



# VidSail

Media Downloader & Converter

VERSION 2.0.0 USER GUIDE

## VidSail Media Downloader & Converter

A complete beginner-friendly guide for the current Windows 10/11 64-bit release. Learn how to install VidSail, download supported online media, manage the queue, convert local files, review history and statistics, check all four external engines, install verified updates, and find diagnostic logs.

Windows 10/11 64-bit

Free Application

Light & Dark Theme

Four External Engines

App & Engine Updates

macOS & Linux See [vidsail.com/support](https://vidsail.com/support)

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# 1. Welcome & Legal Use

What VidSail is, what it does, and how to use it responsibly.

VidSail Media Downloader & Converter is a desktop application designed to help users download and convert supported online media and local files for lawful personal use. It combines a modern interface, a download queue, a local file converter, update checking, engine management, download history, and statistics.

## Download supported media

Paste or import supported URLs, choose format/quality, and add them to the queue.

## Convert local files

Add video/audio files and convert them to supported output formats using the bundled media engines.

## Manage everything locally

Settings, history, logs, and app data are stored locally on the user's computer.

Important legal notice

VidSail must only be used for lawful purposes. You are responsible for making sure you have the legal right to download, convert, store, or use any content. Do not use VidSail to infringe copyright, bypass access controls, violate website terms, scrape services, or redistribute content without permission.

What “no VidSail daily quota” means

VidSail does not add its own artificial per-day download quota. However, actual download availability can still depend on the source website, your account access, regional availability, internet connection, website rules, technical restrictions, and applicable law.

2. Installation & First Launch

Install the current Windows release and prepare VidSail for first use.

VidSail version 2.0.0 is currently released for Windows 10 and Windows 11 64-bit systems. The Windows package contains an MSI installer. After installation, launch VidSail, confirm the download folder, check all four external engines, and begin from the Add URL page.

System requirements and release availability

| Platform                | Release status      | Package type                                | Requirements and notes                                                                                                            |
|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Windows 10 / Windows 11 | Available in v2.0.0 | Windows x64 ZIP containing an MSI installer | 64-bit Windows, 4 GB RAM minimum, 8 GB RAM recommended, and at least 1 GB free disk space for the app, engines, and update files. |
| macOS Apple Silicon     | Planned             | Future macOS ARM64 package                  | Not included in the initial Windows v2.0.0 release. Separate testing, packaging, signing, and release instructions are required.  |
| macOS Intel             | Planned             | Future macOS x64 package                    | Not included in the initial Windows v2.0.0 release.                                                                               |
| Linux x64               | Planned             | Future Linux x64 package                    | Not included in the initial Windows v2.0.0 release.                                                                               |

### Current public package

For VidSail version 2.0.0, download the official Windows x64 ZIP from the VidSail website. macOS and Linux packages are planned but are not part of the initial Windows release.

## Windows installation from the downloaded ZIP

The Windows download is supplied as a ZIP file. Extract the ZIP, open the extracted folder, and run `vidsail_media_downloader.msi`. Follow each installer screen in order, then launch VidSail from the desktop shortcut or Start menu.

1

#### Download the Windows ZIP

Download the official VidSail Windows x64 ZIP from the VidSail website and save it to your computer.

2

#### Extract the ZIP folder

Right-click the downloaded ZIP, choose Extract All, and open the extracted `vidsail_windows` folder.

3

#### Run the MSI installer

Double-click `vidsail_media_downloader.msi` in the extracted folder.

4

#### Start the Setup Wizard

Review the welcome screen and click Next.

5

#### Read the installation information

Review the Read Me page, then click Next.

6

#### Accept the licence agreement

Read the End User Licence Agreement. Select the acceptance option only if you agree, then click Next.

7

#### Confirm the installation folder

For most users, leave the default per-user installation folder selected and click Next.

8

#### Begin installation

On the Ready to Install screen, click Install and wait while Windows copies the application files.



9

**Finish the Setup Wizard**

When installation completes, click Finish to close the installer.

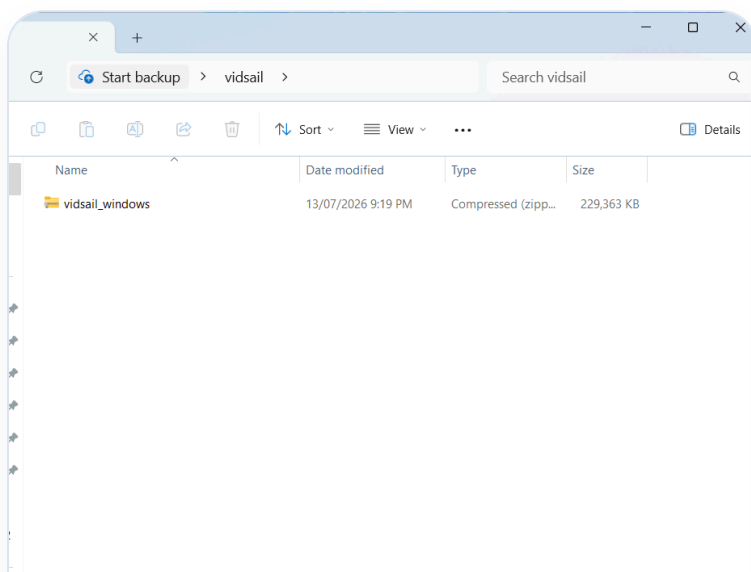
10

**Launch VidSail**

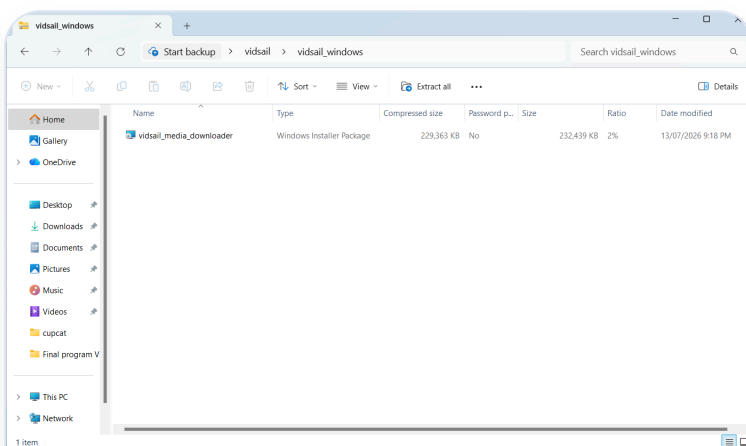
Double-click the VidSail desktop icon or open VidSail from the Start menu.

## Windows installer screenshots

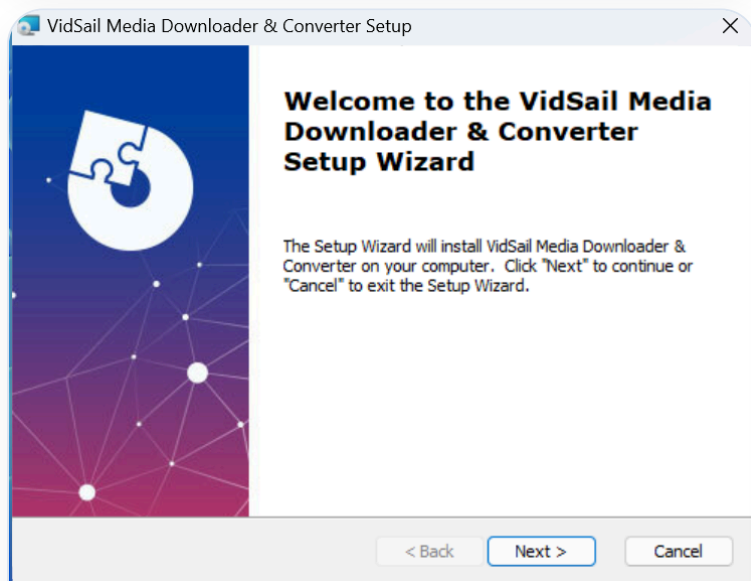
The following installer images show the normal Windows setup process. These screenshots help new users understand what they should see before VidSail opens for the first time.



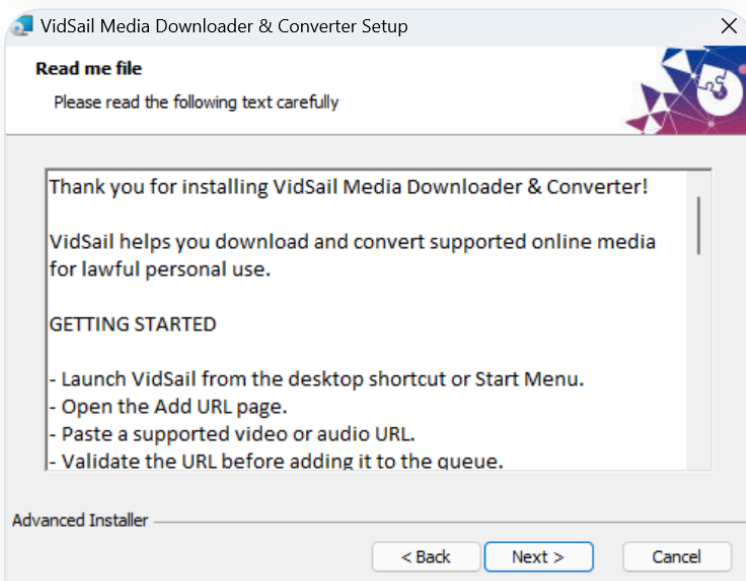
1. Downloaded VidSail Windows ZIP file



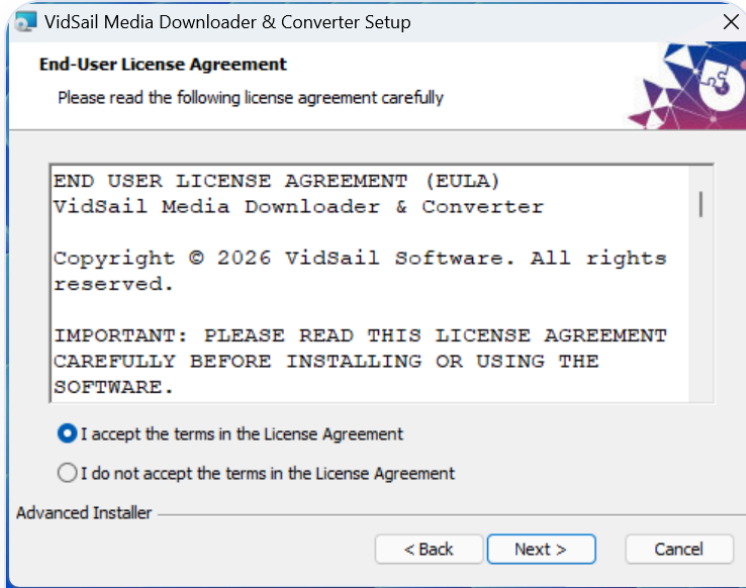
2. Extracted folder containing the VidSail MSI installer



