

Everything **mono+** can do.

Everything you need to master mono+ — from your first shot to the full creative suite. Quick Start, complete filter guide, PRO panel reference, Mac Companion, and sharing.

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Quick Start →

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PART 1 — GETTING STARTED

Quick Start

Five steps from first launch to your first signature shot.

- 01 Swipe the filter strip at the bottom of the camera screen. Tap any thumbnail to apply a look. Start with Tri-X for classic black and white, or Portra for warm color.

02 Drag INTENSITY right for full effect, left to blend back toward natural. Both ends snap to exactly 0% and 100% so you can always reach them cleanly. B&W filters start at full. Film and Vintage start at 50 percent.

03 Tap PRO to open the glass panel — a full creative studio floating over your live camera. Six tiles. Tap any to dive in. Start with LOOK for tone and grain.

04 Tap PRO again to collapse the panel. This locks the look and enters Shoot Mode — a clean, full-screen viewfinder ready to fire.

05 Shoot. Every filter, grain, border, and overlay bakes permanently into the file. The look is the image.

PRO PANEL

The glass panel is draggable. Grab the handle at the top and move it clear of your subject. It stays where you put it for the session. Tap the chevron at the bottom of the filter strip to collapse it independently while the panel stays open.

CAPTURE

Capture Modes

Photo

Single frame. Every filter, effect, border, and overlay bakes into the file at full resolution. mono+ requests the highest quality output the sensor can deliver on every capture. On deliberate, well-composed frames, AVFoundation activates its multi-frame computational pipeline and delivers up to 24MP. The shutter dims and breathes while the pipeline works — this is the natural pace of a considered exposure. When it returns to full brightness, the camera is ready for the next frame. Fast-moving subjects or variable conditions deliver 12MP native ISP output instead.

Video	Tap to start, tap to stop. Every filter, every grain setting, every effect renders live as you record.
Booth	Sequential multi-frame capture. Four frames composited into a single 2×2 strip, or saved individually as a burst. Custom booth frames from the Companion apply to the composite.
FunHouse	Cutout board mode. A custom frame with a transparent hole — an on-screen guide directs your subject to align with the opening.
Prompt	Write or import your script, hit record and deliver eye-to-eye. Your audience sees you. You see your words. Nothing is baked into the recording — just your performance.

CAPTURE

Shoot Mode

Shoot Mode is the deliberate separation between building your look and using it. When you collapse the PRO panel, mono+ enters Shoot Mode automatically.

What changes in Shoot Mode

Filter strip	Collapses to a slim amber bar showing the active filter name. Tap the bar at any time to return to Look Mode.
PRO button	Replaced by an amber lock icon. Tap it to exit Shoot Mode.
Viewfinder	Full screen, unobstructed. Tap anywhere to focus — the entire frame is a focus target.
Render rate	Reduced between captures to conserve battery. The live camera feed and your active look remain fully visible at all times.

What does not change

Every capture control works identically in Shoot Mode: shutter, volume button, countdown, zoom, torch. Capture quality is identical to Look Mode. The look bakes at full fidelity on every shot.

RETURNING TO LOOK MODE

Tap the amber filter name bar or the lock icon to expand the PRO panel and resume full Look Mode. Your look is preserved exactly as you left it.

CAPTURE

Photo Booth

Sequential multi-frame capture in a single session. Select BOOTH from the mode pill. Configure in PRO → SETTINGS → PHOTO BOOTH before shooting.

Output formats

Strip	Four frames captured in sequence and composited into a single 2×2 image — the classic photo booth strip. The active filter and border apply to the composite.
Burst	Each frame saves individually to your camera roll. Same look on every frame, sequential timing.

Configuration

Shots	Number of frames per session: 2, 3, 4, or 6.
Delay	Gap between frames after the first: 1s, 2s, or 3s.
Countdown	Initial countdown before the first frame: 3s, 5s, or 10s.
Frame	Custom booth frames received from the Companion appear here. Select one to composite over each capture in the strip.

ASPECT RATIO

Booth forces 1:1 square framing automatically. Your previous aspect ratio is restored when you switch out of Booth mode.

Custom booth frames. Design your own strip frame in the Companion and send it to your iPhone wirelessly. It appears in the Booth frame selector immediately.

CAPTURE

FunHouse

A classic boardwalk cutout board on your iPhone. Hold up a custom frame with a transparent hole — an on-screen guide directs the subject to align with the opening. When aligned, shoot.

How it works

- 01 Design a FunHouse frame in the Companion — a PNG with a transparent cutout, hole position defined on the preview. Send to iPhone.
- 02 Select FUNHOUSE from the mode pill. Your frame appears over the live viewfinder on the rear camera.
- 03 Hold the phone up or hand it to your subject. An amber guide ring appears around the detected face with directional arrows: move left, move right, move up, move down.
- 04 When the face aligns with the hole, the ring turns green and HOLD STILL appears. Tap the shutter.
- 05 The frame composites permanently over the capture with your active filter applied.

Guide overlay

Amber ring

Tracks the detected face in real time. Directional arrows show which way to move.

Green ring

Face is aligned with the hole. Ready to shoot.

FIND THE HOLE

No face detected in the frame. Move until the guide ring appears.

FRAME DESIGN

The frame is static — the subject moves to the hole, not the other way around. Design your frame with the hole off-center for the most interesting compositions. Use the Companion hole position picker to place it precisely.

Rear camera only. FunHouse uses the rear camera. The flip button is not available in FunHouse mode by design.

CAPTURE

Teleprompter

Select PROMPT from the mode pill. The front camera activates. Your script scrolls over a live preview of yourself — your audience sees your face, you read your lines.

Setup

Tap the script area to open the setup sheet. Paste or type your full script — any length. Set scroll speed and font size. Tap Done.

Controls during recording

Speed

Adjust scroll rate with the speed slider while recording. Fine-tune to your natural speaking pace.

Font size

Set before recording. Larger for distance viewing, smaller for more words on screen.

Pause

Tap the screen to pause and resume scrolling without stopping the recording.

Resume sheet

When you stop recording mid-script, a resume sheet appears. Choose Continue from here to resume from your current position, or Start from Beginning to reset the scroll to the top.

