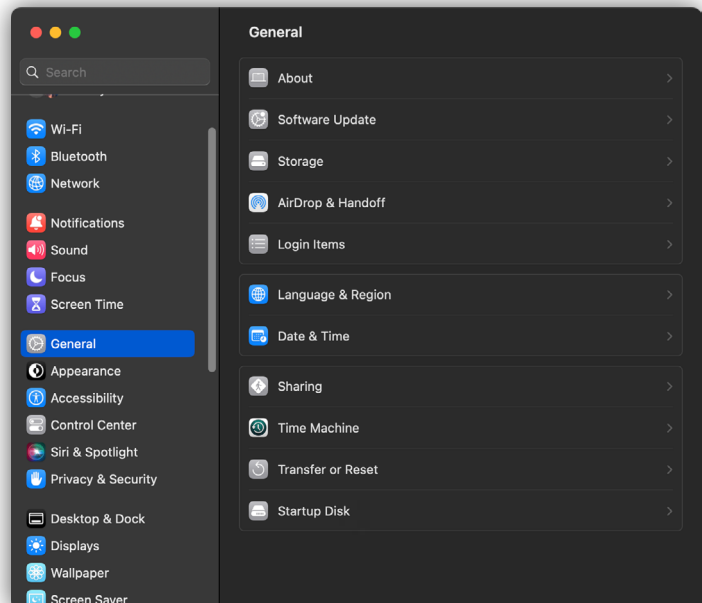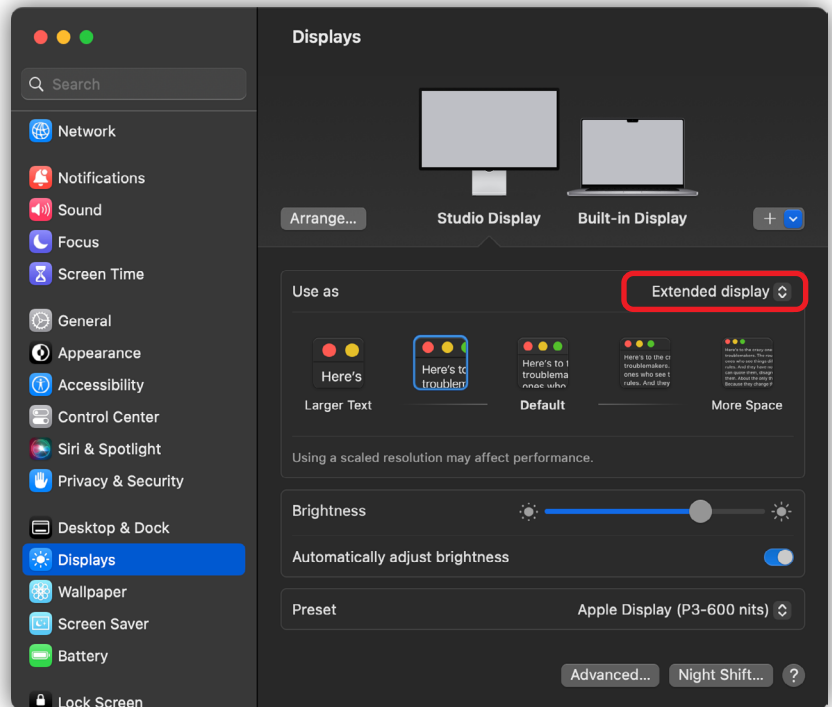
① Disable Display Mirroring