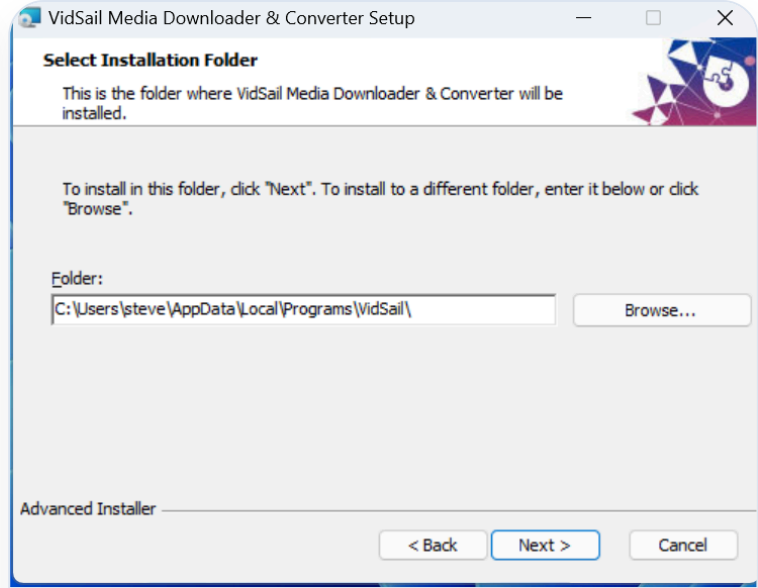
3. VidSail Setup Wizard welcome screen



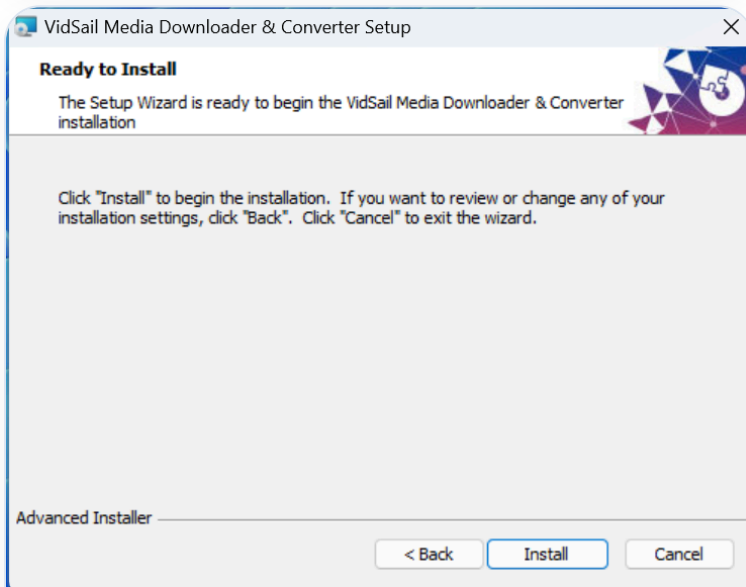
4. Installer Read Me information



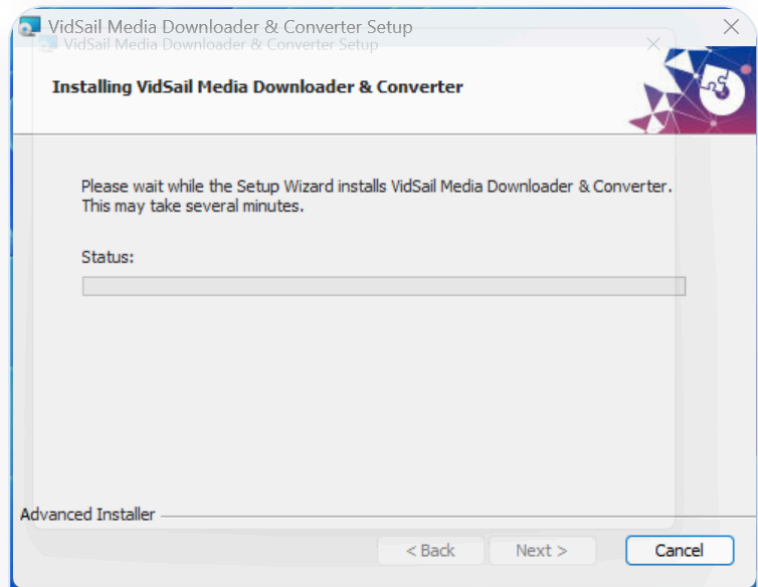
5. End User Licence Agreement screen



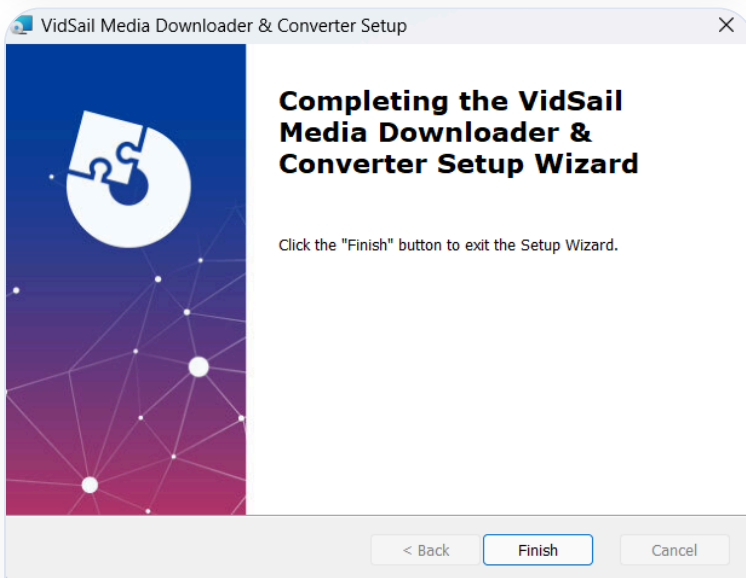
6. Installation folder selection - leave the default for most users



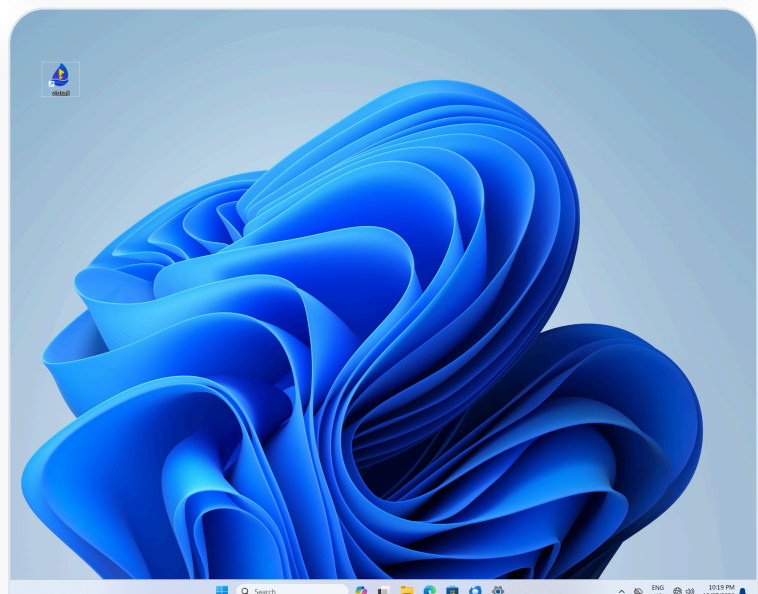
7. Ready to Install after confirming the folder



8. Installation progress



9. Click Finish when installation is complete



10. Double-click the VidSail desktop icon to launch the app

## macOS and Linux installation

## Platform-specific installation instructions

VidSail installation steps differ between Windows, macOS, and Linux. For the latest official macOS and Linux download information, installation steps, security-permission guidance, compatibility notes, and troubleshooting instructions, visit the [VidSail Support page](#).

## First launch checklist

1

### Open VidSail

Launch VidSail from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.

2

### Confirm the output folder

Check where downloaded media files will be saved. VidSail remembers the selected folder.

3

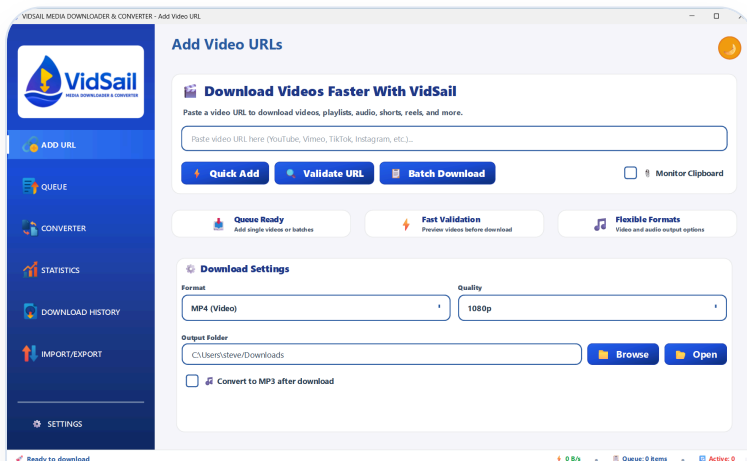
### Check all four engines

Open Settings → Engines and click Recheck Engines. Confirm yt-dlp, FFmpeg, FFprobe, and Deno are installed and ready.

