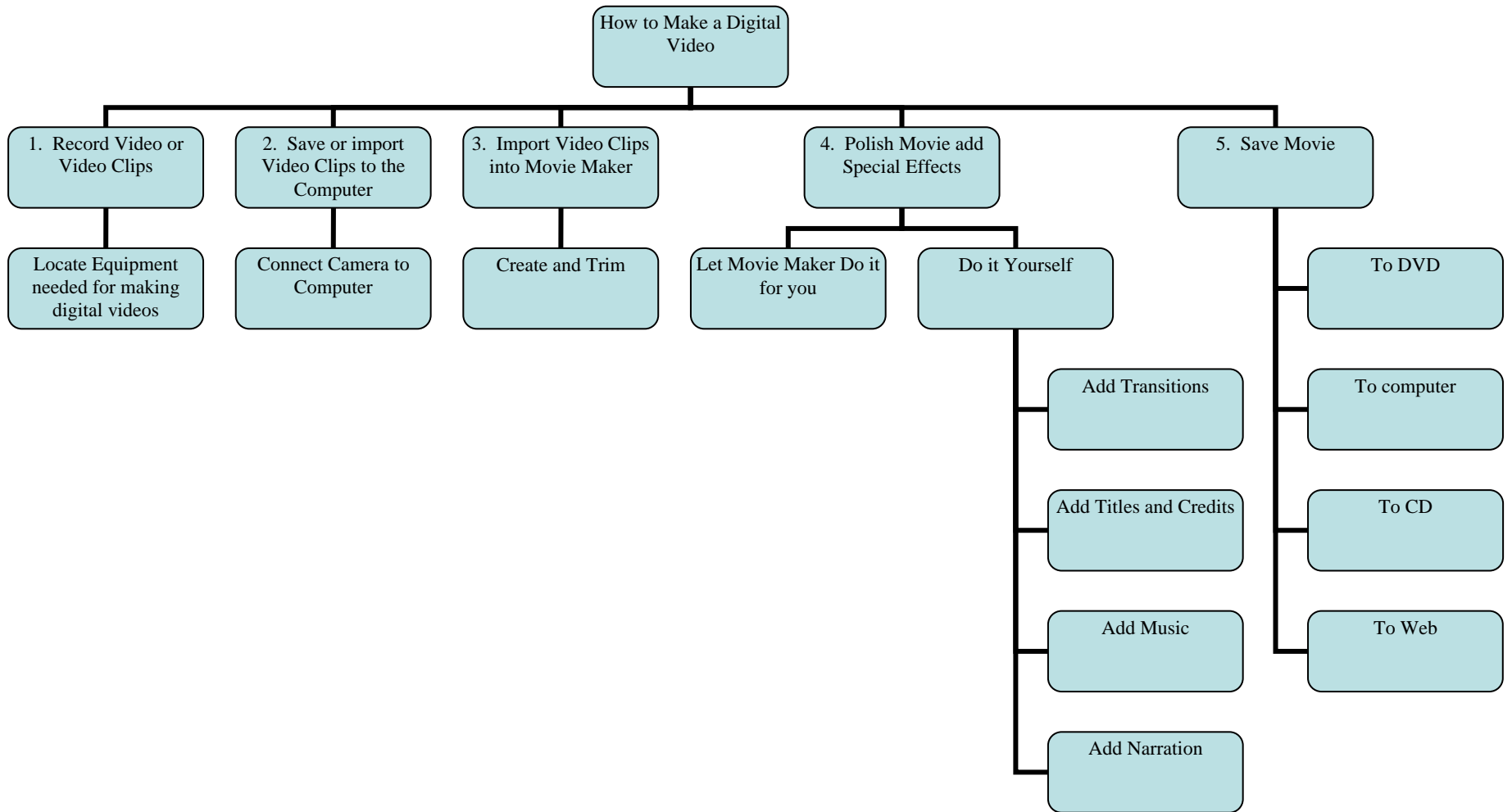


## Steps for Making a Digital Video



## 1. Record Video or Video Clips

There is a variety of equipment that can be used to capture digital videos. In this session, we will use a simple USB webcam and a USB microphone. If you would like to use optional equipment such as a camcorder, see *What you Need to Make Movies with Windows XP and Movie Maker and Connect Your Video Camera* located in the Additional Resources Section at the end of this document.

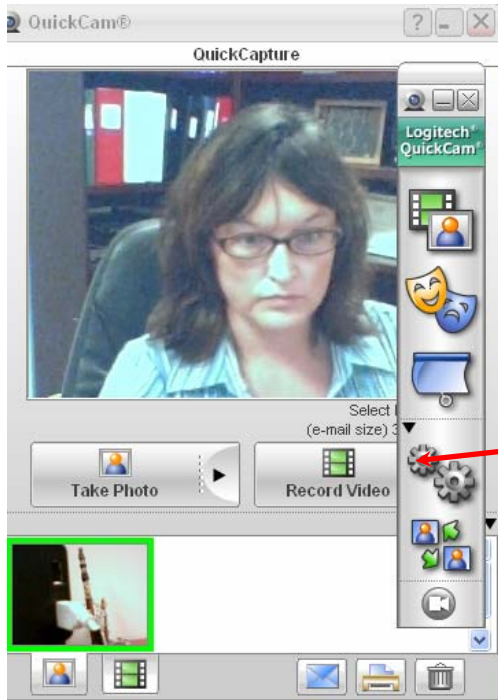
First, connect the web cam and the microphone to the USB ports on your computer.



On the computer, open the Logitech Quick cam software

Select the Quick Capture option on the menu





Make sure that your image is displayed on the screen

Click *Record Video* and record a short welcome message. Click *Stop Recording* when you are finished.

Your recorded message will appear as a thumbnail with a green border. Double click the thumbnail to preview your message. Click the "X" at the top right of the screen to close the application. Your video has been saved to the default location: C:\DocumentsandSettings\administrator\MyDocuments\My Videos\QuickCam.

## 2. Save or Import Video Clips to the Computer

The video you just created is already saved in the following location: C:\DocumentsandSettings\administrator\MyDocuments\My Videos\QuickCam so we can move on to step 3. There are many ways to save and import video onto the computer. See *Download Video From Your Camera to Your Computer* under the Additional Resources section at the end of this document.

### **3. Import Video Clips into Movie Maker**

In this step we will import your newly created videos into the Movie Maker Software following the instructions in the *Create and Trim Video Clips* document.

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## Create and trim video clips

Updated: August 8, 2006

When you [download video from your camera to your computer](#), Windows Movie Maker splits your video (which might be a full hour long) into shorter clips that are easier to work with, and then adds the clips to a collection. Each time you stopped or paused recording with your video camera, Movie Maker created a separate clip.

If you notice that Movie Maker did not break your video into clips, you might have cleared the **Create clips for video files** option, which is selected by default. Follow the steps in [Create video clips](#) to divide your movie into smaller clips.

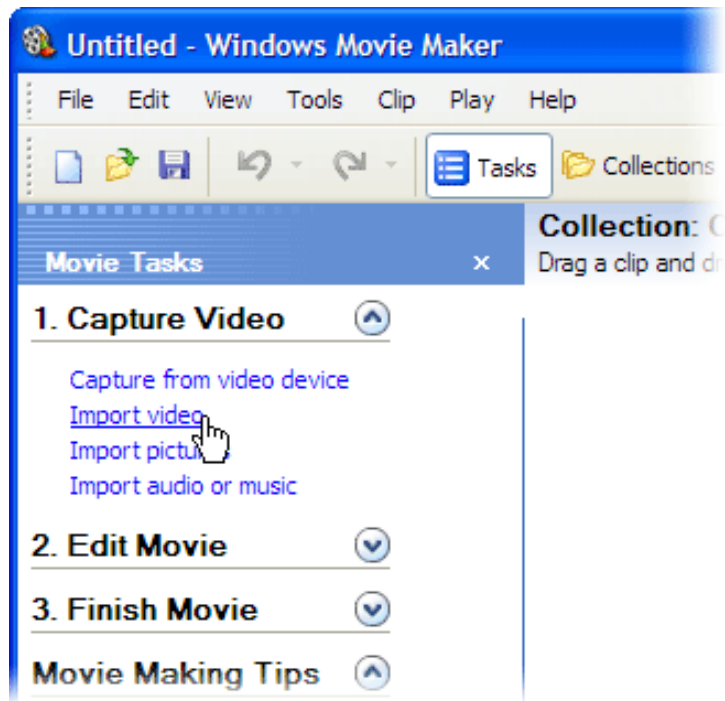
Once you have divided your video into clips, you can immediately drag the clips from the [collection](#) to your storyboard to create a movie. Then you should trim the video clips to show only the most important moments. Follow the steps in [Trim video clips](#) to learn how to shorten clips on your storyboard.

### Create video clips

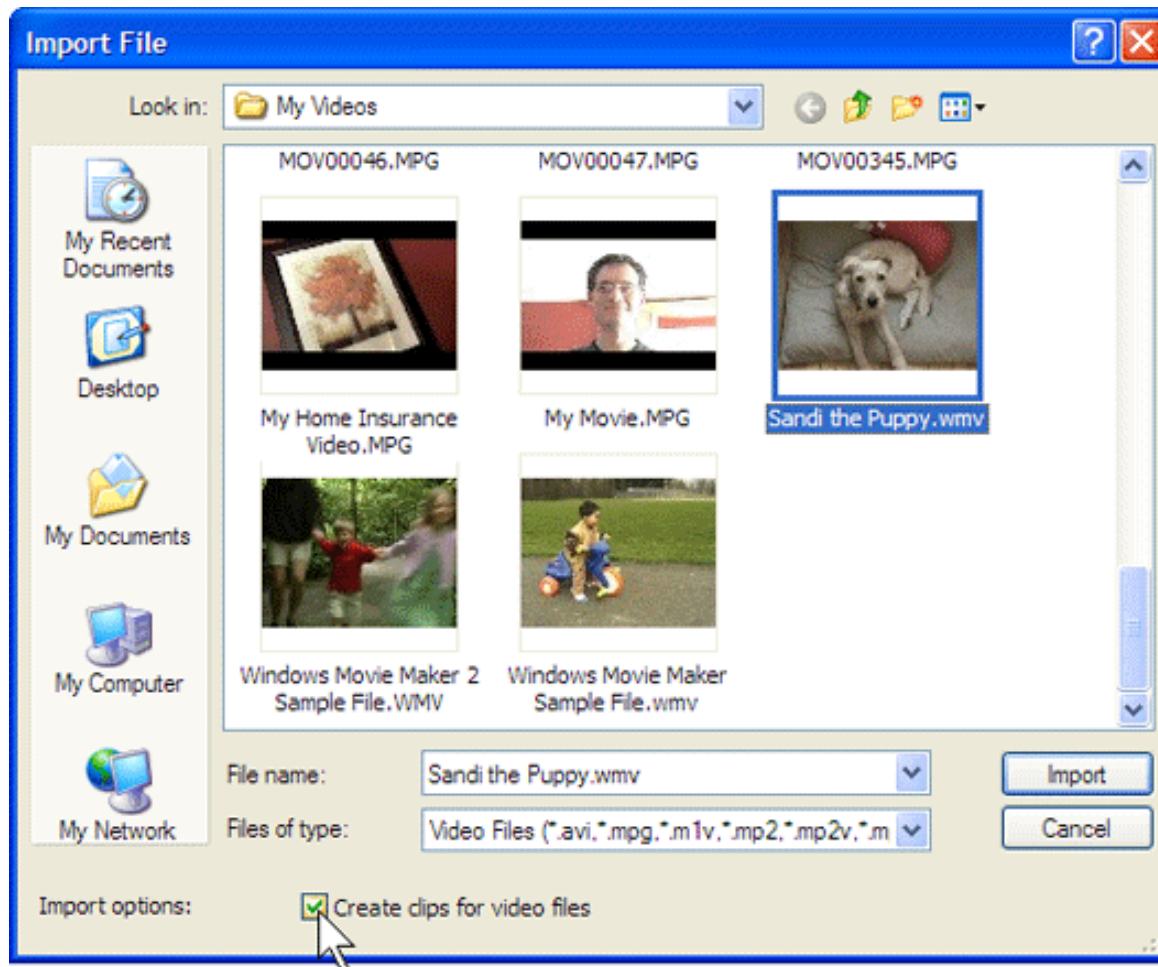
Clips are automatically created if you select the **Create clips for video files** check box when you import a video file into Movie Maker. If the check box is not selected, the video is imported as a single continuous clip, rather than as a series of shorter clips. Don't worry; you can use the Movie Maker clip detection feature to divide a video file into smaller, more manageable clips.

#### To import a video file that you have already saved to your computer and automatically create short clips

1. Under **Capture Video**, click **Import Video**.

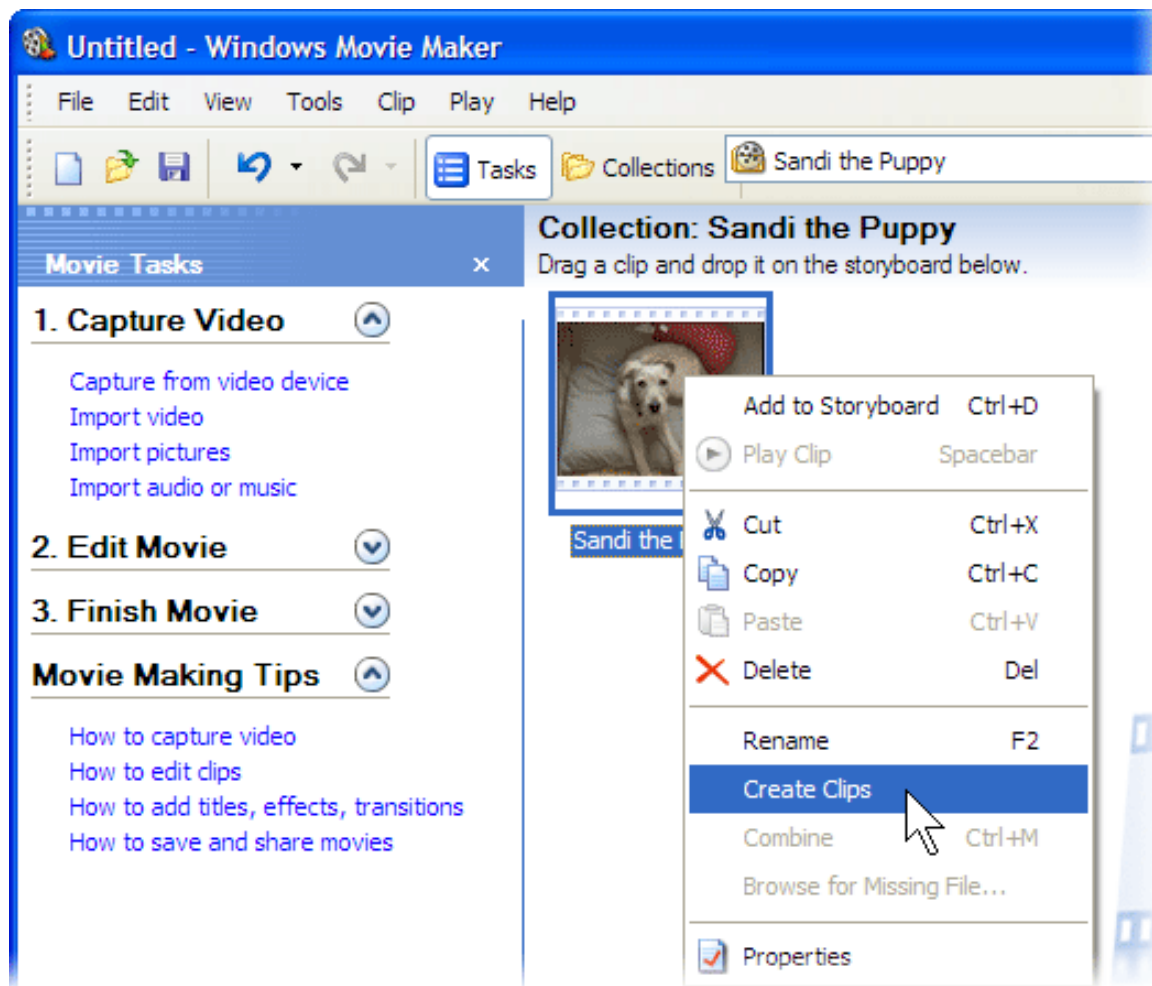


2. On the **Import File** dialog box, select the **Create clips for video files** check box (it is selected by default). Click your video file, and then click **Import**.



