

Tiles for Zoom BETA Documentation

v1.0.6

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Installation and Accounts

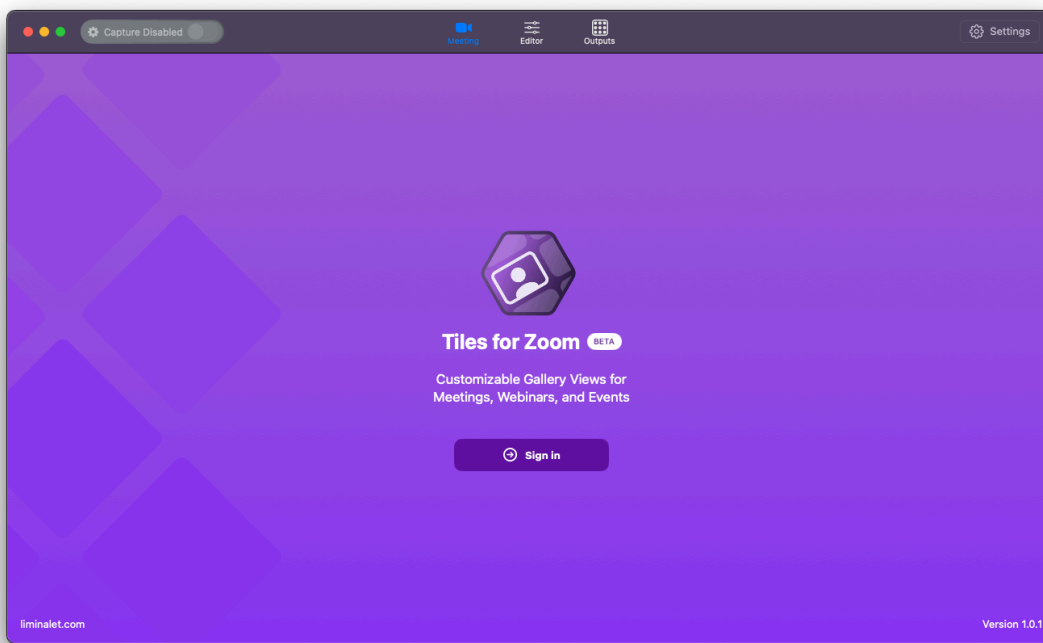
Sign in with Zoom - Adding the App to your Zoom Account

Tiles has an online sign-in button which allows you to use your Zoom account to log into the app. Signing in allows Tiles to start and join meetings on behalf of the signed in account, access the display name and other account details, and join Zoom Meetings, Zoom Webinars, and Zoom Events.

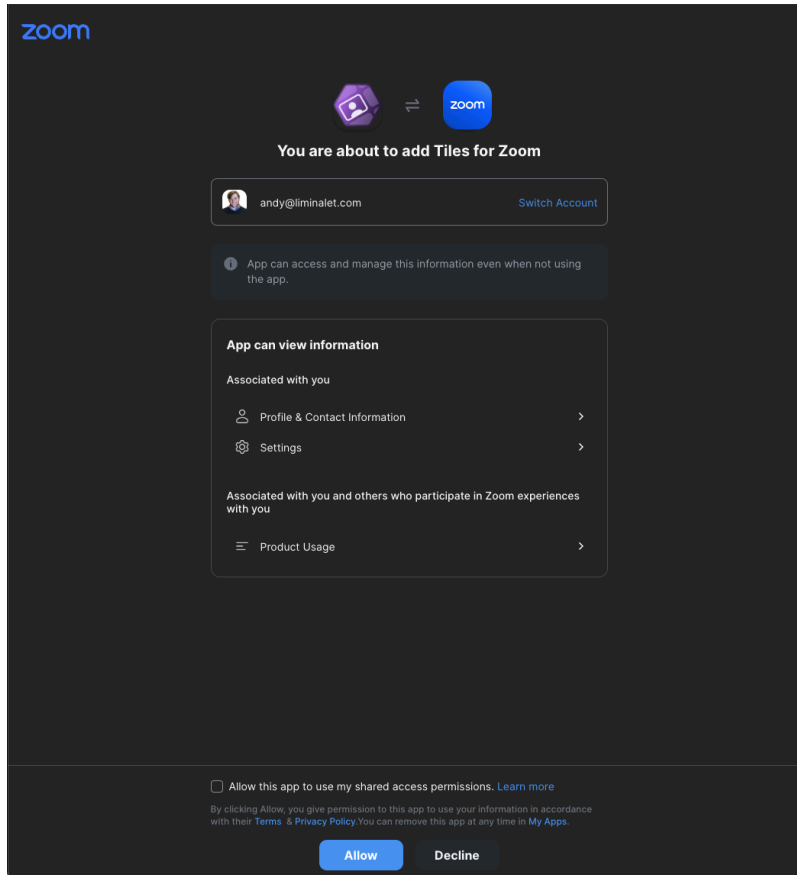
Tiles is activated when signed in with an account that is a Hub Host or Owner on the Zoom Events platform. Otherwise, if you don't sign in or sign in with a Zoom account that does not meet the requirements, Tiles will remain in Trial mode. Please see the licensing section below for more details.

To sign into Tiles:

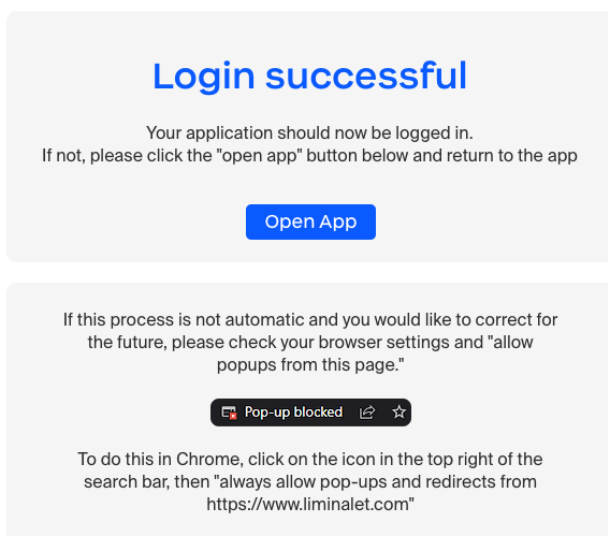
1. Launch Tiles.
2. Click the "Sign In" button:



3. You will now be presented with a Zoom website to log into your Zoom account. If this is the first time you have logged into Tiles, you will be prompted to add Tiles to your Zoom account. Click Allow.