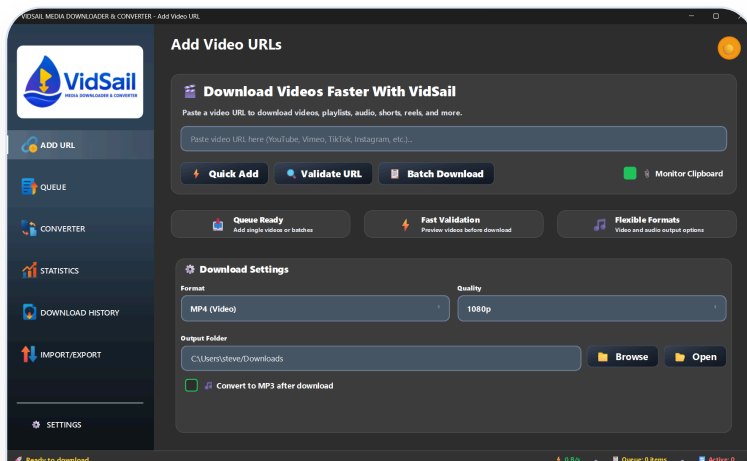
4

### Set your theme and font size

Open Settings → Interface to choose light or dark theme and adjust the application font size.



First launch / setup screen - light theme



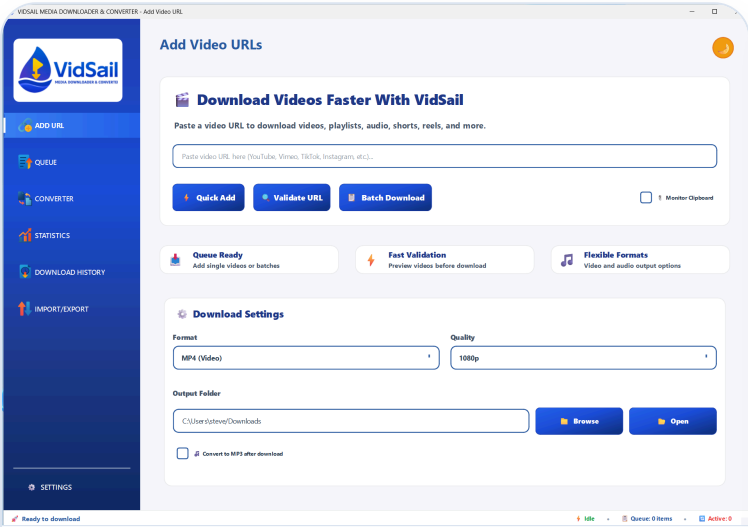
First launch / setup screen - dark theme

## 3. Interface Overview

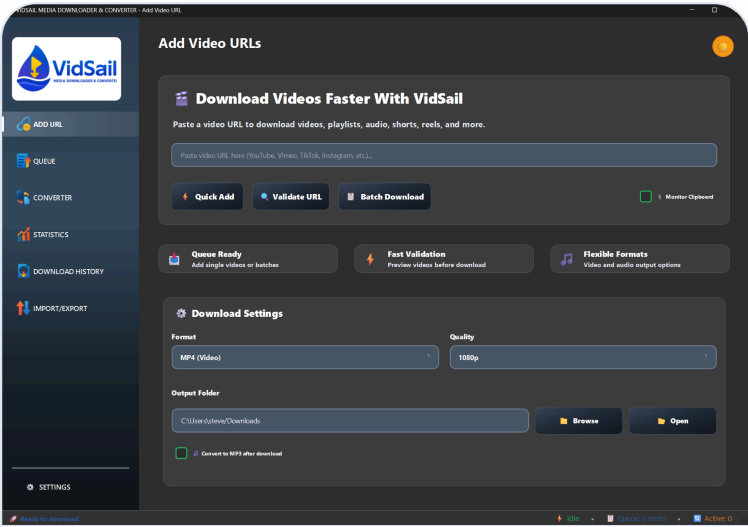
Understand the main navigation areas before downloading.

VidSail uses a left sidebar for navigation and a large content area for each feature page. The bottom status bar shows short messages, download speed, queue count, and active downloads.

| Area              | Purpose                                                                                           |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Left sidebar      | Navigate to Add URL, Queue, Converter, Statistics, Download History, Import/Export, and Settings. |
| Main content area | Displays the active page and its controls.                                                        |
| Status bar        | Shows app messages, speed, queue items, and active download count.                                |
| Theme controls    | Switch between light and dark visual modes from the app interface/settings.                       |



Main interface overview - light theme

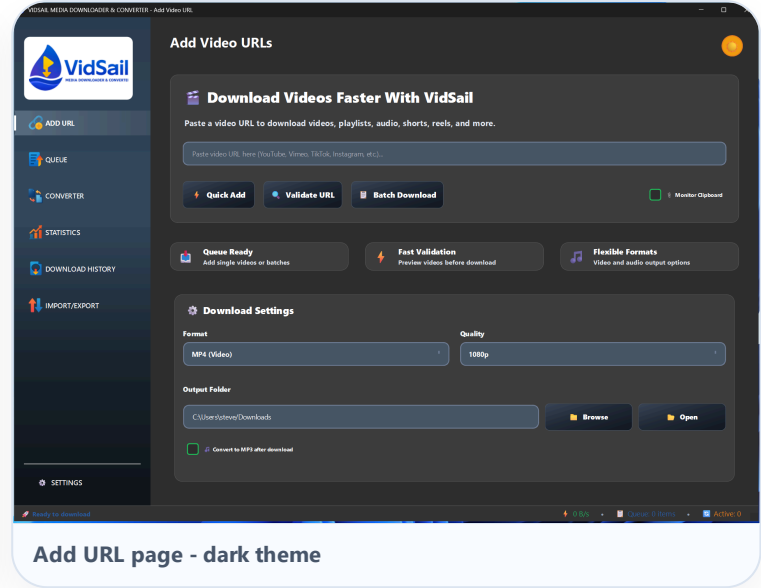
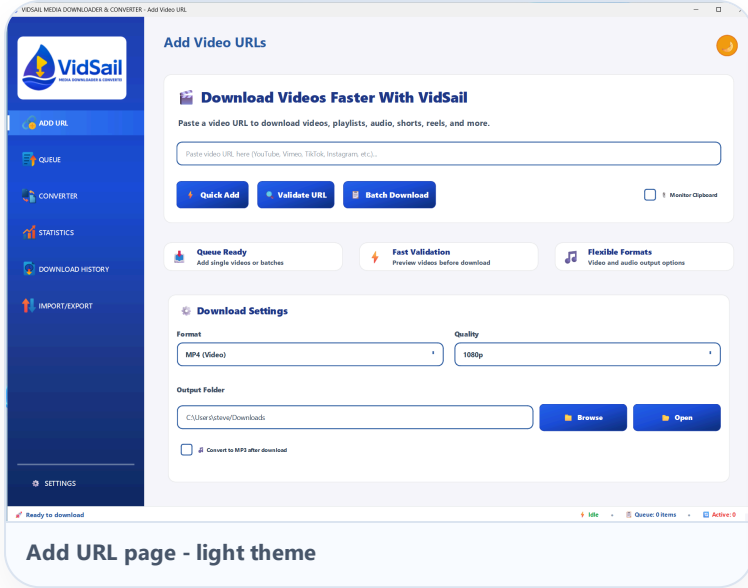


Main interface overview - dark theme

## 4. Add URL Page

The main page for adding single URLs, batch URLs, and clipboard-detected links.

The Add URL page is the normal starting point for downloads. Paste a supported media URL, validate it, choose the output format/quality, select an output folder, then add the item to the download queue.



## Main controls

| Control           | What it does                                                     | When to use it                                                      |
|-------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| URL input box     | Accepts a supported media URL.                                   | Paste a URL copied from your browser or another app.                |
| Quick Add         | Adds a URL without waiting for full validation first.            | Use when you trust the URL and want faster queueing.                |
| Validate URL      | Checks the URL and attempts to show media details before adding. | Use when you want to preview title, source, or other details first. |
| Cancel            | Stops an active validation request.                              | Use if validation is taking too long or you pasted the wrong URL.   |
| Batch Download    | Opens the batch workflow for adding multiple URLs.               | Use when you have a list of links.                                  |
| Monitor Clipboard | Watches the clipboard for supported URLs.                        | Use if you frequently copy links and want faster detection.         |

## Format, quality, and output folder

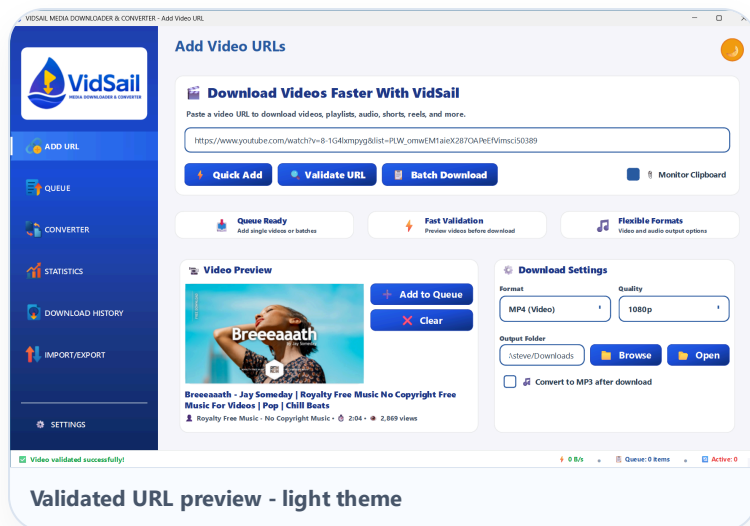
Choose a format such as MP4 video or MP3 audio, then choose a quality option. For video, higher quality usually means larger files and longer download/merge time. For audio, higher bitrate usually means better quality and larger files.

**Output folder**

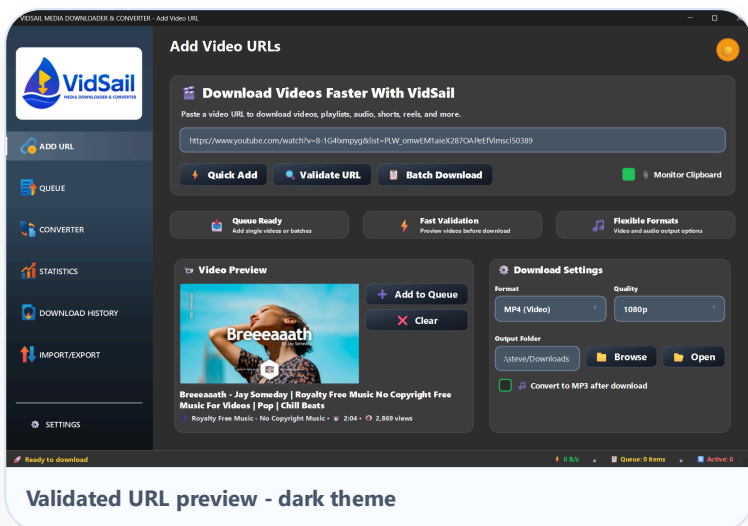
The output folder controls where downloaded files are saved. Use the Browse button to choose a folder and the Open button to open the selected folder in the system file manager.

