

How to Capture Video Clips in Windows 10

6-7 minutes

[Screenshots](#) are easy to take in [Windows 10](#). You can quickly snap your screen using the handy Print Screen button on your keyboard and fine-tune it via the Snip & Sketch tool. Capturing video of your screen is more difficult, but Microsoft makes it possible through the use of a built-in video capture tool called Game Bar.

This tool was designed to record games you play directly on your PC or those you stream from an Xbox One, but Game Bar can just as easily capture video of screen activity from your web browser, Microsoft Office applications, and many other programs. Your screen activity is then automatically saved as an MP4 video file.

The directions below cover screen recording on PCs with the [Windows 10 October 2018 Update](#), which gave the Game Bar interface an upgrade. Earlier versions also allow for screen recording via the Game Bar, and the process is similar, but the on-screen tools will look slightly different. There are also a few [system requirements](#) for Game Bar. Here's how it works.

Set Up Screen Recording

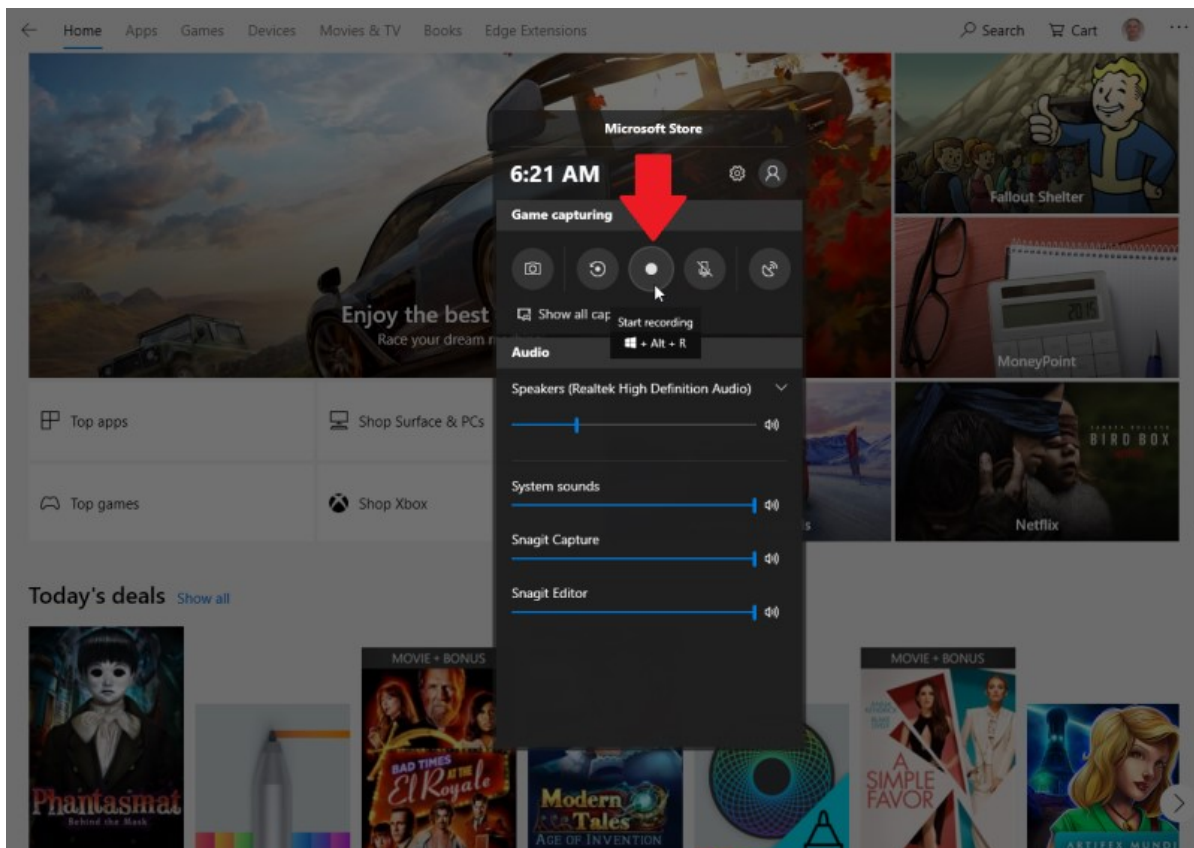
First make sure that Game Bar is enabled. Open **Settings > Gaming > Game bar**. Turn on the switch to "Record game clips,

screenshots, and broadcast using Game Bar" if it's not already on. From this screen you can also change any of the keyboard shortcuts associated with opening the Game Bar, taking a screenshot, and recording video.