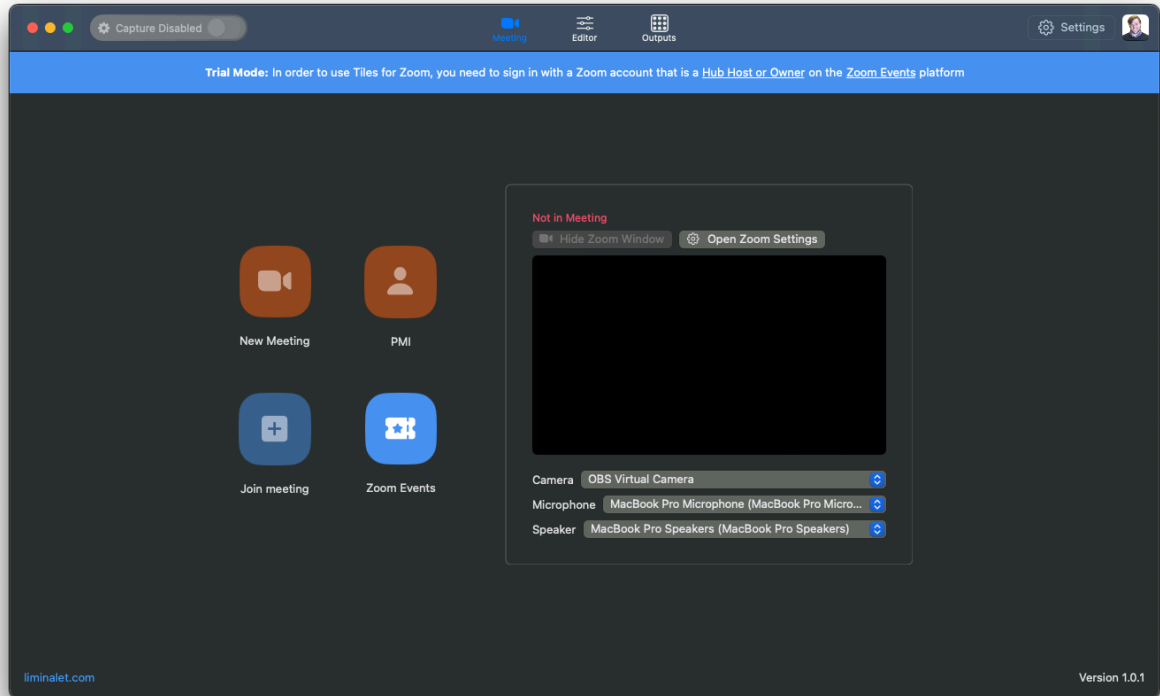


4. This page should redirect you to the liminalet.com login success page where you should proceed to connect to Tiles by opening the app from the browser



5. If the above steps are successful, you will be logged into Tiles. You will see your profile image in the top right corner of Tiles where you can view your account in the Zoom Web

Portal or sign out.



6. Tiles uses your camera and microphone in meetings. It also uses screen recording to capture your output displays. Give Tiles access in your System Settings to enable these features when prompted.

Enterprise Provisioning

Are you a business/enterprise end-user? You may need to contact your IT department to allow Tiles to be added to your Zoom account, depending on how your organization is configured. IT can add Tiles to your organization at

<https://marketplace.zoom.us/apps/MPW5uVNgruepba7OOURpA>

Removing Tiles from your Zoom Account

Login to your Zoom Account and navigate to the Zoom App Marketplace.

- Click Manage > Added Apps or search for the "Tiles for Zoom" app.
- Click the "Tiles for Zoom" app.
- Click "Remove".

Licensing for Tiles

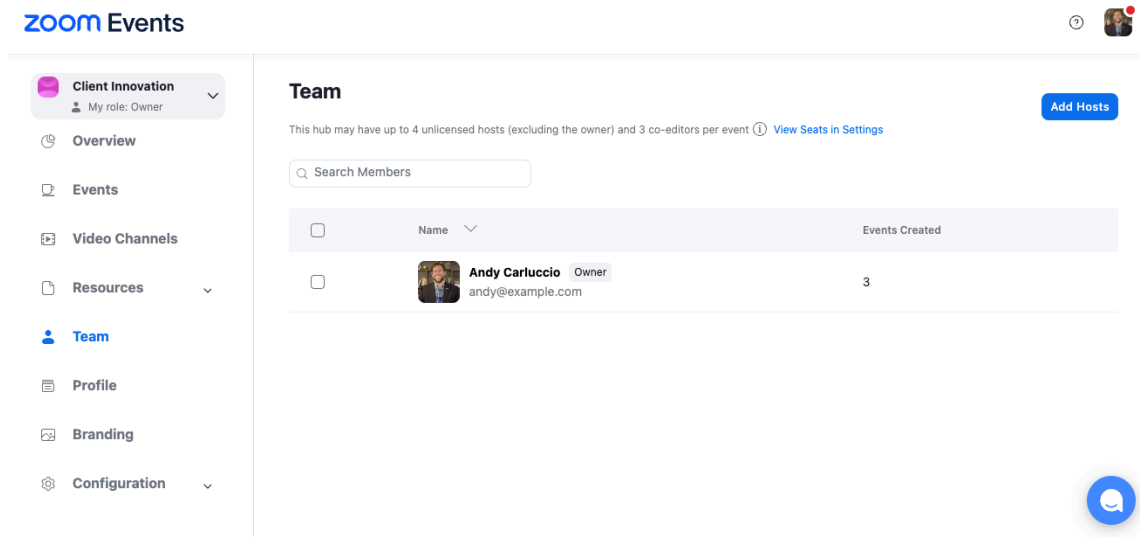
Tiles for Zoom will activate when signed in using a Zoom account that is a Hub Host or Owner on the Zoom Events platform.

Hub Host Account

Zoom Events and Zoom Sessions license holders can create Hubs on the events.zoom.us website to manage their organization's access to license features. Under the Team tab of the Hub page, the Hub Owner can add additional Hub Hosts from within their organization. The Hub Owner and all Hub Hosts are able to activate Tiles by signing into the app.