🔧 System Preferences

⤷ ☀️ Displays

⤷ Select your external display from the images of available displays

⤷ Select "Extended display"
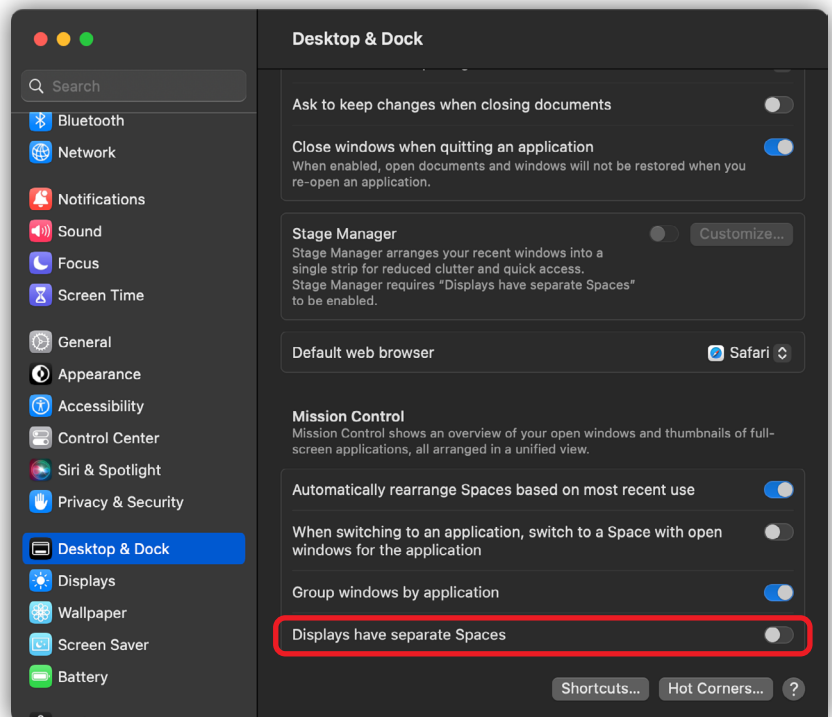
PlaybackPro Plus only works in Extended desktop mode.

② Disable Displays Have Separate Spaces

🔧 System Preferences

⤷ ⬛ Desktop & Dock

⤷ Uncheck "Displays have separate Spaces"

If this setting is checked, some Mac and switcher combinations will produce black on all displays.
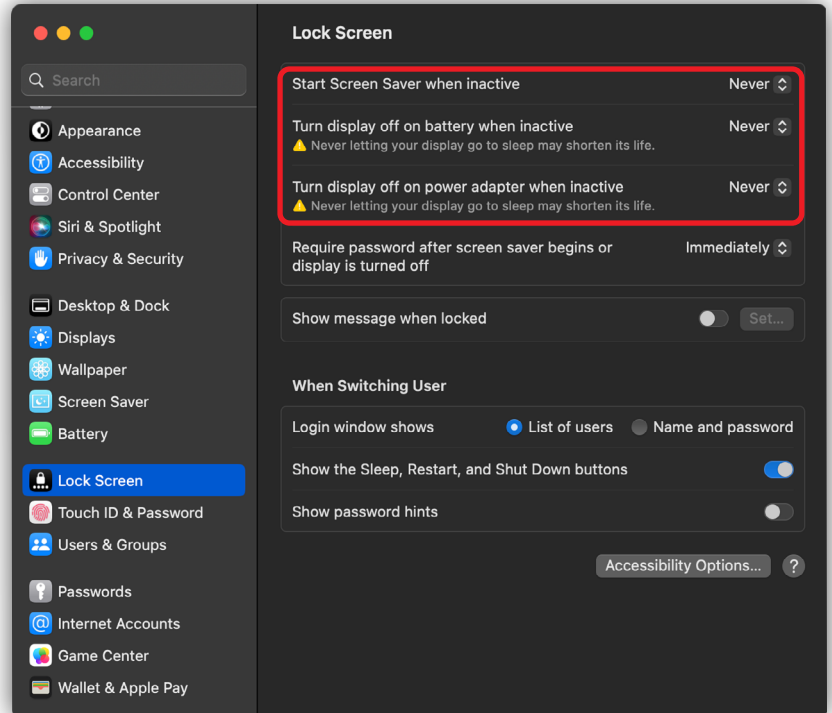
③ Disable Screen Saver and Lock Screen

System Preferences

→ **Lock Screen**

→ Set all display settings to "Never"

## ④ Disable True Tone and Automatically Adjust Brightness

System Preferences

→ **Displays**

→ Uncheck "True Tone"

→ Uncheck "Automaticaly Adjust Brightness"

If your system supports True Tone, it is possible it will also adjust your external display, giving you unpredictable color on your output.