3. Movie Maker creates clips from your video file and adds them to a new collection.

If you downloaded a video from your camera but chose not to break it into clips, it's not too late to make clips. In the Movie Maker **Collection** pane, right-click the video. Then click **Create Clips**.



Now you can drag the clips from the collection to your storyboard to create your movie.

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## Trim video clips

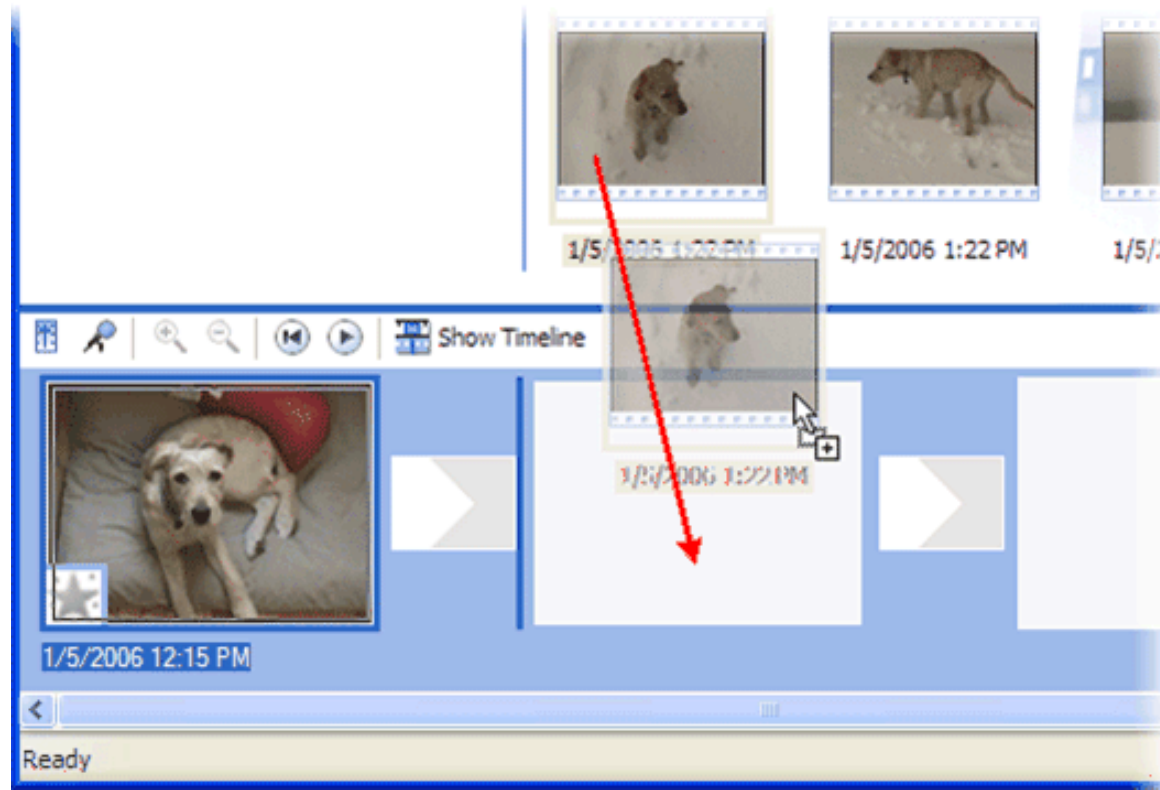
When you watch your video clips, you might notice that the camera tends to shake at the beginning and end of each clip. That's because you're pressing the record or stop button on your camera. Don't worry—nobody can hold the camera perfectly steady while they start and stop recording.

Fortunately, you can fix the problem with Movie Maker by trimming the beginnings and ends of clips. In fact, you can trim clips down to just a few seconds each—that's the best way to make a fun, fast-paced movie. You can choose to either trim clips in your collection or trim clips on your storyboard. You should trim clips in your collection if you plan to use the shortened clip in other movies. For information about how to trim clips in your collection, read [How to work with collections](#).

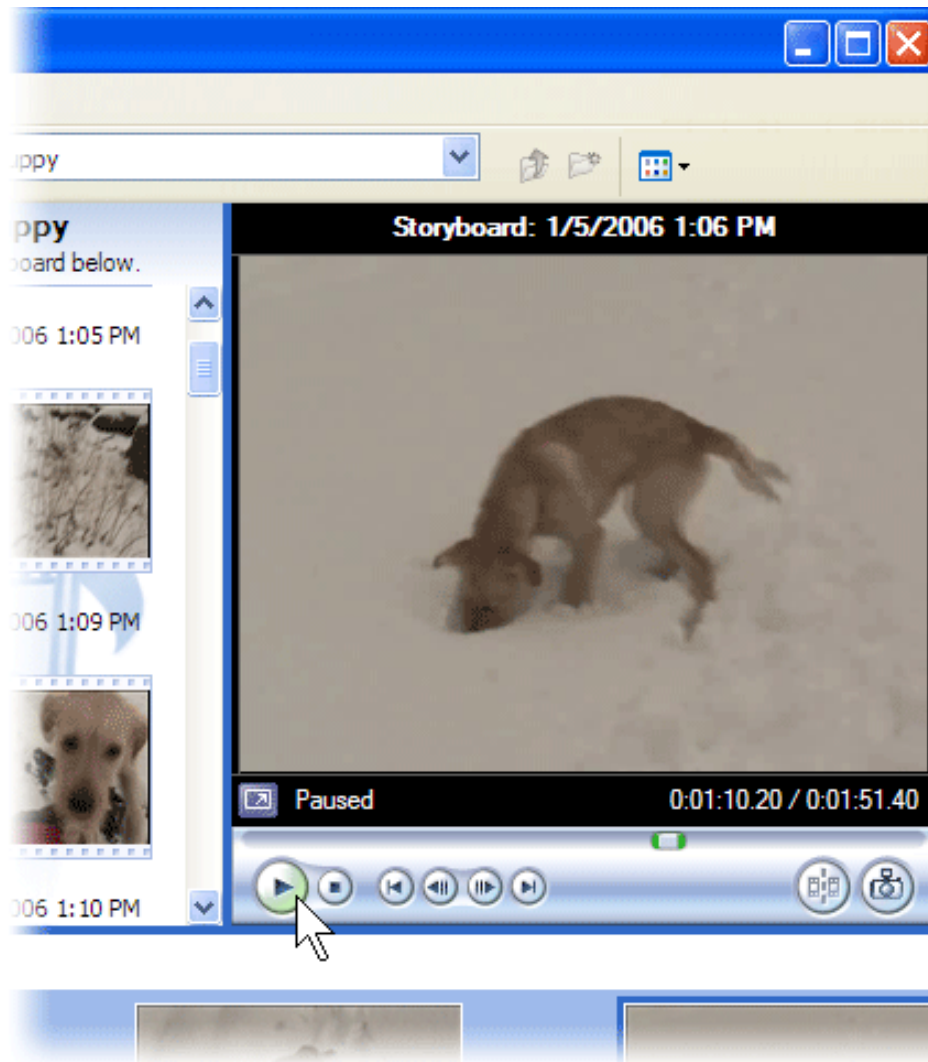
If you don't want to change the clips in your collection, you can trim them while they are on your storyboard.

### To trim video clips

1. Drag clips from your collection to the storyboard at the bottom of the window.

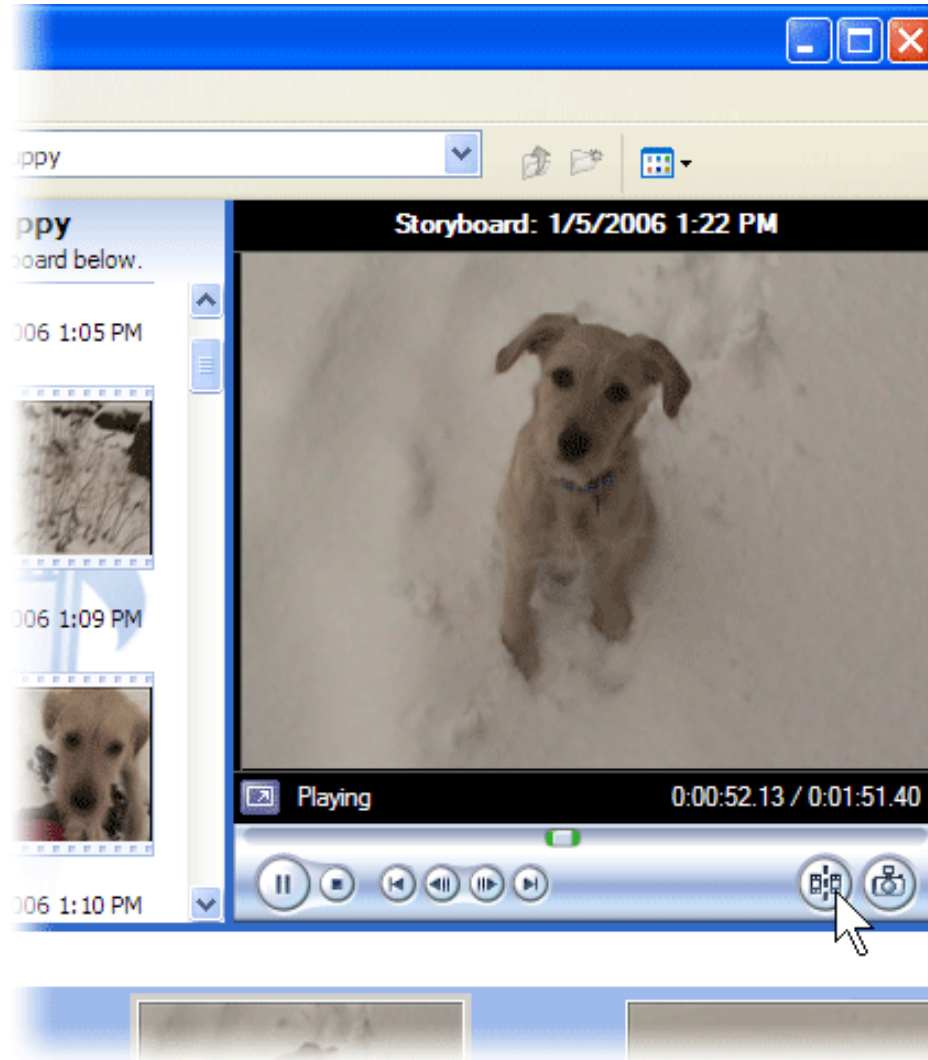


2. Select the clip you want to trim. Then click the **Play** button on the **Preview Monitor**.

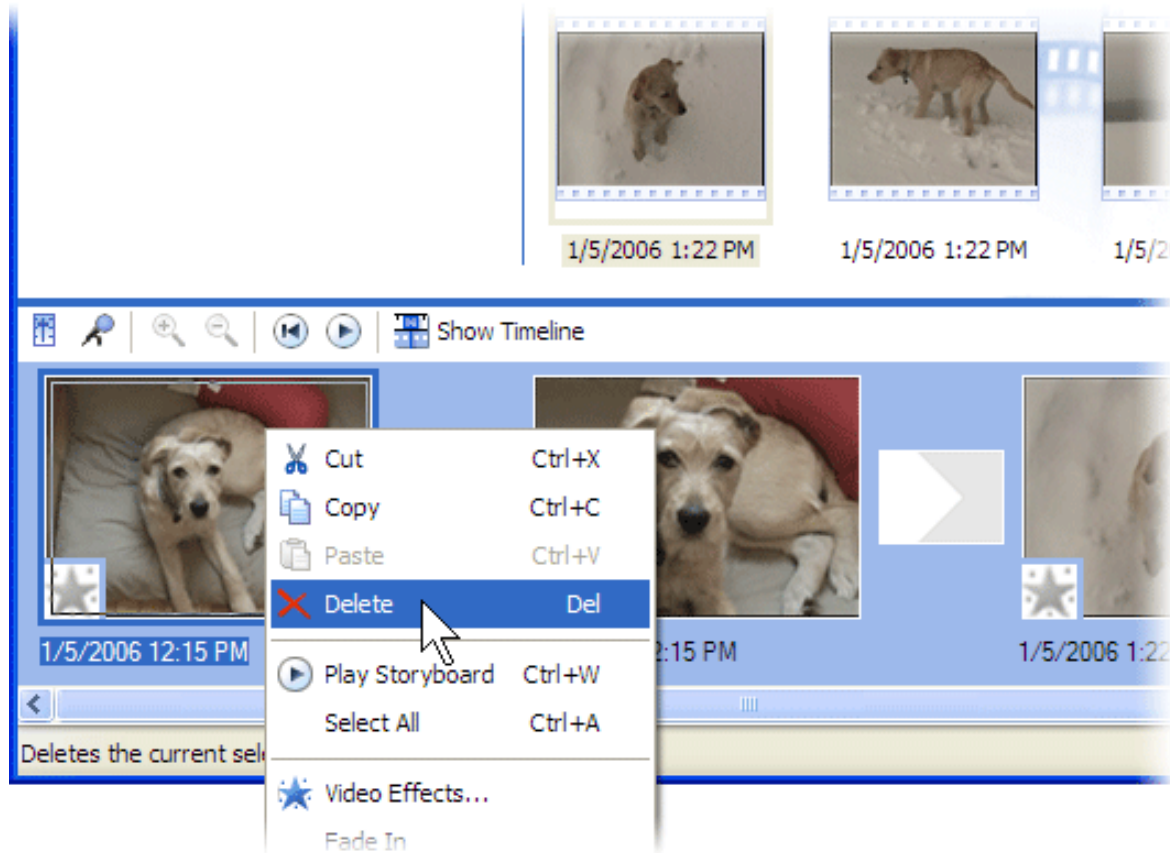


3. Let the clip play until it gets to the point where you want to trim it. Then click the **Split Clip** button on the **Preview Monitor**. This cuts your clip into two separate clips at the current point in the video and adds the new clips to your storyboard.

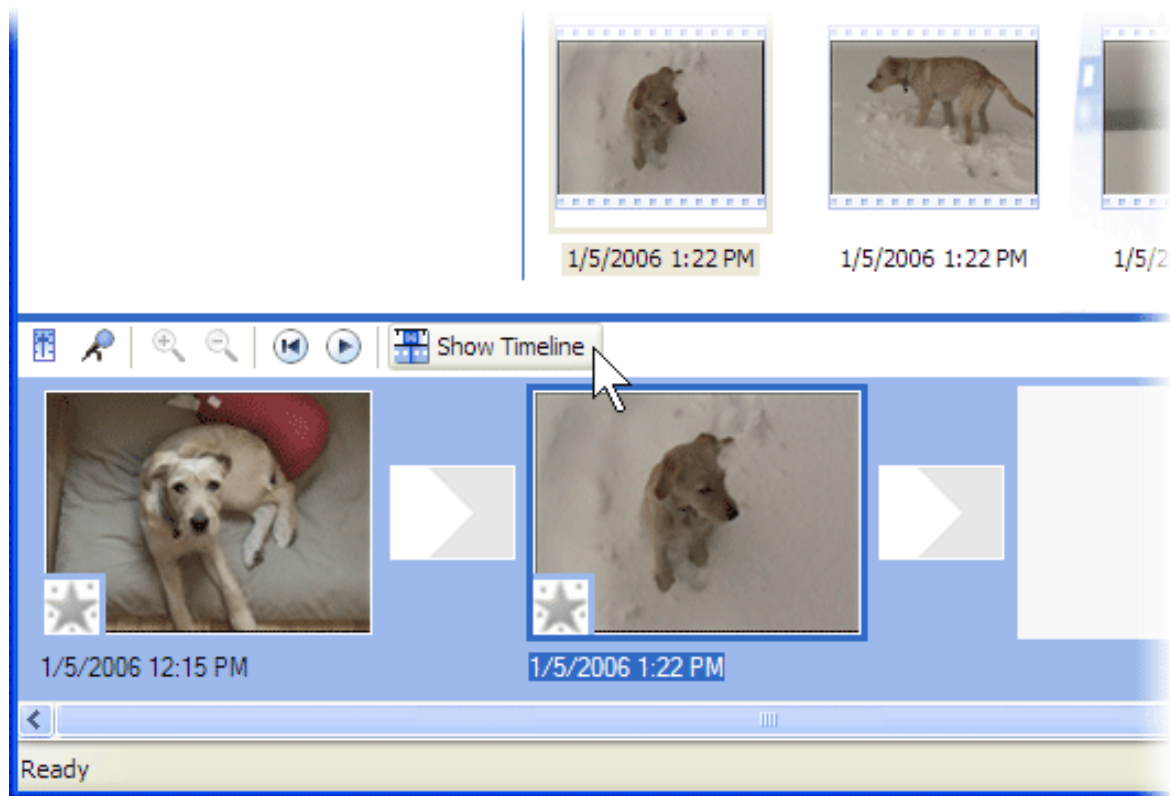
**Note:** If you plan to [use transitions](#), leave an extra second at the beginning and end of each clip to allow the clips to overlap.