## Video preview

After successful validation, VidSail can show a preview area with media details. If the website blocks downloads, changes its layout, or requires login/account access, the preview may not show even though the URL looks valid.



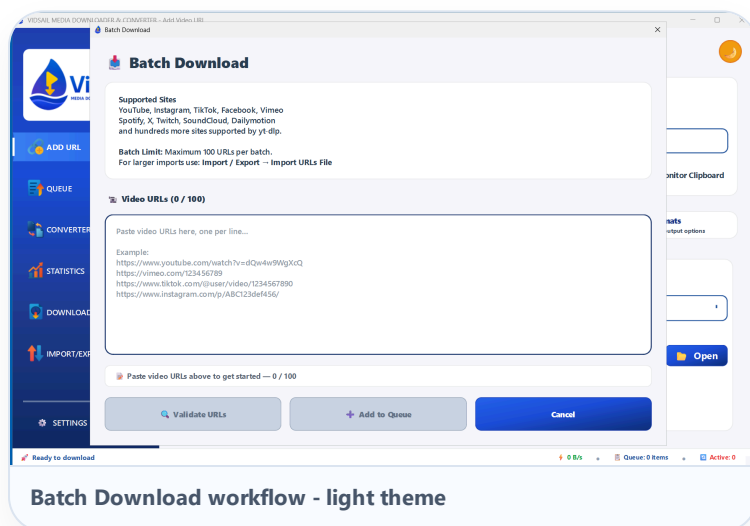
Validated URL preview - light theme



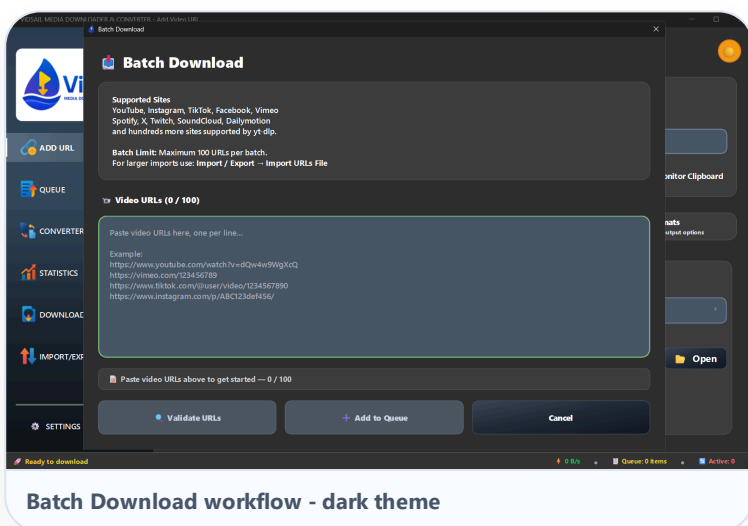
Validated URL preview - dark theme

## Batch download workflow

Batch Download is for multiple URLs. Paste one URL per line, review any validation messages, then add valid entries to the queue. This is useful for playlists, lesson lists, project files, or several independent links.



Batch Download workflow - light theme



Batch Download workflow - dark theme

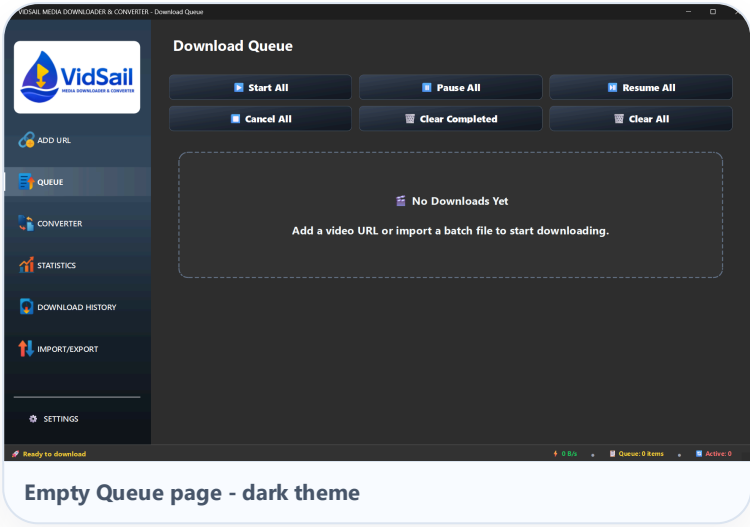
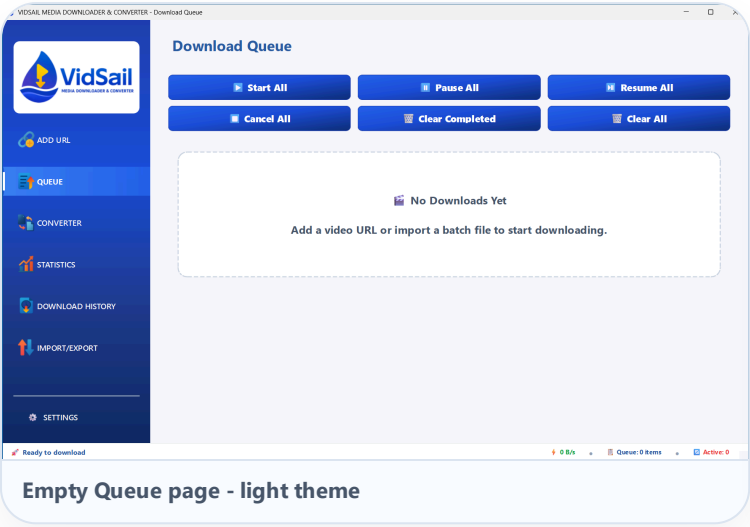
### Tip

Validate first when you want more confidence. Use Quick Add when you already know the URL is correct and want to move faster.

## 5. Download Queue

Start, pause, resume, cancel, and clear download jobs.

The Queue page shows waiting, active, completed, failed, skipped, and cancelled items. It is the control center for downloads after URLs are added.



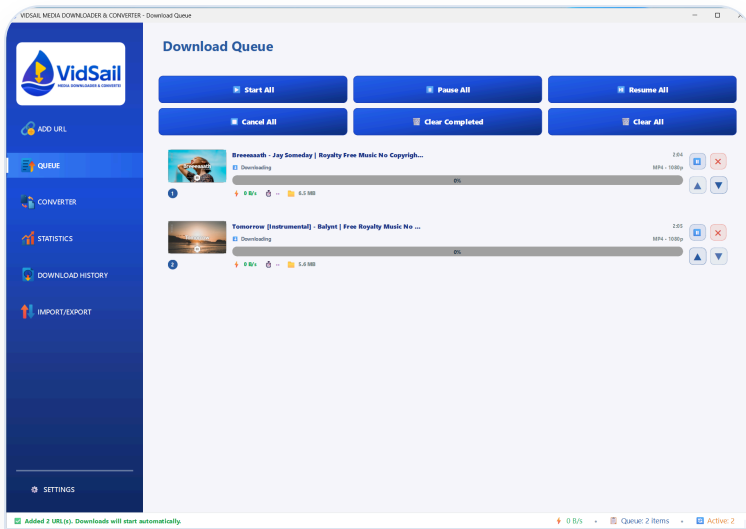
## Queue control buttons

| Button          | Purpose                                                               |
|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Start All       | Starts queued downloads according to the current concurrency setting. |
| Pause All       | Pauses active downloads where pausing is supported.                   |
| Resume All      | Resumes paused downloads.                                             |
| Cancel All      | Stops all active and queued download jobs.                            |
| Clear Completed | Removes completed items from the queue view.                          |
| Clear All       | Clears the queue list. Use carefully.                                 |

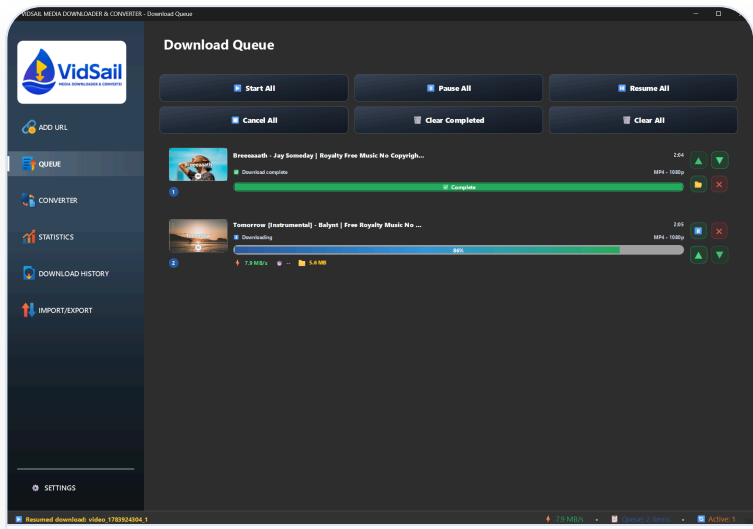
## Download item states

| Status           | Meaning                                         |
|------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| Waiting / Queued | The item is ready but has not started yet.      |
| Downloading      | The item is actively downloading.               |
| Paused           | The item was paused by the user or app control. |
| Completed        | The download finished successfully.             |

| Status  | Meaning                                                            |
|---------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Failed  | The download did not complete. Check the message and logs.         |
| Skipped | The output file already exists, so VidSail avoided overwriting it. |