NO LENGTH LIMIT

There is no character limit on your script. Paste an entire speech, presentation, or long-form narration — the teleprompter handles any length.

CAPTURE

Camera Controls

Focus and exposure

An amber square is visible at all times during live camera operation, showing the current focus point. Tap anywhere on the viewfinder to move the square and lock focus at that point. The square stays visible between taps, always indicating where focus is set.

For sustained bursts, long-press to lock both focus and exposure at a point — shown as AE/AF LOCK with a haptic. The lock holds until your next tap and clears on camera flip or mode change. When tilt-shift is active, the sharp band follows your tap point.

Focus lock (F)

The F button in the right column locks focus at the current lens position. The square freezes in place and the button goes gold. Tap the viewfinder while F is active to move the square and release the lock, returning to continuous autofocus. Tap F again to release the lock and recenter the square. Focus lock is independent of the exposure controls.

Exposure compensation

After a tap-to-focus a vertical slider appears on the right edge. Drag up to brighten, down to darken. It auto-hides after three seconds. The slider biases the auto system toward a brighter or darker target but does not lock the shutter or ISO to specific values.

Zoom

Tap any zoom level in the left column: 0.5× / 1× / 2× / 3× (availability depends on device hardware). The full optical and digital zoom range is available via pinch-to-zoom. Active level highlighted amber. Tap the chevron to collapse the column. The 0.5× ultrawide is unavailable while manual exposure (S or Fixed ISO) is active and reappears when both return to AUTO.

Torch

The bolt icon activates continuous torch light. Rear camera only — hidden when the front camera is active. Disables automatically on camera flip and when recording stops.

Volume buttons

Either volume button triggers the shutter in Photo mode. Identical to the on-screen shutter — haptic and sound included.

Countdown timer

Tap the timer button in the shutter row to cycle: off → 3s → 5s → 10s → off. Tap the shutter to start the countdown. Tap anywhere to cancel before it fires.

Last capture

A thumbnail of your most recent capture appears in the shutter row. Tap it to jump directly to the Photos app.

CAMERA CONTROLS

Manual Exposure

Three controls in the right column give direct access to shutter speed, ISO, and focus lock. They are independent — any combination is valid.

S — Shutter speed

Tap to open a strip: AUTO, 1/500, 1/250, 1/125, 1/60, 1/30, 1/15. Selecting a value locks the shutter to that duration regardless of scene brightness. The camera freely adjusts ISO to compensate. AUTO returns to continuous auto exposure. Shutter lock is the only way to guarantee motion is frozen or blurred at a specific duration — the exposure compensation slider cannot do this.

Fixed ISO

Tap to open a strip: AUTO, 400, 800, 1600, 3200. Selecting a value fixes ISO at that number and lets the shutter compensate for scene brightness. AUTO returns to continuous auto exposure. At 1600 in a dark venue the shutter will lengthen; at 400 in bright light it will shorten.

Single-lens mode

Activating either S or Fixed ISO switches the session to the physical wide-angle lens. The full multi-lens system (ultrawide, main, telephoto) is not available while either control is active. The 0.5× button disappears from the zoom strip. When both S and Fixed ISO return to AUTO, the full lens range restores automatically. Zoom is not restricted during focus lock alone.

INDEPENDENT CONTROLS

Shutter and ISO controls are independent. Any combination is valid: shutter locked with ISO on auto, fixed ISO with shutter on auto, or both active simultaneously. Single-lens mode applies whenever either is active.

FILM SIMULATIONS

Film Simulations

31 simulations across three categories, accessible from the strip at the bottom of your camera screen. Swipe to browse, tap to apply. INTENSITY controls how strongly the simulation is blended — at 1.0 the full effect, at 0.5 blended 50/50 with the natural image. B&W filters default to 1.0 on selection.

B&W — 10 filters

Each applies a distinct tonal signature — simulating the character of colored optical filters over a classic film camera lens.

Name	Character
Classic	Standard luminance conversion — balanced, neutral starting point
Hi-Con	High contrast, punchy blacks
Noir	Deep shadows, compressed gamma, cinematic darkness
Soft	Low contrast, lifted blacks, gentle and airy
Red	Red-filter simulation — darkens skies dramatically, brightens skin
Yellow	Yellow-filter simulation — moderate contrast lift, natural sky separation
Green	Green-filter simulation — brightens foliage, mid-tone contrast
IR	Infrared simulation — extreme sky separation, luminous foliage
Ortho	Orthochromatic — insensitive to red, classic mid-century portrait character
Silver	Flat tonal distribution, neutral gray response

Film Stocks — 10 simulations

Each emulates the contrast curve, color response, grain character, and vignette of a specific photographic film emulsion.

Name	Stock	Character
T-Max	Kodak T-Max 400	Fine-grain B&W, crisp and clinical
Tri-X	Kodak Tri-X 400	Punchy, heavy shadow, classic photojournalism grain
HP5	Ilford HP5 Plus	Balanced midtones, smooth — versatile workhorse
Delta	Ilford Delta 3200	Push-processed, very heavy grain, crushed shadows
Portra	Kodak Portra 400	Warm skin tones, soft color, slight shadow lift
Ektar	Kodak Ektar 100	Vivid, saturated, fine grain — landscape and nature
Pro 400H	Fujifilm Pro 400H	Cool, pastel, slightly overexposed feel
Velvia	Fujifilm Velvia 50	Extreme saturation, deep shadows — slide film

Provia	Fujifilm Provia 100F	Neutral, accurate — reference slide rendition
CineStill	CineStill 800T	Tungsten-balanced, heavy grain, signature halation bloom

Vintage — 11 processes

Process-driven simulations of analog and lo-fi formats.