It is also possible for "Automatic Adjust Brightness" to try to adjust the brightness on your output.
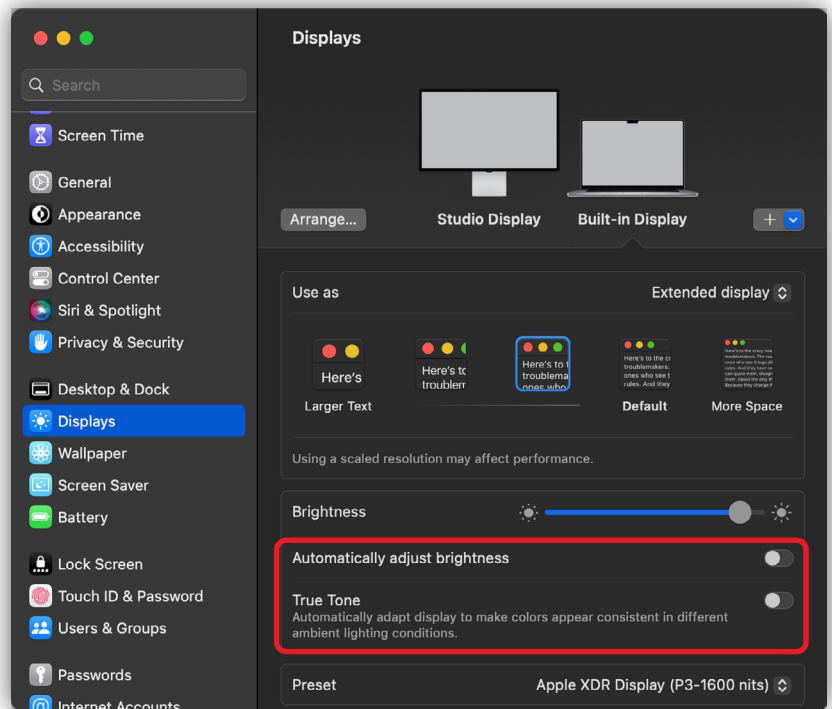
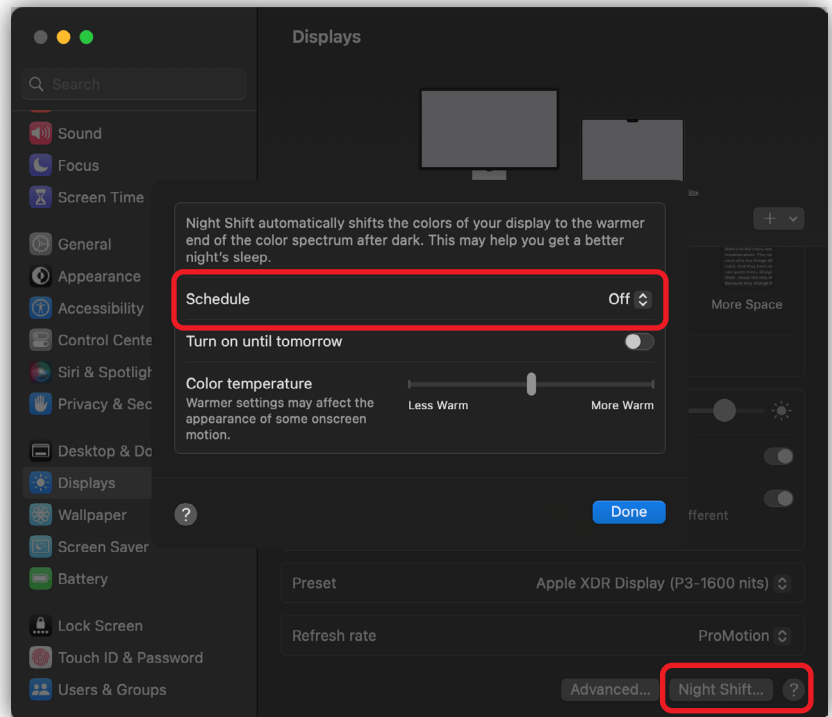# ⑤ Disable Night Shift

⚙️ System Preferences

➡️ ☀️ Displays

➡️ Select "Night Shift" from the bottom of the panel and then set the Schedule to "Off".

Night Shift changes the colors of your monitor and can also change the colors on your output.
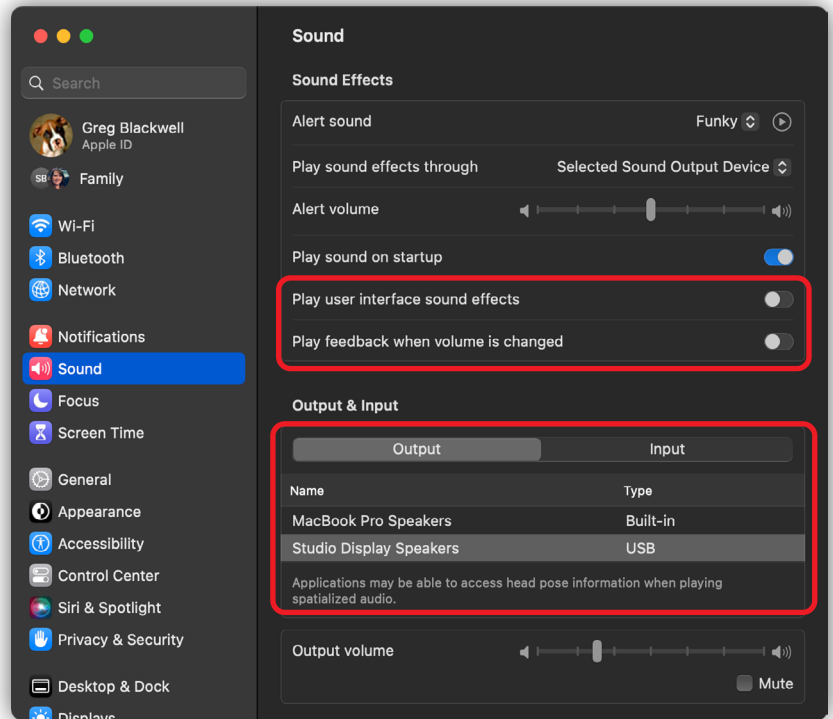
6 Audio Settings