Open the app or screen you wish to record. You can start a recording from most applications and windows, but there are exceptions. You can't kick off a capture from the Windows desktop, File Explorer, or certain Windows apps such as Maps and Weather. Otherwise, the field is pretty wide open.

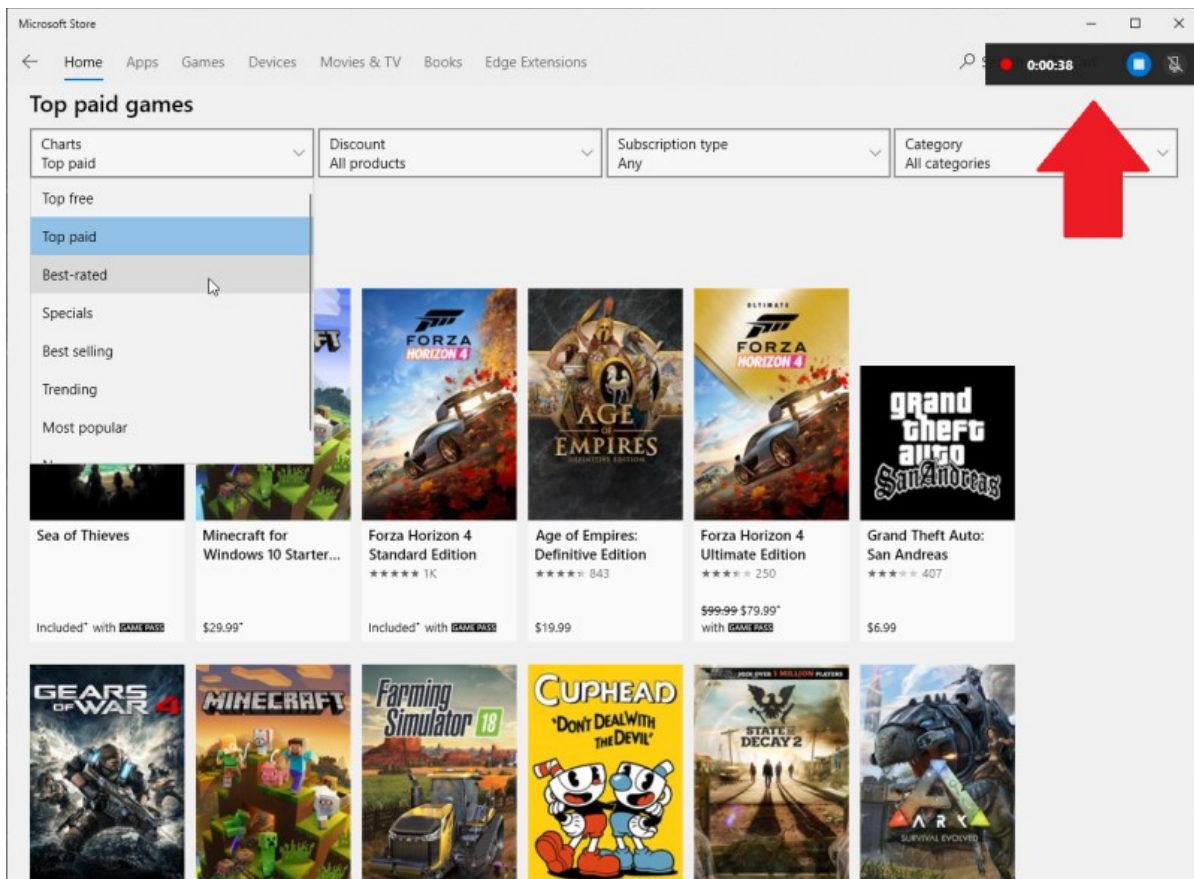
Record Your Screen

Press Win+G to open Game Bar. The Game Bar pane pops up with controls for capturing screenshots, recording video and audio, and broadcasting your screen activity. The pane also displays the name of your current app, file, or window as the source for the video capture.