Queue with active downloads - light theme



Queue with active downloads - dark theme

### Existing file protection

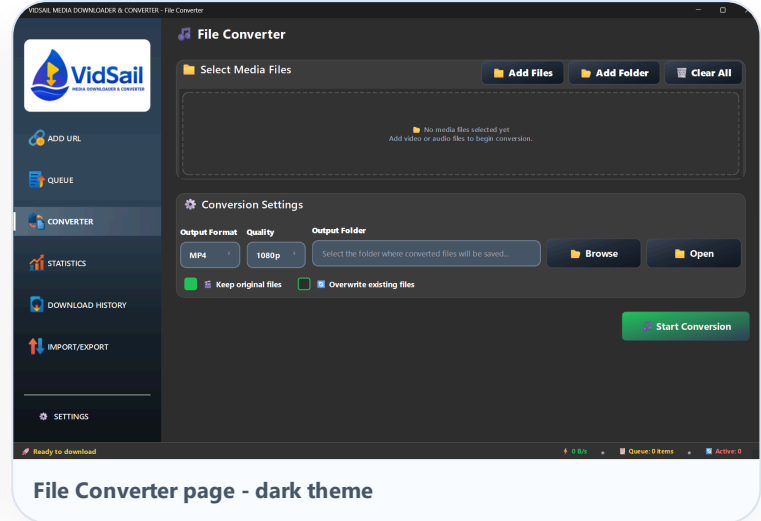
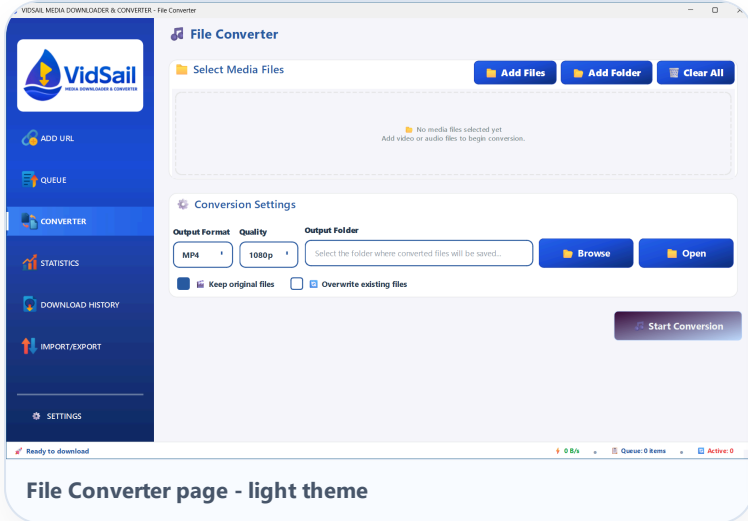
If VidSail detects that the output file already exists, it can skip the download safely. This avoids accidental duplicate files and helps prevent overwriting work you already saved.

## 6. File Converter

Convert local video and audio files using the bundled media engines.

The Converter page is for files already on your computer. Add media files, choose the output format and quality, choose an output folder, and start conversion.





## Basic conversion steps

1

### Add files

Click Add Files for individual media files or Add Folder to add a whole folder.

2

### Choose output format

Select the target format from the Output Format dropdown.

3

### Choose quality

Select the quality/bitrate option appropriate for your use.

4

### Choose output folder

Select where converted files should be saved.

5

### Start conversion

The Start Conversion button becomes active once files are ready.

## Conversion options

| Option                   | Meaning                                                                              |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Keep original files      | Leaves the source files unchanged after conversion.                                  |
| Overwrite existing files | Allows converted output to replace existing files with the same name. Use carefully. |

| Option            | Meaning                                                                       |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Cancel Conversion | Appears while conversion is running and stops the current conversion process. |

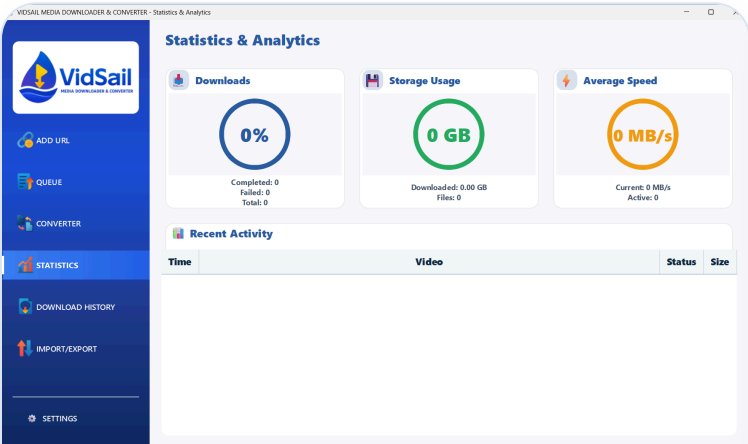
Tip

For audio extraction from large videos, MP3 is usually the most compatible choice. Higher audio quality creates larger files.

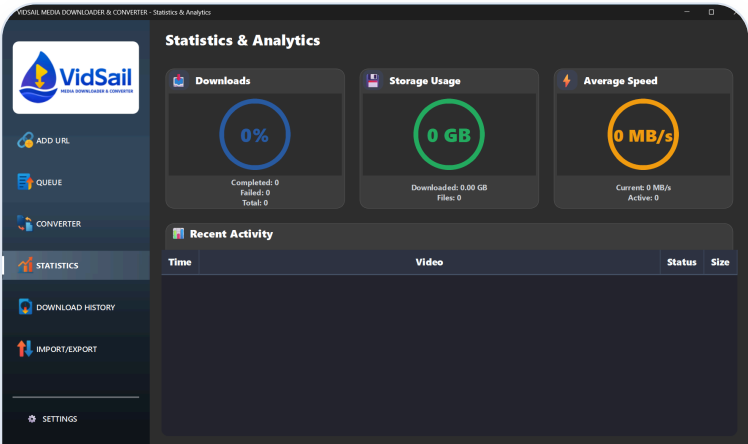
## 7. Statistics & Analytics

Review download totals, storage usage, average speed, and recent activity.

The Statistics page gives you a dashboard-style view of download activity. It helps you understand how many items have completed, how much storage downloaded files use, and how recent activity is progressing.



Statistics page - light theme



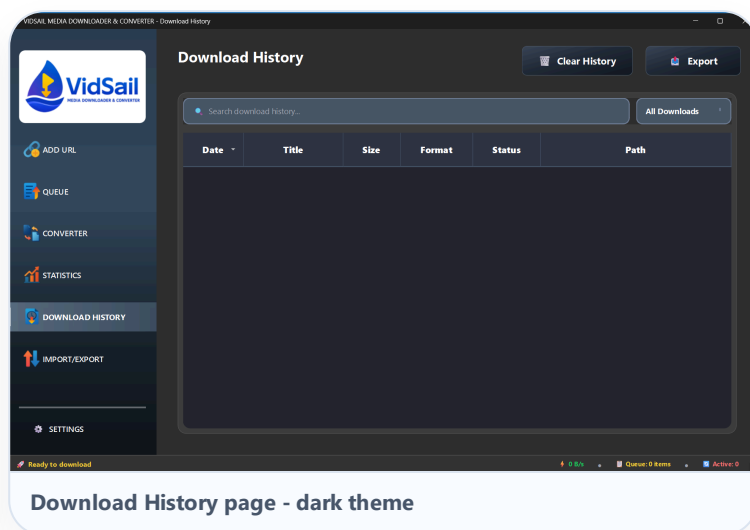
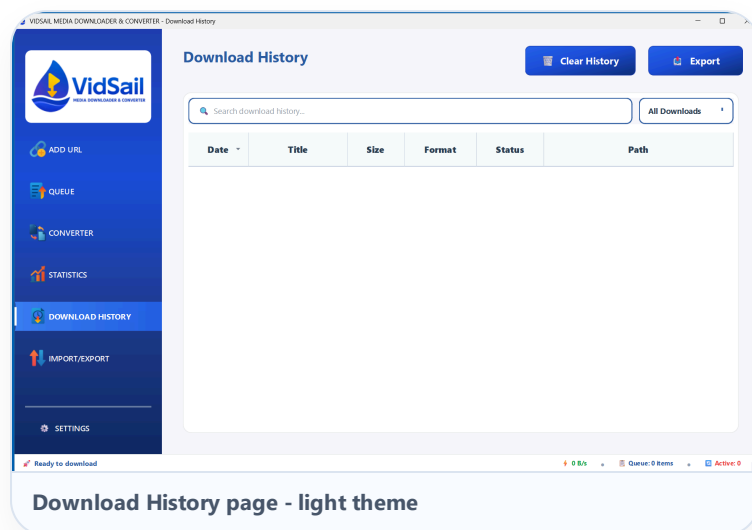
Statistics page - dark theme

| Panel           | What it shows                                        |
|-----------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Downloads       | Completed, failed, and total download counts.        |
| Storage         | Total estimated storage used by completed downloads. |
| Speed           | Download speed and activity information.             |
| Recent activity | Recent items and status changes.                     |

## 8. Download History

Find previous downloads and review their status.

Download History helps you review completed and attempted downloads. Use it to confirm previous activity, locate files, and check whether items completed, failed, or were skipped.



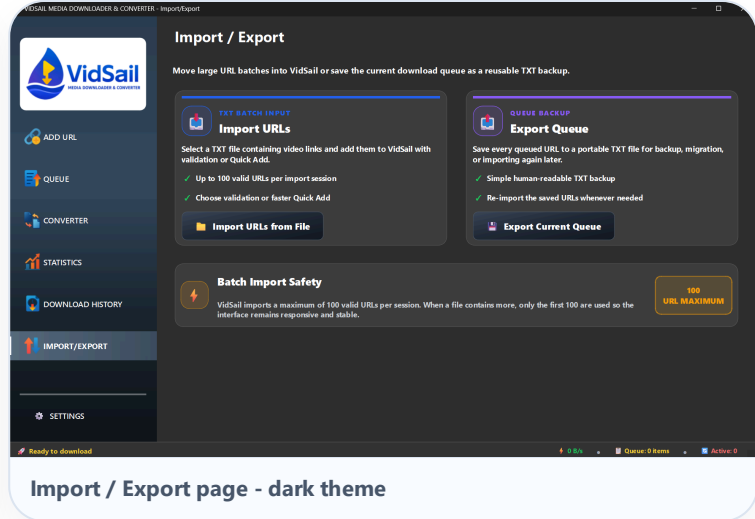
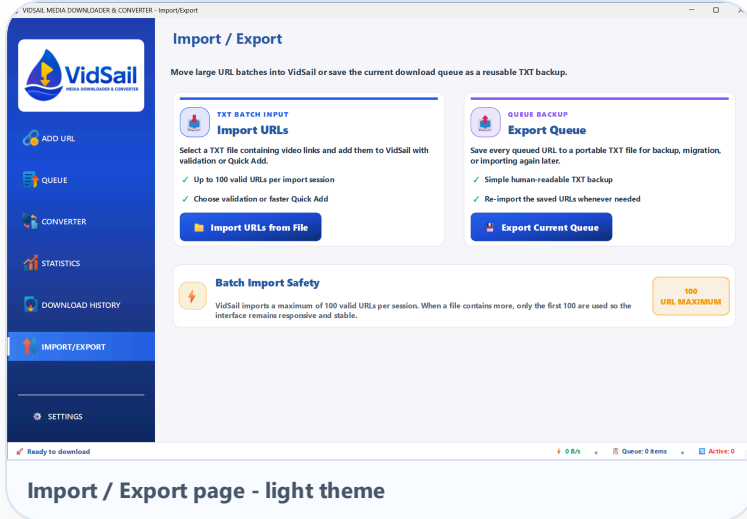
## What to look for

- **Title or URL:** Helps identify the downloaded media.
- **Format:** Shows the output type, such as MP4 or MP3.
- **Status:** Shows whether the item completed, failed, or was skipped.
- **Date/time:** Helps track when activity happened.