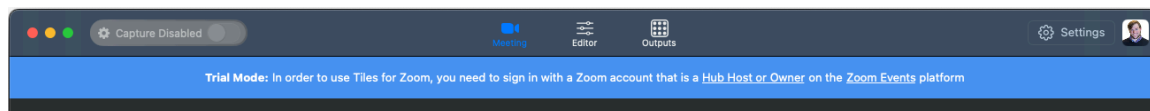
It is required that the Zoom Events or Zoom Sessions license-holder creates a Hub on the events.zoom.us website before Tiles is used on the account, even if the license-holder will be the only member of the Hub. Please note that Co-Editors from external organizations are not supported by this license path.

Tiles can join any Meeting, Webinar, or Event that the signed-in user is entitled to join, even if they take place outside of the Zoom Events platform or account.



Trial Mode

If Tiles is not signed in, or is signed in using an account that is not a Hub Host or Owner on the Zoom Events platform, it will operate in Trial Mode. While in this mode, the Editor and Outputs tabs are fully functional, but Tiles will be unable to join a Meeting, Webinar, or Event.



Using the Application

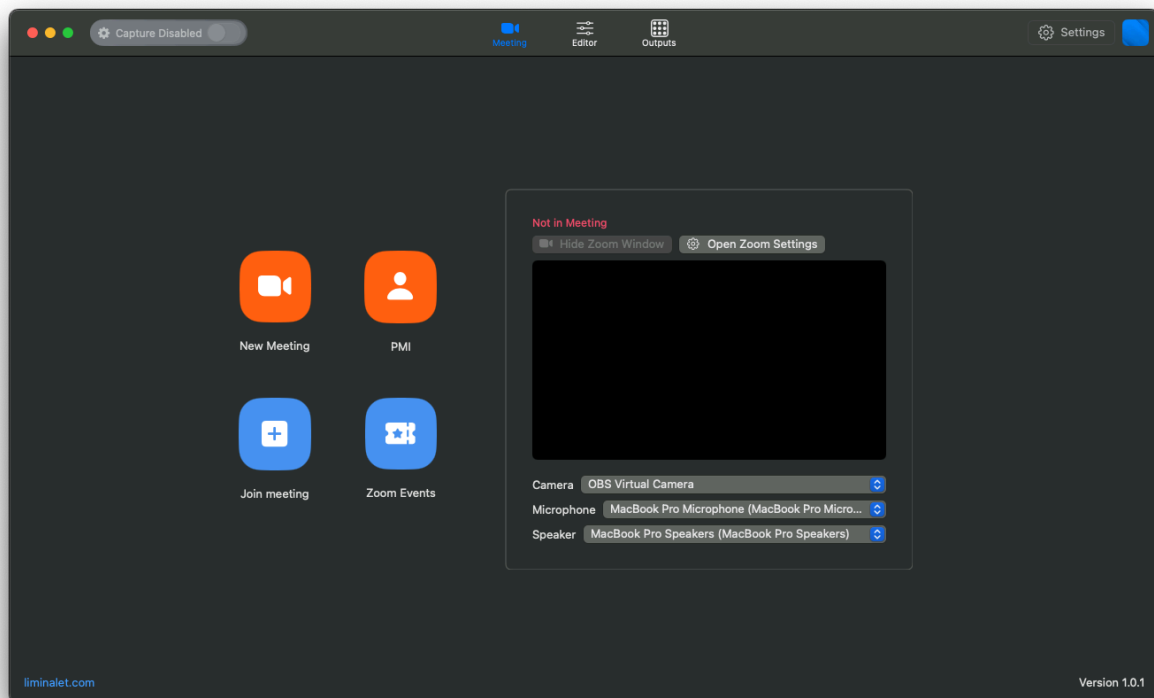
At a high-level, the following process is a general approach to using Tiles:

1. Sign in
2. Design custom galleries in the Editor Tab
3. Join a meeting
4. Start the Capture Engine
5. In the Outputs tab, configure the display output settings
6. In the Outputs tab, moderate the participants by blocking or favoriting

Meeting Tab

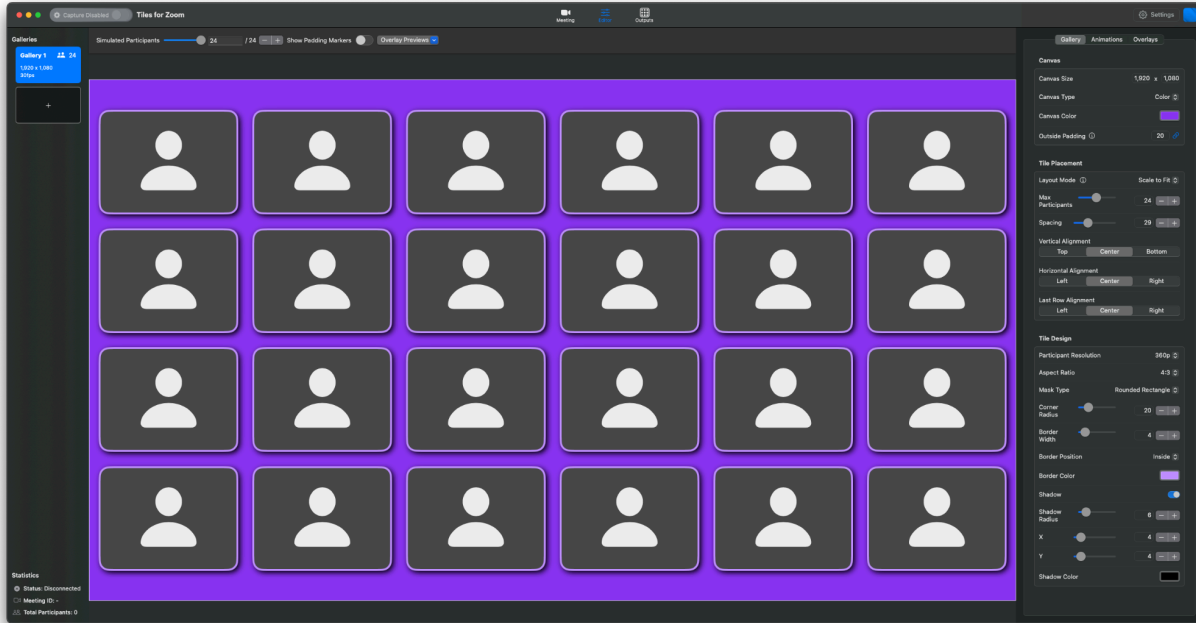
After signing into the app, you are free to join Meetings, Webinars, and Events from any account that the signed-in user is allowed to join. Start a new meeting, start your personal meeting, or join a meeting. Use the device dropdowns to quickly adjust device settings before joining the meeting. You can also open the Zoom Settings window from this tab.