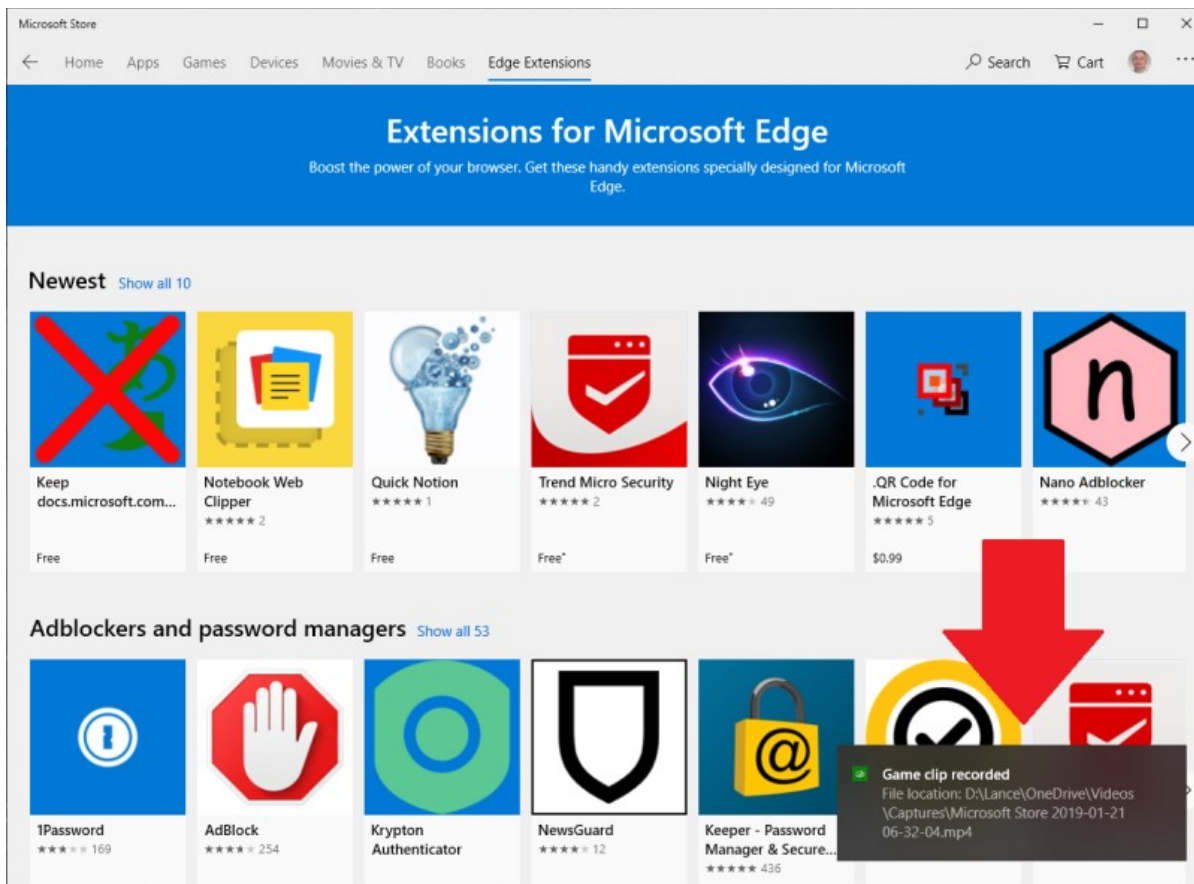
Click the camera icon to take a simple screenshot or hit the Start Recording button to capture your screen activity. Instead of going through the Game Bar pane, you can also just press Win+Alt+R to start your recording. Press it again to stop the capture.

The first time you choose to record screen activity from a specific application or window, Game Bar needs your permission. Click the checkbox to "Enable gaming features for this app to record gameplay." Click the square Start Recording button again, and the video capture starts.



You can now perform whatever screen actions you want to capture. The full Game Bar pane vanishes, replaced by a small floating bar in the upper-right corner of the screen through which you can control the recording.

