

chaptertool|PRO

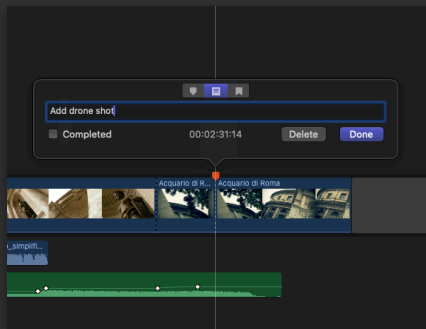
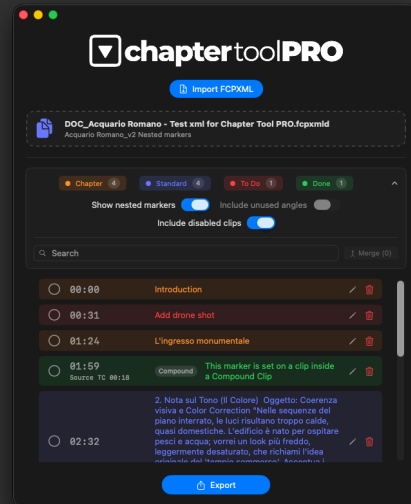
User Manual

Version 1.0 – February 2026

Overview

Chapter Tool Pro is a professional macOS application designed to transform Final Cut Pro markers into structured editorial intelligence.

Built for editors, assistant editors, and post-production supervisors, the app extracts and organizes every marker within a project—including nested and multicam markers—into clear, production-ready reports.



More than a chapter generator, **Chapter Tool Pro** converts timeline annotations into actionable documents (CSV and TXT) that integrate seamlessly into real-world post workflows. Edit notes, VFX callouts, color references, change lists, and task tracking can be exported as structured data—ready for Excel, Google Sheets, Numbers, or plain-text delivery.

By categorizing markers into **Chapter, Standard, To Do, and Done**, the app enables precise workload tracking and departmental communication. It provides a transparent overview of what needs to be addressed, what has been completed, and how feedback evolves across revisions.

Whether preparing delivery documentation, coordinating with external collaborators, or archiving metadata outside the NLE environment, **Chapter Tool Pro** ensures that no marker remains locked inside the timeline.

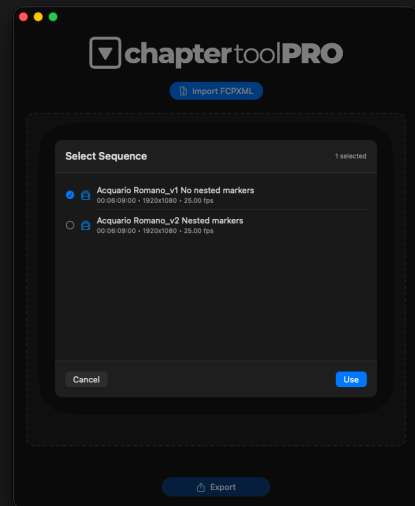
Designed for stability, precision, and deep FCPXML compatibility, **Chapter Tool Pro** brings clarity and structure to complex editorial projects.

Supported File Requirements

- **Formats:** Fully supports .fcpxml and .fcpxmlid (FCP bundles).
- **Safety:** If a file contains no valid sequences or markers, the app will flag the error rather than loading empty data.

The Professional Workflow

- **Import:** Drag and drop your FCPXML file into the central dashboard or use the “Import FCPXML” button.
- **Sequence Selection:** If your XML contains multiple projects, select the specific sequence you wish to process.
- **Refinement:** Filter by marker type, search for specific terms, or merge markers to consolidate related segments into a single entry.
- **Export:** Choose your destination—Copy for YouTube, or export to TXT/CSV.



Core Engine Enhancements

Chapter Tool Pro is built on a dedicated FCPXML parsing engine designed for stability, precision, and structural accuracy across complex editorial timelines.

- **Accurate Timeline Interpretation**

Advanced handling of FCPXML structures—including compound clips, multicam containers, and transition offsets—ensures frame-accurate timecode calculation fully aligned with Final Cut Pro’s internal timeline logic.

- **Optimized Parsing Architecture**

The engine is specifically refined for projects generated in Final Cut Pro 11.x, guaranteeing consistent marker extraction even in metadata-dense or heavily layered timelines.

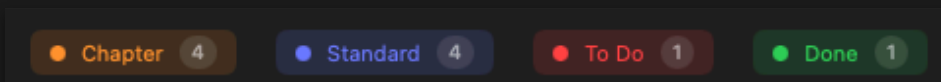
- **Robust Marker Validation**

Strengthened validation logic in dense edit environments prevents structural inconsistencies and maintains reliable export integrity across reporting formats.

- **Consistent Reporting Output**

Internal normalization between timeline positions and exported CSV/TXT reports minimizes discrepancies when sharing data across departments.

Marker Categories & Filtering



The app distinguishes between four professional categories:

- **Chapter:** Standard chapter points.
- **Standard:** General reference markers.
- **To Do:** Incomplete tasks.
- **Done:** Successfully completed markers.

By toggling the marker type buttons, you can dynamically filter the visible markers and their associated texts. This allows you to isolate specific categories—for example, exporting only “To Do” markers for a focused revision session—while temporarily hiding information that is not relevant to the current workflow stage.

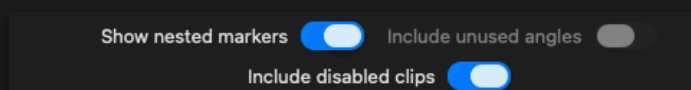
Pro Feature: Nested & Multicam Support

Unlike basic Chapter Tool app, the Pro version manages markers located inside Compound Clips and Multicam sequences.