Once you have joined a meeting, adjust your device settings, just as you would in a normal Zoom meeting. If breakout rooms have been enabled by the host, you can view and join breakout rooms. You can toggle the visibility of the Zoom meeting window from this tab.

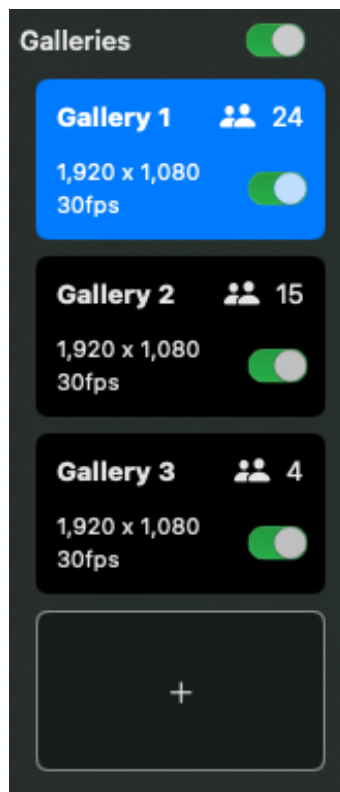


Editor Tab

Create and edit new Galleries in the Editor tab. Use the settings in the right pane to create your custom gallery view.



Gallery Cards



Located on the left side of the Editor Tab, Gallery Navigation allows you to select which display to preview and edit. Each Gallery Card shows the name, resolution, and maximum quantity of participants. The + button at the bottom of the list allows you to create new displays. You can right click on a display card to delete a display from the list. When the Output Engine is Enabled, you cannot add or delete Galleries.

Galleries can be enabled or disabled by toggling the slider on each Gallery Card. Changing this toggle will trigger the Gallery Transition animation specified in the Animations tab. The toggle at the top of the list will move the toggles for all galleries together.

Gallery Cards are available on the left side of both in the Editor Tab and the Outputs Tab.

Gallery Editor

The Gallery Editor controls the design of the gallery. It is divided into multiple sections based on functionality.

Canvas

Controls the background and size of the output. Resolution is fully customizable to support any aspect ratio. The gallery's canvas background can be a color, an image from disk, or transparent. The padding amount for inseting the tiles within the canvas resolution can be set uniformly or on a per-side basis.

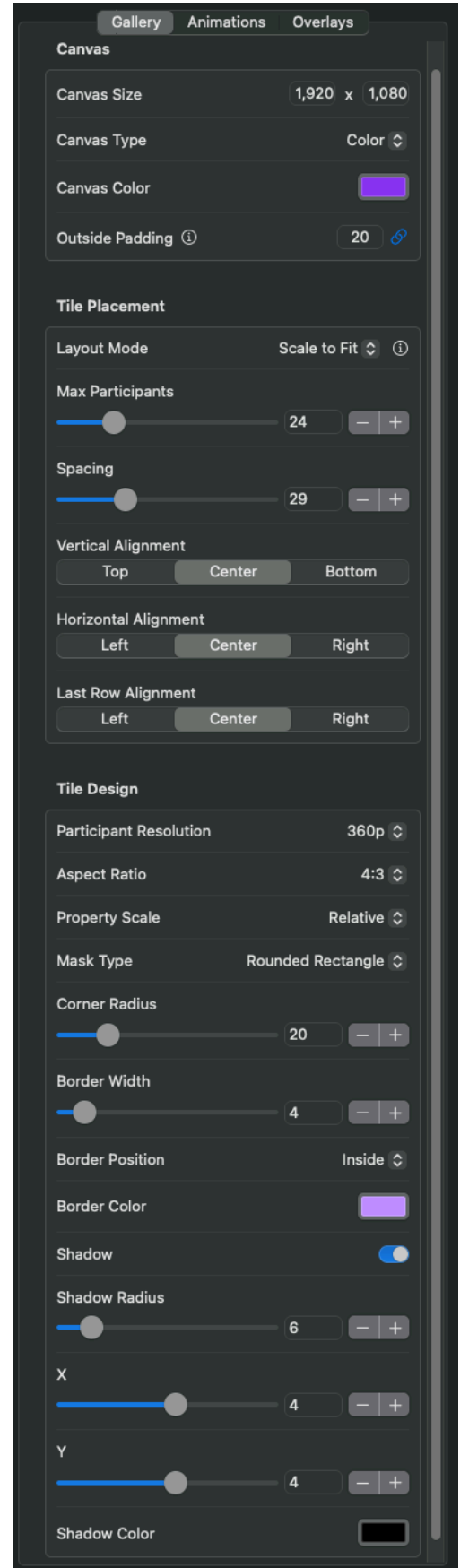
Tile Placement

Settings for the layout of tiles within the gallery. Each Layout Mode includes different sub-settings related to the organization rules of tiles in the gallery. Scale to Fit mode makes the tiles as large as possible within the Canvas and is useful for maximizing the use of space. Fixed Tile Size allows the tile size to be set as a percentage of the maximum theoretical size, and is useful especially when combining multiple galleries together. Arena Seating mode derives the maximum participants from several parameters that create a forced perspective effect with tiles getting smaller as the rows increase.

Tile Design

Every tile on an individual gallery will use the same design. The target resolution of the participants in the tiles can be set independently of the size and shape of the tile itself. Tiles can be rounded rectangles or ellipses with customizable borders and shadows.

The Property Scale setting will make several of these settings either relative to the size of a tile or absolute with respect to the size of the canvas. For example, using Absolute property scaling with a specific corner radius will create the impression of the corners becoming increasingly round as the tiles decrease in size, whereas Relative mode will preserve the impression of how rounded the corners are at all tile sizes.



Animations Editor

The Animations Editor allows you to customize the transitions used by Tiles based on certain trigger events that could take place during the meeting. It also supports animations that can run in an ambient state.

Each animation has its own set of properties that can be adjusted. Tiles supports multiple animation modes that govern the animation style such as Linear, Ease in out, and Spring.

A unique length of time can be set for each animation trigger. The type of animation used will determine when the participant will “switch” during the duration of the animation.

