

Set the media thumbnail in Canvas

Last Modified on 06/12/2025 1:22 pm IDT

 This article is designated for all users.

About

Kaltura automatically generates a default thumbnail for each video, capturing a frame at the three-second mark. If you need a different default offset, reach out to your Customer Success Manager.

Additionally, you have the flexibility to set and manage your own thumbnails. This article will guide you through the process.

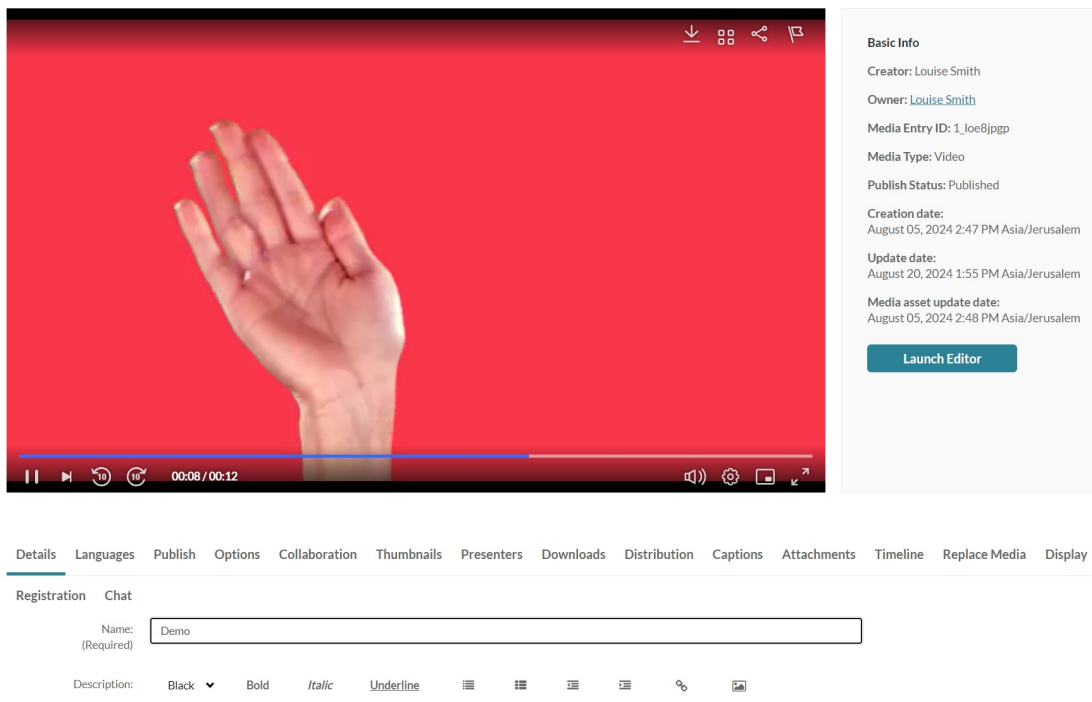


Editing thumbnails is not applicable to YouTube entries.

