

Creating a Digital Video

Step-by-step guide

The Digital Video Process

So you want to make a movie, but don't know where to start...

1. Plan.

Before going out to film, make sure you are clear on the objectives of the project. Brainstorm together about what photos, video and text will be included in the project. Use a story board or planning sheet to keep organized.

2. Collect Assets.

Budget time to collect photos, video and audio clips. Keep a log of needed shots including **where** you are going to film, **what** you will film, **who** will be responsible for the collection and **when** you will be done.

3. Import and Edit.

Import the assets collected into your computer. Use iPhoto to crop, rotate, or edit any still images. Use iTunes to import audio files. Import video clips directly into iMovie or MovieMaker and crop out any extra footage.

4. Arrange photo and video clips in the timeline.

Organize the clips you plan to include by dragging them to the timeline. As you add photos, select the amount of time they will remain on the screen and adjust the Ken Burns start and end points in iMovie.

5. Add titles.

Add text screens and subtitles to your project. If you are adding text on top of an image, make sure the text stays on the screen long enough to be read. If not, adjust the amount of time the image stays on the screen, then adjust your text timings. Check the size and color of your text for legibility.

6. Add special effects and transitions.

Add any special effects to images, then preview your movie. Make any final adjustments to timings or order before adding transitions. Make sure your transitions don't distract from the story line.

7. Add audio.

Add any sound effects and background music to your project. Use the built-in microphone or a USB mic to record voiceovers and place them on your timeline. Use the volume level bar to adjust the volume of selected clips.

8. Share.

Export your project in a format that can be shared with others.

Quicktime files are readable by both Macintosh and Windows users. When you export as a Quicktime file, you will be able to select a compression setting that fits your need.

By exporting your project to **iDVD**, you will be able to burn it to a DVD that can be played on a TV

You can also save your project in a format that can be played on an **iPod** or you can export back to your **Videocamera**.