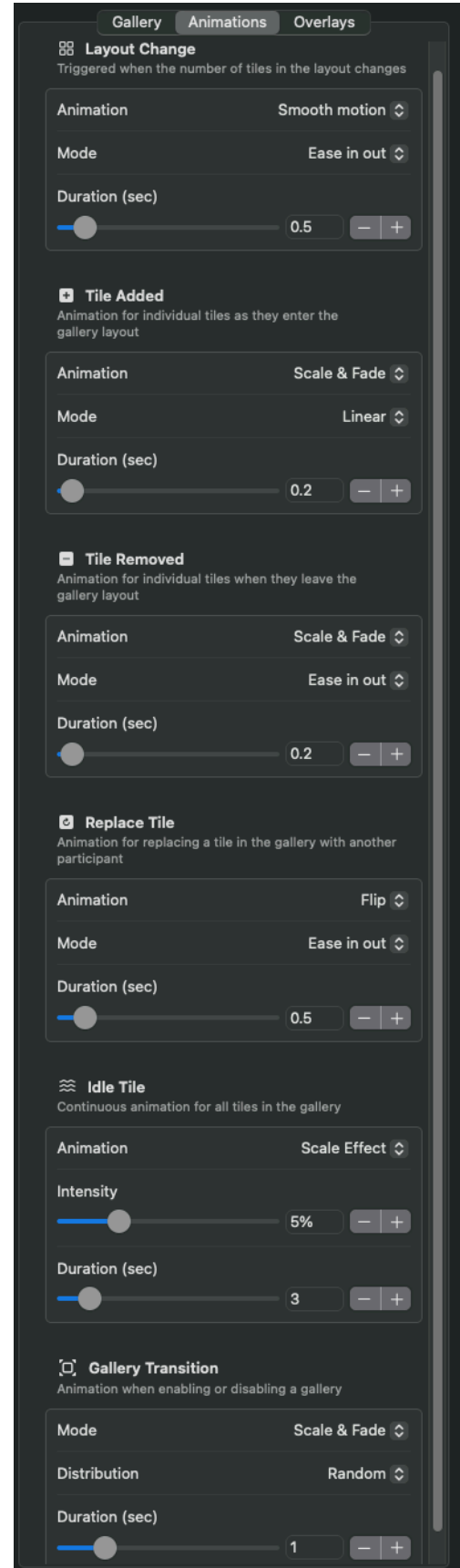
Idle Tile Animation refers to a continuous animation that will run for all tiles in the gallery. Each Idle Tile Animation has a control for intensity and duration, which can tune the effect to control its prominence.

Gallery Transition animations are triggered when a gallery is enabled or disabled by using the toggle button located on the Gallery Card. The settings control how the individual tiles in a gallery will enter when the gallery is enabled. The designed transition will play in reverse when a gallery is disabled.

Just like each gallery can have its own visual design, Animations are specific to each gallery as well.

It is important to consider how animations will appear in combination with one another. For example, if a Layout Change is triggered because of a Tile Added event, the individual tile being added to the gallery will use the Tile Added animation while the re-flowing of the other tiles will follow the Layout Change animation.

Be sure to test the animations under the expected production system load to confirm that they remain fluid in real-world show conditions as these effects will leverage system resources when triggered.



Overlays Editor

The Overlays Editor allows you to customize the tiles with overlays that correspond to various data and events in Zoom. You can select the placement and size in the editor.

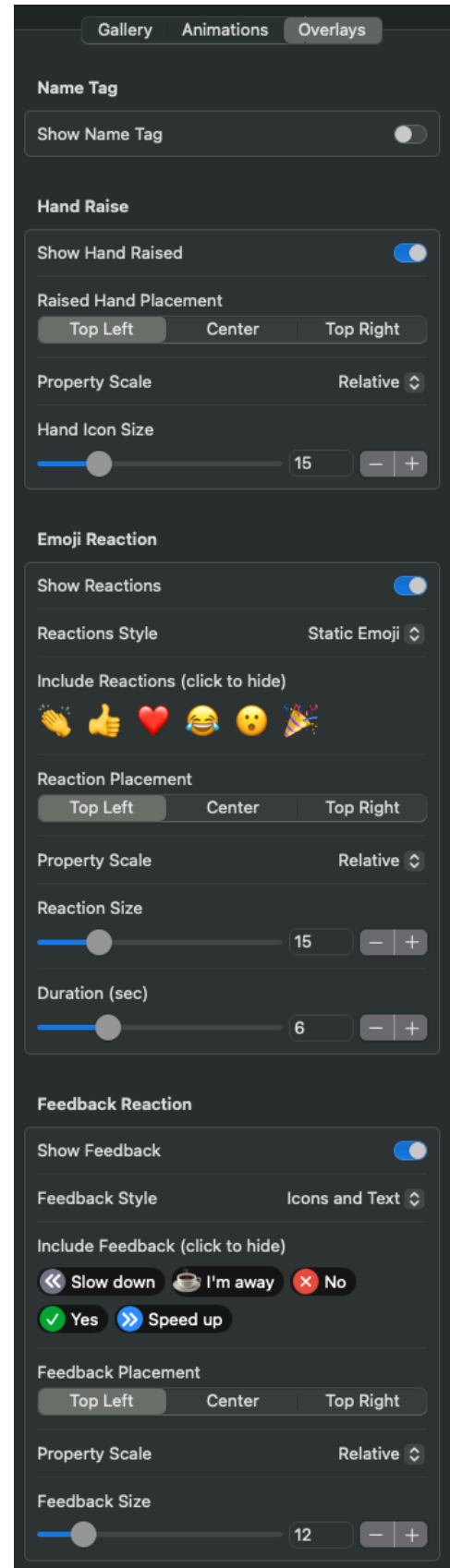
Name Tag allows you to design a custom name tag based on the Zoom participant name, including controls for fonts, colors, and layout.

Hand Raise will trigger an overlay when a participant raises their hand in Zoom. The overlay will disappear when the participant's hand is lowered in Zoom.