Access the thumbnail settings

1. Access the edit media page.

Demo

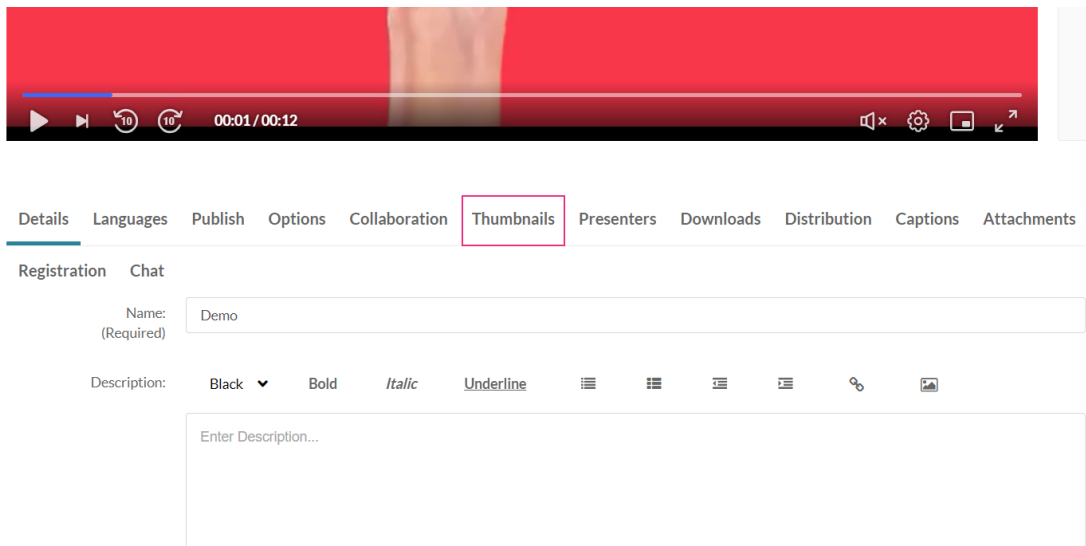


The screenshot displays the Kaltura media editor interface. On the left is a video player showing a hand against a red background. The video player has a progress bar at the bottom indicating 00:08 / 00:12. To the right of the video player is a sidebar with the following information:

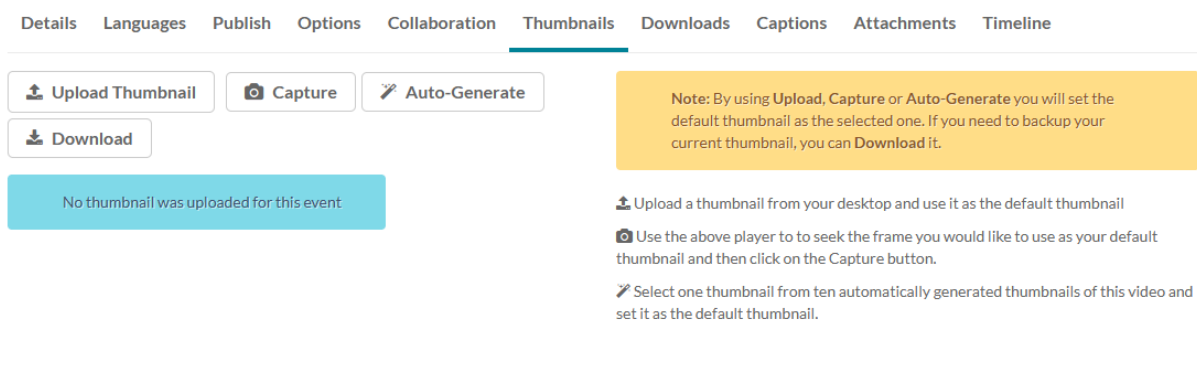
- Basic Info**
 - Creator: Louise Smith
 - Owner: [Louise Smith](#)
 - Media Entry ID: 1_loe8jppp
 - Media Type: Video
 - Publish Status: Published
 - Creation date: August 05, 2024 2:47 PM Asia/Jerusalem
 - Update date: August 20, 2024 1:55 PM Asia/Jerusalem
 - Media asset update date: August 05, 2024 2:48 PM Asia/Jerusalem
- [Launch Editor](#) (button)

Below the video player and sidebar is a navigation bar with the following tabs: Details, Languages, Publish, Options, Collaboration, Thumbnails, Presenters, Downloads, Distribution, Captions, Attachments, Timeline, Replace Media, Display. The 'Details' tab is currently selected. Below the navigation bar is a 'Registration' section with a 'Name: (Required)' field containing the text 'Demo'. Below the name field is a 'Description:' field with a text area containing the text 'Black', 'Bold', 'Italic', 'Underline', and several icons for text formatting.

2. Click on the **Thumbnails** tab.



The thumbnail settings display.



Set and manage thumbnails

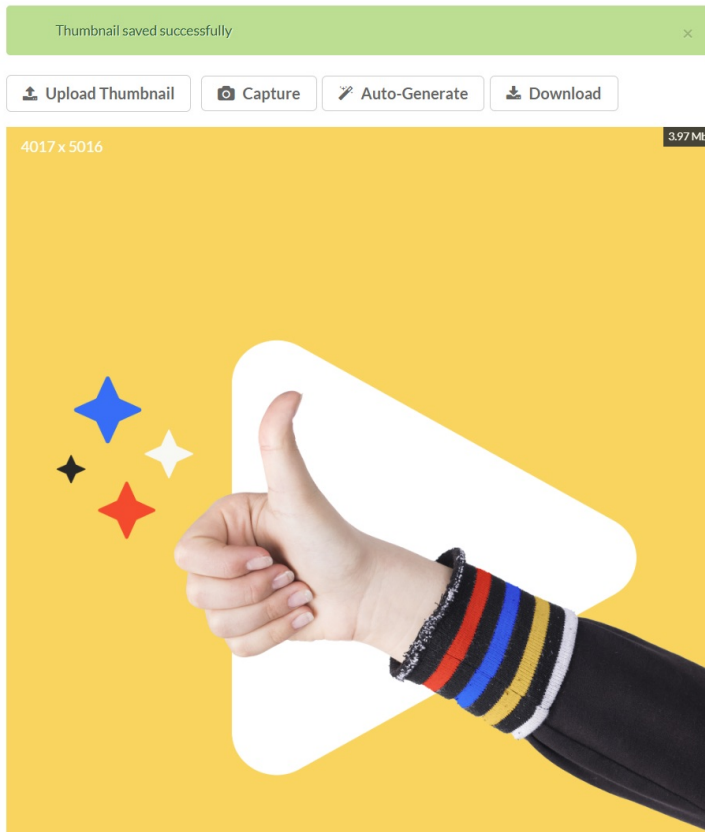
There are four options for setting and managing a thumbnail:

- **Upload Thumbnail** - Upload a thumbnail from your computer and use it as the default thumbnail.
- **Capture** - Use the player to select the frame you want to use as your default thumbnail and then click on the Capture button.
- **Auto-Generate** - Select one thumbnail from ten automatically generated thumbnails of the selected video and set it as the default thumbnail.
- **Download** - Download a thumbnail to back up your current thumbnail.

Upload a custom thumbnail

1. Click **Upload Thumbnail**.
2. Select a file from your computer and click **Open**.


The new thumbnail displays with a success message: *Thumbnail saved successfully.*



Capture a frame from the content

1. Click the play button on the player.
2. Click **Capture** at the frame that you want to use as a thumbnail.

Kaltura Training Services Overview



Basic Info

Creator: Louise Smith

Owner: [Louise Smith](#)

Media Entry ID: 1_m0i3u6nx

Media Type: Video

Publish Status: Published

Creation date: July 12, 2024 10:10 AM Asia/Jerusalem

Update date: August 13, 2024 6:03 PM Asia/Jerusalem

Media asset update date: July 12, 2024 10:10 AM Asia/Jerusalem

[Launch Editor](#)

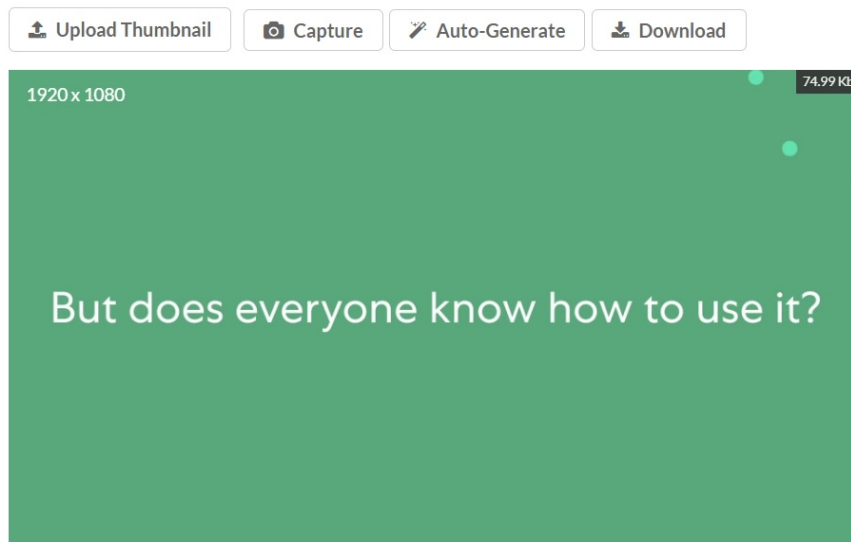
Details Languages Publish Options Collaboration **Thumbnails** Presenters Downloads Distribution Captions Attachments Timeline Replace Media Display

Registration Chat

[Upload Thumbnail](#)
[Capture](#)
[Auto-Generate](#)
[Download](#)