## 9. Import / Export

Bring URL lists into VidSail and back up useful app data.

The Import/Export page is designed for users who work with lists, batches, or saved app data. It can help import URL lists and export supported VidSail data for reuse or backup.



## Importing URL lists

Use a plain text file with one URL per line. Empty lines are ignored. For best results, avoid mixing comments and URLs unless your current VidSail version explicitly supports comments.

## Exporting data

Export can be useful for backup, troubleshooting, or reusing lists later. Save exported files in a safe location.

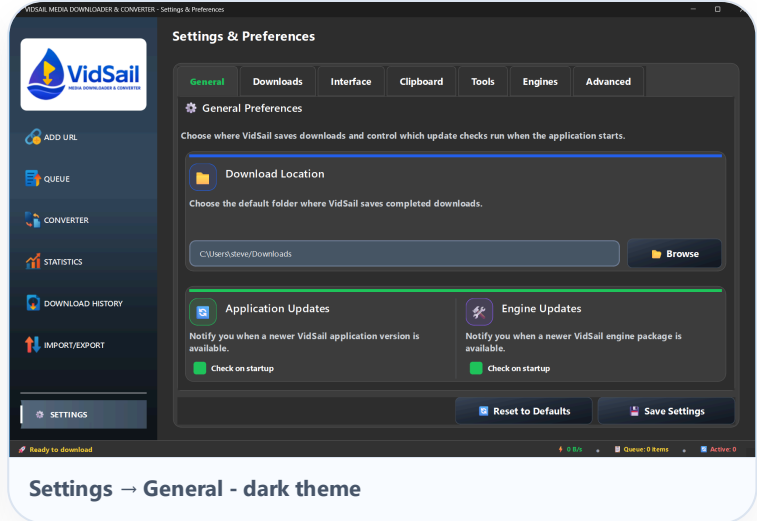
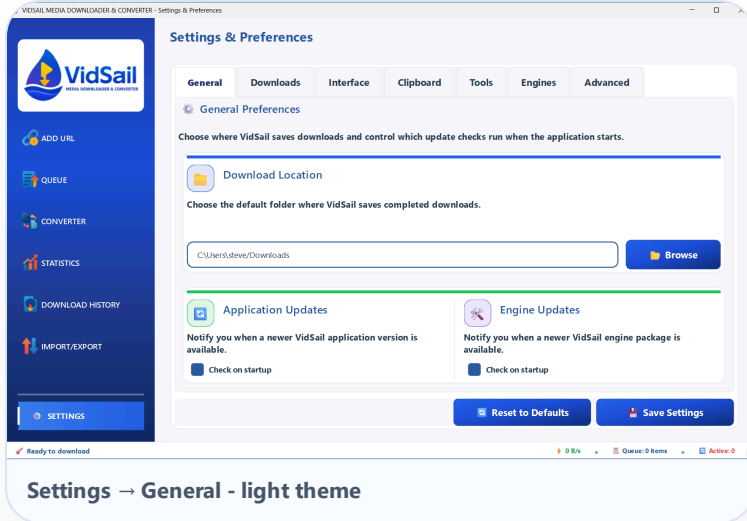
# 10. Settings Tabs

Configure downloads, interface, clipboard monitoring, tools, engines, and advanced behavior.

Settings are where VidSail becomes personal to your workflow. Review each tab before final use so the app saves files where you expect, uses the right theme, and checks the correct engine status.

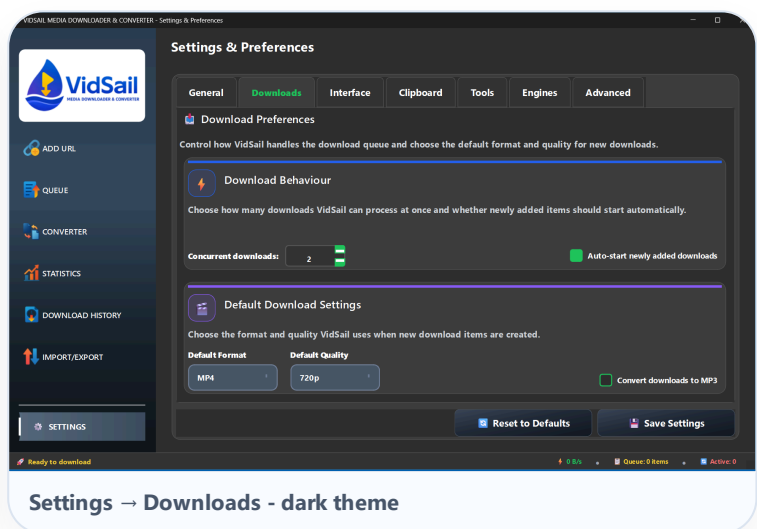
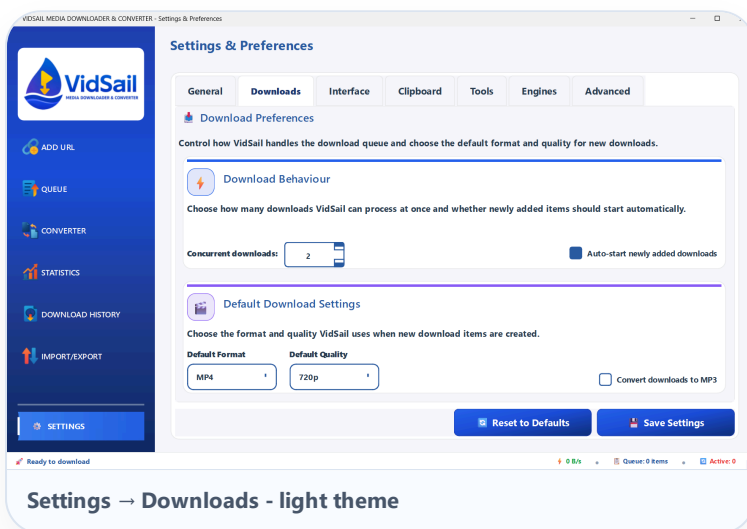
## General tab

General settings usually cover the default download location, common startup options, and general application behavior.



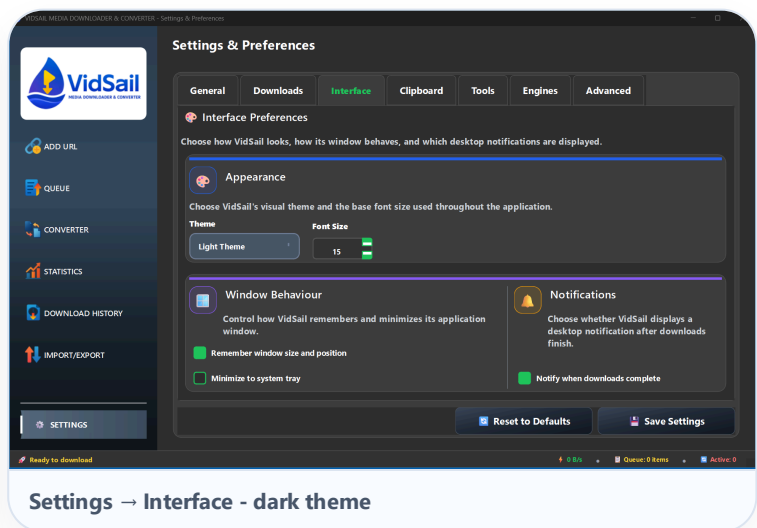
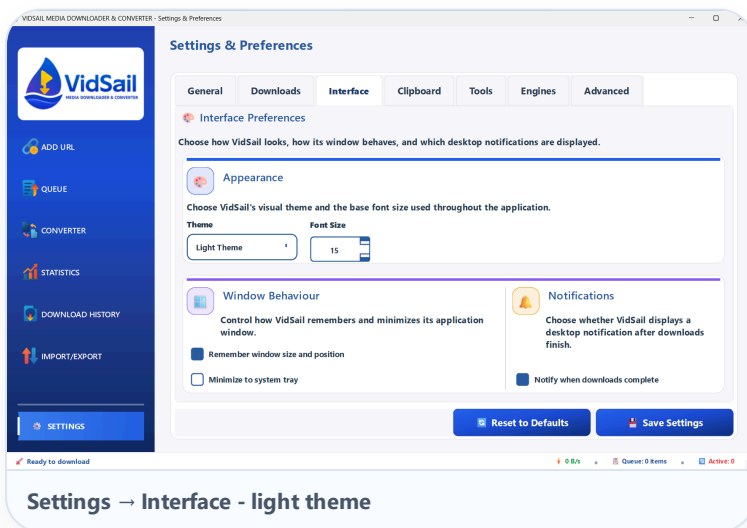
## Downloads tab

Downloads settings control behavior such as concurrent downloads, default format/quality, and download handling.