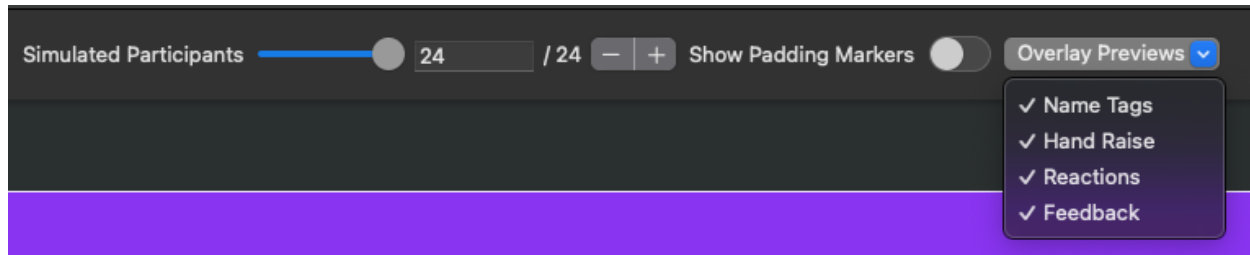
Emoji Reaction will trigger an overlay when a participant selects one of Zoom's default emoji reactions located in the Reactions panel. You can filter the allowed emojis by clicking on the icons, select their placement & size, and control how long the overlays should remain on screen before expiring. Emojis also have an option to present as an animation loop. Hovering over the emoji preview in the Editor Tab will play the animation when using Animated Emoji mode. Animated emojis will also preview in the previsualization in the Editor Tab. Running many animated emojis at once is computationally expensive and not recommended. Use static emojis if the audience will be running emojis in coordination for now.

Feedback Reaction will trigger an overlay when a participant activates one of the Zoom feedback options located in the Reactions panel. You can control the style (Icon and text, icon only, or text only), filter for which feedback options will be displayed by clicking on the icons, and control the size and placement of the overlays. The overlay will disappear when the participant ends the feedback in Zoom.

Each overlay also has an independent setting for its Property Scale. Relative mode will scale the overlay with the size of the tile. Absolute mode will keep the overlay the same size regardless of the size of the tile. While Relative mode is helpful for design consistency, Absolute mode can ensure readability of the overlays regardless of the number of tiles shown in a gallery, which may impact their size.



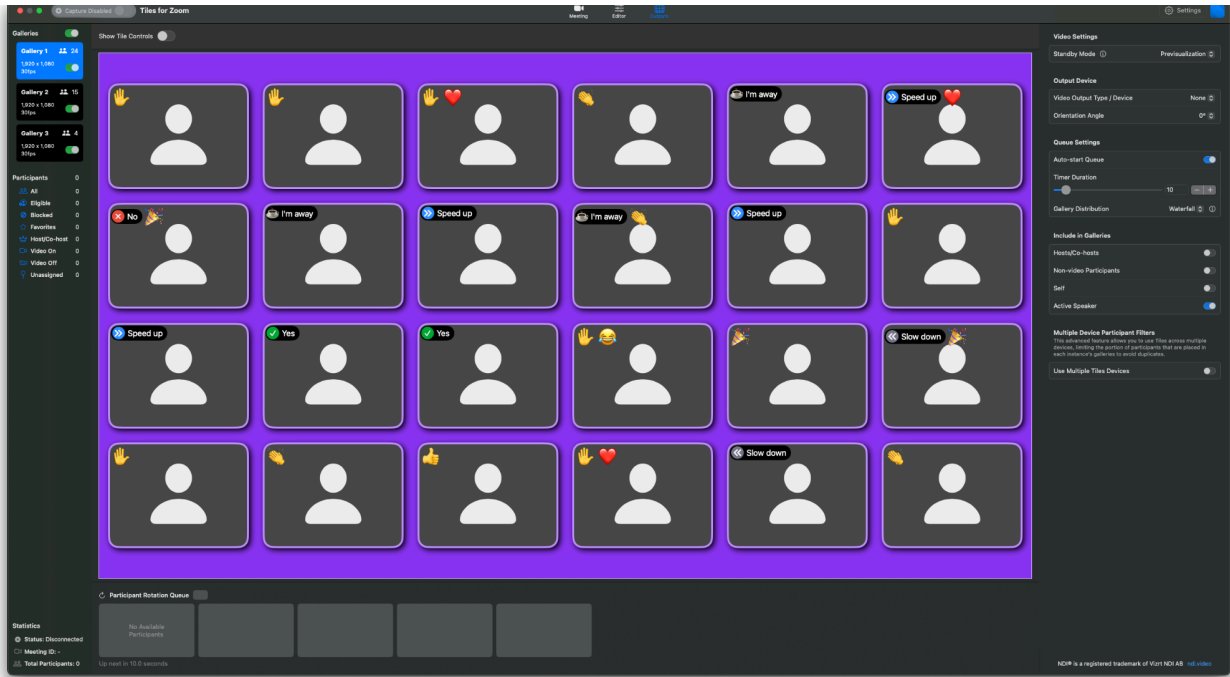
Previsualization



The center of the Editor window is a preview of the design created with the Gallery Editor. It is possible to preview how a design will look if fewer than the maximum number of participants are available using the slider at the top. Padding markers also give an indication of available margin and can be added to the preview if desired. There is an Overlay Previews drop down at the top of the Editor tab which can be used to adjust the previsualization of overlays in the Editor tab.

Outputs Tab

The Outputs Tab is where you will route the galleries to system displays, NDI, or Blackmagic devices. You can also monitor the queue and organize the participants with moderation tools.