4. Delete the portion of the clip you no longer need by right-clicking it and then clicking **Delete**.



Repeat this process for each clip. You can split clips several times to use more than one moment from a clip. If you do a lot of editing, you might find it easier to use the timeline view, which shows you how long each clip will play. To use the timeline view, click the **Show Timeline** button.



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#### **4. Polish Movie add Special Effects**

Windows Movie Maker offers many options for editing your movie and adding special effects. For today we will follow the *Let Movie Maker Do It For You* document. As you work on your final product you may also want to see the documents in the Additional Resources Section to learn how to add narration, add titles and credits, add music and add special effects and transitions to your project.



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## Let Windows Movie Maker create a movie for you

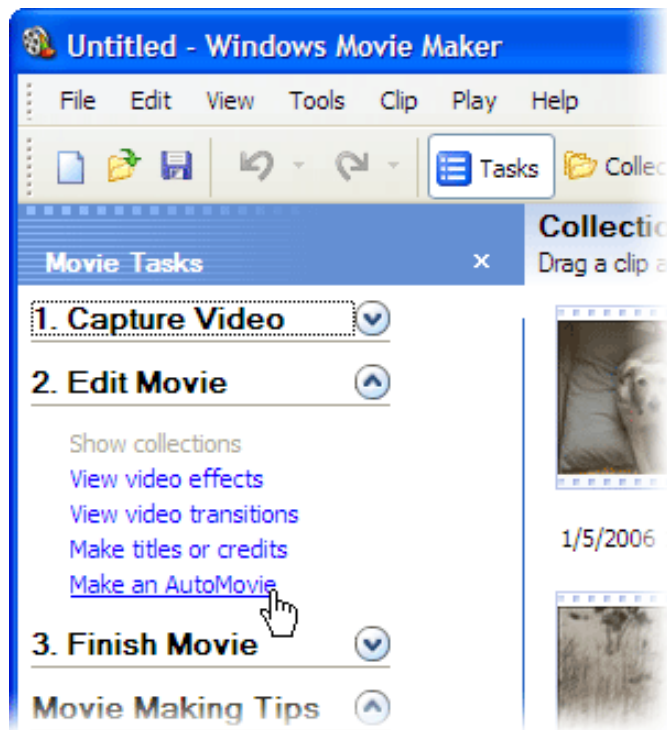
Published: August 8, 2006

You don't have to spend hours editing your home videos with Windows Movie Maker. In fact, you can use Auto Movie to create a professional-looking movie with a title screen and background music in just a few minutes. Simply download your video into Movie Maker, select an editing style, choose a title and background music, and then let AutoMovie do the work for you.

After AutoMovie has created your movie, you can immediately watch it and share it with your friends. Movie Maker even creates a storyboard and timeline for you, so you can do your own editing to polish the work Movie Maker has done.

### To use Movie Maker to automatically create a movie

1. [Connect your camera to your computer](#), and [download your movies into Movie Maker](#). Movie Maker will create a collection (a group of video clips) from your movies.
2. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **2. Edit Movie**, click **Make an AutoMovie**.



3. On the **Select an AutoMovie Editing Style** page, click on a style. Movie Maker will use this style to create your movie.

## Select an AutoMovie Editing Style

Click 'Done' to automatically edit the movie.

Name	Description
Flip and Slide	Flip, slide, reveal, and page curl video transitions are applied bet...
Highlights Movie	Clean and simple editing with cuts, fades, a title, and credits
Music Video	Quick edits for fast beats, and longer edits for slow beats
Old Movie	Film age video effects applied to clips to make an older-looking m...
Sports Highlights	Video clips with fast pans and zooms are selected to capture the ...

[Done, edit movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Enter a title for the movie](#)

[Select audio or background music](#)

4. Under **More options** click **Enter a title for the movie**.

## Select an AutoMovie Editing Style

Click 'Done' to automatically edit the movie.

Name	Description
Flip and Slide	Flip, slide, reveal, and page curl video transitions are applied bet...
Highlights Movie	Clean and simple editing with cuts, fades, a title, and credits
Music Video	Quick edits for fast beats, and longer edits for slow beats
Old Movie	Film age video effects applied to clips to make an older-looking m...
Sports Highlights	Video clips with fast pans and zooms are selected to capture the ...

[Done, edit movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Enter a title for the movie](#)

[Select audio or background music](#)

5. Type a title for your movie. If you have copied music to your computer that you want to play in the background, click **Select audio or background music** under **More options**. If you don't want to use music, skip to step 7.

### Enter Text for Title

Click 'Done' to automatically edit the movie.

Sandi the Puppy

[Done, edit movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Select an AutoMovie editing style](#)

[Select audio or background music](#)



6. Click **Browse**, and select your song (the song is probably stored in your My Music folder).




**Tip:** To learn how to copy songs from a CD, read [Quickly Rip CDs to Your Computer](#).

## Add Audio or Background Music

Click 'Done' to automatically edit the movie.

Audio and music files:

[Browse](#) 

Audio levels:

Audio from video



Audio/Music

[Done, edit movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Enter a title for the movie](#)

[Select an AutoMovie editing style](#)

7. Finally, click **Done, edit movie** to create the AutoMovie and add the clips to the storyboard/timeline.

## Add Audio or Background Music

Click 'Done' to automatically edit the movie.

Audio and music files:

C:\cricket.mp3

[Browse...](#)

Audio levels:

Audio from video  Audio/Music

[Done, edit movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Enter a title for the movie](#)

[Select an AutoMovie editing style](#)

Sit back and relax while AutoMovie edits your video. This process could take anywhere from a few minutes to 20 minutes depending on the length of your video. When AutoMovie finishes editing, you can click the Play button on the Preview Monitor to immediately watch your video.

AutoMovies are great because they're very fast-paced. However, you'll probably notice that some of your favorite moments were left on the cutting room floor. Don't worry, because you have complete control over your video.

To learn how to do your own editing and add narration, [read these helpful articles](#). To learn how to save and share your movie, including burning it to a CD or DVD so you can watch it on your TV, [check out these articles](#).

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The Microsoft logo, consisting of the word "Microsoft" in a white, sans-serif font, is positioned on a blue rectangular background.

## **5. Save Movie**

There are many ways to save your newly created movie. For today we will save the movie to a CD so that you can have a copy of your movie to take with you. There are also directions in the Additional Resources section for saving your movie to the computer, a DVD, or to a Web page.

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## Connect your video camera to your computer

Published: August 8, 2006

You've shot some video with your new digital video camera, and you want to import it into Windows Movie Maker so that you can edit it into a movie to share with your friends. Or, you've got hours of footage on old Hi-8 or VHS tapes that you want to edit and burn to a DVD for an upcoming family reunion. Either way, your first step is to connect your video camera to your computer.

The best way to connect your video camera to your computer depends on the type of camera you have. This list starts with the best option, so choose the first one that your video camera supports:



**Tip:** If you have an older video camera, such as a Hi-8, VHS, or VHS-C camera, you will need to connect using analog video (described near the bottom of this page).

● **i.Link (also known as FireWire or IEEE 1394).** The easiest way to connect your digital video camera to your computer is by using an i.Link (also known as FireWire or IEEE 1394) cable. If you use an i.Link cable, Movie Maker can do all the work of rewinding your video tape and transferring it to your computer. If you don't have a FireWire port on your computer, and you plan to do a lot of video editing, then you should consider adding one. It's an easy and fast way to download video. You (or a professional at an electronics store) can install an i.Link adapter. To connect your camera to your computer, simply plug one end of the i.Link cable (included with your camera) into your video camera, and plug the other end into your computer.





- **USB.** While more difficult and time-consuming to use than an i.Link connection, USB 2.0 will work with many digital video cameras. If you use a USB connection, you will need to manually rewind your tape using your camera, press the play button, and then begin capturing the video from Movie Maker. You can also use a USB connection to record live video from a webcam. To connect your camera to your computer, simply plug one end of the USB cable (included with your camera) into your video camera, and plug the other end into your computer.





- **Memory Cards.** Many digital video cameras can capture video and still images to memory cards. The easiest way to connect a memory card to your computer is to remove the memory card from your camera and insert it into a memory card reader attached to your computer. This is similar to transferring a file between two computers using a floppy disk.





- **Analog video.** Older video cameras, such as Hi-8, VHS, or VHS-C video cameras, were not designed to connect to a computer. However, they can connect to a VCR or TV using analog video connections. Typically, these connections are with S-video or composite video cables. To connect this type of camera to your computer, use a video input adapter. USB video input adapters are the most convenient, but you can also buy internal cards for desktop computers. Then connect both the video and audio feeds from your camera to the video input adapter. If the video input adapter does not have an audio input port, connect the audio feed from your camera to your computer's line-in or microphone input.





You can now store your videos on your computer so they will be ready for whatever you want to do with them. As with any important files, it's a good idea to make backup copies of your videos to keep them safe in case anything happens to your computer.

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## Download video from your camera to your computer

Published: August 8, 2006

The first step toward creating great home movies is to download your video from your camera to your computer. Once you download your video, you can edit it into an exciting movie that you can share with friends across the Internet or watch on your TV.

Depending on your camera and connection, there are several different ways to download video from your camera to your PC:

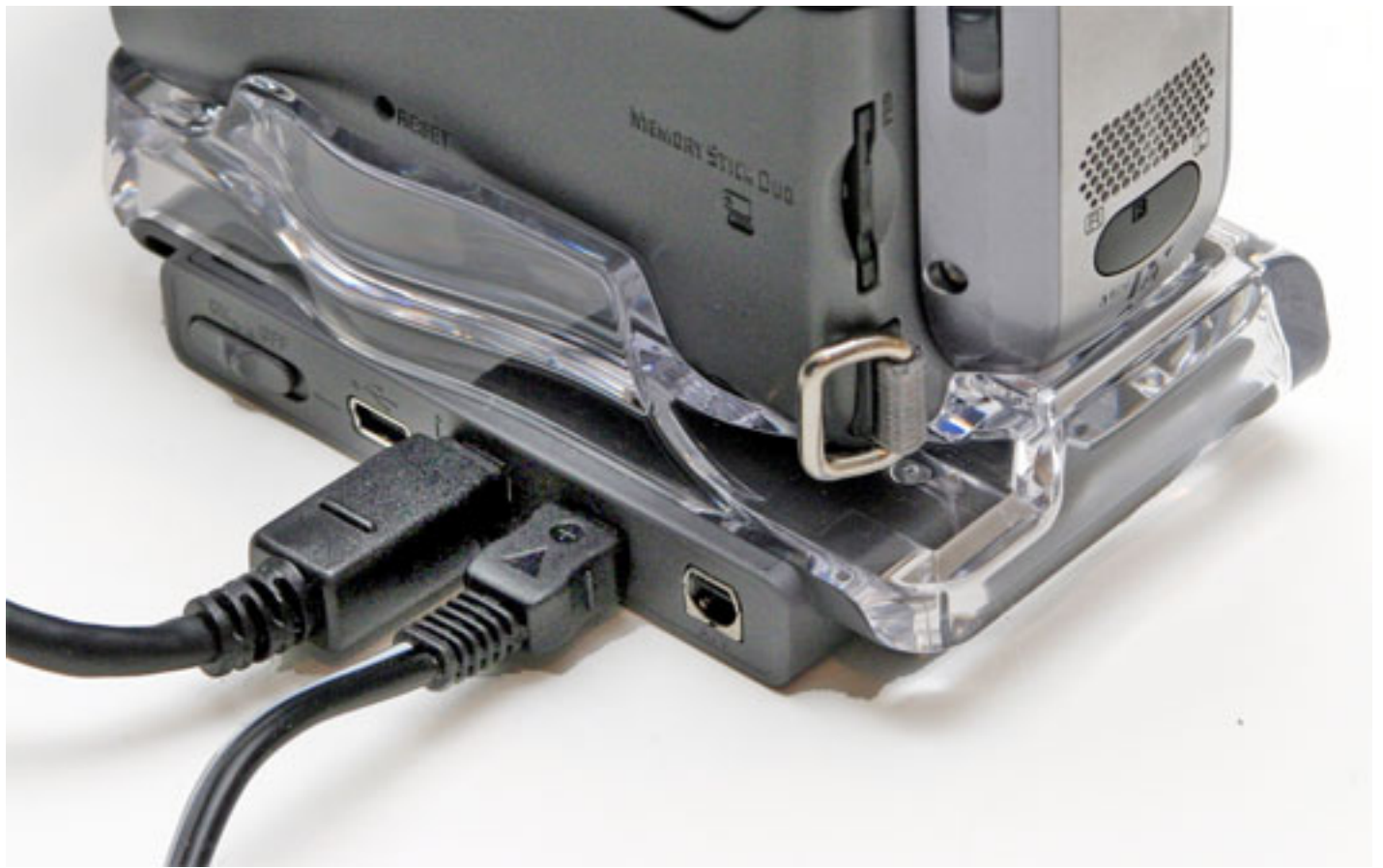
- [i.Link cable \(also known as FireWire or IEEE 1394\) connection](#)
- [USB cable connection and video footage on a tape](#)
- [Video footage on a hard disk or memory card](#)

### **How to download video using an i.Link/FireWire/IEEE 1394 connection**

An i.Link cable is the quickest and easiest way to download your video to your computer.

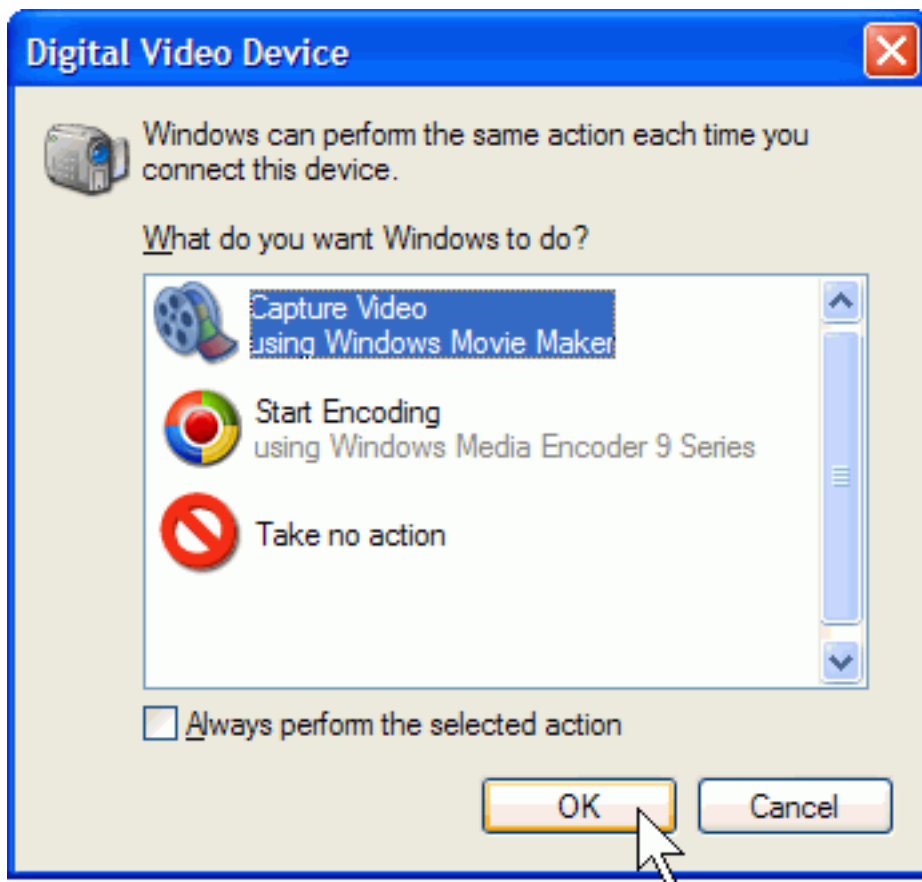
#### **To transfer your video**

1. Connect your digital video camera to your computer using an i.Link cable. For more information, read [How to connect your camera to your computer](#).