Name	Character
VHS	Chroma shift, scan flicker, desaturated lo-fi color degradation
Super 8	Warm, flickery, heavy grain, strong vignette — home movie character
Daguerro	Extreme contrast B&W, compressed tonal range, deep vignette
Wet Plate	Heavy vignette, B&W, period photographic process character
Lomo	Saturated cross-process color, vignetted, warm cast
Instant	Lifted whites, warm color cast
Expired	Color drift, very heavy grain, low contrast warm
Pop	60s pop-art color — extreme saturation, bright warmth, punchy contrast
Surf	Sun-bleached 60s surf film — warm golden tones, faded shadows, soft grain
Hipster	Dusty pastel palette — lifted shadows, low contrast, cool-neutral cast
Doc	Documentary feel — rich saturation, deep contrast, heavy grain, strong vignette

PRO PANEL

Precision Controls

Tap PRO to open the glass panel — a floating overlay with six categories of controls. Tap any tile to enter it. The back arrow returns to the tile grid. ALL ↓ expands or collapses every section at once. Tap PRO again to close everything.

Drag the handle at the top to position the panel anywhere on screen — out of the way of your subject. Every slider updates in real time. What you see is what you capture.

PRO — LOOK

Tone and Texture

Shape the tonal character of your image on top of whatever film simulation is active. Shadows, highlights, grain, clarity — dial in your look here.

TONE — ALL SLIDERS BIPOLAR, -1 TO +1

Shadows	Lifts or crushes the shadow range. Positive values open shadows; negative values crush them toward black.
Midtones	Shifts midrange luminosity. Positive brightens; negative darkens without clipping highlights.
Highlights	Lifts or pulls highlight values. Negative values recover blown highlights; positive extends them.
Clarity	Midtone-targeted local contrast enhancement. Adds bite and texture without affecting highlights or shadows. 0 to 1.

TEXTURE — 0 TO 1

Grain	Additive per-pixel noise matching analog silver halide grain character. Layered on top of any grain the active filter already applies.
Vignette	Corner darkening using a multiply-mode falloff. Subtle at low values, dramatic at high values.

TILT-SHIFT

Enable	Toggles selective focus simulation on and off.
Center	Vertical position of the in-focus band. 0 = bottom, 1 = top, 0.5 = center.

Width	Height of the sharp zone. Lower values produce a narrower band of focus.
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Blur	Blur strength in the out-of-focus regions. Higher values produce more extreme miniature effect.
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PRO — COLOR

Tonal Color

Add a color signature to your shadows and highlights independently — from a subtle selenium tone to a full blue-cyan wash. Works in both color and B&W modes.

SHADOW TONE

Hue	Color direction applied to shadow regions. -1 to +1 covering the full spectrum.
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Strength	How strongly the shadow hue is applied. 0 = no color, 1 = full toning. 0 to 1.
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HIGHLIGHT TONE

Hue	Color direction applied to highlight regions. -1 to +1.
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Strength	Additive highlight tint intensity. 0 to 1.
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PRINT TONE PRESETS

One-tap configurations that set shadow and highlight hue and strength simultaneously — emulating classic darkroom chemical toning processes.

Preset	Character
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None	Clears all shadow and highlight toning
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Selenium	Cool violet-purple shadows, slight violet highlights — archival darkroom process
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Sepia	Warm amber throughout shadows and highlights — classic aged print
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Platinum	Subtle cool-neutral, very restrained — platinum/palladium print character
Cyan	Strong blue-cyan throughout — classic photographic contact print process
Palladium	Warm brown shadows, soft warm highlights — palladium print character

PRO — DECAY

Film Degradation

The imperfections that make film feel real. Light leaks, halation, dust, scratches, gate weave. Get creative. Shape your capture. All default to zero.

LIGHT — 0 TO 1

Leak	Warm or cool soft light bleeding from a random frame edge — simulating light entering the camera body through a seal failure.
Halation	Red-channel bloom spreading from specular highlights — emulating the glow of light reflecting off the film base. Characteristic of CineStill and fast film stocks.
Burn	Intense orange-white edge flare — simulating film overexposure at the edge of the frame.

TEXTURE — 0 TO 1

Dust	Animated particle drift — small dark and bright specks moving across the frame. More visible on light tones.
Scratch	Animated vertical scratch lines, six independent channels with opacity flicker — simulating damage to the film emulsion or projector gate.
Gate	Whole-frame horizontal jitter — simulating film transport instability through a projector or camera gate.

COLOR EFFECTS — 0 TO 1 (HIDDEN IN B&W MODE)

Bleed	Chromatic aberration — red channel shifts right, blue channel shifts left. Simulates lens fringing or color misregistration in print processes.
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Fade	Print fade — red push, cyan loss, shadow lift toward brown. Simulates aged or improperly stored prints.
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PRO — FRAME

Borders and Framing

ASPECT RATIO

Full	Native camera sensor — no crop.
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1:1	Square — classic medium format.
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16:9	Widescreen — standard video ratio.
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2.39	Anamorphic cinematic — ultra-widescreen.
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BORDERS

None	No border — clean full-bleed image.
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Black	Solid black frame.
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White	Solid white frame.
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Instant	White frame with thick bottom — classic instant print proportions. Forces 1:1 square framing; restores your previous ratio when deselected.
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Instant Black	Black instant-style frame with thick bottom. Forces 1:1 square framing; restores your previous ratio when deselected.
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Aged	Instant border with warm cream tint — aged instant print character. Forces 1:1 square framing; restores your previous ratio when deselected.
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Custom

PNG borders installed from the Mac Companion. Transparency preserved. Any design, any proportion. See Custom Borders below.

HUD

Mutually exclusive with standard borders. Renders a filming-style heads-up display with REC indicator, timecode, battery level, date, GPS coordinates, and ISO/shutter readout. HUD data bakes into video. On photo captures, HUD is suppressed and the image is clean. When HUD is active in video mode, a notice appears in the Border section — "HUD active. Border suppressed."

FILM IMPRINT

When active, renders a data strip at the frame edge showing the film stock name, your Film ID, and capture metadata. The imprint frame counter increments with each capture and persists per filter between sessions. Watermark is suppressed when imprint is active.

WATERMARK

Renders a user-defined text string into the frame. Up to 20 characters. Set in PRO → SETTINGS → CAPTURE.

PRO — OVERLAYS

Camera Assist

Shooting aids that live over your iPhone screen — not visible in your captures. Grid, level, histogram, focus peaking, zebra — the tools you need.

