

StageCue — Quick Start

About the Program

StageCue is software for running a live show: a play, a concert, or any event where sound and video must start on cue. You prepare a list of “commands” in advance (they are called **cues**) — for example, “exit music,” “rain ambience,” “video bumper,” or “30-second pause.” During the performance you press a single button — **GO** — and the next cue fires. The following cue is selected automatically, so you can run an entire show with essentially one key.

The app runs on **Windows 10/11** (and on macOS for development) and does not need an internet connection. It can:

- play **audio** and **video** files in the order you need;
- send video to a **separate screen or projector**;
- route sound to **different audio outputs and channels** (for example, left speaker for one actor, right for another);
- show a **countdown timer** so you can see how much of a track remains;
- group several tracks so they start **at the same time**;
- save your whole setup as a **project file** that you can move to another computer together with all media files.

In short: build the list once — then run the show calmly by pressing **GO**.

Step 1. Launch

- Open **StageCue** (`StageCue.exe` on Windows).
 - A blank project opens with the name **“Новое шоу”** (New Show).
 - Rename it right away: click the title in the top bar and type your own name, for example “Opening Night.”
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Step 2. Add your files (create cues)

There are two ways to add a cue to the list.

Method 1 — drag and drop (fastest): drag audio or video files from a folder straight into the app window. Each file becomes its own cue. StageCue detects whether it is sound or video.

Method 2 — toolbar buttons (above the list):

Button	Creates
🎵 Аудио (Audio)	a cue that plays sound
▶ Видео (Video)	a cue that plays video
⌚ Пауза (Wait)	a wait for a set number of seconds (e.g. 30 sec of silence)
📝 Заметка (Memo)	an operator note (plays nothing — just a reminder)
📁 Группа (Group)	a folder to group several cues
🗑️	delete the selected cue

Supported formats: audio — mp3, wav, ogg, m4a, flac, aac, wma; video — mp4, mov, webm, mkv, avi, m4v.

Tip: you can also drop files **directly onto a group folder** — they will be nested inside it.

Step 3. Configure a cue (Properties panel)

Click any cue in the list — the **Properties** panel opens on the right. There you can set:

- **Name** — how the cue appears in the list.
- **Type** — Audio, Video, Wait, or Memo.
- **Volume** — slider 0–100% (for audio and video). You can change volume even while playing.
- **Wait duration** — for Wait cues only. Quick presets: 5s, 10s, 30s, 1m, 2m, 5m.
- **Output device** and **channels** — audio only. Choose which sound card and which channels (e.g. "Output 1" or "Outputs 1–2") the sound goes to. Useful when you need to split audio across speakers.
- **Display for output** — video only. Choose a monitor or projector (the primary screen is marked with ★).

Attach a file by dragging it onto the cue — there is no separate "choose file" button.

Step 4. Organize the list

- **Drag** cues with the mouse to change their order.
- Drag a cue **onto a group folder** to nest it inside.
- Groups have a ▶ / ▼ triangle — expand or collapse the contents.
- Cue numbers are assigned automatically.

Groups let you start several tracks **at once**. For example, put "city noise" and "car horn" in one group — pressing **GO** on the collapsed group starts both sounds together.

Step 5. Run the show

The main transport controls are at the bottom of the window.

1. Select the cue you need — with a mouse click or the ↑ / ↓ arrow keys.

2. Press **GO** (or the **Space** key) — the cue starts: - **Audio** — plays through the selected device; the Timer shows a countdown; - **Video** — plays in the Video Out window on the chosen display; - **Wait** — the app waits for the set time; - **Memo** — a brief operator marker; - **Group** — all tracks inside start together.
3. After a cue starts, selection **moves automatically** to the next cue — press **GO** again when ready.
4. If something goes wrong — press **STOP ALL** (or **Esc**). That instantly stops everything: audio, video, and timers.

Fast way to fire a cue: **double-click** it in the list.

The **Timer** panel shows a large countdown (minutes:seconds.tenths) and a progress bar. You can **click or drag** the bar to scrub audio to the right place.

Step 6. Video Out (if you use video)

- Before the show, click ☐ **Видеовыход** (Video Out) at the top — a separate black window opens for video.
- Move that window to a second monitor or projector (or pick the display in the video cue's properties).
- To close it, click the same button — it now reads **X Видеовыход**.

Step 7. Save the project

- Click **Save** (or **Ctrl + S**). The project is saved as a **.stagecue** file.
- Next to that file, StageCue creates a folder **"{Project Name} MEDIA"** and **copies all your media files into it**. That makes it easy to move the project file plus this folder to another computer and keep everything working.
- **Save As** — save a copy somewhere else.
- **Open** (or **Ctrl + O**) — open a previously saved project.

A dot next to the project name means there are **unsaved changes**.

Keyboard shortcuts

Key	Action
Space	GO (run the selected cue)
Esc	STOP ALL (stop everything)
↑ / ↓	select previous / next cue
← / →	collapse / expand the selected group
Double-click	run the cue
Ctrl + N	new project
Ctrl + O	open project
Ctrl + S	save project
Ctrl + Shift + S	save as
Ctrl + Shift + V	open/close Video Out

FAQ

I can't see audio device names. On first launch the app may ask for microphone access — allow it. That is only so the system can show proper sound-card names (the microphone is not used and nothing is recorded).

I pressed GO, but there is no sound. In Properties, check that the cue has a file, the correct **output device** is selected, and **volume** is not at zero.

How do I stop everything quickly during a show? Press **Esc** — the most reliable stop key; it always works.

Can I move a show to another computer? Yes. Save the project and copy the `.stagecue` file together with the "... MEDIA" folder — that folder holds all media files.

Mini scenario: build a show in 5 minutes

1. Launch StageCue and type the show name.
2. Drag all needed audio and video files into the window.
3. Arrange them in the right order with the mouse.
4. For video, open **Video Out** and choose the screen.
5. Check volume on a couple of tracks.
6. Press **Ctrl + S** to save.
7. During the show: select a cue and press **Space** (GO). Something wrong — **Esc**.

That's it. Have a great show!