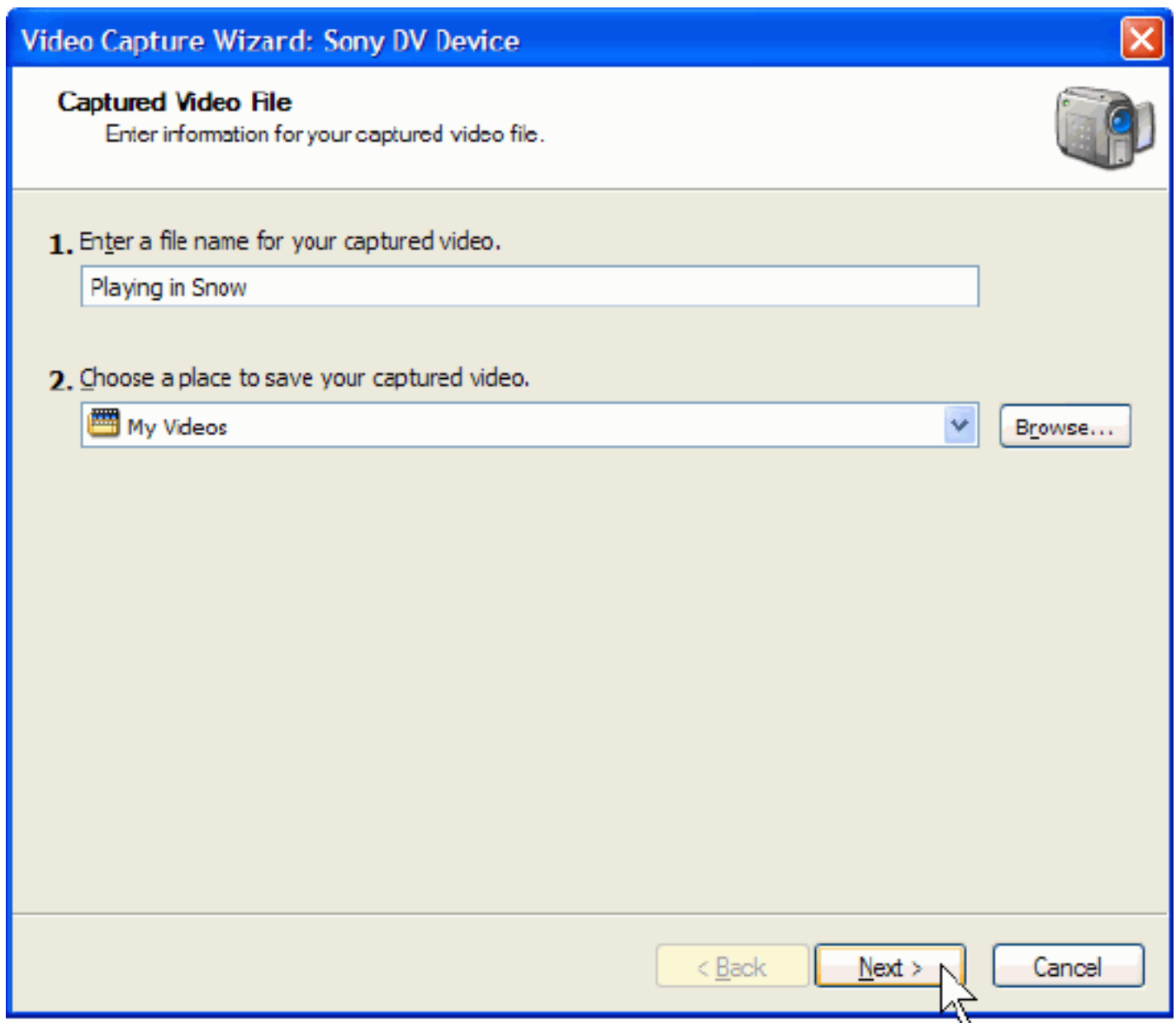




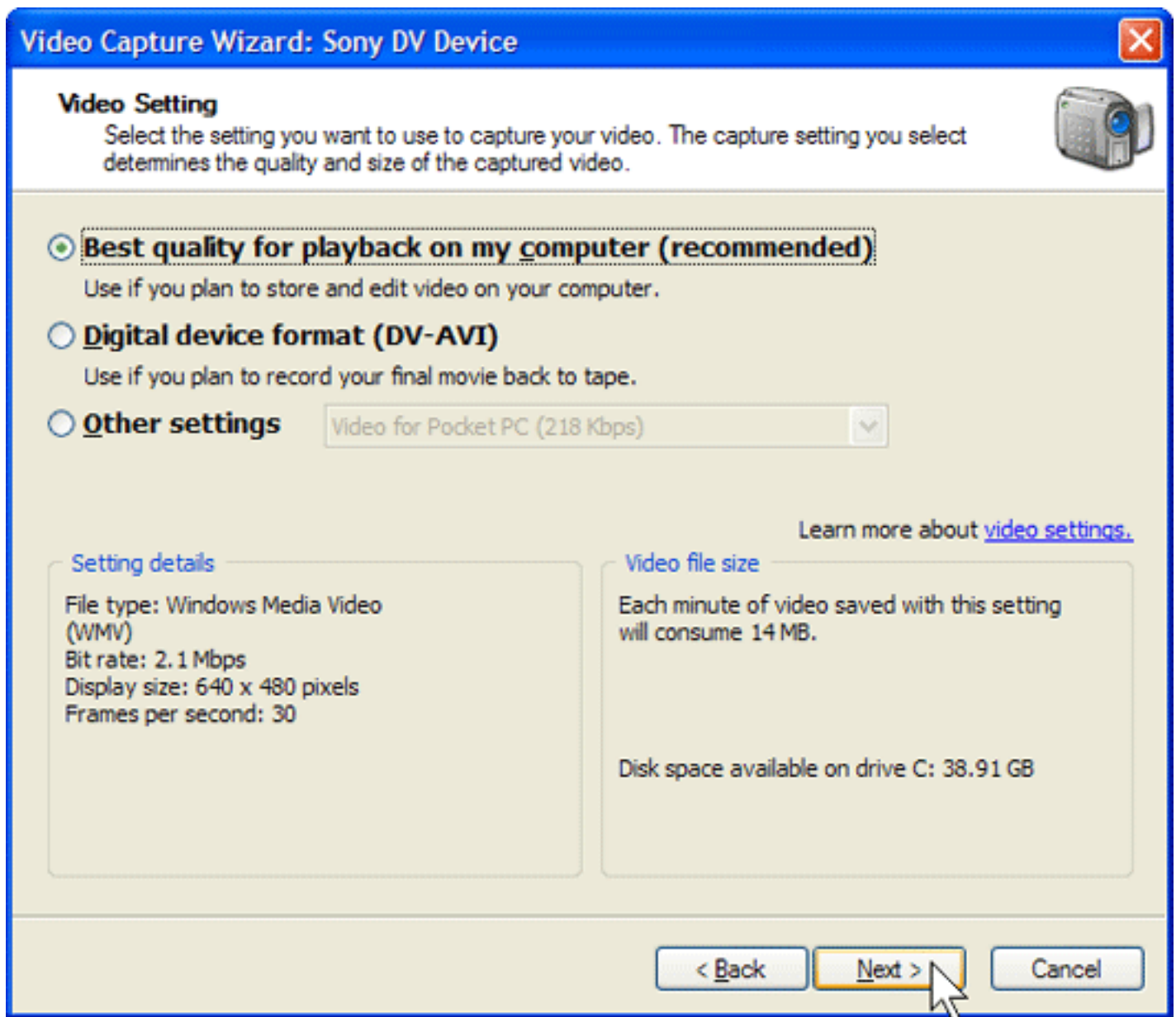
2. Turn your camera on, and set it to playback mode. When prompted, click **Capture Video using Windows Movie Maker**. Then click **OK**.



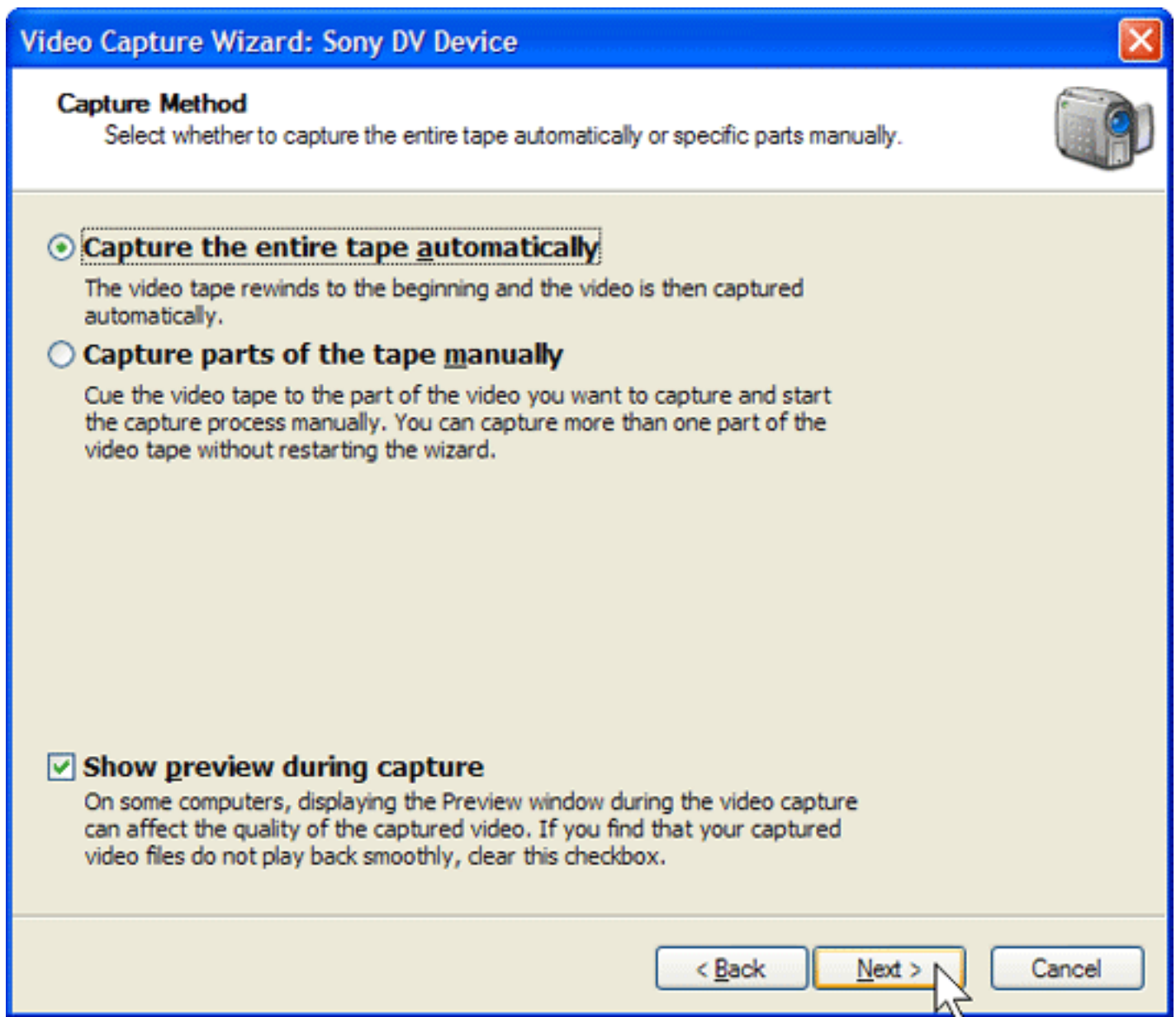
3. Microsoft Windows Movie Maker starts the Video Capture Wizard. On the **Capture Video File** page, type a name for your video. Then click **Next**.



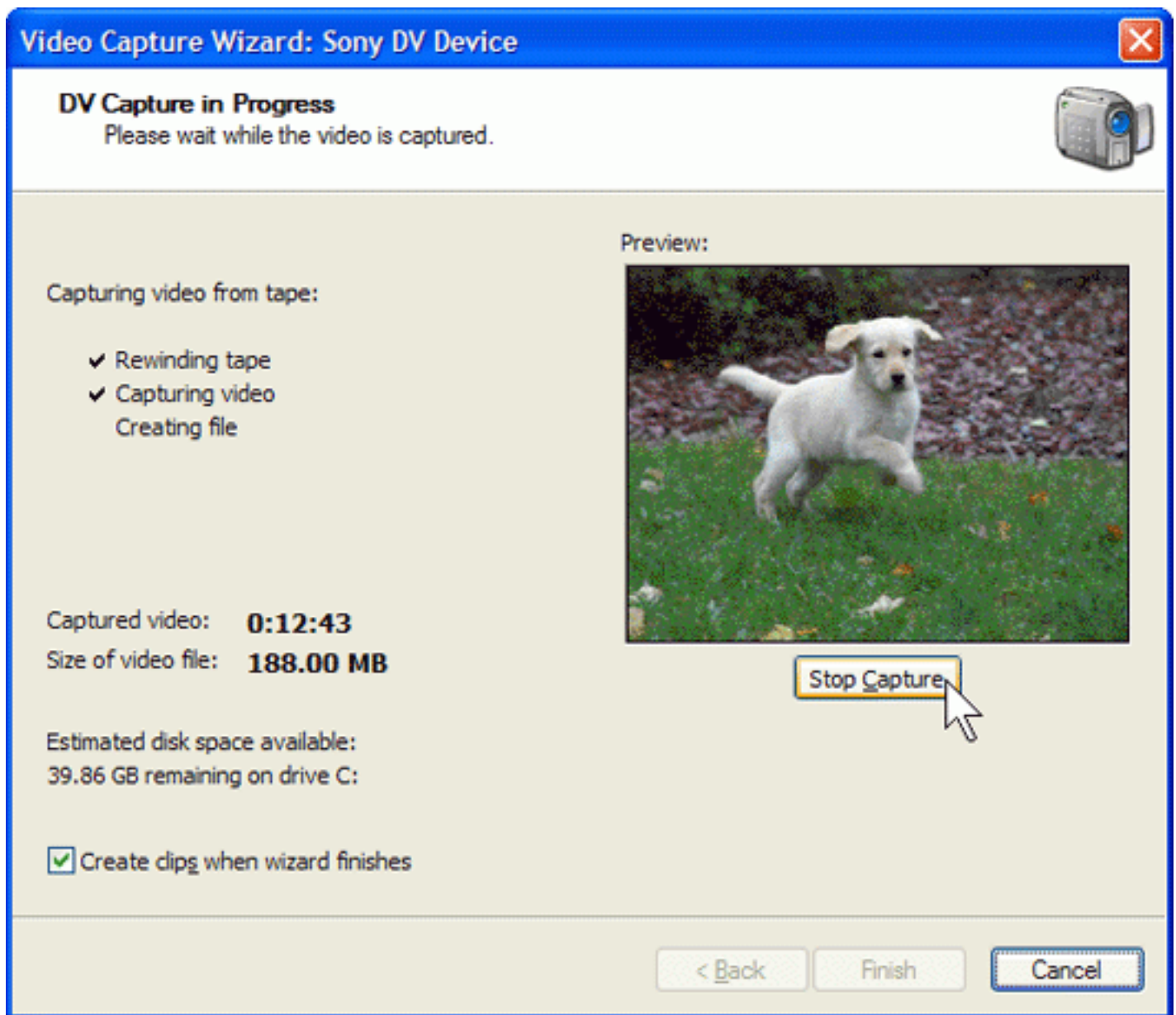
4. On the **Video Setting** page, accept the default settings by clicking **Next**.