System Preferences

↳ 🔊 Sound

    ↳ Uncheck "Play user interface sound effects"

    ↳ Uncheck "Play feedback when audio is changed"

These settings mute all MacOS sounds.

System Preferences

↳ 🔊 Sound

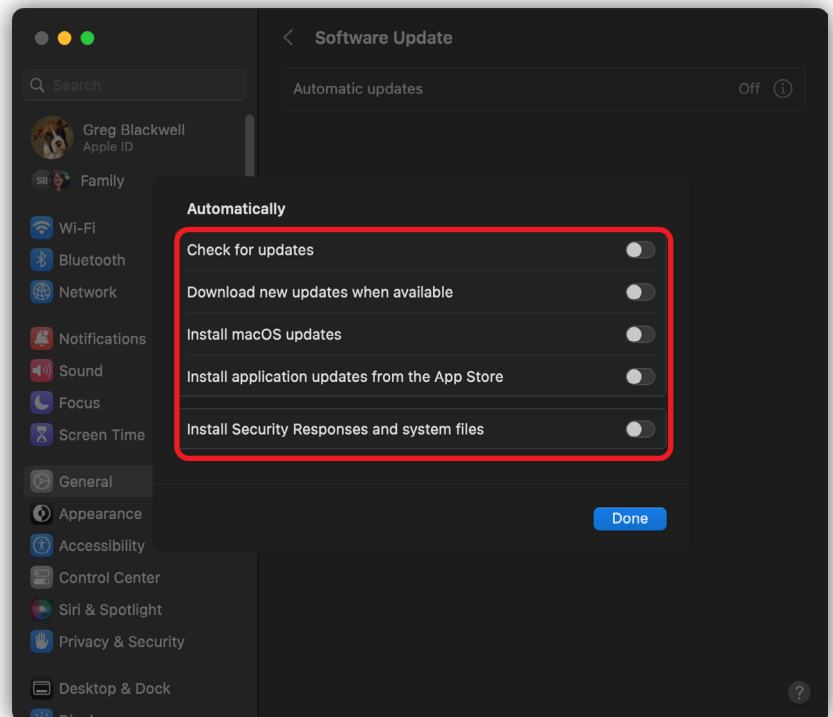   ↳ Select your desired audio output on the Output tab.

7 Disable Automatic Updates

System Preferences

↳ ⚙️ General

    ↳ ⚙️ Software Update

        ↳ Disable all automatic updates

Unanticipated software updates significantly impact system performance.
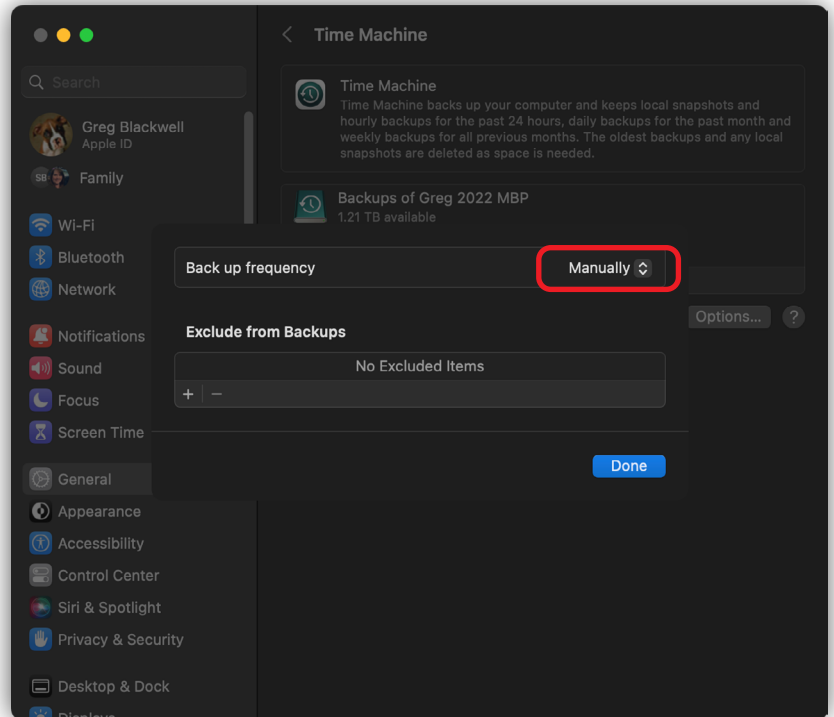
8 Disable Time Machine