Grid

Composition guide. Styles: Thirds, Square, Golden ratio, Center cross, Diagonal.

Level

Electronic horizon indicator. A line appears when the camera is tilted; it turns green when level.

Histogram

Live luminance histogram in the corner of your screen. Shows tonal distribution in real time.

Focus Peaking

Edge-detection highlight of in-focus areas. Sensitivity slider controls the detection threshold — lower values highlight only the sharpest edges.

Zebra

Overexposure warning stripes on areas exceeding the set threshold. Threshold slider sets the luminance level that triggers zebra.

PRO — SETTINGS

Look Library

Your look library and the entry point to System Settings. The gear icon in the panel header opens System Settings — a separate surface covering text imprints, output, photo booth configuration, and permissions.

SYSTEM PRESETS

Four factory looks, ready to tap. Long-press to remove one from view; removed presets return if you reset all settings.

Preset	Character
STREET	Kodak Tri-X 400 — high contrast B&W, heavy grain, deep shadows
PAPARAZZI	Classic B&W — elevated brightness, flash-lit portrait character
POP	Fujifilm Velvia 50 — maximum saturation, strong chroma shift
FADE	Fujifilm Pro 400H — low contrast, warm, lifted shadows, gentle halation

SAVED LOOKS

Your library, with thumbnail, active state, and select, share, or delete per look. Actions: Save Current Look, Share Looks, Reset All Settings, Import Look from Photo.

System Settings

Tap the gear icon in the PRO panel header. This opens a separate accordion view replacing the six tiles — the PRO panel and System Settings never show at the same time.

APPEARANCE

Text Size Label size throughout the PRO panel — S, M, or L.

TEXT ON FRAME

Watermark Toggle; when on, a text field with a favorites strip appears. Type any text, tap the bookmark icon to save it as a chip, tap any chip to paste it back, tap the X on a chip to delete it. Favorites persist across sessions. Disabled only when Video mode and HUD are both active simultaneously. Mutually exclusive with Text Overlay when an Instant or Aged border is active.

Text Overlay Toggle; when on, a text field, favorites strip, and a color picker (black, white, grey) appear. Disabled only when Exposure ID, HUD, and Video mode are all three active simultaneously. Mutually exclusive with Watermark on an Instant or Aged border.

Date Stamp Toggle only — no text field. Prints the capture date at the lower right in amber. Stills only; disabled in Video mode.

Text in both fields is always literal. iOS autocorrect, smart quotes, smart dashes, and the double-space-inserts-a-period shortcut are all suppressed. What you type is exactly what appears on the photo.

FILM DATA ON FRAME

Exposure ID Toggle; when on, a text field for your label or username. The toggle alone activates the imprint — no text is required. When the label field is empty, each capture renders the frame number followed by an arrow (e.g. 24 ▶). When a label is set, it renders after the arrow (e.g. 24 ▶ YOURFILM). The frame counter advances on every capture regardless of whether a label is set, and wraps back to 1 after frame 36. Disabled when the active border is Instant or Aged (Instant Black does not

disable it), or in Video mode. Mutually exclusive with Film Stock — enabling one turns the other off.

Film Stock Toggle. Prints the active film stock name as a rebate on the left edge, matching the active filter. Only appears when: not in Video mode, a border is selected, the border is not Instant or Aged, and a film-category filter is active. Mutually exclusive with Exposure ID.

IMPRINT AVAILABILITY BY BORDER

Which frame data features are available depends on the active border. Date Stamp is available in photo mode on all borders.

Border	Exposure ID	Film Stock	Text Overlay	Watermark
None	Yes	No (border required)	Yes	Yes
Black	Yes	Film filter req.	Yes	Yes
White	Yes	Film filter req.	Yes	Yes
Instant	No	No	Yes *	Yes *
Instant Black	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Aged	No	No	Yes *	Yes *
Custom	Yes	Film filter req.	Yes	Yes

* On Instant and Aged borders, Text Overlay and Watermark are mutually exclusive — enabling one turns the other off.

LOCATION

GPS Embeds coordinates into the EXIF metadata of saved files. Off by default.

PHOTO BOOTH

Output Strip or Burst.

Shots 2, 3, 4, or 6 — Burst only.

Between frames 0s, 1s, 2s, or 3s — Strip only.

Countdown

3s, 5s, or 10s.

OUTPUT

V.Format

H.264 or HEVC — sets the codec for video recording. Photo output is fixed HEIC with no user choice.

PERMISSIONS

The app requests camera access, photo library read and write access (required for the last-capture thumbnail and for saving), local network access (WiFi delivery from Companion), and optional location access (GPS overlay).

SAVED LOOKS

Building Your Library

A Look is your signature — every creative decision saved in one tap. Filter, grain, tone, color, borders, everything. Apply it to any shot, any time.

Saving a Look

- 01 Dial in your complete look — filter, intensity, all PRO adjustments.
- 02 Open PRO → SETTINGS.
- 03 Tap the + NEW card in SAVED LOOKS. Or tap SAVE ALL SETTINGS to save the current configuration.
- 04 Name your look. Up to 30 characters.
- 05 Tap Save. The look appears in your library immediately.

WHAT CARRIES THROUGH

Every parameter you can set in the PRO panel is saved — intensity, tone, texture, color, decay, tilt-shift, border, and aspect ratio. Overlay states, identity fields (watermark, film ID), and output

format settings are per-device and are not saved in looks.

LOOK DNA

The recipe travels with the photograph.

Every photo you capture in mono+ carries its complete look invisibly embedded in the file. Filter, grain, color tone, decay, tilt shift, borders — the full creative specification encoded in the image itself using the industry-standard EXIF UserComment field.

Share a photo and you share the look. The data travels wherever the file goes.

Import a look from a photo

Found a mono+ image you want to shoot with? Open PRO on your iPhone, go to SETTINGS, tap Import Look from Photo. Choose any mono+ image from your camera roll. Every parameter is extracted and applied to your current session instantly.