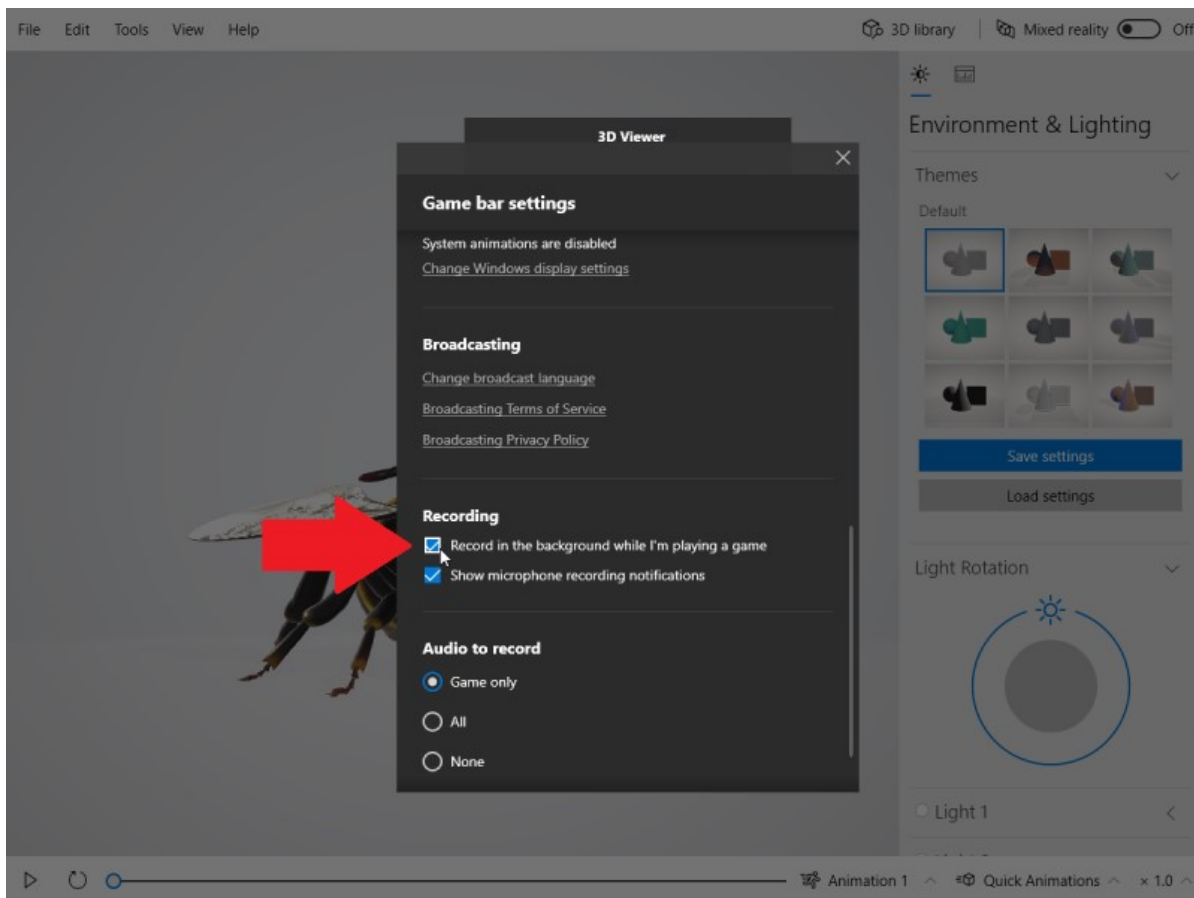
To stop the recording, click the Recording button on the floating bar. A notification appears telling you that the game clip was recorded and showing you the location of the video file. Click the notification, and File Explorer opens to the specified location. Just double-click the video file to play it in its associated application.



If you don't like where video captures are saved by default, you can always change where they are saved by going to **Settings > Gaming**.