System Preferences

→ General

→ Time Machine

→ Set Back up frequency
to "Manually"

Continual backups can cause computer performance degradation and affect playback.

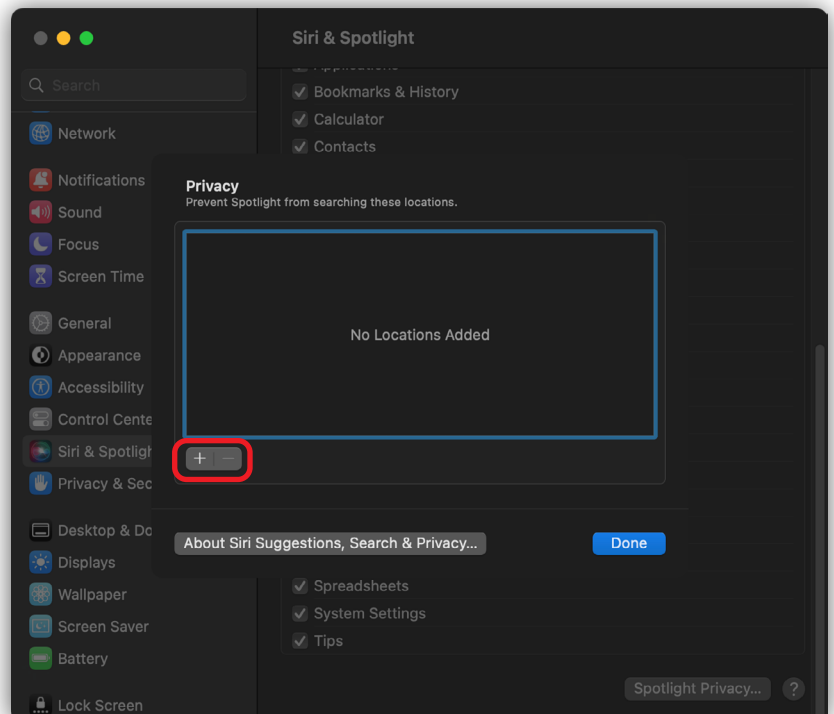## 9 Disable Spotlight Indexing

System Preferences

→ Siri & Spotlight

→ Spotlight Privacy...

→ Turn off MacOS Spotlight
indexing for external drives

Indexing helps macOS locate files faster on a drive but it takes time and can slow down a system.
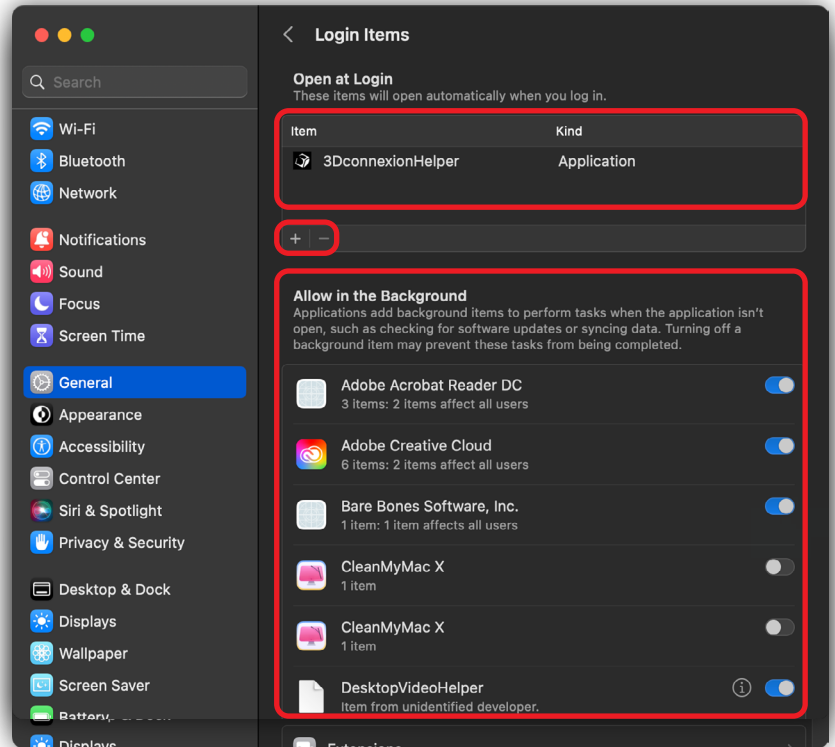
10 Disable FileVault