5. On the **Capture Method** page, click **Next**. It's easiest to capture the entire tape at once; if sections remain that you don't need, you can delete them later.



6. The Video Capture Wizard rewinds your tape and then begins capturing it. While the tape is being captured, you'll see it playing in the Preview window and you'll be able to hear the audio through your speakers. After the tape is captured (this usually takes about an hour), the wizard will stop automatically. It always scans the entire tape, even if you have just recorded a few minutes of video. If you reach the end of your recording before it reaches the end of your tape, click the **Stop Capture** button, and then click **Yes**.



Movie Maker automatically breaks your movie into clips and adds the clips to a video collection with the name you provided. Now you're ready to [edit your movie](#).

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## How to download video using a USB or analog connection

Though a USB cable or analog video connection is not as easy to use as an i.Link connection, you can still download video to your computer by manually rewinding your camera, pressing the play button, and then starting the capture.

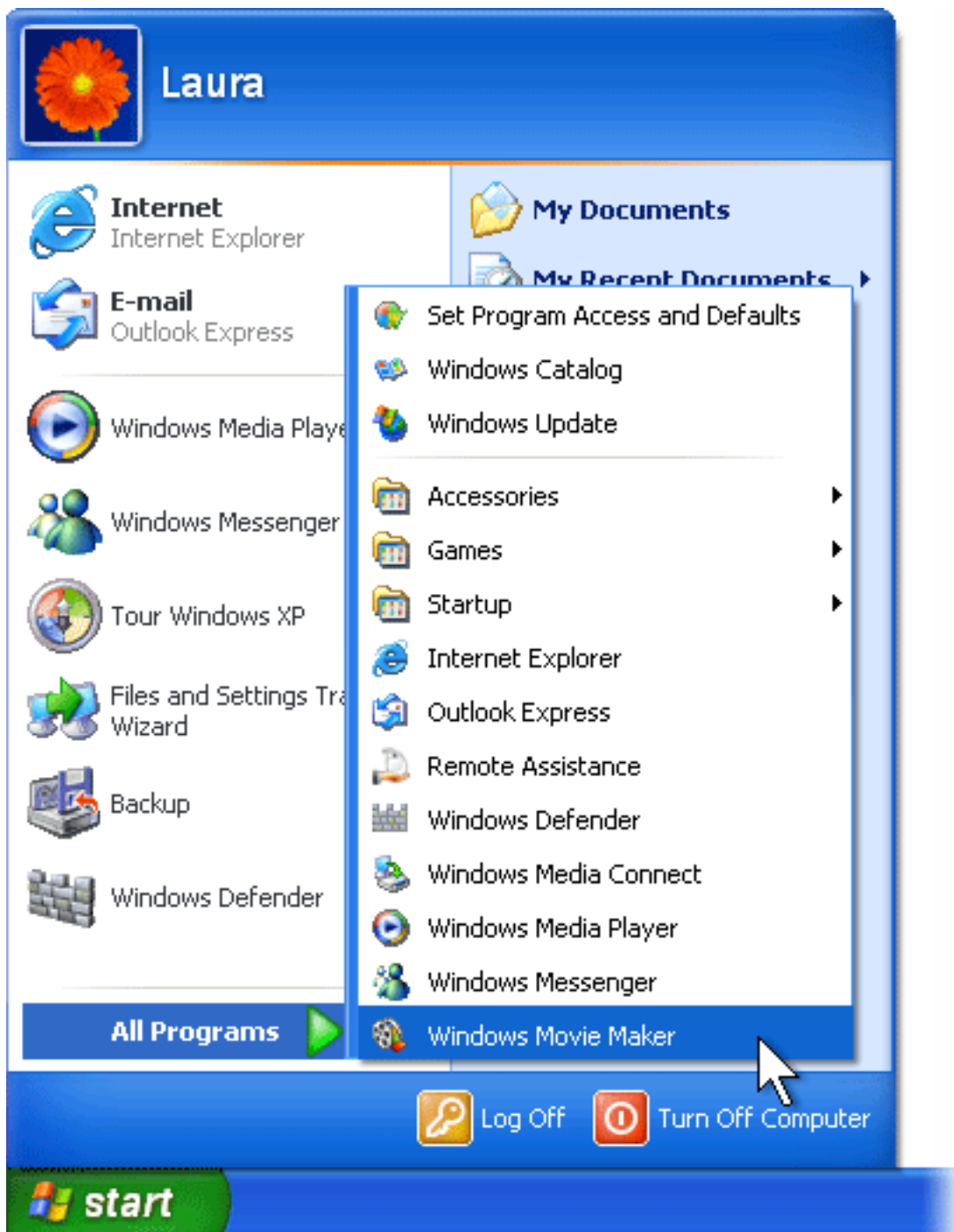
### To download your video

1. Connect your digital video camera to your computer using a USB cable or analog video connection. For more information, read [How to connect your camera to your computer](#).

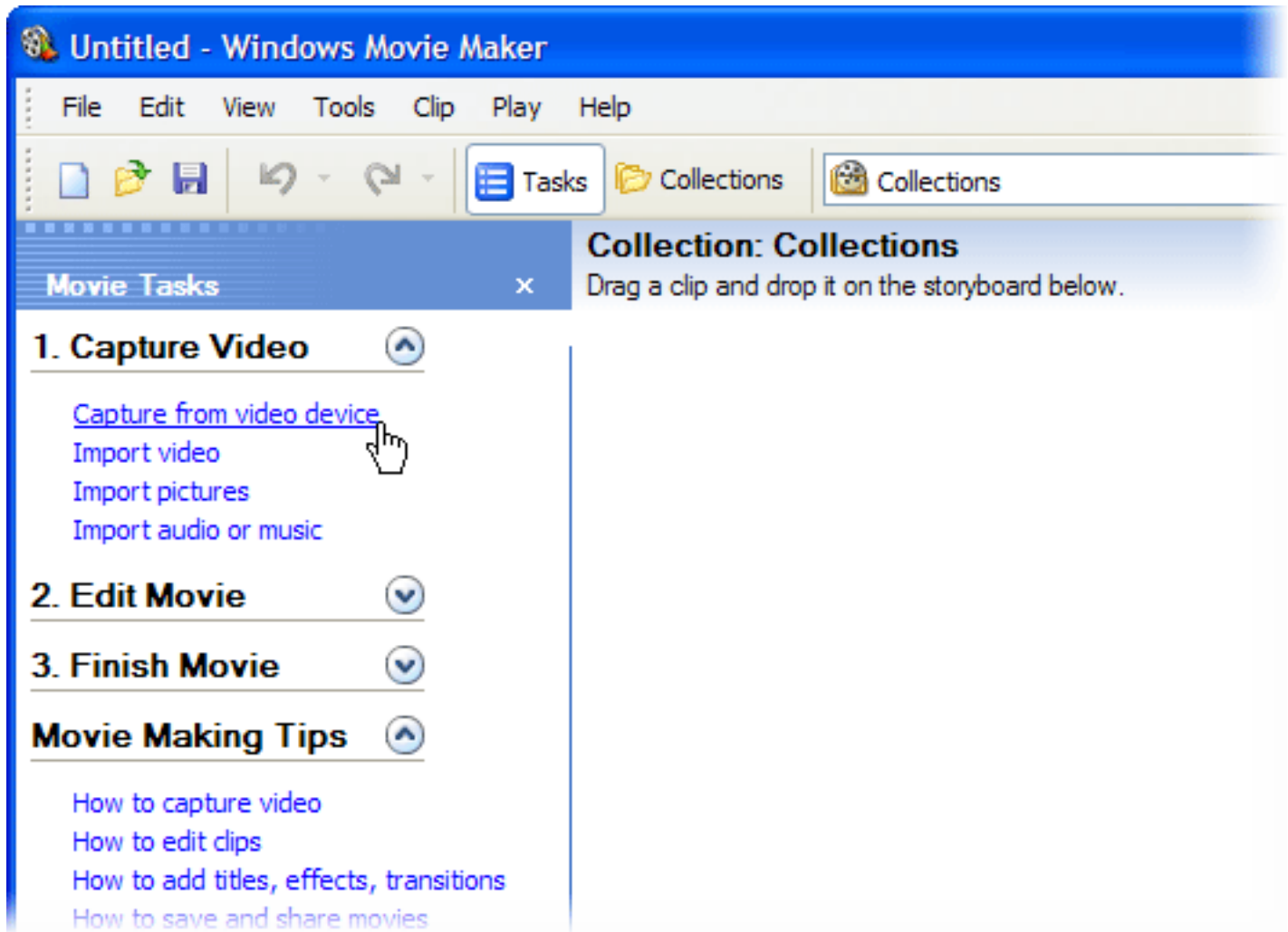




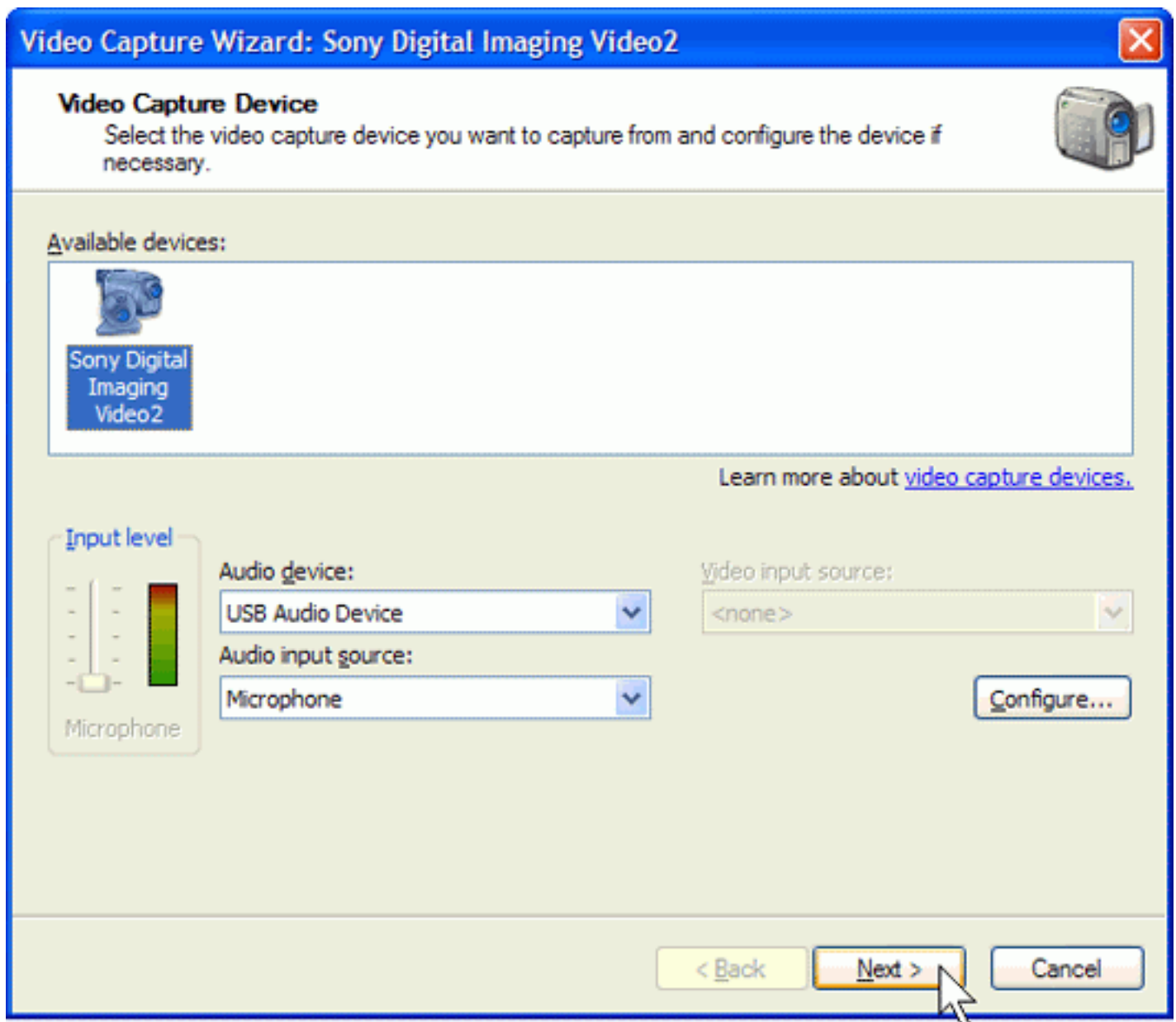
2. Start Movie Maker by clicking **Start**, pointing to **All Programs**, and then clicking **Windows Movie Maker**.



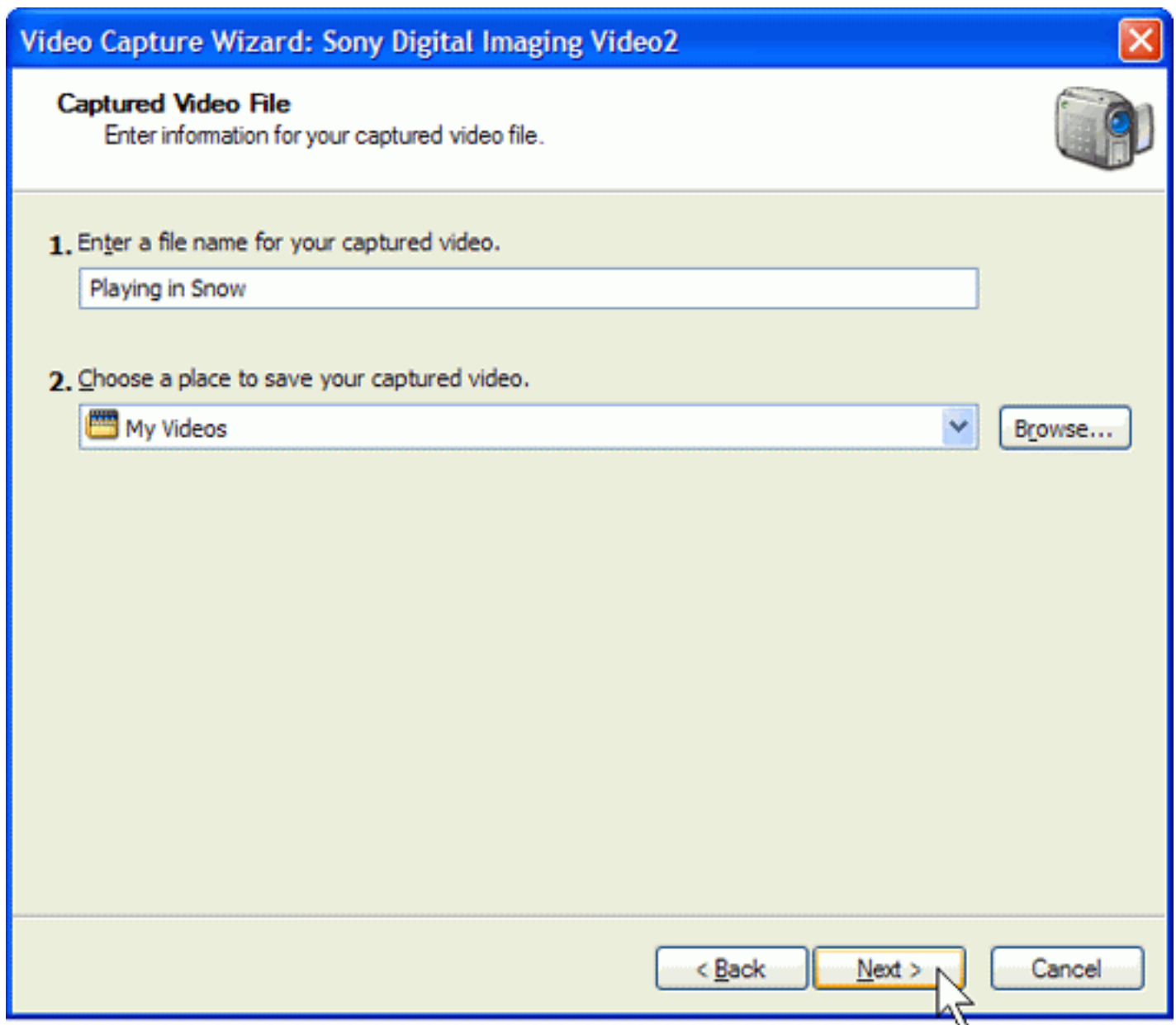
3. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Capture Video**, click **Capture from video device**.