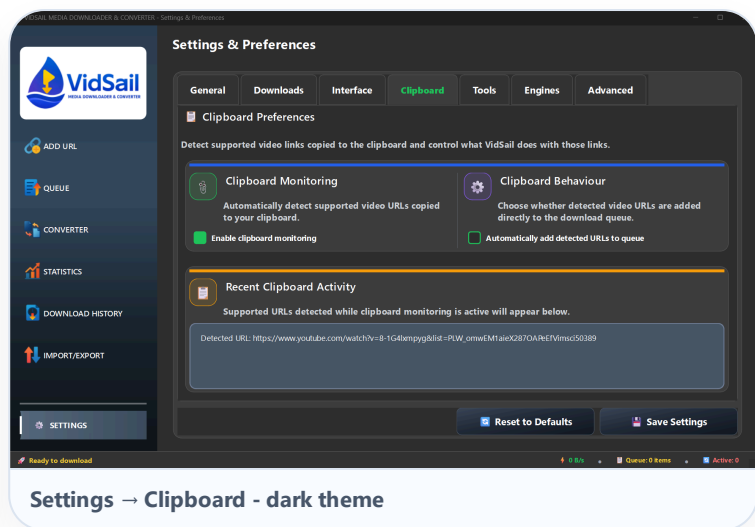
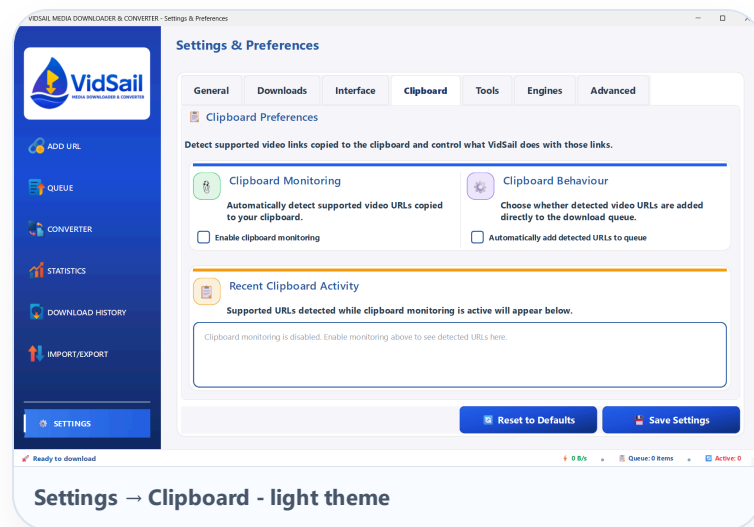
## Interface tab

Interface settings control the theme, font size, and user interface preferences.



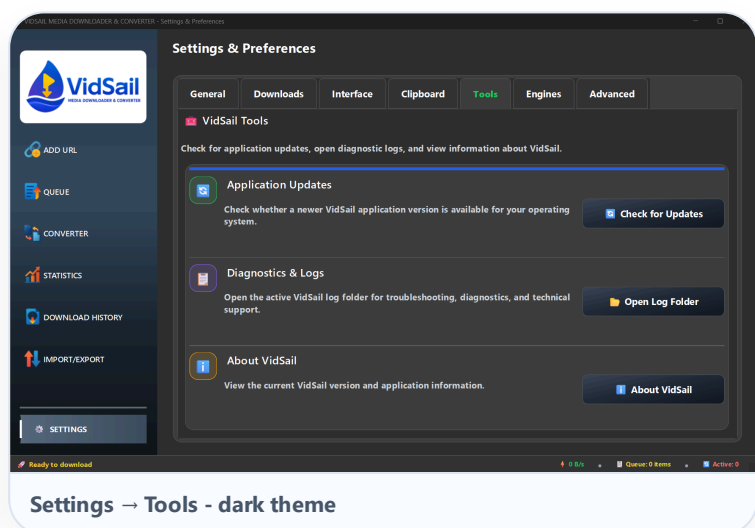
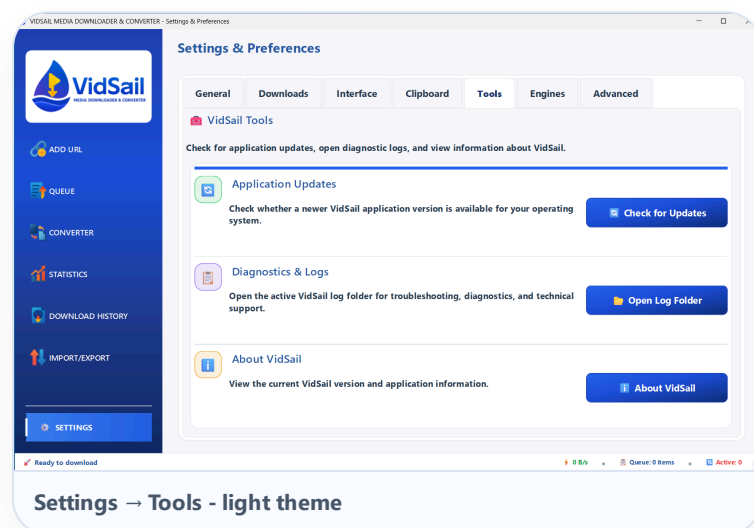
## Clipboard tab

Clipboard settings control whether VidSail monitors copied text for supported URLs and how clipboard detection behaviors.



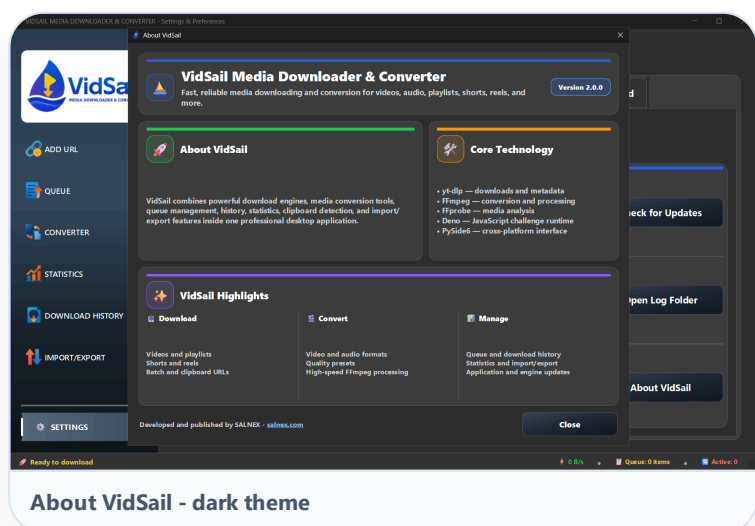
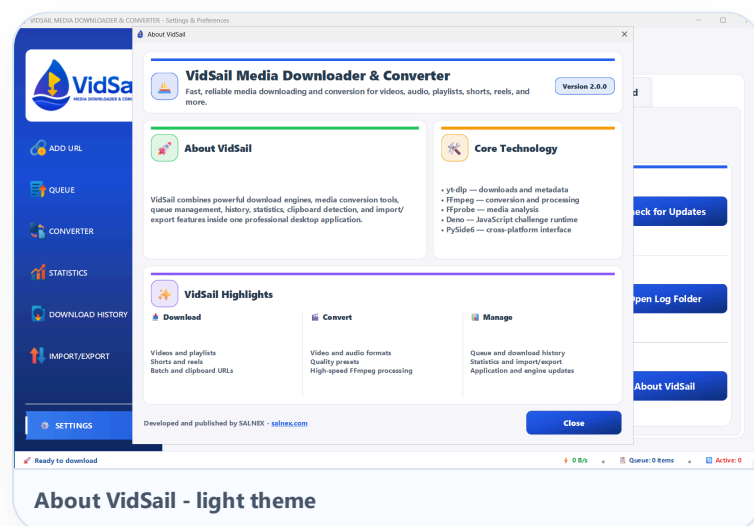
## Tools tab

Tools settings provide quick access to logs, app folders, diagnostics, cleanup tools, and support-related actions.



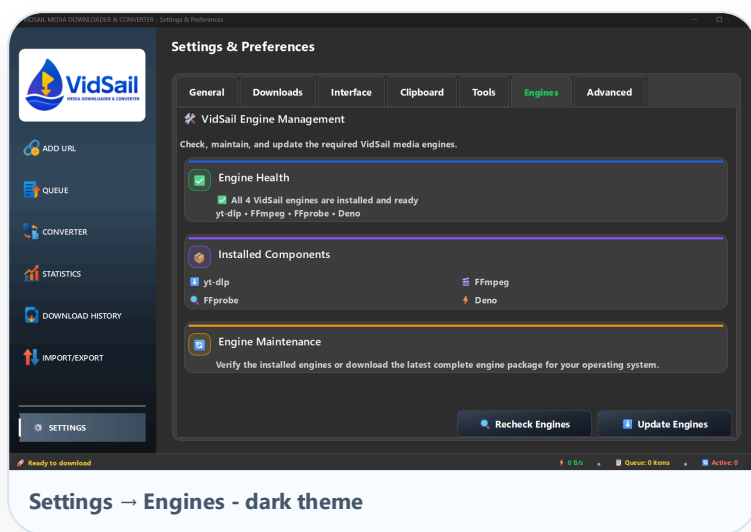
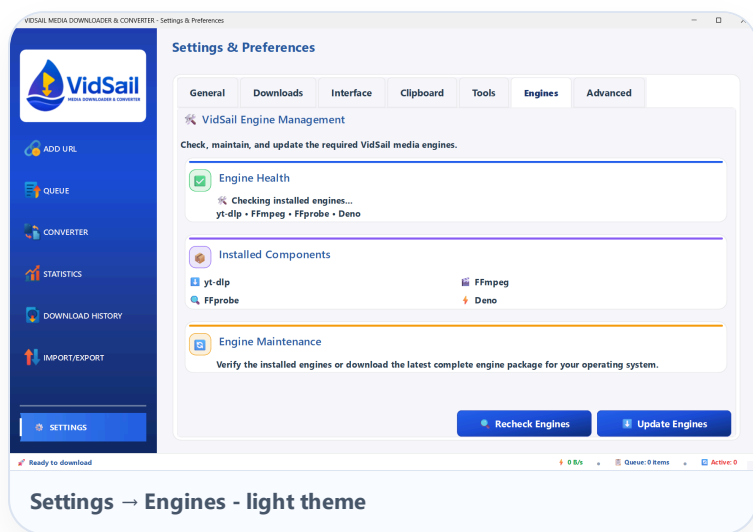
## About VidSail window

Open Settings → Tools → About VidSail to view the app version, publisher information, major features, and core technology used by the current release.