⚙️ System Preferences

➤ ✋ Privacy & Security

➤ Confirm FileVault is disabled

FileVault is data encryption and is off by default. Encryption requires significant processing overhead and can impact playback performance. If your system has FileVault enabled, you need to check with the system admin before changing this setting.

11 Control Apps On Startup and Background Processes

⚙️ System Preferences

➤ ⚙️ General

➤ ☰ Login Items

➤ Review apps loaded at startup and in the background

If possible, minimize the number of apps loaded at startup and that run in the background.
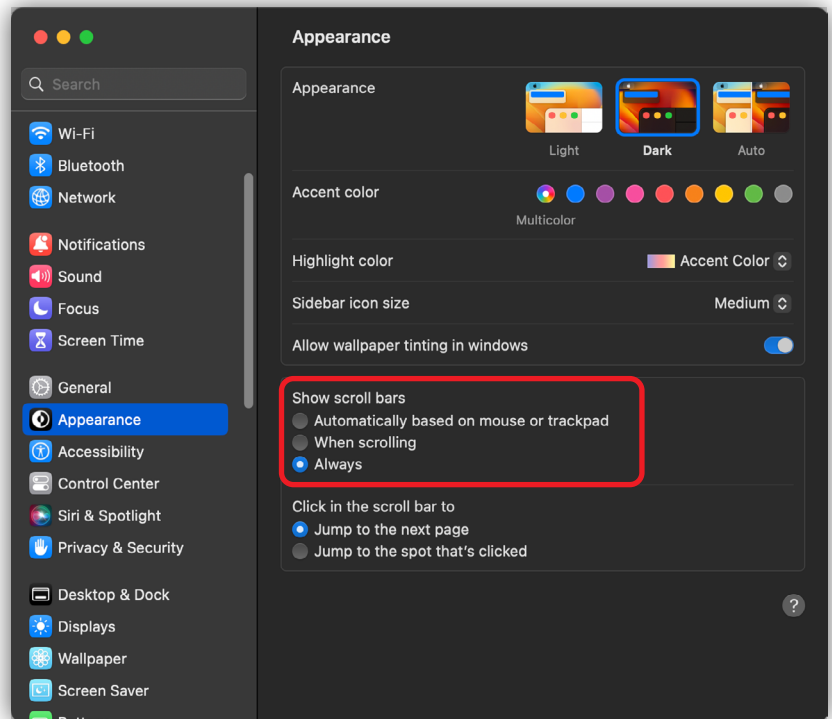
⑫ Enable Scroll Bars

System Preferences

➤ Appearance

↳ Under "Show scroll bars", select Always

Modern macOS versions hide scroll bars based on mouse or trackpad activity. It is helpful to always have them enabled when using PlaybackPro Plus.

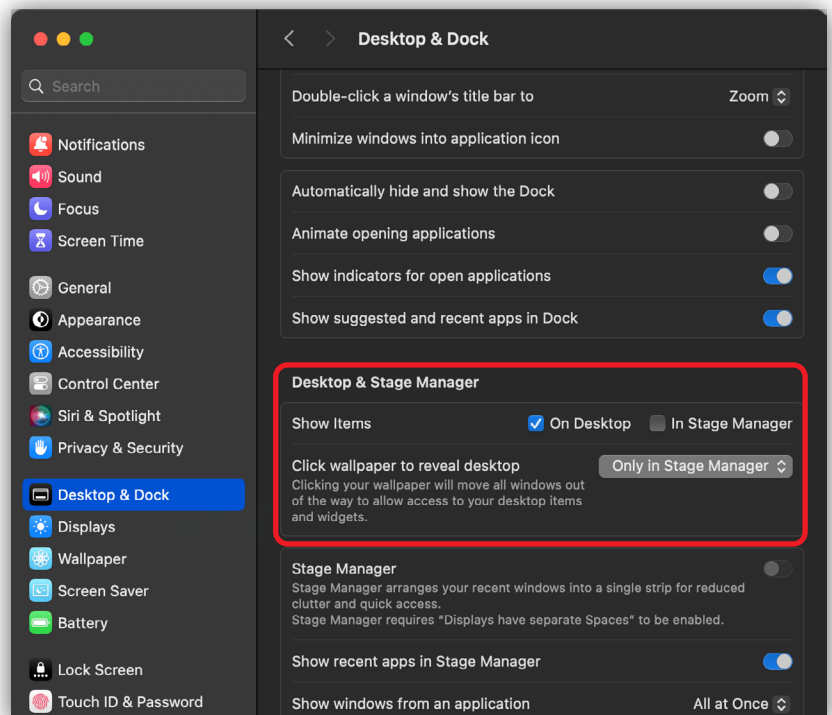## ⑬ Disable Click Wallpaper to Reveal Desktop