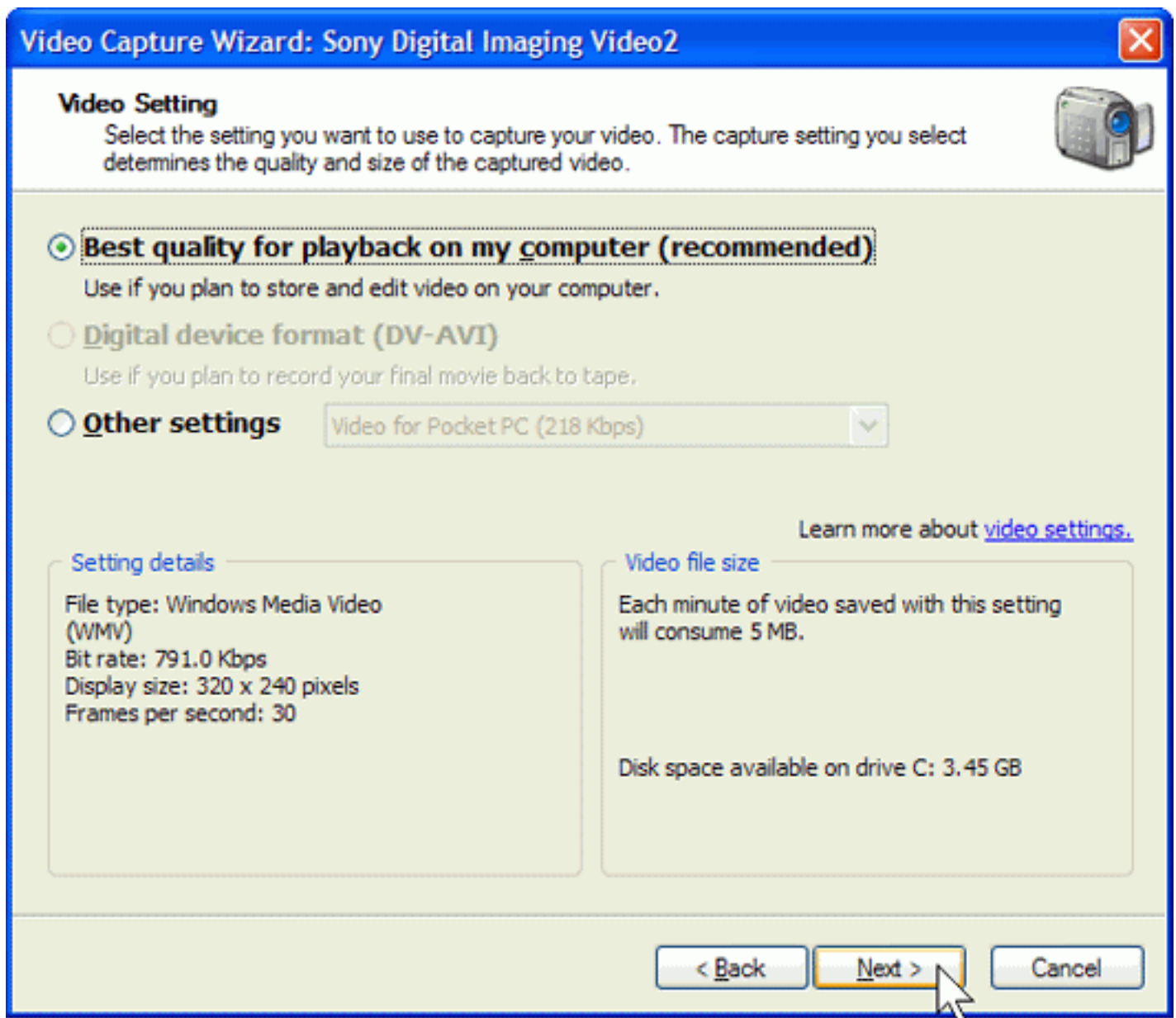
4. Movie Maker starts the Video Capture Wizard. On the **Video Capture Device** page, click your camera. Then click **Next**.



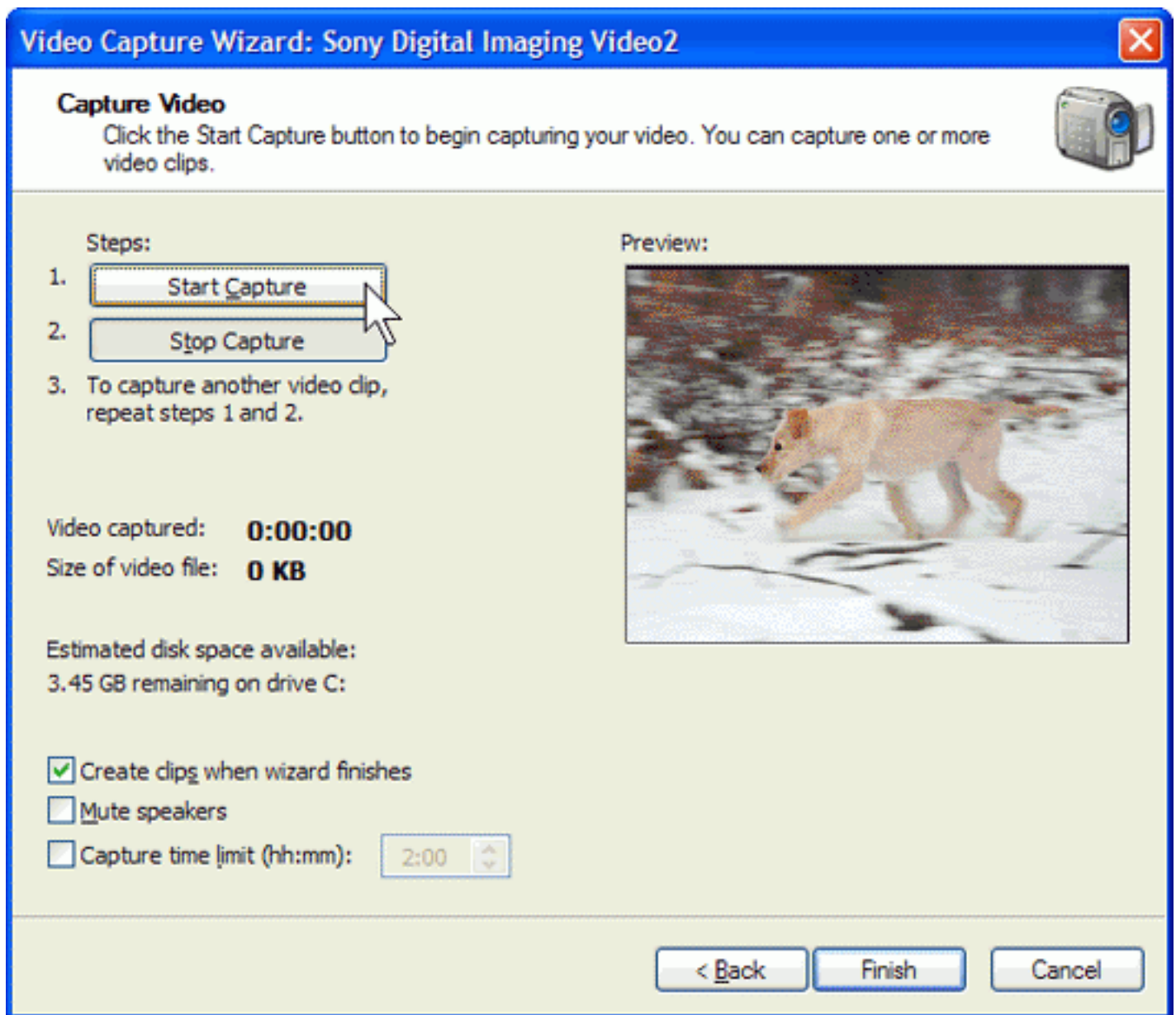
5. On the **Capture Video File** page, type a name for your video. Then click **Next**.



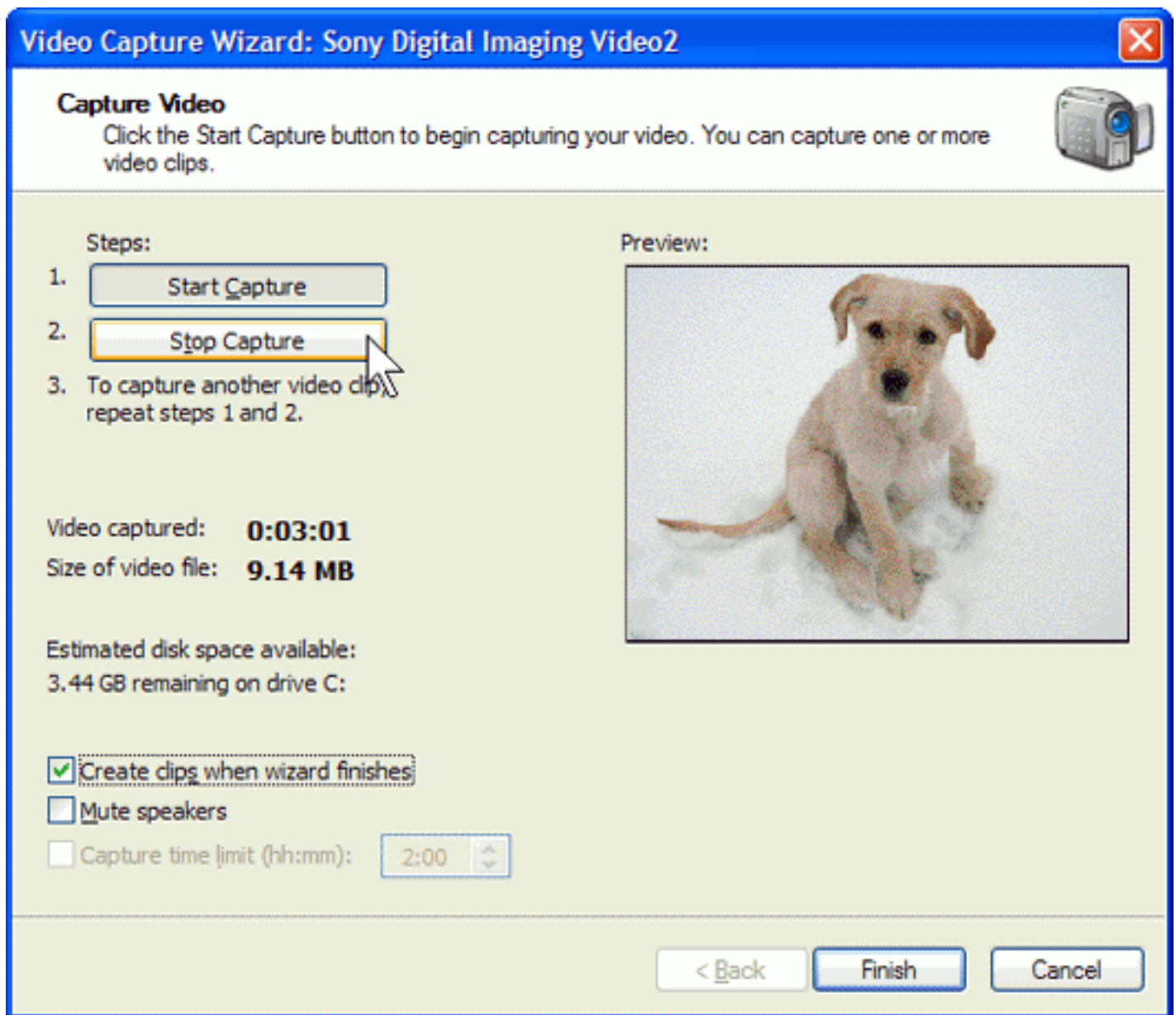
6. On the **Video Setting** page, accept the default settings by clicking **Next**.



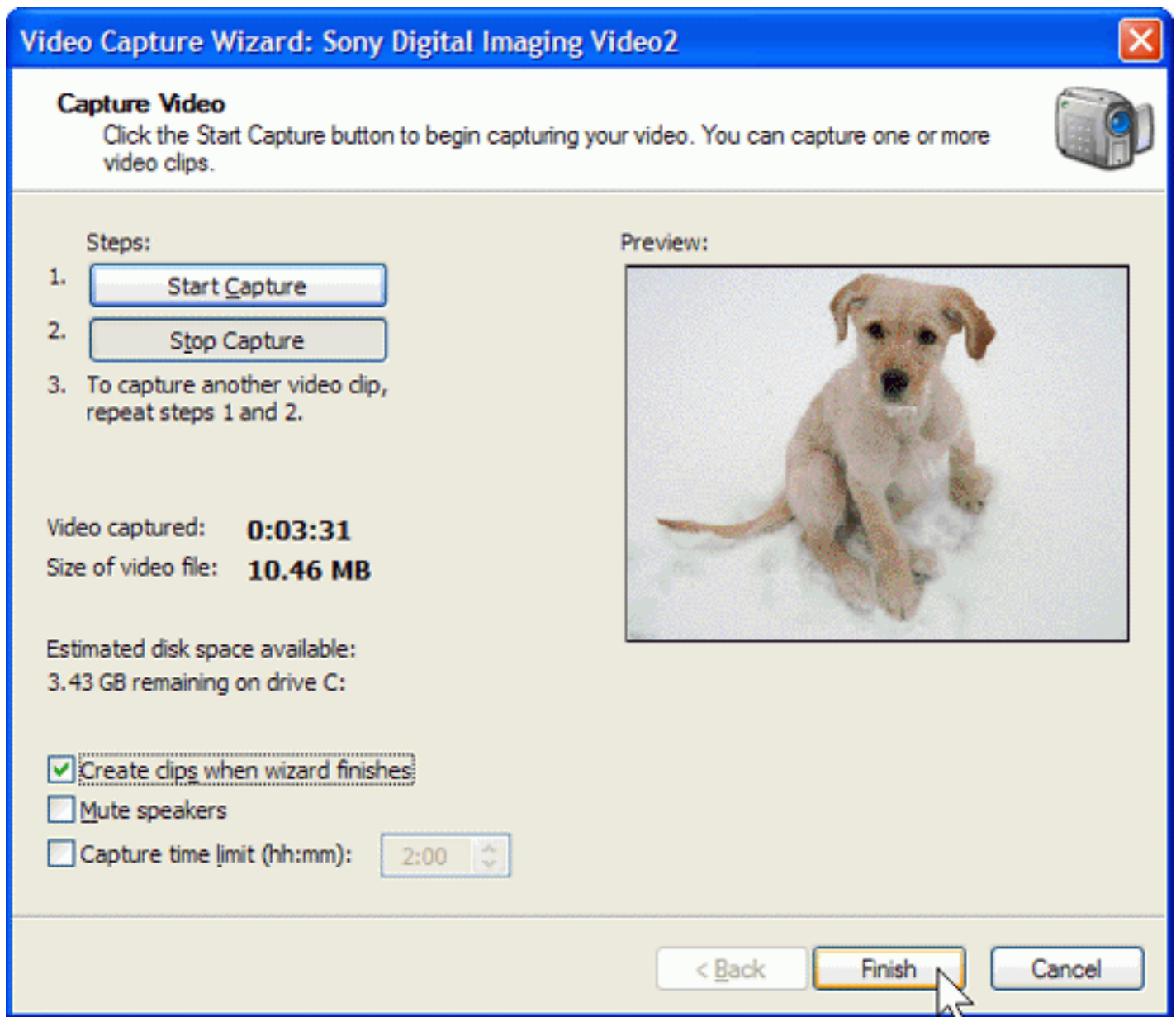
7. On the **Capture Video** page, use your video camera to rewind or fast-forward to about five seconds before the start of the clip that you want to download. Then press the play button on your video camera, and immediately click the **Start Capture** button in the Video Capture Wizard. It's okay if you start capturing too early, because you can trim the beginning of the clip later.