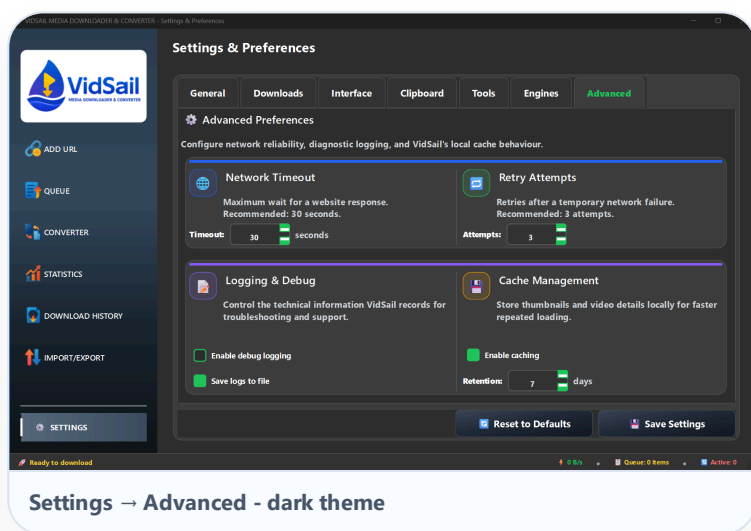
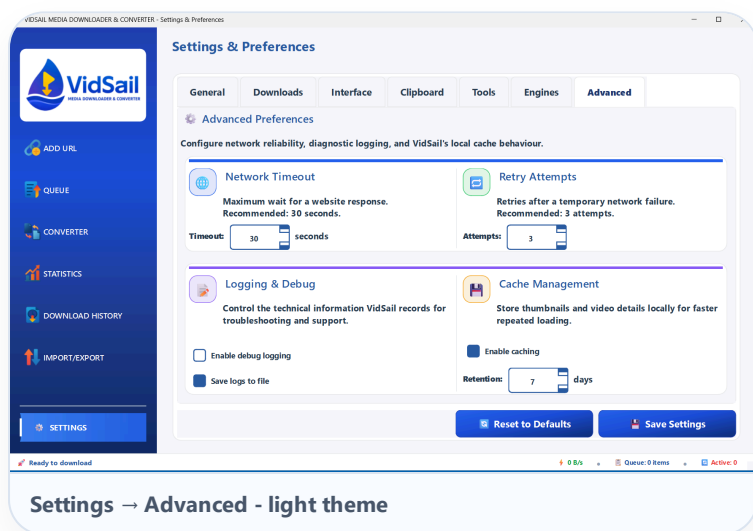
# Engines tab

The Engines tab shows the status of all four required external engines: yt-dlp, FFmpeg, FFprobe, and Deno. Use Recheck Engines after installation or when downloading, validation, or conversion fails. The detailed Engine Health window shows installation status, version, and location. Use Update Engines to download a newer SHA-256-verified four-engine bundle when one is available.



# Advanced tab

Advanced settings are for troubleshooting and power users. They can include network timeout, retry attempts, debug logging, cache retention, and other diagnostic behavior. Change these only when needed.



## 11. Updates & External Engines

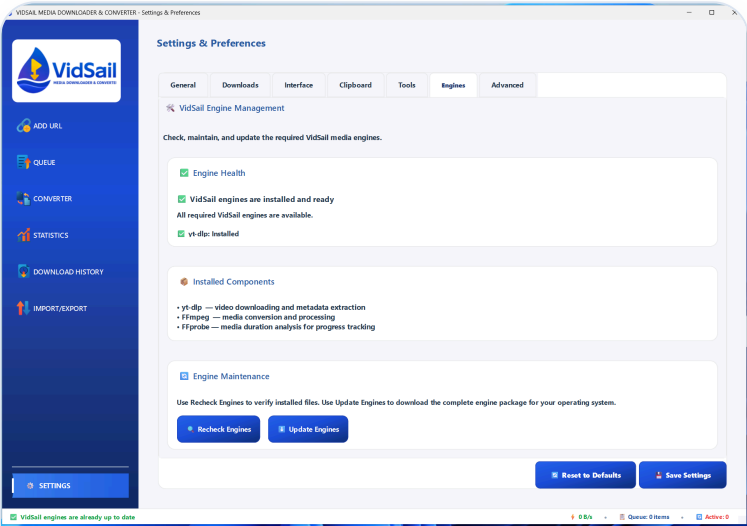
How app updates and engine updates work.

VidSail uses four external engine executables for media extraction, JavaScript challenge processing, analysis, conversion, and downloads. Keeping these engines separate allows the complete engine bundle to be updated independently from the main application when needed.

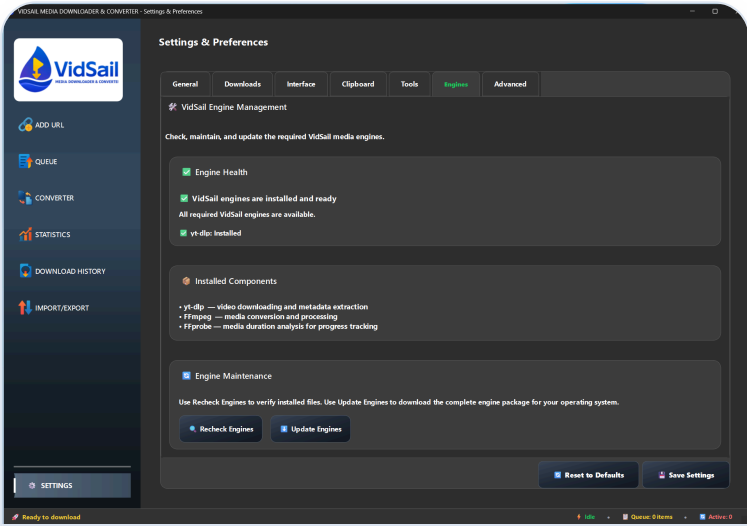
| Engine  | Purpose                                                                                                         |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| yt-dlp  | Fetches media information and performs downloads from supported websites.                                       |
| FFmpeg  | Merges, converts, and processes video/audio files.                                                              |
| FFprobe | Reads media information used by conversion, progress tracking, and diagnostics.                                 |
| Deno    | Provides the JavaScript runtime used by yt-dlp when supported websites require JavaScript challenge processing. |

## Update verification

VidSail uses SHA-256 verification for downloaded update packages. This helps confirm that the downloaded package matches the expected file before installation. A silent update check can run after the main window appears; no notification is shown when no application or engine update is available.



App / engine update check - light theme



App / engine update check - dark theme

### Where updated engines are stored

In packaged mode, updated engines are installed into the user's app data folder. VidSail checks the user app data engine folder first, then falls back to bundled engines shipped with the app.

# 12. Troubleshooting & Support

Common issues, safe checks, logs, and support information.

## Common issues



| Problem                 | What to check                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| URL validation fails    | Check your internet connection, confirm the URL is supported, recheck yt-dlp and Deno in Settings → Engines, then try again later. |
| Download does not start | Check output folder permissions, available disk space, queue status, and all four engine statuses.                                 |
| Conversion fails        | Recheck FFmpeg/FFprobe engine status, confirm the file is readable, and verify output folder permissions.                          |
| Download is slow        | Reduce concurrent downloads, check network stability, try another time, or check whether the source website is limiting traffic.   |
| File already exists     | Choose a different output folder/name or remove the existing file if you really want to download it again.                         |

## Log files

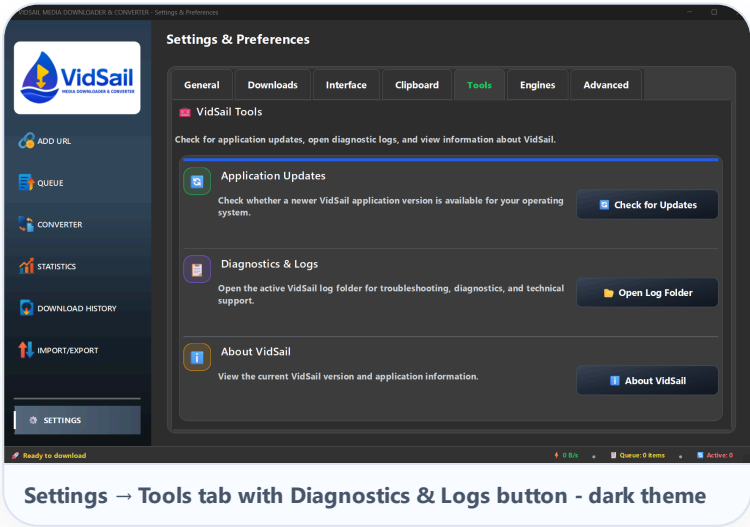
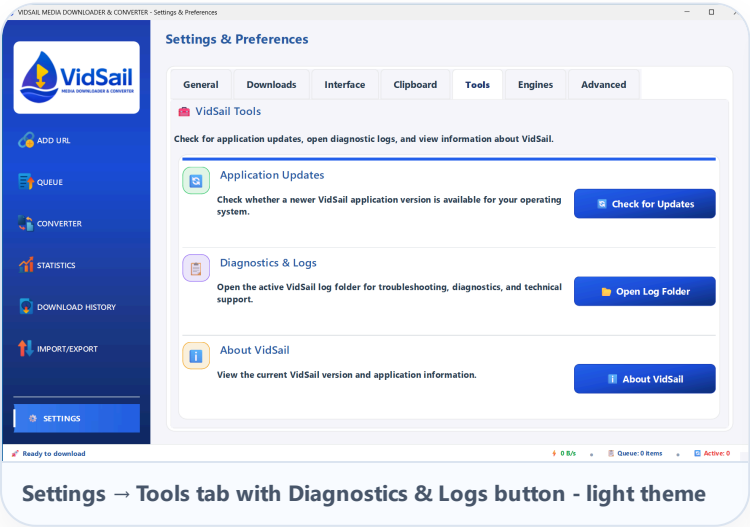
Logs are useful when requesting support. They can help identify engine errors, failed downloads, update problems, or file permission issues. In VidSail, open Settings → Tools and click Diagnostics & Logs. This opens the AppData Roaming folder where VidSail stores its log files.

Support path example

C:\Users\YourName\AppData\Roaming\VidSail\VidSail Media Downloader\logs\vidsail.log

## Before contacting support

- 1. Restart VidSail and try the action again.
- 2. Check Settings → Engines and confirm yt-dlp, FFmpeg, FFprobe, and Deno are installed and ready.
- 3. Confirm the output folder exists and is writable.
- 4. Check available disk space.
- 5. Copy any visible error message and include the latest log if requested.



# VidSail Media Downloader & Converter

Version 2.0.0 User Guide

Website: <https://vidsail.com> | Support: <https://vidsail.com/support>

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