System Preferences

➤ Desktop & Dock

↳ Under "Click wallpaper to reveal desktop", select "Only in Stage Manager".
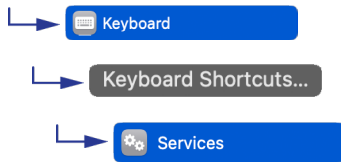
If this is not checked, clicking anywhere on your desktop will temporarily pause playback.
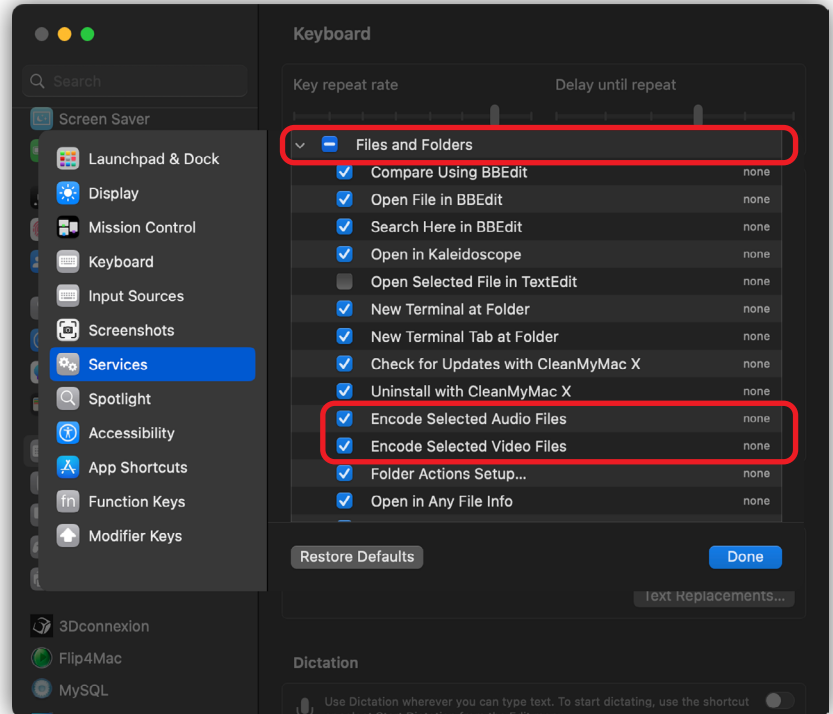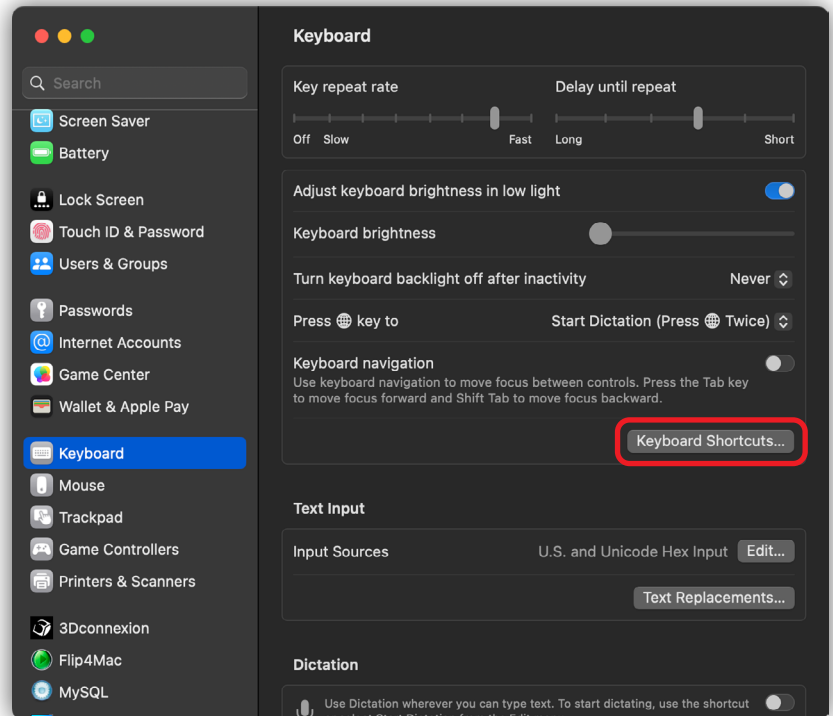
⑭ Re-encoding Videos