01 Open PRO and tap the SETTINGS tile.

02 Tap Import Look from Photo.

03 Choose any mono+ image from your camera roll.

04 The complete look is extracted and applied instantly — filter, grain, tone, decay, tilt shift, all of it.

05 Optionally save it as a named look in your library.

Share a look by sharing a photo

Send someone a mono+ image via AirDrop, Messages, or anywhere. They open it in mono+, tap Import Look, and shoot with your exact creative signature. No separate file. No extra steps. The image is the look.

Gallery auto-detection

When you submit a photo to the mono+ gallery, the look DNA is read automatically from the file. No need to select which filter you used — the image already knows.

Import in the Companion

Drag any mono+ photo onto the Desktop Companion window. The look is extracted and appears as a new preset in your library — ready to edit, name, and send back to your iPhone.

What gets embedded

Filter	Film simulation ID, display name, and intensity
Tone	Shadows, midtones, highlights, clarity
Texture	Grain and vignette
Color	Shadow and highlight hue, strength, print tone
Decay	All eight decay parameters
Tilt-Shift	Enabled state, center, width, and blur
Frame	Aspect ratio and border selection

OPEN FORMAT

Look DNA is written to the standard EXIF UserComment field as plain JSON. Any EXIF viewer can read it. The data belongs to you. [Learn more about Look DNA.](#)

CAPTURE

RAW Capture

RAW records a full-resolution file alongside the finished photo, so you can finish a master at full size on the Mac.

In Photo mode on the rear camera, tap the gold RAW chip below the mode bar. It lights and the camera switches to the wide lens at its full resolution. While RAW is on, the wide lens is the only lens — switching to the front camera or to Video, Prompt, Booth, or FunHouse turns RAW off. Tap the chip again to leave RAW.

Set your look as normal, then shoot. Each press writes two files: a full-resolution ProRAW DNG carrying your look as LookDNA and your location as data, flat by design, and a finished file at everyday resolution with your look, border, and imprints ready to share. The raw stays flat on purpose — keeping the look as data is what lets the Companion rebuild it at full resolution and lets you move exposure and white balance later without the loss a finished image would give.

One capture at a time

A number badge on the shutter shows when a ProRAW capture is currently being saved. Only one capture can be in flight at a time. The badge turns red while saving is in progress and the shutter is locked until it clears. If you tap the shutter and nothing happens, this is why — wait for the badge to disappear before shooting again.

Hardware requirement

RAW capture requires ProRAW, which Apple gates to iPhone 12 Pro or later. If the device does not support it, the RAW chip is not shown. On 48-megapixel hardware the DNG is 48MP and the paired companion JPEG is 12MP — a constraint of Apple's ISP, not a product choice.

MOVING TO MAC

AirDrop the DNG from the Photos share sheet, use Export Unmodified Original via iCloud Photos, or connect by cable and import with Image Capture. Do not drag directly out of Photos — that can hand you a finished JPEG instead of the raw. Open the DNG in the Companion and it reads the embedded LookDNA, reconstructs the look at full sensor resolution, and presents the raw controls alongside the look editor.

PRESET EXCHANGE

Sharing Looks

mono+ uses the `.monopluspack` file format to share presets between devices and with the Mac Companion. A pack file contains all your saved looks and any attached custom borders. Packs can be shared freely — receiving a pack merges its presets into your local library.

Exporting from iPhone

- 01 Open PRO → SETTINGS → SHARE LOOKS.
- 02 The iOS share sheet appears with your `.monopluspack` file ready to send.
- 03 Choose AirDrop to send to another iPhone or your Mac, or choose any other share target — Messages, Mail, Files, or a cloud service.

Receiving on iPhone

A `.monopluspack` file received via AirDrop, Messages, or any other path opens directly in mono+. Received presets are merged into your Saved Looks library. Custom borders embedded in the pack are installed automatically and appear in PRO → FRAME → BORDERS.

COMPANION → IPHONE

The Mac Companion sends looks directly to your iPhone over WiFi — no account setup, no pairing. Both devices need to be on the same network. mono+ detects the incoming pack automatically and installs it without any action required on your iPhone.

IPHONE → IPHONE

Use AirDrop or any share target. The receiving iPhone opens the pack in mono+ automatically. No app switching required.

Desktop Creative Studio

The mono+ Desktop Companion is a free Mac app that brings your entire preset library to a full-size screen — precision sliders, live preview on your own photos, custom borders, FunHouse frame design, teleprompter scripting, and ProRAW grading. One-click wireless delivery to any nearby iPhone running mono+.

Getting Started

- 01 Download MonoPlusCompanion.dmg from monoplus.pro and drag it to your Applications folder.
- 02 On your iPhone, open mono+ → PRO → SETTINGS → SHARE LOOKS.
- 03 AirDrop the .monopluspack file to your Mac. The Companion opens automatically with all your looks loaded.
- 04 Edit any preset. When you're done, click Send to iPhone in the toolbar. Your looks arrive on the phone within seconds.

HOW DELIVERY WORKS

The Companion finds nearby iPhones running mono+ over your local WiFi network and delivers directly — no pairing or account setup required. Both devices need to be on the same network. The Send to iPhone button confirms delivery with the name of the device that received the pack.

MAC COMPANION — LOOKS

Preset Editor

Build and refine your complete look library on a large screen with the full slider set. Every control matches the iOS PRO panel exactly — filter, intensity, all six PRO tiles. A live preview renders the look on a sample image as you adjust. Switch the sample to any photo from your Mac to preview on your own content before sending.

HEADER

Name field	Editable inline. Click the name to rename. Up to 30 characters. Press Return or click Save to confirm.
------------	--

Filter ID	The base film simulation — shown below the name. Read-only in the editor; change the filter in mono+ on iPhone and re-export.
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Save button	Appears when there are unsaved changes. Saves to the current pack file. Keyboard shortcut: Cmd+S.
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Export	Saves this single preset as its own standalone .monopluspack file — useful for sharing individual looks.
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EDITOR SECTIONS

All collapsible accordion panels — INTENSITY, TONE, TEXTURE, DECAY, COLOR, TILT SHIFT, FRAME. Every parameter matches exactly what is available in the mono+ PRO panel on iPhone. Values edited in the Companion apply identically when received on the phone.