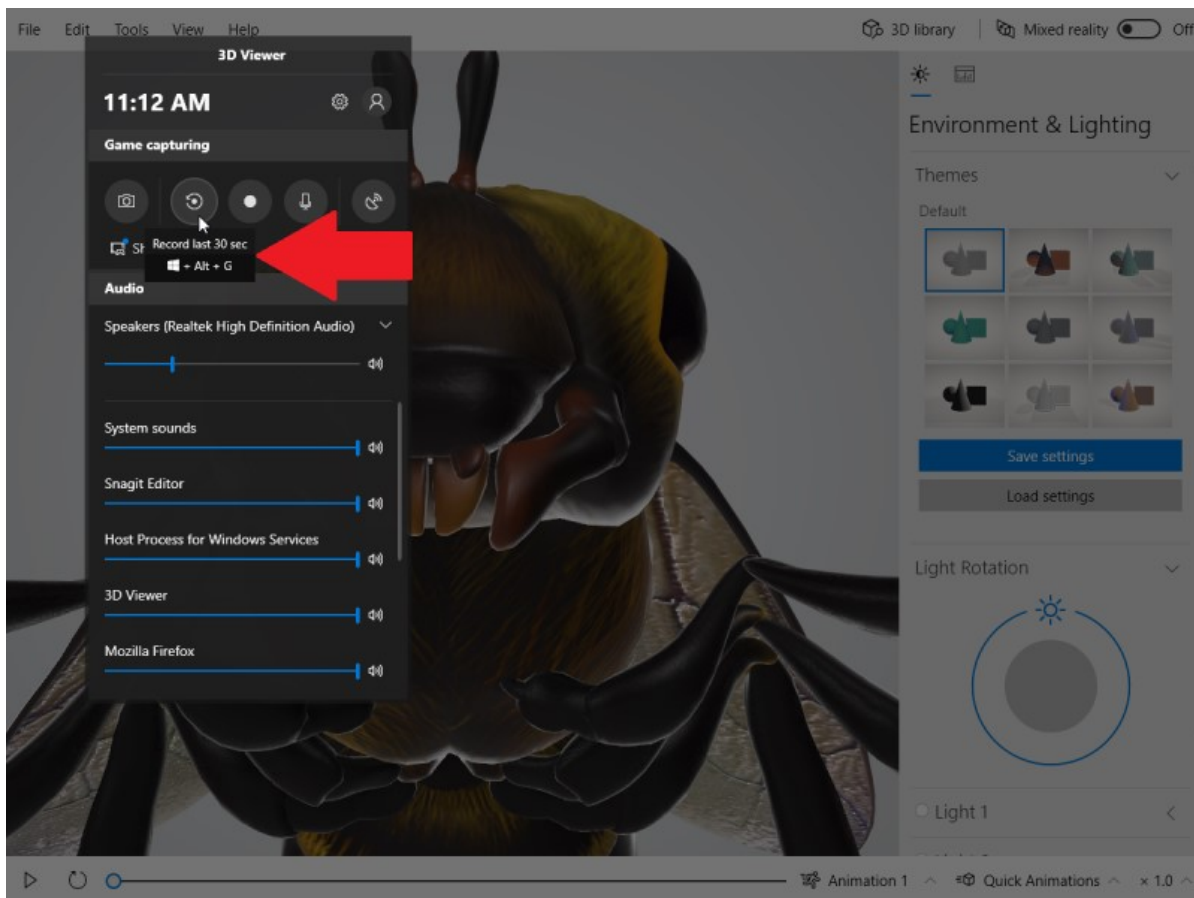
Recording in the Background

Have you ever been doing something on your computer and then suddenly wished you'd captured the moment? With the Windows 10 Game Bar, you can record the last 30 seconds of screen activity after you've already performed it.



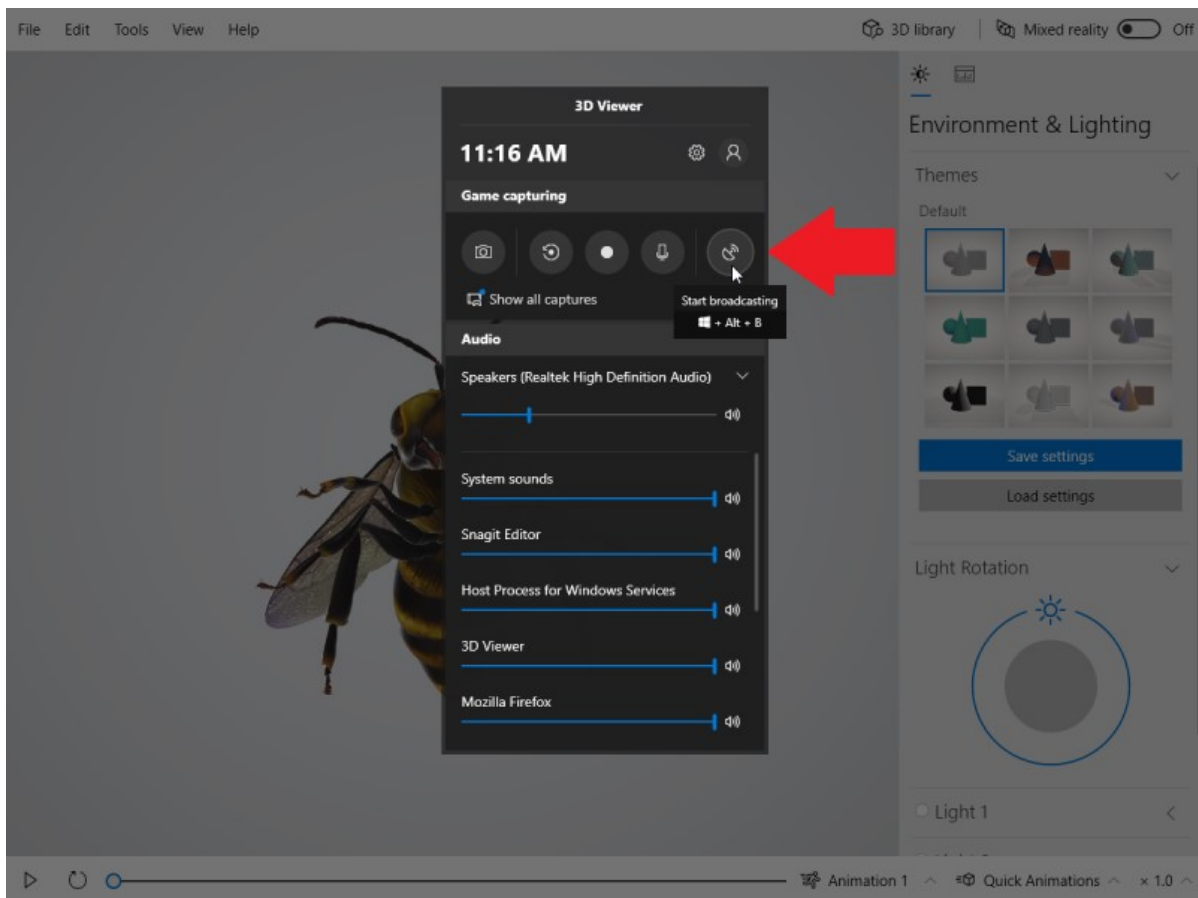
To do this, you first need to grant permission for the computer to record your activities in the background. Open the Game Bar and click the Settings icon. Scroll down the Settings screen and check the box to "Record in the background while I'm playing a game."