If a file does not play well in PlaybackPro Plus, a quick solution can be to re-encode and rewrap the file in a .mov container. This can be done easily and in bulk from Finder by following these steps.
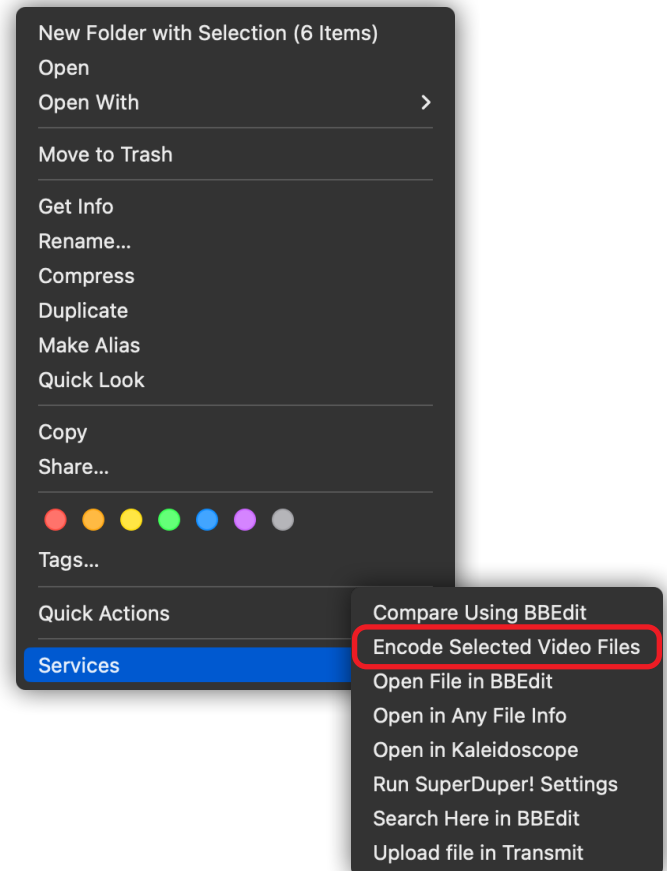
System Preferences

→ Keyboard

→ Keyboard Shortcuts...

→ Services

Check "Encode Selected Audio Files" and "Encode Selected Video Files".

After the Encoding options are enabled, you can right-click on single or multiple files and batch encode them.

New Folder with Selection (6 Items)
Open
Open With   >

Move to Trash

Get Info
Rename...
Compress
Duplicate
Make Alias
Quick Look

Copy
Share...

Tags...

Quick Actions

Services

Compare Using BBEdit
Encode Selected Video Files
Open File in BBEdit
Open in Any File Info
Open in Kaleidoscope
Run SuperDuper! Settings
Search Here in BBEdit
Upload file in Transmit

Select either h.264 or HEVC (h.265) with the highest resolution setting. Your videos will be encoded in their original resolution up to the highest setting.
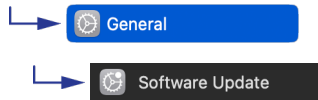
Other transcoding software like Apple Compressor or Adobe Media Encoder can be very helpful to process playback content.

Our recommended codecs are h.264 or HEVC/h.265 or Apple ProRes 422 (Standard), in a .mov (preferred) or .mp4 container.

Encode Media

Setting:
Format:
Resolution:

Preserve Transparency

H.264 480p
H.264 720p
H.264 1080p
H.264 2160p
HEVC 1080p
HEVC 2160p
✓ HEVC 4320p
Apple ProRes
Audio Only

Cancel   Continue

15 Settings to Consider

System Preferences

→ General

→ Software Update

others to add, maybe
battery settings
Disable WiFi
Disable Bluetooth
Focus Mode
Disable notifications
iCloud or other cloud syncings