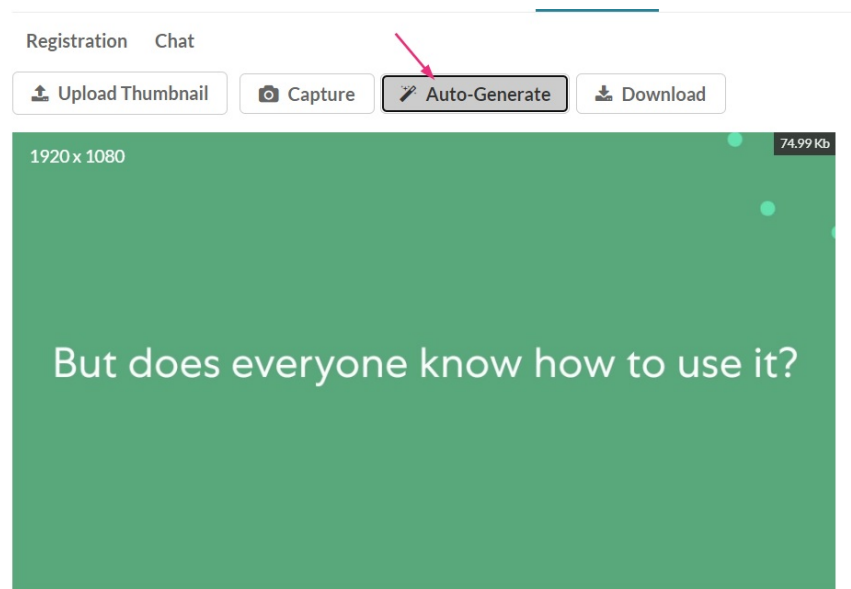
Upload a thumbnail from your desktop and use it as the default thumbnail
 Use the above player to seek the frame you would like to use as your default thumbnail and then click on the Capture button.
 Select one thumbnail from ten automatically generated thumbnails of this video and set it as the default thumbnail.

The captured frame is saved automatically and displays as the thumbnail.



Select an automatically generated thumbnail

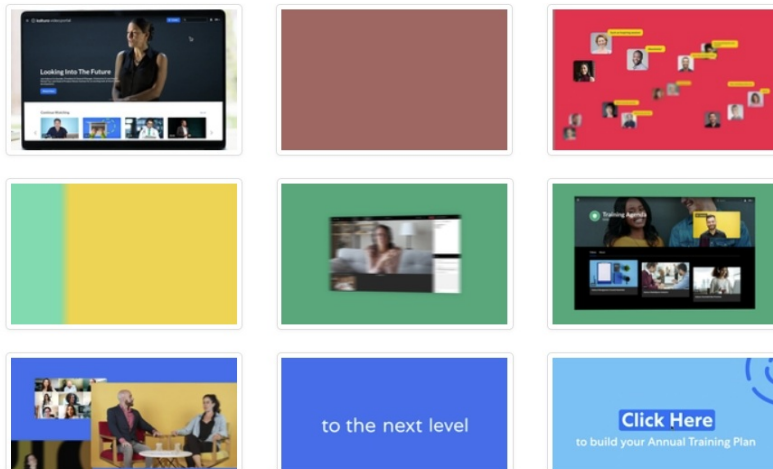
1. Click **Auto-Generate**.



A window with a selection of automatically generated thumbnails displays.

2. Select a thumbnail.

Select one of the Thumbnails



Cancel

The new thumbnail displays.

Download a thumbnail

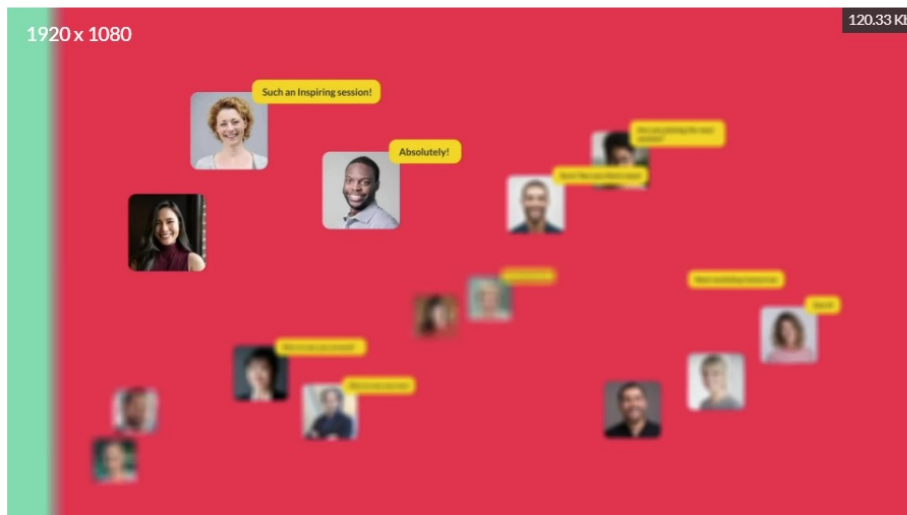
Click **Download**.

Upload Thumbnail

Capture

Auto-Generate

Download



The image downloads.