FILE MENU

New (Cmd+N)	Creates a new empty preset library with a single blank preset.
-------------	--

Open (Cmd+O)	Opens any .monopluspack file.
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Save (Cmd+S)	Saves to the current file. The last opened file is restored automatically at next launch.
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Save As	Saves to a new location. Keyboard shortcut: Cmd+Shift+S.
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MAC COMPANION — BORDERS

Custom Borders

Design your own border on your Mac and send it straight to your iPhone. A film rebate, a print edge, a signature frame — any PNG, any design. Three border formats are

supported.

Single Frame

A standard portrait border. The PNG overlays directly over every capture. Full transparency support — any shape, any aesthetic. Keep the center transparent to reveal the photo through the frame.

Photo Booth Strip

A composite frame for Booth mode. Designed for the 2×2 composite output — design the outer frame, the gutters, and any background.

FunHouse Frame

A cutout board frame with a defined hole position. See FunHouse Frames below.

Adding a Custom Border

- 01 Open a preset in the editor and scroll to the FRAME section.
- 02 Click Add Custom Border and choose a PNG from your Mac.
- 03 The border appears in the live preview. The filename and pixel dimensions are shown.
- 04 If the border's aspect ratio doesn't match the preset's frame setting, a mismatch warning appears with a one-tap Fix button.
- 05 Save the preset. The border is embedded and will transfer with the preset to iPhone.

BORDER ONLY

To send just a border without affecting other presets, click Send Border to iPhone in the FRAME section. The border transfers wirelessly and installs in mono+ without adding any preset to your library.

Design guidance. Use any image editing application. Keep areas where the photo should show through fully transparent (alpha 0). Hard or soft edges both work. For ProRAW DNG export, author at 6048×8064 (4:3 full), 6048×6048 (1:1), 6048×3402 (16:9), or 6048×2531 (2.39:1) — the

Companion scales borders to fit the DNG master, so undersized files render soft. Maximum file size: 50MB.

MAC COMPANION – FUNHOUSE FRAMES

FunHouse Frame Design

Design the cutout board frame as a PNG, then use the Companion to define exactly where the hole is. The hole position is embedded in the frame data and tells mono+ where to direct the subject.

- 01 Design your frame PNG. The transparent area is the hole where the subject's face will appear. Make it distinctive — a character, a scene, an oval portrait cutout.
- 02 In the Companion Borders tab, select FunHouse Frame from the format buttons.
- 03 Upload your PNG. It appears in the preview panel.
- 04 Drag the orange circle on the preview to the center of the hole opening. Use the Hole Size slider to match the circle to the opening.
- 05 Click Send to iPhone. The frame arrives on your device wirelessly and appears in FunHouse mode immediately.

OFF-CENTER HOLES

Position the hole away from center for more interesting compositions. The guide arrows will direct the subject clearly, and the resulting framing will be far more dynamic than a centered cutout.

Preparing Your Border Pack

A guide for authoring borders, frames, and looks for mono+ — for brands, venues, and anyone building a pack. It covers the file formats, dimensions, and limits that make a pack install cleanly and look right, and it is honest about where each choice holds up and where it does not. A downloadable version is available at [Preparing Your Border Pack \(PDF\)](#).

The essentials

Every border and frame is a PNG with transparency. The transparent areas are where the photo shows through — the center of a border, the opening of a cutout. This is why frames are PNG and not JPEG: JPEG has no transparency, so the photo could never show through. Author in any image editor, keep the see-through areas fully transparent, and export as PNG.

There are two delivery paths, and they have different size targets. Author to the one you are using. Borders sent from the Mac Companion for ProRAW capture are authored large, to stay sharp against the full-resolution master. Borders delivered as a scan-to-install pack are authored to match standard capture and to keep the download quick. The two are covered separately below.

The three frame types

mono+ recognises three kinds of frame. Choose the one that matches what you are making.

Single Frame

A standard border that overlays every capture. Any shape, any aesthetic. Keep the center transparent to reveal the photo through the frame. This is the type for most borders, and the type to use for a border with a see-through cutout that you simply want to shoot through in normal mode.

Photo Booth Strip

A composite frame for Booth mode — the outer frame, the gutters, and any background for the multi-shot strip. Booth mode forces 1:1 square framing automatically and restores your previous ratio when you switch out of Booth mode.

FunHouse Frame

A boardwalk cutout board with a defined hole, where an on-screen guide directs the subject to align with the opening before the shot. A true FunHouse Frame needs its hole position set in the Companion — drag the orange circle to the opening, size it with the slider. If you only want a border with a see-through hole to shoot through in normal mode, make it a Single Frame. Reserve FunHouse for when you want the alignment guide.

Dimensions — two targets

Dimensions are not only about sharpness. For scan-to-install packs, mono+ reads the frame's dimensions and sets the capture aspect ratio automatically — so authoring to the right size does two jobs: it keeps the frame sharp, and it makes the frame select the correct ratio on its own.

SCAN-TO-INSTALL PACKS

Author to match a 12-megapixel capture. These sizes keep files small and installs quick.

Square (1:1)	2048 × 2048
Portrait / Full	3024 × 4032
16:9	1920 × 1080 (or same ratio)
2.39	2390 × 1000 (or same ratio)

A frame authored at a given ratio forces that ratio on selection: a 1:1 frame forces 1:1 square framing, a 16:9 frame forces 16:9, a 2.39 frame forces 2.39 — and each restores your previous ratio when deselected, the same behaviour as the built-in instant borders. Author square frames as exact squares. Author portrait frames at 3:4 or clearly taller; anything meaningfully taller than square is treated as Full and does not force a ratio. Do not author a near-square frame and expect Full — keep squares square and portraits clearly portrait.

MAC COMPANION (PRORAW)

Borders sent from the Companion are scaled onto the full-resolution ProRAW master, so undersized files render soft. Author large: 6048 × 8064 (4:3 full), 6048 × 6048 (1:1), 6048 × 3402 (16:9), or 6048 × 2531 (2.39:1). Use these sizes only when authoring for

Companion ProRAW delivery. Do not use them for scan-to-install packs — a 6048-pixel full-coverage frame becomes a very large file and a slow install.

