

- Lighting
- Disk setup
- Snapshots in Regular View
- Snapshots in Zoom View (Alt+Mouse)
- Snapshots in MouseLook (M)

Taking snapshots and saving them to your harddisk is free.

1. Lighting

- Snapshots in SL are taken with the current ambient lighting.
- You can change the lighting with:
Command: `World` -> `Force Sun` -> *Select option* (Sunrise, Noon, etc.)

So depending on the effect you want, change your lighting.

Taking your 'snapshot to disk'

Command: `File` -> `Snapshot to disk`

Shortcut: `Ctrl + `` (back accent - top left hand corner of your keyboard.)

The snapshot will be the current screen image in SL, but:

Snapshots automatically remove all SL user stuff –(no avatar titles, menu bars, etc.)

Filesize: 14MB for 1280x1025 (typical laptop screen) and

3.6 MB for 640x480 (if you reduce the size of your SL screen).

The snapshot noise can be heard by all – in Machinima in SL 2 we will learn how to turn it off!

2. Disk setup - every new session of SL

- Each time you open SL and you take your first snapshot, SL will ask for
 - location (folder on your hard disk) and
 - base name (the first part of the filename)
- It will then take that snapshot and number it 001¹ and save it in bmp format.
- All other snapshots are automatically numbered and saved.
 - **If you plan several snapshots – good idea to take one snapshot early and get setup!**
 - When you are done, remove and/or resize your snapshots. They are taking up a lot of space!

¹ or continue previous numbering, if it exists.

3. Snapshots in Regular View

- A snapshot of your current view screen as you move about in SL.
- Your avatar will most probably have his back to the camera.
- It will be a wide-screen shot.
- Press Ctrl+`.

4. Snapshots in Zoom View (Alt+Mouse)

- This is good for close-up shots of yourself in SL.
- Requires some preparation.
 - You must walk yourself to the position you want.
 - You need to turn around to “face” the camera.
- Put your mouse pointer in the middle of the screen and press and hold Alt.
- Click and drag your mouse. Left/right pans, forward/backward zooms, ...
- If you can't get the zoom you want: Keep pressing the Alt key, but stop dragging the mouse. Position the pointer again in the middle of what will be your shot and click and drag some more ...
- When you are set, release the mouse and Alt key and press Ctrl+`.

5. Snapshots in MouseLook (M)

- This is good if you don't want your avatar in the picture.
- Close chat window (click on the chat button).
- Position yourself in front of the scene you want to capture.
- Press M.
- Gently reach for your mouse and move it (no click).
- If you can't get the shot you want, press Esc to get out of MouseLook.
- Move to a better position and press M again.
- When you are set, release the mouse and press Ctrl+`.