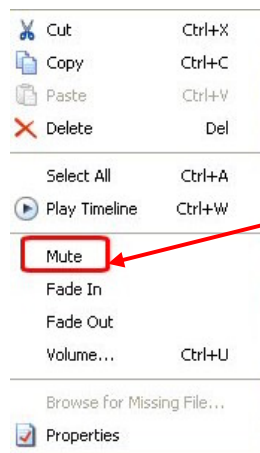


# Movie Maker 2

## Audio

### Muting the Video Audio

The next editing step is to add audio to our movie. This is where Movie Maker is limited. You do have two audio tracks available, but that's really not enough. We want narration and music. BUT: We've already got a sound track attached to our video clips. Movie Maker does not allow us to detach and delete this audio track. We can mute it, but we can't get rid of it. Premiere Elements will allow us to detach and delete unwanted audio tracks, but for now, we'll have to go around the audio track from the video.

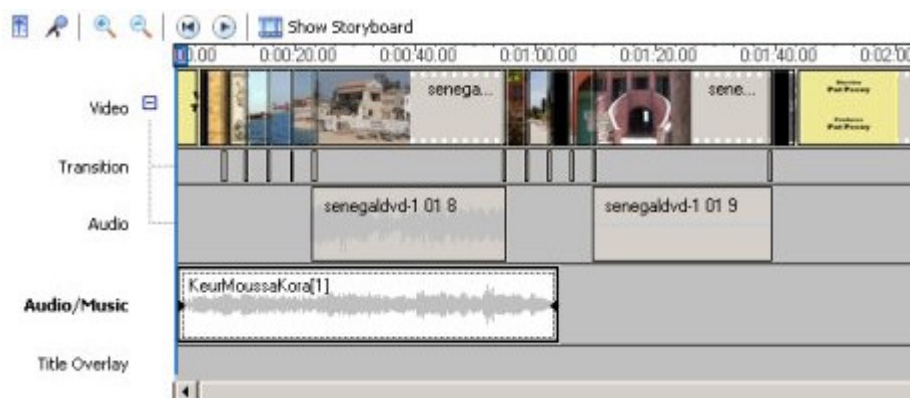


First, let's mute the video audio.

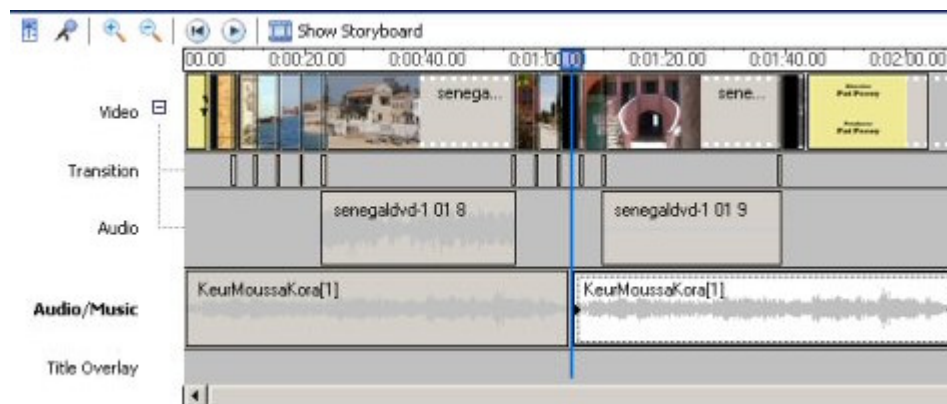
1. Select the first video clip in the timeline.
2. Right-click on the slide, then select "Mute."
3. Repeat this process for the second clip.
4. Now when you play the video you don't hear all the background bru-ha-ha.

### Adding a Music Track

Next, let's add a music track. Make sure your collections pane is visible and the gree collection is selected. Now click and drag the music track called KeurMoussaKora.mp3 to the Audio/Music track.



It's not long enough for the whole movie, so we'll loop it by adding a second instance of it to the audio track. Again, select the .mp3 from the Collections window and drag it to the audio/music track immediately to the right of the first instance.



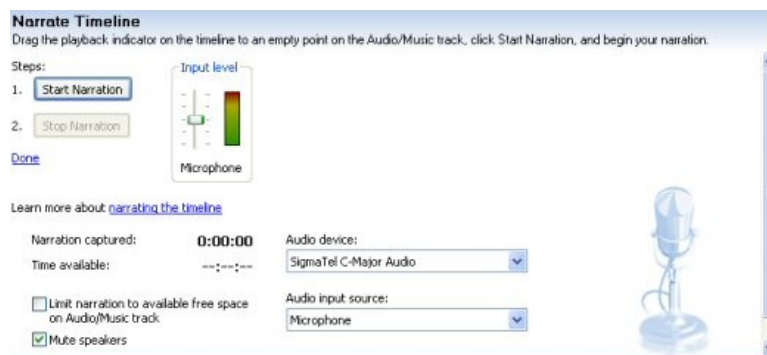
Now it's too long, so trim the end of the music track to coincide with the end of the movie by placing your cursor at the end until it changes to a double-headed red arrow and then dragging it to the left.

## Adding Narration

Unfortunately, in Movie Maker, there is only one sound track, so you pretty much have to make a choice – do you want a music track or do you want a narration? It is possible to begin with music, and then interrupt with narration. But it is not possible to have both at the same time (actually it is, but it requires a bit of technological gymnastics to accomplish.). We'll leave that issue aside for now and make a choice for one or the other. This time, we'll add a narration track. Before we begin, delete the sound track (the .mp3 file) by selecting it (click on it), and then hitting the DELETE key on your keyboard to clear the audio track. You will need to repeat this process for the second clip. Now, connect your microphone to the computer, set the volume control properties for recording (if you don't know how to do this, see the tutorial on ["Setting Your Computer to Record"](#)) and when you're ready to begin, click the microphone icon to begin narrating. I find it easiest to watch the video while I'm narrating so that my narration lines up with my images.



When you click on the microphone icon, the following screen appears:



You can adjust the volume level of the microphone by raising or lowering the slider bar. It's a good idea to test your microphone before you begin.

When you're ready, make sure your current time indicator is at the very beginning of your movie, then click the START NARRATION button. Narrate your video as you watch in the Monitor window and when you reach the end, click on STOP NARRATION. Immediately, the save dialogue box pops open. Name your narration file and save it to your folder. Note that it is saved as a .wma file (Windows Media Audio). Notice also that it is automatically imported into your goree Collection window:



Notice also that it has been automatically inserted into the Audio/music track on your Timeline.

## Adjusting Audio Levels

You will need to adjust the audio on your clips, whether you have video audio, narration, music, or some combination of two of them. What you DON'T want is for music or noise from a video to drown out your narration. It is usually a question of lowering the background sound and raising the volume on the narration. To do this is actually quite simple.

1. Right-click on any audio track and the following menu appears:



We've already used the mute option to mute the audio from our video track.

The Fade In / Fade Out options can be used for music tracks to have them gradually fade in at the beginning and fade out at the end. If you are using the .mp3, select the first instance of it, right-click and select Fade In. Then select the second instance, right-click and select Fade Out.

For more general control of the volume of a clip, select the clip, right-click to bring up the menu on the left and select volume. Use the slider to adjust the volume up or down.