Now you will never miss the last 30 seconds again. Just click the Record last 30 sec button and a video will be generated. This number can be changed in Windows by going to **Settings > Gaming**.

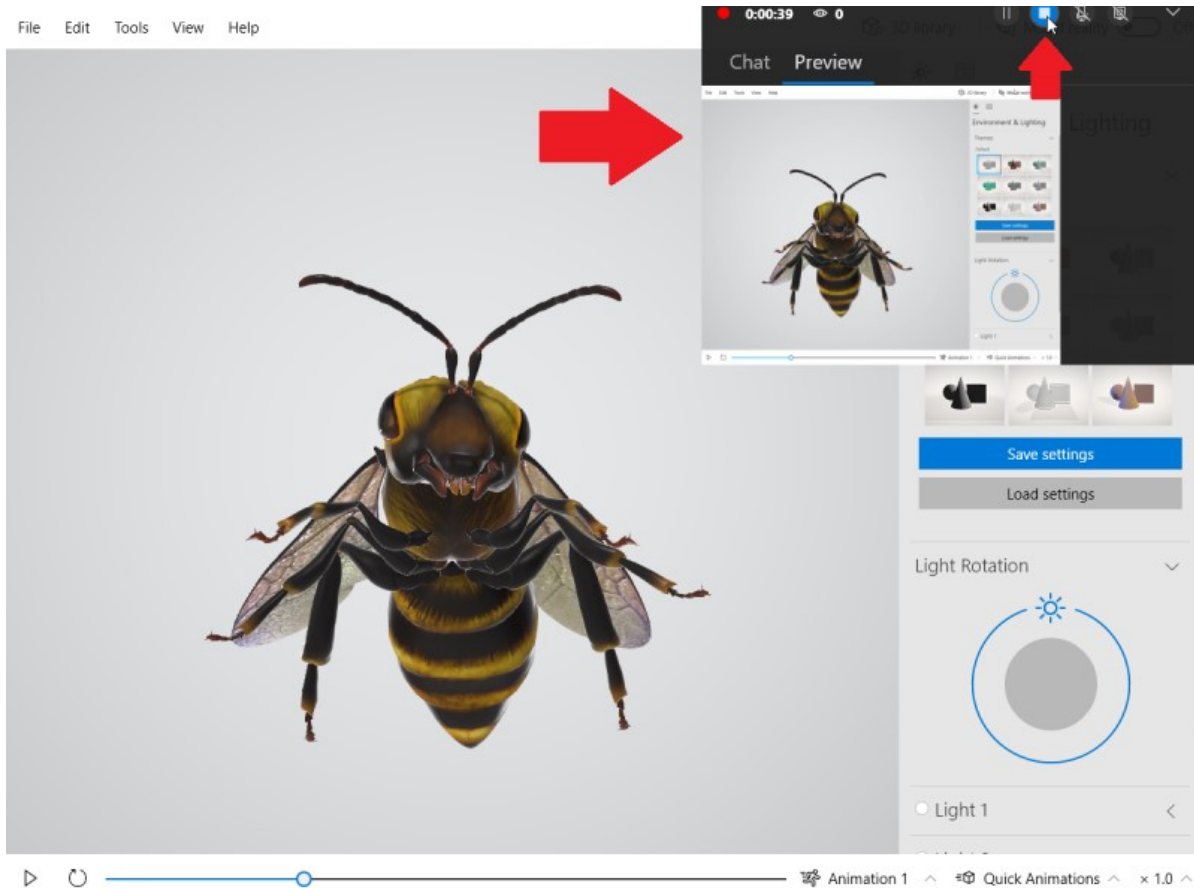


Start a Live Broadcast

Instead of recording your screen activities, you have the ability to broadcast a live feed through your Xbox Live account. To begin, click the Start broadcasting button on