File size

A pack installs by downloading each frame in turn. Aim to keep a whole pack under about 15 MB total — that is a budget across all frames in the pack, not a per-frame limit. Borders with a transparent center stay small naturally: the empty area compresses to almost nothing. Full-coverage art with no transparency is inherently heavier because a full-colour image cannot compress the way an empty center can. Size these consciously.

The hard ceiling is 50 MB per file, but that is a guard rail, not a target. If a single frame is approaching even a quarter of that, it is too large — reduce its dimensions or reconsider whether it needs to be full-coverage.

Print expectations

Borders with a transparent center print well at any reasonable size. The photo carries the resolution, and the frame is a thin overlay, so a full-resolution capture with a border prints as large as the photo would on its own.

Full-coverage frames — carnival cutouts, booth-style art, anything where the frame itself is the image — are social-first and print-friendly to about 4 × 6. Author them for the screen and the small keepsake print, and say so where you sell them. Stating the limitation up front turns it into a spec: a customer who knows a carnival frame is a 4 × 6 souvenir is a happy customer; one who prints it at gallery size and finds it soft is not.

Adding a look

A pack can carry a look as well as, or instead of, frames. There are two ways to include one.

Built-in filter

Choose one of the built-in looks by name. The pack carries the filter's identity, and mono+ applies its factory character. Nothing else to prepare.

Saved preset

Export your own tuned look from mono+ through the PRO panel share sheet, then add that preset file to the pack. This carries the full

character you dialled in — tone, grain, decay, print colour — not just the base filter. This is how a signature look travels intact.

Pre-publish checklist

- Every frame is a PNG, with transparency where the photo should show through.
- Square frames are exact squares (2048 × 2048); portrait frames are 3:4 or taller (3024 × 4032).
- You used the scan-to-install sizes for packs, or the Companion ProRAW sizes for Companion delivery — not the other way round.
- The whole pack is under about 15 MB; no single frame is anywhere near the 50 MB ceiling.
- Full-coverage frames are sized for social and prints to 4 × 6, and described that way.
- A true FunHouse Frame's hole was placed in the Companion; a plain cutout is a Single Frame.
- Any look is either a named built-in or a full preset exported from the PRO panel.

PUBLISHING

A new pack stays Off until you set it Live, so nothing appears before you are ready. Set the cover image and description, review the pack, then publish.

BORDERS — AUTHORIZING

Border and Frame Resolution

A border's correct authoring resolution depends on how it reaches the photo. There are two delivery paths, and each composites at a different target. Authoring to the wrong path's size produces soft results or wasted file size.

Borders finished on the desktop Companion apply to full-resolution RAW captures and composite at the full RAW extent, so they need master resolution. Borders and frames

delivered to the phone by scanning or download apply at capture and composite at the phone's output, approximately 3024 by 4032 for a twelve-megapixel capture, so they match that output rather than the master resolution. Authoring one of these at master resolution is wasted: the extra pixels are discarded on downscale, quadrupling the file size for no quality gain. Most pack and FunHouse work uses this path. Master resolution applies only to standard borders finished through the Companion's RAW pipeline.

Authoring Dimensions

Delivery path	Frame type	Author at
Companion RAW	Standard, full	6048 x 8064
Companion RAW	Standard, 1:1	6048 x 6048
Companion RAW	Standard, 16:9	6048 x 3402
Companion RAW	Standard, 2.39	6048 x 2531
Pack install	Standard, 1:1	2048 x 2048
Pack install	Standard, portrait or full	3024 x 4032
Pack install	FunHouse, single frame	3024 x 4032
Pack install	FunHouse, multi-frame	2048 x 2731 each
Pack install	poppix	Same as FunHouse

Quick reference. Author Companion-finished standard borders at 6048 master per aspect. Author everything delivered to the phone by scanning or download — standard borders, FunHouse, poppix — to the phone's output: 2048 by 2048 for square, 3024 by 4032 for portrait and full single frames, 2048 by 2731 per frame for multi-frame bundles. Do not author phone-delivered borders at 6048.

File Size

File size depends on the art, not the dimensions alone. A mostly-transparent border, a thin decorated frame around a clear centre, compresses to a few hundred kilobytes even at large dimensions. A full-coverage illustrated FunHouse frame at the same dimensions is several megabytes, because there is more solid image data to store. Flat colour and transparency compress well; detailed illustration does not.

The hard limit is fifty megabytes per individual frame, a per-frame ceiling, not a bundle ceiling. Frames should be well under this; a frame approaching it is oversized for its purpose and should be re-exported at the correct dimensions. For multi-frame bundles the practical constraint is download time. Each frame downloads separately. Roughly five frames at two to five megabytes each, around twenty-five megabytes total, is the comfortable ceiling for a first install. Larger libraries should install the first frame immediately and fetch the rest in the background.

FunHouse Hole Coordinates

FunHouse frames carry a face-alignment hole. Its coordinates are stored as values between zero and one, describing the hole's position and size as a fraction of the frame. These drive the viewfinder alignment guide only. They are never part of the frame image and have no relationship to authored resolution. The visible hole comes from where it is cut in the artwork. A frame can be authored at any size above without affecting its alignment guide.

Transparency

Border and frame images must be genuinely transparent where the photo shows through, an actual cut-out, not a white or coloured fill. When exporting from Illustrator, export as PNG with the background set to Transparent, and confirm there is no background fill object behind the artwork. Verify by viewing the exported file over a coloured background or a transparency grid; if the transparent area shows as solid white, the export baked in a background and must be corrected.

MAC COMPANION — SCRIPT

Teleprompter Script

Write or paste your teleprompter script in the Companion and send it to iPhone in one click. Longer scripts are easier to edit on a full keyboard. The complete script transfers wirelessly and is immediately available in Prompt mode.

SCRIPT EDITOR

Script area	Full-height text editor — paste or type any length of script. Save named scripts to the library with the Save button.
Font Size	Set the teleprompter font size from the slider — range 14pt to 60pt. This is the display size on iPhone during recording.
Send to iPhone	Sends the current script wirelessly to nearby iPhone. Available immediately in Prompt mode — no pairing required.

Font size and scroll speed can be adjusted on iPhone before recording begins. The Companion sets the initial font size only.