Final Cut Pro does not display markers embedded within nested elements directly on the main timeline. As a result, important notes placed inside compound clips or multicam angles can remain hidden during normal timeline navigation.

When the “Show Nested Markers” toggle is enabled, Chapter Tool Pro reveals and extracts all markers contained within these nested structures, adding them to the main marker list. This provides complete project visibility and ensures that no internal annotations remain inaccessible during reporting or export.

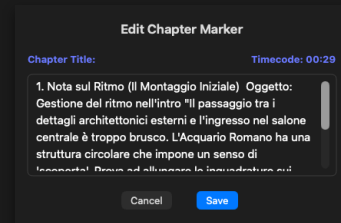
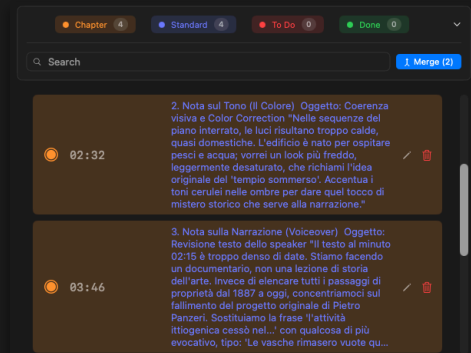
- **Show Nested Markers:** Toggle visibility for markers buried inside containers (Compound clips and multicam sequences).



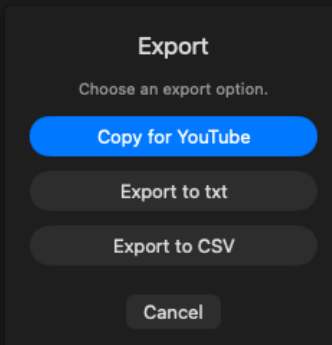
- **Unused Multicam Angles:** Option to include markers from camera angles not currently active in timeline.

Advanced Controls

- **Text Search:** Instantly filter the list by content.
- **Merge Function:** Select two or more consecutive markers to combine them into a single chapter entry (titles are automatically truncated at 99 characters)
- **Expand/Collapse View:** Double-click any marker box to expand or collapse the text area. This is especially useful for managing long production notes while keeping the list compact and readable.
- **Marker Editing:** To modify a marker's content, click the "pencil" icon to open the dedicated editing panel.



Exporting for YouTube



When using "Copy for YouTube", the app performs a series of automatic health checks:

- **Start Point Check:** Verifies a marker exists at 00:00:00. If missing, it offers to add a "Start" marker automatically.
- **Platform Constraints:** Ensures the presence of at least three chapters, each with a duration of at least 10 seconds.
- **Rounding Modes:** Choose between **Safe Start** (rounds down) or **Nearest Second** for maximum precision.

Note: For YouTube compatibility, nested markers are excluded from the final clipboard copy by default.

Advanced Reporting: CSV & TXT Export

While the YouTube export is optimized for final delivery, the **CSV** and **TXT** formats are designed for professional post-production stages and archival purposes. These formats transform Chapter Tool Pro into a powerful communication bridge between different departments.

1. CSV Export (Professional Logging & Collaboration)

The CSV format is the industry standard for managing data within spreadsheets like Excel, Google Sheets, or Numbers.

- **Team Workflow:** This is the ideal way to send "edit notes," "VFX markers," or "color points" to directors, producers, or colorists. Each column clearly separates the *Timecode*, *Marker Title*, and *Category*.
- **Data Analysis:** It allows production teams to quickly calculate durations between markers or organize the workload by filtering rows based on "To Do" or "Done" status.
- **Metadata Archiving:** It provides a reliable, software-independent way to preserve a project's metadata history outside of the NLE environment.

2. TXT Export (Clean Documentation & Deliverables)

The plain text export is designed for maximum readability and cross-platform versatility.

- **Rounding Precision:** Even in TXT format, you can apply **Safe Start** or **Nearest Second** modes, ensuring that the exported timecodes match the technical requirements of your delivery.
- **Change Lists:** Perfect for creating "Change Lists" or spotting sheets for audio mixers and sound designers, providing a clean list free of formatting codes that could be misinterpreted by other software.

Pro Integration: Deep Metadata Access

In the **PRO** version, these reports can include **Nested Markers** (markers located within compound clips or multicam sequences). This allows you to generate a comprehensive report that drills down into the deepest layers of your timeline, offering a level of project visibility that Final Cut Pro does not natively export in such an accessible way.

Technical Specifications

- **System Requirements:** Requires macOS 15.5 or later.
- **Architecture:** Fully optimized for Apple Silicon and Intel-based Mac systems.
- **Final Cut Pro Compatibility:** Designed for projects created with Final Cut Pro 11.1 and earlier supporting FCPXML up to version 1.13.

App Store & Privacy

- **Sandboxing & Security:** Chapter Tool Pro operates within the macOS sandbox environment to ensure maximum system security. The app only accesses FCPXML files explicitly opened or dropped by the user and does not collect or transmit any project data.
- **Licensing:** Your purchase is tied to your **Apple ID**. You can restore or install Chapter Tool Pro on any Mac authorized with your account via the Mac App Store "Purchased" tab.

Customer Support

- **Feature Requests & Bug Reports:** We are committed to constant improvement. For technical support or to suggest new features for future updates, please visit marcobucci.eu or contact me directly via the support link on the App Store page.

Chapter Tool Pro is an independent tool and is not affiliated with, or endorsed by, Apple Inc. Final Cut Pro is a trademark of Apple Inc.