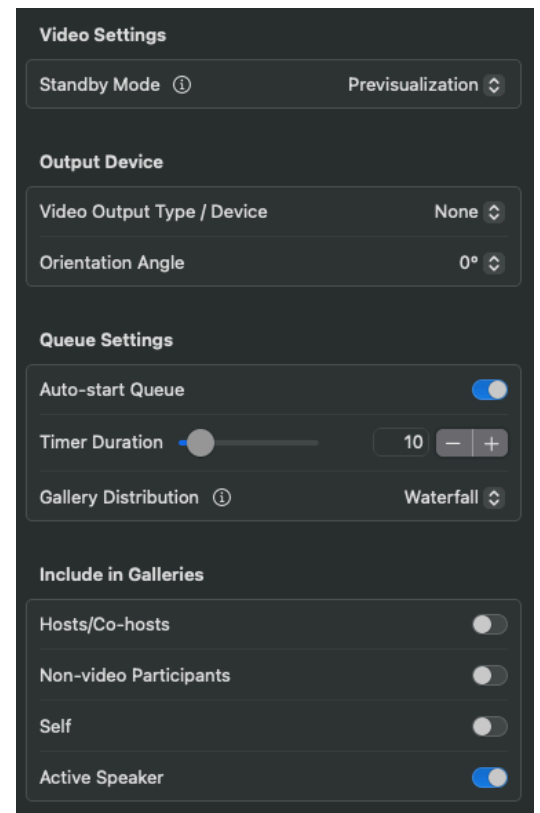


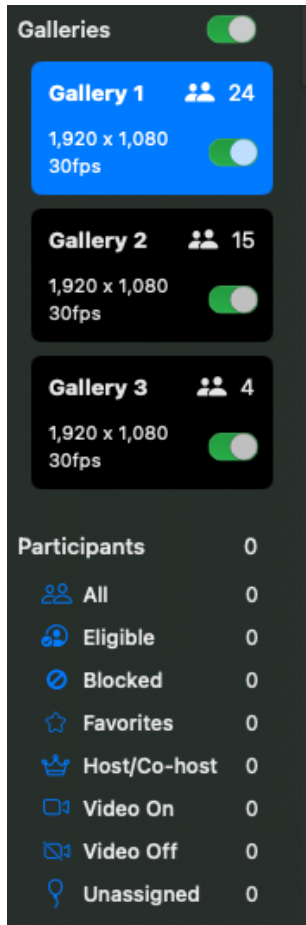
Output Settings

On the right side of the Outputs tab are the routing and behavior controls. Standby Mode determines what should be routed to the Outputs with the Capture Engine is Disabled, and by default it will pass-through the Editor Previsualization.

The Output Device section provides controls for sending the Tiles output to a device. The orientation of the output can be changed in this location so that, for example, a portrait output being routed to a television rotated to a vertical orientation could be correctly displayed in the Tiles app while also being rotated into a landscape orientation so it appears correctly without letterboxing when physically rotated with the screen back to portrait.

The Participant Rotation Queue has a timer that can be set to determine when participants should be replaced. In addition, rules can be set for which types of Zoom participants should be excluded from the displays, and Gallery Distribution can be configured to different modes.





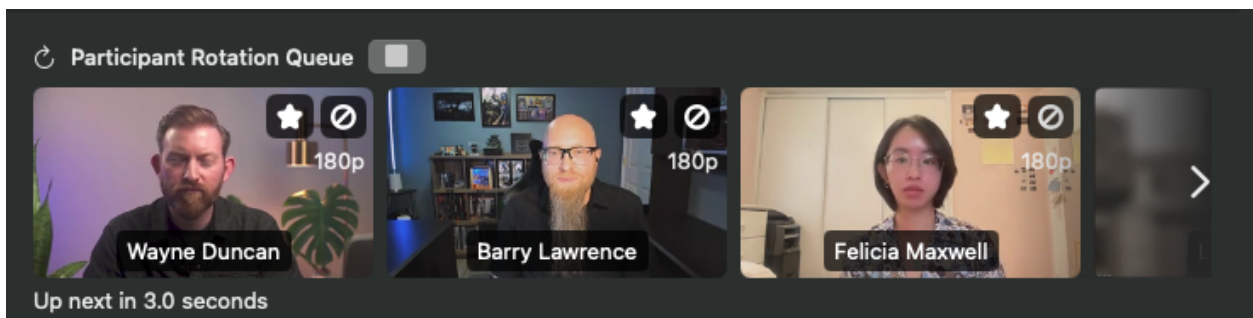
Outputs & Categories

Each Output can be previewed by selecting it from the Gallery Cards list. See the Editor Tab documentation section for more details on Gallery Cards.

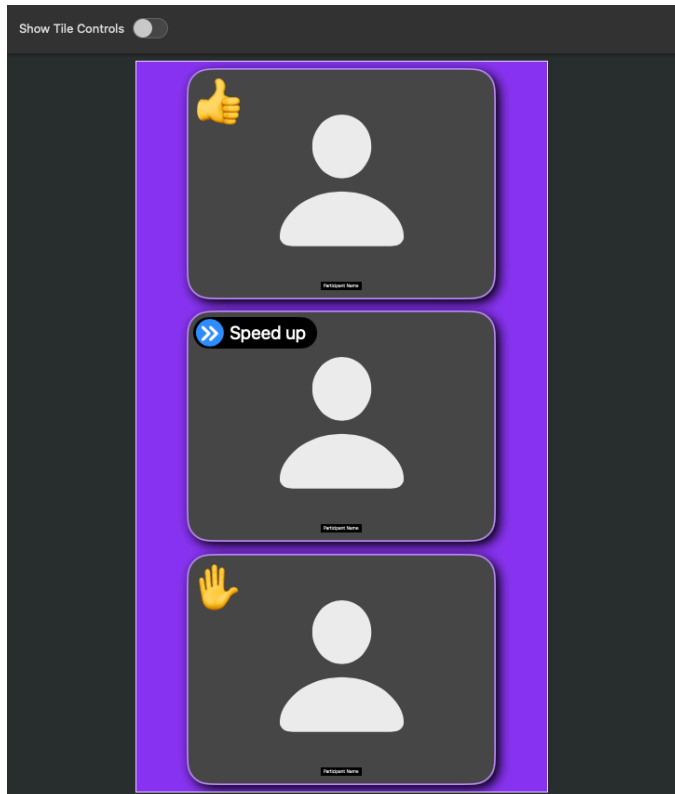
The Participants Categories sort the members of the meeting by their role or status. It can be useful to look at these categories to determine if certain participants should be added to or removed from the Participant Rotation Queue. This is also a convenient location to manage Favorite and Blocked participants.

The Eligible Participant Category indicates the list of participants who may be displayed on Galleries because they meet the criteria set by the filters, including the Multiple Device Participant Filters feature, if used.

Participant Rotation Queue



Located at the bottom of the Outputs Tab, the Participant Rotation Queue is a list of “up next” participants. If the number of meeting participants exceeds the maximum number of participants you set for all your displays combined, these additional participants will appear in the Participant Rotation Queue. It can automatically cycle using the Play/Stop controls. Participants will be added to the Gallery Outputs in the order that they appear in the Queue. For example, if non-video participants are excluded from displays, and an on-screen participant turns off their camera, they will be “backfilled” using the leftmost participant in the queue list.