8. Click **Stop Capture** at the end of your clip. It's also okay to capture the entire tape at once, because you can break it into shorter clips later.



9.Repeat steps 7 and 8 to capture other clips. When you're done, click **Finish**.



Movie Maker automatically breaks your movie into clips and adds the clips to a video collection with the name you provided.

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## What you need to make movies with Windows XP and Movie Maker

Published: August 8, 2006

If you are new to making home movies, you picked a great time to start. Making home movies is a great way to capture your memories, and video cameras have never been as powerful, easy to use, or inexpensive as they are now. If you have used video cameras before, you will be surprised at how much the technology has improved with digital video.

Before digital video	With digital video
Video cameras were large and heavy.	Many video cameras are small enough to fit in your pocket.
Handheld cameras produced shaky video.	Image-stabilization technology steadies handheld video.
You had to carry separate video and still cameras.	Most digital video cameras can take still pictures, too.
Video shot indoors was tinted orange.	Digital video cameras automatically adjust to different lighting.
Editing video required special training and was expensive.	You can edit videos with your home computer and <a href="#">Windows Movie Maker</a> .  Windows Movie Maker 2.1 is included with Microsoft Windows XP Service Pack 2 (SP2).
Most home movies were long and boring.	Edited home movies are fast-paced and professional-looking.
To show a video to a friend, you had to ship him or her a tape.	You can e-mail videos to your friends, or burn your home movies to a CD or DVD.

To edit home movies with your computer so that you can burn them to a CD or DVD, or e-mail them to your friends, you need the correct equipment. The following list will help you select the right equipment for the job.

**Required Equipment:**

- MiniDV digital video camera
- MiniDV tapes
- Computer that supports a digital video connection
- Microsoft Windows XP with Service Pack 2, which includes Movie Maker 2.1
- i.Link port (also known as FireWire or IEEE 1394) on your computer

**Recommended accessories for camera:**

- Memory card
- Tripod
- Wide-angle lens
- Spare battery
- On-camera light

**Recommended accessories for computer:**

- External USB (Universal Serial Bus) hard disk drive
- DVD burner with writeable DVD media
- Headphones

The sections that follow give some advice about choosing the equipment and accessories that are right for you.

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## **Digital video camera and accessories**

When shopping for a digital video camera, choose a MiniDV camera. MiniDV cameras are the most popular digital video technology, and they offer the best compromise for size, quality, and cost. Choose a camera that feels comfortable in your hands and that is small enough to carry when you travel. If you have a widescreen TV, look for a digital video camera that can record in widescreen format (also known as 16:9).



MiniDV cameras record digital video onto small tapes that are readily available at grocery stores, pharmacies, and electronics stores. The availability of MiniDV tapes is important, because you may need to buy additional tapes when you're traveling.

MiniDV tapes do not play in a VCR. Instead, you can copy the video to your computer and then burn it to a CD or DVD, or you can connect your camera directly to your TV.



When purchasing a digital video camera, consider buying the following accessories to help you make the highest quality home movies:

- **Memory card.** Most digital video cameras can take still pictures to a memory card. If your video camera kit does not include a memory card, you may want to purchase one.



- **Tripod.** A tripod holds your camera steady, eliminating the potential shakiness of handheld video cameras.



- **Wide-angle lens.** A must-have for indoor filming, wide-angle lenses allow you to stand closer to your subjects and capture more people in crowded rooms.



- **Spare battery.** Most camera batteries last for only about an hour of filming. To make sure you have power when you need it, purchase a spare battery.



- **On-camera light.** You can attach a light to most video cameras to improve video quality when shooting indoors.



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## Computer and accessories

Most modern computers are powerful enough for video editing. The following table lists computer requirements and recommendations for using Movie Maker.

Component	Requirement	Recommendation
-----------	-------------	----------------

Processor	600 MHz or higher processor	Any processor made in the last three years
Memory	128 megabytes (MB)	500 MB to 1 gigabyte (GB)
Hard disk	2 GB of free disk space	20 GB or more of free disk space
Connection	i.Link/FireWire/IEEE 1394	i.Link/FireWire/IEEE 1394
Operating system	Windows XP with Service Pack 2	Windows XP with Service Pack 2

If one or more of your computer components does not meet the requirements, consider upgrading it:

- **Windows XP and Movie Maker.** Windows XP with Service Pack 2 (SP2) includes Movie Maker 2.1. To download and install SP2, visit [Microsoft Update](#).
- **i.Link/FireWire/IEEE 1394.** The easiest way to connect your camera to your computer is with an i.Link (also known as FireWire or IEEE 1394) cable. If you don't have a FireWire port on your computer, you (or a professional at an electronics store) can install an [i.Link adapter](#). Your digital video camera kit will include the proper cable.



- **Memory.** Having 512 MB or more of memory will greatly improve how Movie Maker performs. Memory is inexpensive and relatively easy to upgrade, so adding memory should be your first consideration if you want to improve the performance of video editing on your computer.
- **Processor.** Any processor manufactured in the last three years will provide great performance with Movie Maker. Older processors will work too, but the video-editing process will take a bit longer.
- **Monitor.** Any monitor will suffice for using Movie Maker. If you do a lot of video editing, a 19-inch or larger monitor can make the editing process easier by allowing you to fit more tools and clips on the screen.
- **Hard disk.** Have at least 2 GB of free disk space before editing videos with Movie Maker. The more videos you save to your computer, the more space you will need. If you begin to run out of free disk space, you can easily add an [external USB hard disk drive](#). If you are buying a new computer for video editing, buy a larger hard disk drive to provide room for your home movies.
- **DVD burner with writeable DVD media.** If hard disk space is limited, you can also move your digital video files to [writeable DVDs](#).
- **Headphones.** Consider using headphones during video editing. With headphones, you can hear subtle sounds more clearly than you can through speakers.

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## Working with your video clips in Windows Movie Maker 2

Published: April 26, 2005

You've shot hours of footage with your digital video camera. You've captured this footage on your computer and maybe you've even edited a few movies. Now what? Read on to find out how to organize your collections and clips in Microsoft Windows Movie Maker.

### The elements of Windows Movie Maker: Collections, clips, projects, and movies

#### Understanding collections and clips

Collections are libraries that contain the different video, audio, and pictures that you've imported into or captured in Windows Movie Maker 2. You can use and reuse items from the collections for the movies you create. When you import the digital media files into Windows Movie Maker, the different video, audio, and pictures appear as clips within one or more collection folders in Windows Movie Maker.

#### To import existing digital media files

1. On the **File** menu, click **Import into Collections**.
2. In **File name**, enter the path and name of the file you want to import, and then click **Import**.
3. (Optional) If you want the video files to be separated into smaller clips, select the **Create clips for video files** check box.

A new collection folder is created for each video file you import into Windows Movie Maker. Any audio clips or still images appear in the original collection that was selected when you imported the audio and still images.

**Note:** You can import several files at once. For consecutive files, click the first file in the list, press and hold down the SHIFT key, and then click the last file in the list. For files that are not consecutive, press and hold down the CTRL key, and then click each file that you want to import.

The following figures show how source video files, audio files, and photos appear in Windows

**Related Links**

- [Movie Maker sample movies](#)
- [Windows XP Experiences Glossary](#)
- [Connecting your camera to your PC with Movie Maker 2](#)
- [Download video to your PC with Movie Maker 2](#)
- [Auto-editing and manual editing with Movie Maker 2](#)
- [Adding music to your home movies with Movie Maker 2](#)
- [Join the Movie Maker community](#)
- [Get answers to your Windows XP digital video questions](#)
- [Get answers to your Movie Maker questions](#)

## Get the Latest

### [Download Windows Movie Maker](#)

Make movies like the pros. Check out the cool effects, transitions, and more in Windows Movie Maker.



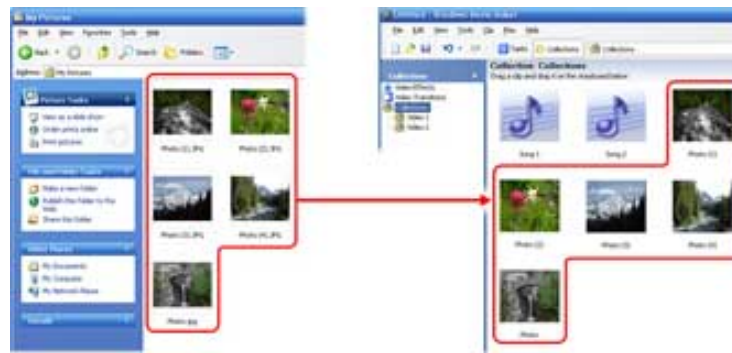
Explorer and how they appear as clips in different collection folders after the individual files are imported in Windows Movie Maker.



Video files in Windows Explorer and Windows Movie Maker.



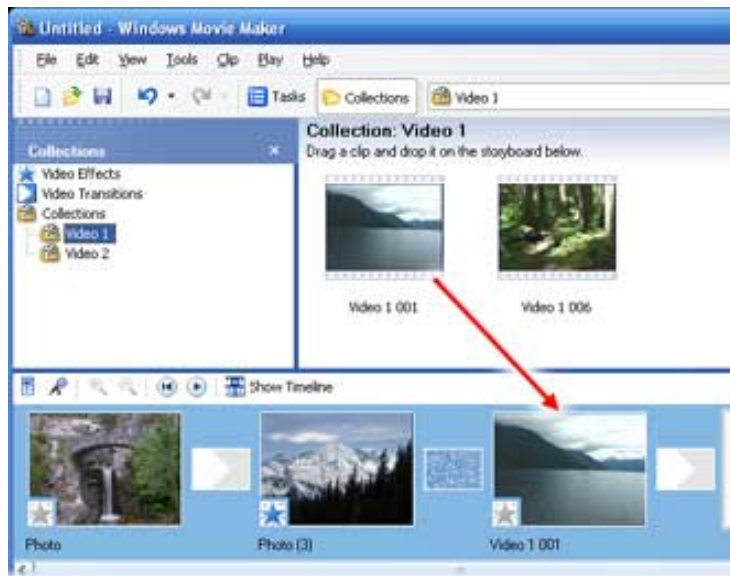
Audio files in Windows Explorer and Windows Movie Maker.



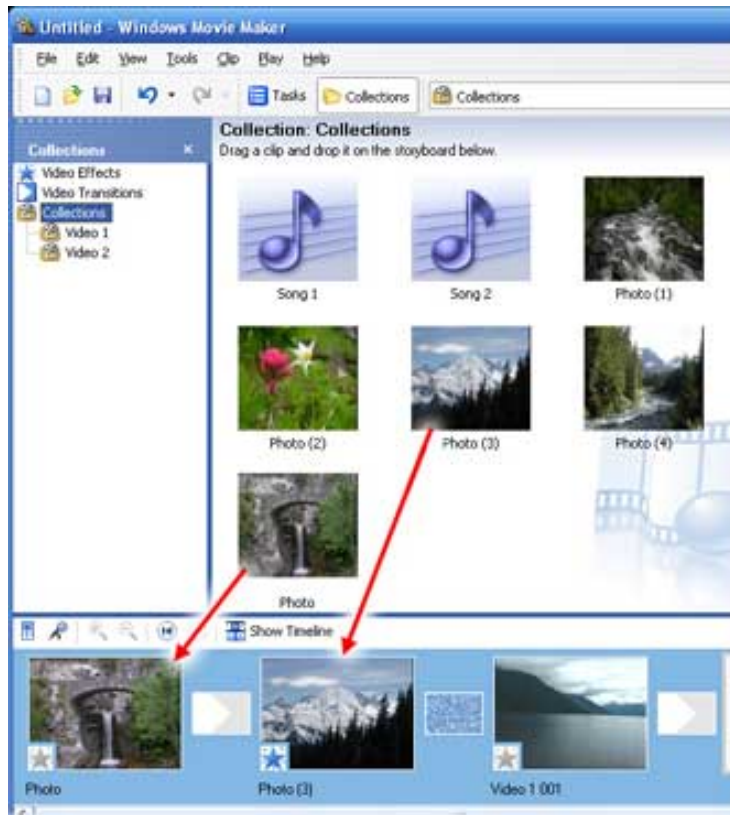
Photos in Windows Explorer and Windows Movie Maker.

### Understanding projects and source files

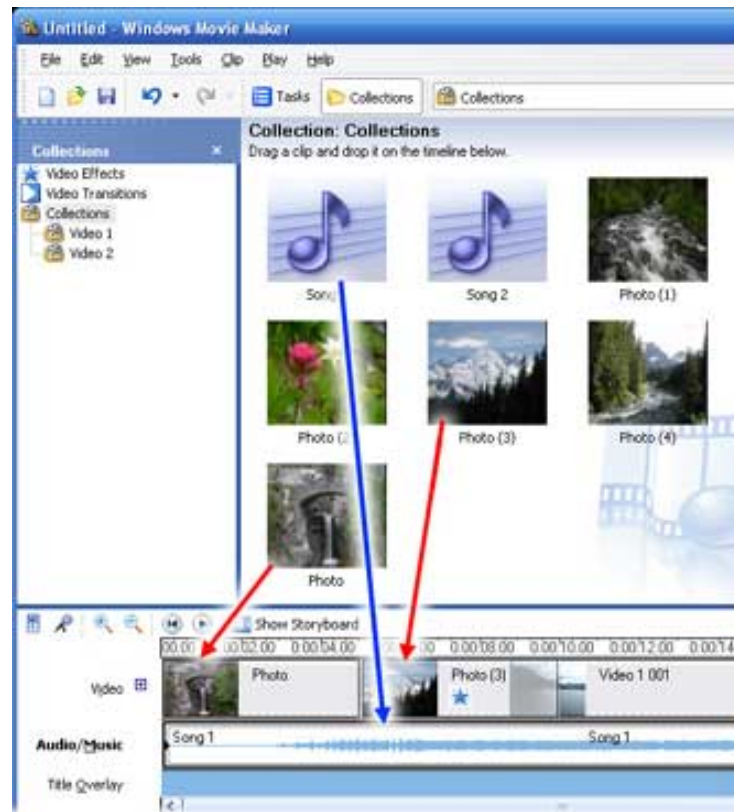
After you import audio, video, or pictures into Windows Movie Maker, you can add the individual clips in the different collection folders to the storyboard/timeline. The following figures show clips as they appear in the storyboard and timeline views respectively for the same project.



Video clips in storyboard view.



Video and audio clips in storyboard view.



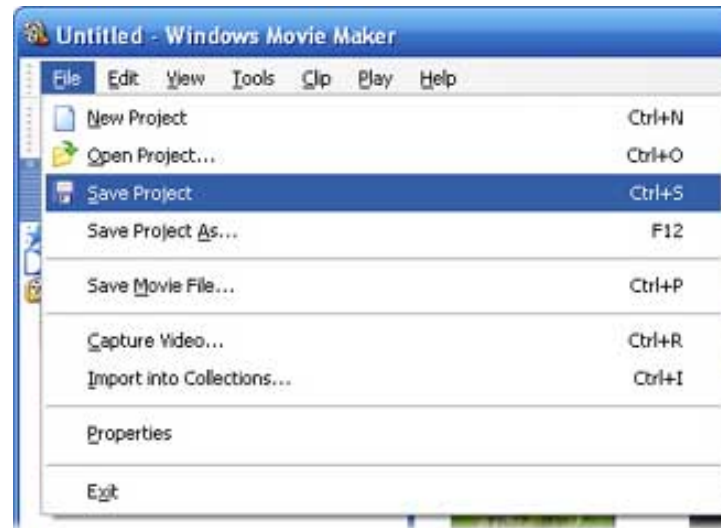
Video and audio clips in timeline view.

The video, audio, and image clips in Windows Movie Maker projects are only references to the files that you've captured or imported into Windows Movie Maker. When you edit video or audio in a collection or on the storyboard/timeline in Windows Movie Maker, you do not change the original source video or audio file. Editing the clips on the storyboard/timeline or in a collection only determines how and when the audio, video, and still images (as well as any titles, video transitions, or video effects) are displayed in that particular project.

All content on the storyboard/timeline — including audio, video, still images, and video transitions, video effects, or titles — becomes a project. Ultimately, a Windows Movie Maker project file (which has a .mswmm file name extension) is simply a file that contains information about what content is used in the project, as well as the timing information about how and when to display the contents on the storyboard/timeline in the final saved movie. It does not actually contain your source files. If you save the project, you can then later open it in Windows Movie Maker and make more edits at another time.