the Game Bar. If you're not already logged in, you will be prompted to sign into your Xbox Live account. Once your account is set up you can agree to the terms of service and begin recording.

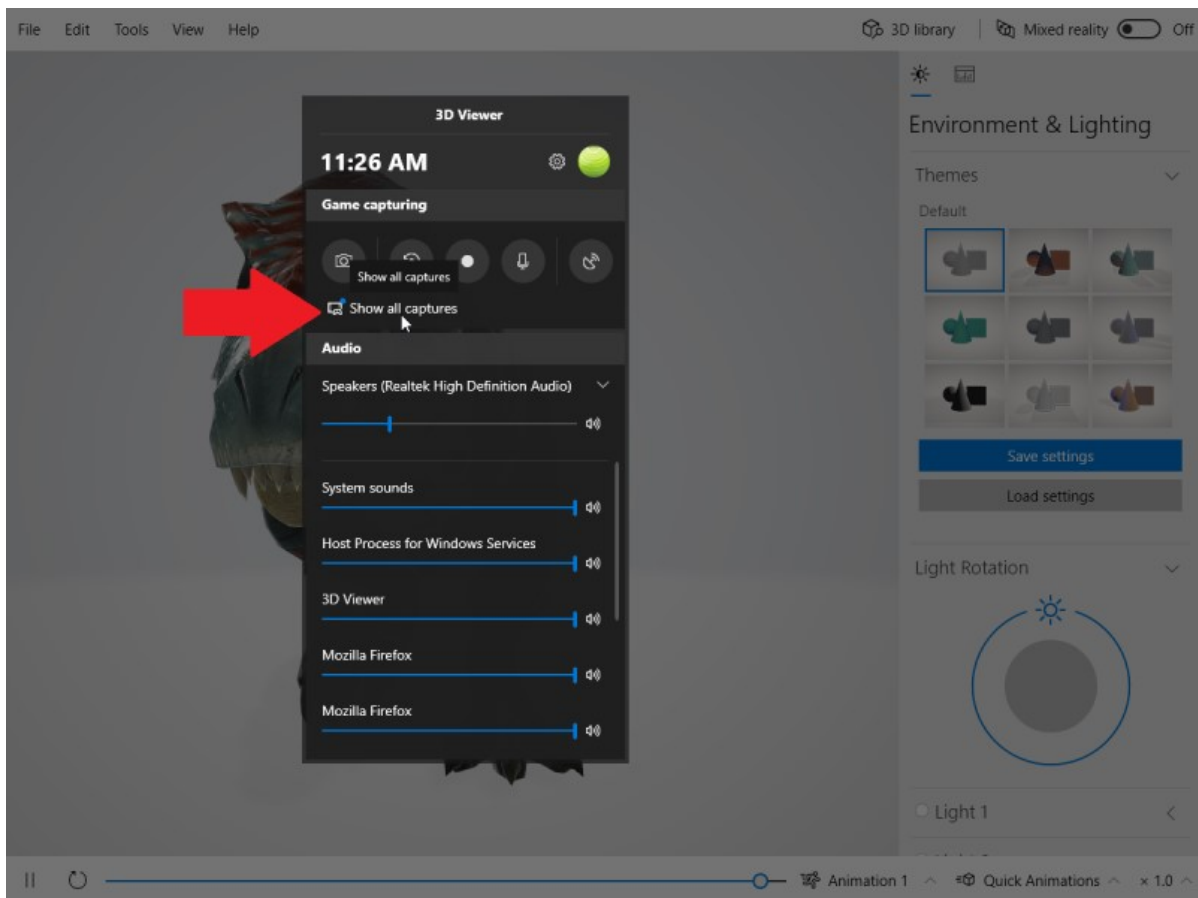


You can preview your feed in the small preview window. You can also tweak the options for your microphone and camera. When your broadcast is finished, just click the stop button to bring it to an end.