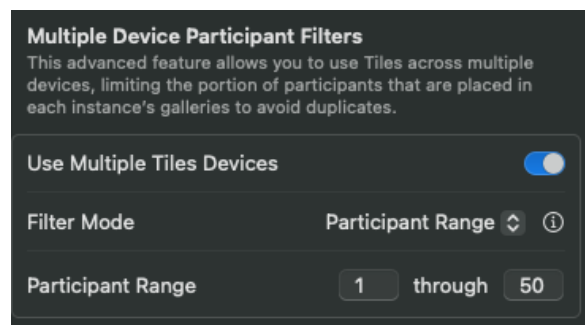
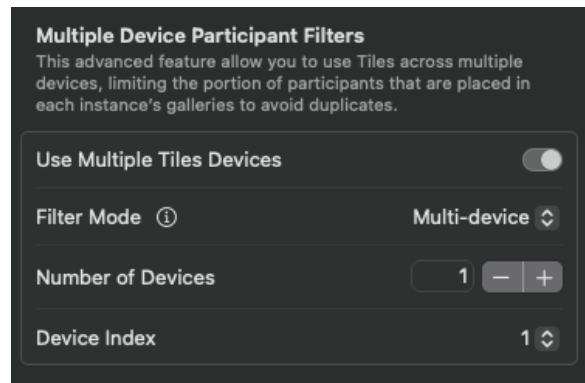
Output Preview

The Output Preview shows the live video that is going to the output. It also has the option of displaying several overlays that can help with moderation and control. If Show Tile Controls is disabled, these control overlays only appear when hovering over a tile. If it is enabled, some key overlays appear persistently and others display on hover. The Favorite feature locks a participant on screen and excludes them from being eligible for automatic rotation via the queue. The Block feature immediately removes the participant from the display. The red timer corresponds to the Participant Rotation Queue, indicating which tile will next be exchanged for a new participant.

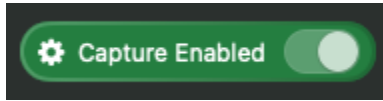
Multiple Device Participant Filters

Located at the bottom of the Output settings area, the Multiple Device Participant Filters feature allows multiple computers to be used simultaneously with Tiles instances running on each to split the rendering load and avoid duplicate participants across the computers and displays. When enabled, each Tiles instance will apply a filter for a unique subgroup of participants in the meeting to work with.

Multi-Device mode divides the total number of participants by the number of Devices, and then Device Index will be the segment of the list that this Tiles instance will use. In Participant Range mode, you can manually enter a range of participants to use. You must enable this setting on each computer used in the system and configure appropriately so a unique range for each computer is used.



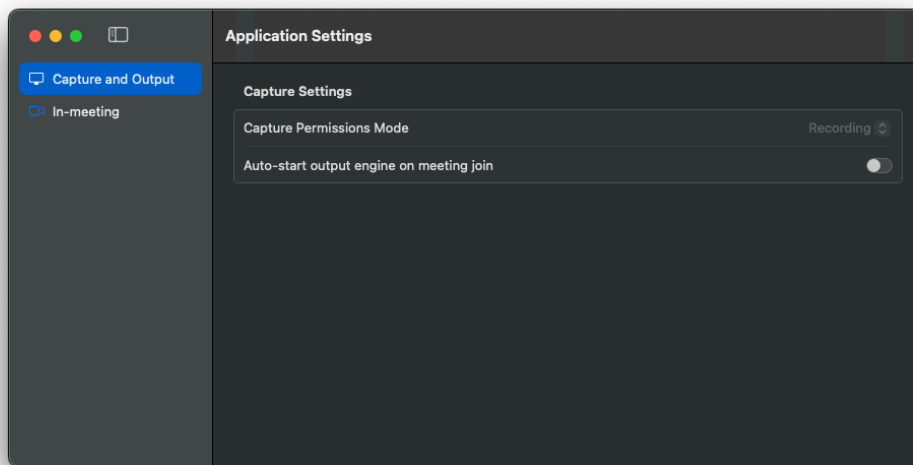
Capture Engine



The Capture Engine controls the flow of participant video feeds from Zoom into Tiles. Enabling this toggle allows the remote participants from Zoom to populate the customized galleries created by Tiles.

Understanding Capture Mode

Capture Mode is selected via the Settings menu.



Capture Mode is a choice that allows you to define how Tiles will get permission to obtain the raw video and audio streams of the Zoom participants. The choice of Capture Mode is an important part of accurately reflecting the purpose of the raw data access and gaining the permission to use it. At this time, two Captures Modes are supported:

- 1) Recording (default) - The meeting will use Local Recording permissions and notifications. Participants will get a notice that the meeting is being recorded. Local recording must be enabled for the call in order for this Capture Mode to work properly. Using Recording Capture Mode will not actually record the call inside of Tiles. This Capture Mode is not available when Cloud Recording is active.
- 2) Live Stream - The meeting will use Live Streaming permissions and notifications. Participants will see a badge that will provide information on Tiles' ability to capture and export audio and video content from the call. This Capture Mode is not available in Breakout Rooms.

Petitioning the Host

If you attempt to start the Capture Engine without the necessary permission for the selected Capture Mode, and you are not the host of the call, Tiles will invite you to request the required permission from the host. If you trigger this request, the host will receive a pop-up asking them to grant the requested permission. If the host accepts the request before it expires, Tiles will start the Capture Engine

Performance

Editor Performance Considerations

Enabling more effects in the Editor tab can impact performance, especially as the number of tiles on each Gallery increases. For example, enabling all of the overlays and idle animations will result in higher overhead than a static grid. Animated Emojis are also expensive to trigger. Be sure to utilize the in-app previsualization options to build and test your target design on the hardware you plan to use it with to validate the performance of your system.

Output Performance Considerations

Each of the options under “Video Output Type / Device” may have a different impact on the performance of Tiles. For example, NDI requires compression of raw video data whereas Display can simply place the video on a system screen, so Display outputs may have less of a performance impact than NDI.

Tiles will try to prioritize the frame rate of its true application outputs over the in-app GUI and previsualizations.

Zoom Resolution and Bandwidth

Zoom limits the bandwidth downlink from its servers to all client applications, including Tiles. This limit is set to 30Mbps by default. Exceeding this bandwidth limit will cause the framerate of the participants in Tiles to slow down significantly. Refer to the following guidelines for bandwidth, ensuring that the total bandwidth across all displays and UI elements of Tiles is below the downlink limit:

1080p 30FPS: 4Mbps
720p 30FPS: 2Mbps
360p 30FPS: 1Mbps
180p 15FPS: 0.5 Mbps

macOS Adaptive Refresh Throttling

When there is no video motion on any screen connected to the computer running Tiles, the macOS adaptive refresh rate feature can throttle the Tiles video engine in certain rare but possible edge-cases.

To resolve this, the Tiles GUI will be forced to the foreground when the Capture Engine is Enabled, and a small animation present in the top bar of the Tiles GUI will prevent macOS from throttling Tiles via adaptive optimizations.

Like many production apps, the Tiles GUI should **not** be minimized for best application performance. The option to minimize the Tiles GUI has been removed from the top bar.