MAC COMPANION — DNG

ProRAW Grading

When mono+ captures in ProRAW mode, each shot produces a full-resolution 48MP DNG alongside the standard 12MP JPEG. The Companion DNG tab opens these raw files and grades them through the same Metal pipeline as the phone — grain, tone, decay, and borders apply identically to what you see in mono+.

Opening a DNG

Drag any mono+ ProRAW DNG onto the Companion window, or use File → Open DNG. The file decodes at full 48MP resolution. Grading controls appear immediately.

RAW ADJUSTMENTS

Temperature	Color temperature of the RAW decode — 3000K to 9000K. Defaults to 5500K (daylight).
Tint	Green-magenta tint correction — -150 to +150. Use to neutralize casts from mixed light sources.
Exposure	RAW exposure compensation — -3 to +3 stops. Applied during decode before the look pipeline runs.

BORDER IN EXPORT

Include border in master

On — border and all margin imprints are composited into the export. Off — border, exposure ID, text overlay, film imprint, and film stock are suppressed. Watermark and date stamp remain in the export.

EXPORT

Export TIFF

16-bit Display P3 with embedded ICC profile. Full 48MP resolution. The archival master.

Export JPEG

8-bit Display P3, 100% quality. Full 48MP resolution. GPS coordinates and LookDNA carried from the source DNG.

RAW CHIP ON IPHONE

Tap the RAW chip in the camera viewfinder to toggle ProRAW capture on or off. When active, the chip glows amber. Each capture produces both a 48MP DNG and a standard 12MP JPEG. Only one ProRAW capture can be in flight at a time — the chip shows a red badge while saving; wait for it to clear before firing again.

MAC COMPANION — TRANSFER

Send to iPhone

Every item in the Companion — looks, borders, FunHouse frames, scripts — delivers to your iPhone wirelessly with a single click. No USB connection, no pairing, no account matching required. The item arrives and installs automatically within seconds.

How it works

The Companion discovers nearby iPhones running mono+ over your local WiFi network and delivers directly. Open mono+ on your iPhone, click Send to iPhone in the Companion toolbar, and the pack is received and installed without any action on the phone. The button confirms delivery: it reads "Sent to [device name]" briefly, showing exactly which iPhone received the pack.

If more than one iPhone with mono+ is nearby, a device picker appears in the Companion — tap the one you want to send to.

If no nearby iPhone is detected, the Companion falls back to AirDrop so you can deliver manually.

Delivery path

The Companion selects a delivery method automatically. If your Mac and iPhone share the same Apple ID with iCloud Drive enabled, delivery goes silently via iCloud — no proximity required, no status shown. If the accounts differ or iCloud is unavailable, the Companion switches to WiFi Direct and finds any nearby iPhone running mono+ on the same network. AirDrop is the last resort when no nearby device is detected. You never choose the method — the Companion picks the fastest available path.

WHAT TRANSFERS

Every parameter in every preset — intensity, tone, texture, color, decay, tilt-shift, frame settings, and any custom border images. Everything you can set in the Companion applies identically in mono+.

WHAT STAYS PER-DEVICE

Base filter selection, overlay states, identity fields (watermark text, film ID), output format settings, and location toggle. These are personal device preferences and are not included in preset files.

Both Mac and iPhone need to be on the same WiFi network. The Companion status dot in the toolbar shows green when a nearby mono+ device has been detected and the connection is ready.

TECHNICAL

Requirements

iOS app

iPhone on iOS 17.0 or later. Portrait orientation. There is no hard model floor; RAW capture requires ProRAW, which Apple gates to iPhone 12

Pro or later, confirmed at runtime.

Mac Companion

macOS 14 Sonoma or later.

Companion delivery

WiFi delivery requires both devices on the same network, with mono+ granted local network access when first prompted. iCloud delivery is used automatically when both devices share an Apple ID with iCloud Drive enabled — no proximity required. No USB, no pairing.

Permissions

Camera access is required. Photo library access is requested the first time a capture is saved and when the thumbnail feature loads your last photo. Location access is optional — only used for GPS geotag.

NOTES

Behaviour Notes

Real-time render

Every filter and adjustment processes live. What you see on screen is what gets captured — no post-processing step.

Preset apply

When a look or preset is applied, the render pipeline updates immediately. No need to close the panel.

Frame counters

The film imprint frame counter tracks shots per filter and persists between sessions. Changing filters resets the counter for the new filter. The counter wraps back to 1 after frame 36.

Watermark and Text Overlay

Mutually exclusive when an Instant or Aged border is active — enabling one turns the other off. Both are available simultaneously on all other borders.

HUD on photo

When HUD is active, it is suppressed on photo captures. HUD data bakes into video only.

Deleted presets

System preset deletions persist across launches. There is no in-app restore — reinstalling the app resets all system presets.

Decay in video

All decay parameters (dust, scratch, gate, leak) are temporally animated during video recording — each frame varies slightly, producing organic film-like movement.

Pack format

.monopluspack files are plain text and can be opened in any text editor. Custom border images are embedded directly in the file.

ProRAW gate

Only one ProRAW capture can be in flight at a time. The shutter is locked while saving — wait for the badge to clear before shooting again.

Release notes — 1.6

Focus tap

First-touch tap now focuses immediately — a gesture timing issue that delayed the first tap after launch is resolved.

RAW breath

The ProRAW shutter breath animation now tracks correctly when a capture completes mid-session.

— Downloads

Everything you need.

IOS APP

Available on the App
Store

mono+

The complete film simulation camera for iPhone. 31 simulations, full PRO panel, Photo Booth, FunHouse, Teleprompter, ProRAW, LookDNA, and the complete overlay system.



MAC APP

Free with mono+

Mac Companion

Build and edit your preset library on your Mac. Live preview, custom borders, FunHouse frame design, teleprompter scripting, ProRAW grading, and direct wireless delivery to any nearby iPhone running mono+. macOS 14 and later.

Download
for Mac

COMMUNITY

Gallery

Shared Looks

Looks created and shared by the mono+ community. Download any look directly to your iPhone — one tap installs the complete preset including any custom borders.

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