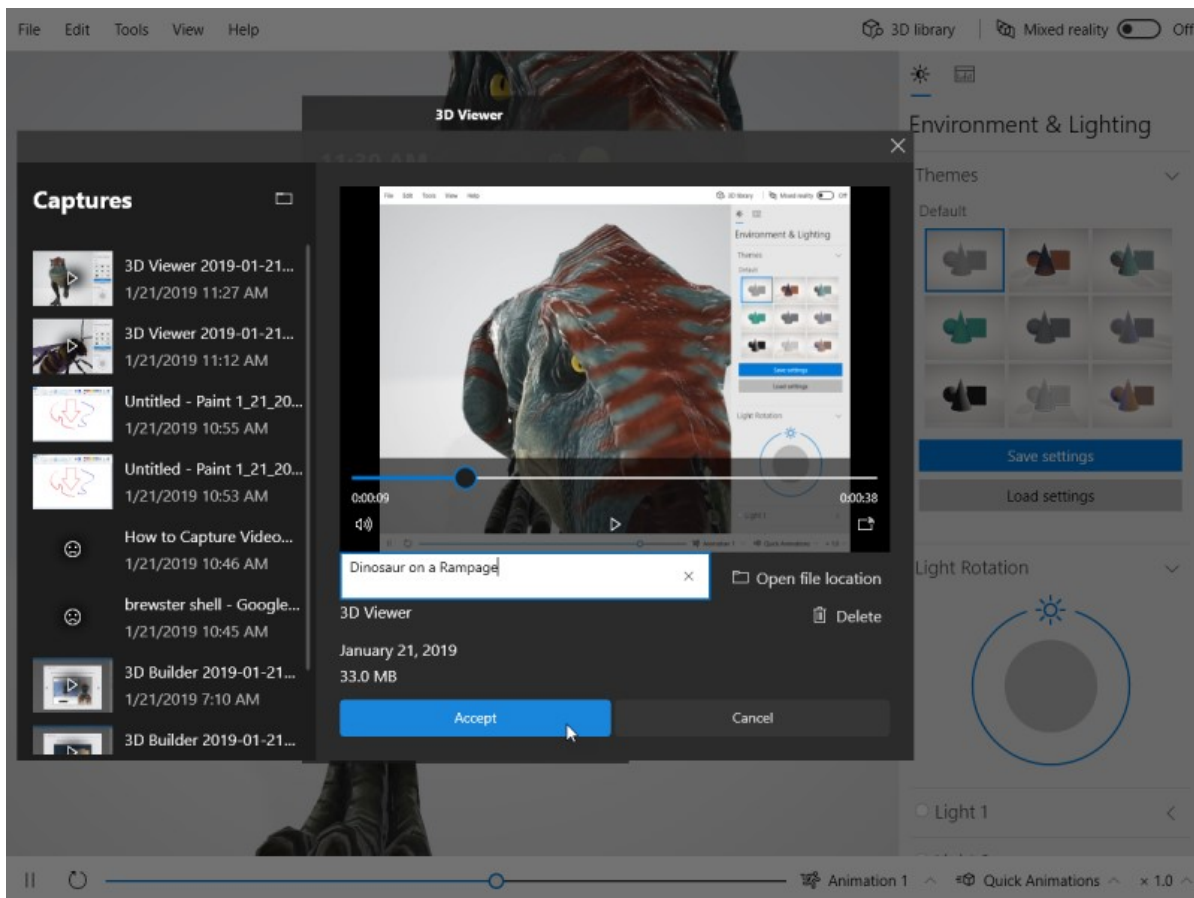


View Captures

While all video and screenshots will be saved onto your computer, and will be fully viewable inside Windows 10, you can also view and work with all files directly inside the Game Bar. Click the command "Show all captures" located under the control panel to open a file window.



From the Captures window, you can play, rename, and delete each video capture. You can also see the date, size, and source application for each video. Close the Captures window when you're done.



If there are any settings you need to tweak, you can view Game Bar settings by clicking the settings icon. Additional Game Bar settings can be changed in Windows 10 by going to **Settings > Gaming**. Check out the settings under the categories for Game bar, Captures, Broadcasting, Game Mode, and Xbox Networking.