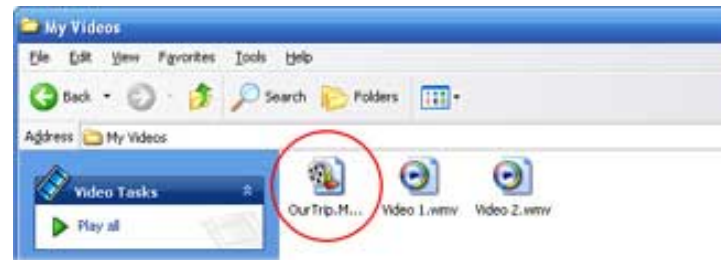
### To save a project

1. On the **File** menu, click **Save Project**.



2. In the **File name** box, type the file name, and then click **Save**.

The resulting Windows Movie Maker project file is stored on your computer.



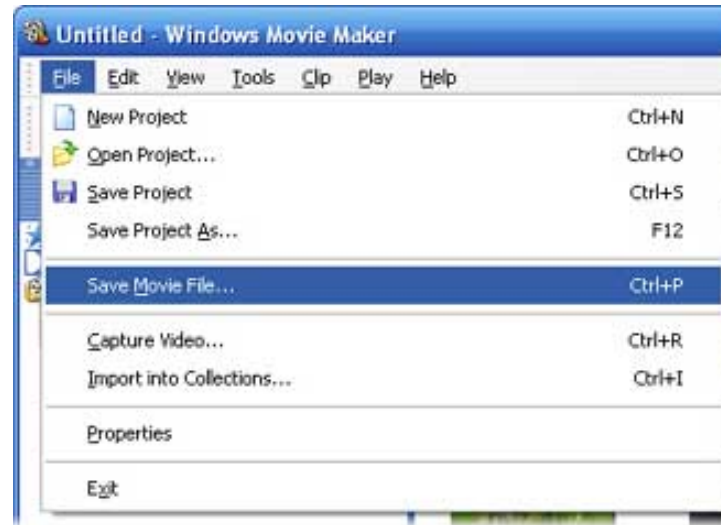
**Important:** Since your Windows Movie Maker project file does not contain a copy of the source files that are used in the project, if you want to move a Windows Movie Maker project file and edit it on another computer, you also need to copy all of the source content to that computer or make sure that the computer has access to the location where the source files are stored.

### Saving your project as a movie

After you've saved a project, you can then save the project as a movie file, such as into a .wmv or .avi file, by using the Save Movie Wizard. When you do this, all of the files on the storyboard/timeline are encoded into a single digital media video file. You can then share this video file with others, and they can watch and enjoy it in a media player, such as Windows Media Player.

### To save a movie

1. On the **File** menu, click **Save Movie File**.



2. In the **Enter a file name for your saved movie** box, type a name for your movie.

3. In the **Choose a place to save your movie** box, do one of the following:

- Choose the path and folder name from the drop-down list of available places.
- Click **Browse** to choose a new place that's not already in the drop-down list.
- To create a new folder, click **Make New Folder** in the **Browse For File** dialog box, and then type a name for the new folder.

4. On the **Movie Setting** page, do one of the following:

- To use the default movie setting, click **Best quality for playback on my computer (recommended)**.

The specific setting details, such as the file type, bit rate, display size, aspect ratio, and frames per second displayed in the video, are shown in **Setting details**.

- To use a different movie setting, click **Show more choices**, and then choose another movie setting from the list.

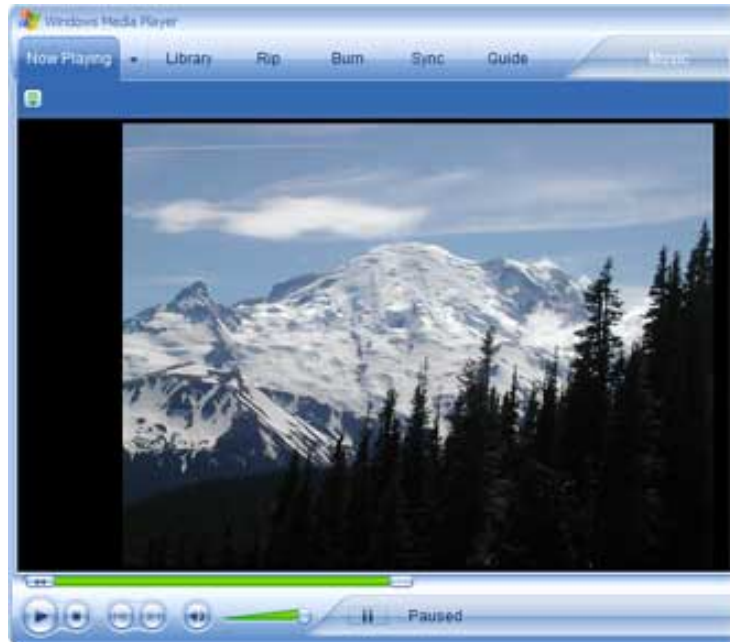
5. If you want to watch your movie after completing the wizard, select the **Play movie when I click Finish** check box.

6. After the movie is saved, click **Finish**.

The resulting movie is saved on your computer.



You or your audience can then play the movie in a media player, such as Windows Media Player.



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## Organizing your collections

By organizing your collections, you can quickly find the content you want to use and reuse in your movies. This can help reduce the time it takes you to create and edit your Windows Movie Maker projects. For example, you might choose to create a new collections folder that contains only your favorite video, audio, or still image clips.

To do this, create a new collection called Favorites, split or combine video clips in the collection, copy clips into the Favorites collection, and then add some or all of those clips to the storyboard/timeline for the project you're working on at that time. And remember, collections always appear in Windows Movie Maker. Therefore, you can reuse the clips in your Favorites collection to create many different movies simply by arranging the clips in a different order on the storyboard/timeline, as well as by adding titles, video effects, or video transitions in different ways at different times to create different movies from the same video and audio content.

### To preview a clip

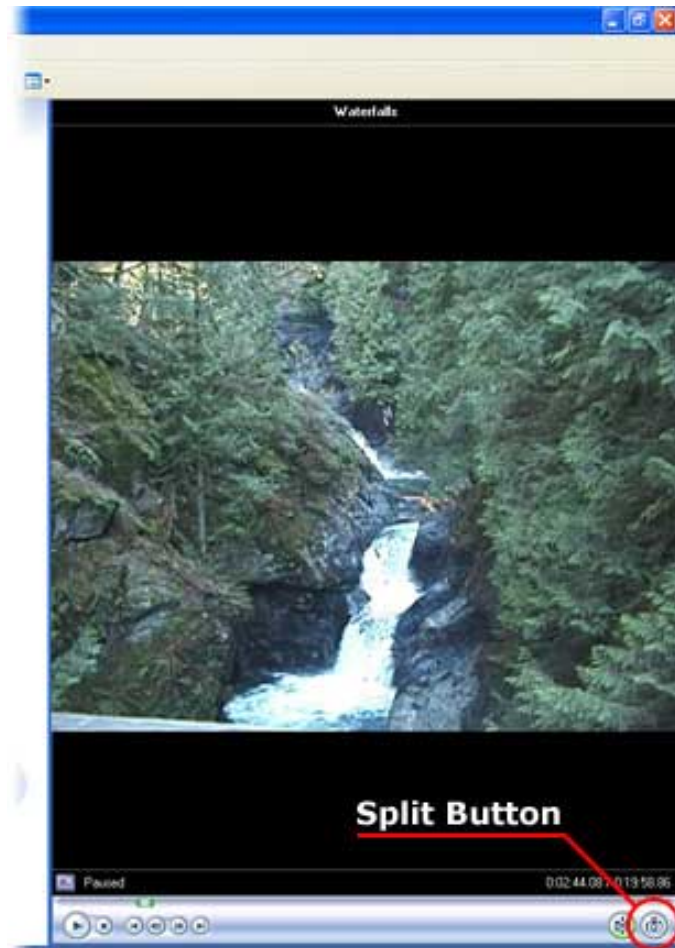
1. In the Contents pane, click the clip you want to preview.
2. On the monitor, click the Play button to preview the video or audio clip.

**To create a new collection**

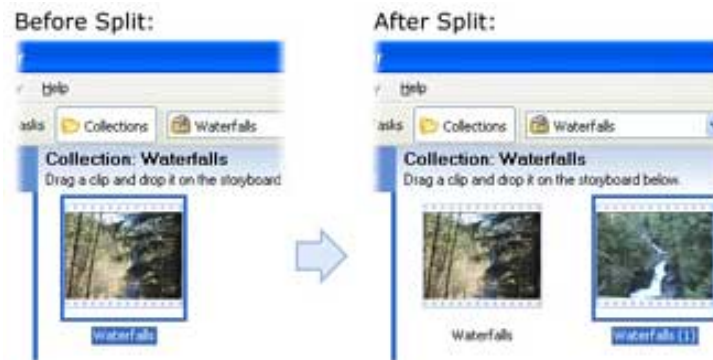
1. In the Collections pane, click the Collections folder.
2. On the **Tools** menu, click **New Collection Folder**.
3. Type a name for the new collection.

**To split a video or audio clip**

1. In the Contents pane, click the video or audio clip you want to split.
2. Under the monitor, move the slider to where you want to split the clip.
3. Click the Split button on the monitor.



The resulting video clips now appear in the Contents pane.



**Note:** To position the slider precisely, you can drag the slider to a point before the place where you want to split the clip, click the

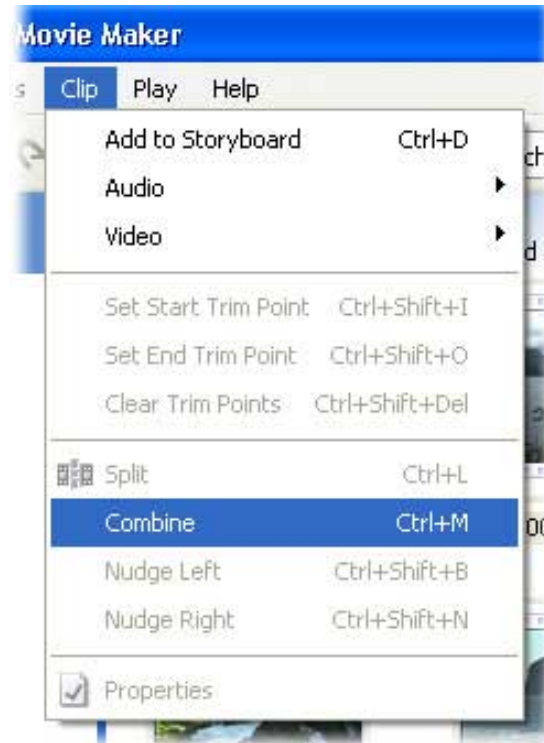
Play button, and then click the Stop button at the exact point where you want the split.

### To combine a split audio or video clip

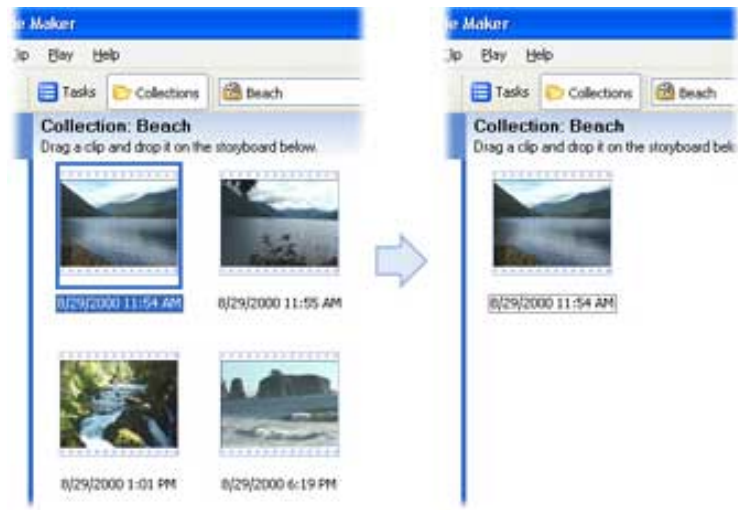
1. In the Contents pane, hold down the CTRL key, and then select the consecutive clips you want to combine.

**Note:** To select consecutive clips, click the first clip, press and hold down the SHIFT key, and then click the last clip. To select one clip at a time, press and hold down the CTRL key, and then click each clip that you want to combine.

2. On the **Clip** menu, click **Combine**.



The resulting video clip now appears in the Contents pane.



**Note:** You can also perform this entire procedure on the storyboard/timeline.

#### To copy a clip in a collection

1. In the Contents pane, click the clip or clips that you want to copy.
2. On the **Edit** menu, click **Copy**.
3. In the Collections pane, click the collection you want to copy the clips to, and then click the Contents pane.
4. On the **Edit** menu, click **Paste**.

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## Add narration

Published: August 8, 2006

Often, home movies don't have much audio. For example, if you filmed your child snowboarding, there might be nonstop action but nothing to listen to (except the cheering audience). Or, the audio in the background may be distracting if you're videotaping in a noisy area or from a moving car. Fortunately, with Windows Movie Maker, you have two options if you want to make up for the lack of audio: you can add or replace the audio with your own narration of the action, or with music.

- **[Add music.](#)** Add music (such as songs copied from a CD) to your movie. This is perfect when you want to create an atmosphere or add some energy to your movie.
- **[Add narration.](#)** Record yourself speaking over your movie. This is perfect when you need to describe what's happening on-screen or tell stories that happened off-camera.

**Note:** If you want background music instead of narration, you can [use titles](#) to introduce people or describe settings.

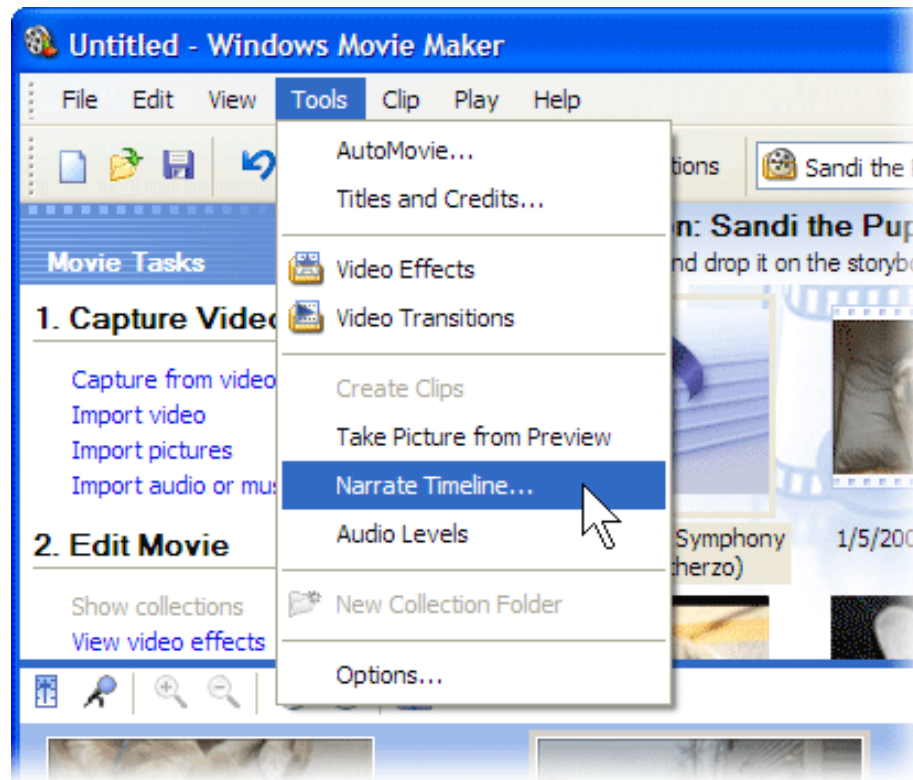
**To add narration to your movie**

1. If you have a desktop computer, connect a microphone. Microphones are available from most electronics stores. If you have a portable computer, you can use the built-in microphone. However, you will get a better-quality recording if you connect an external microphone.

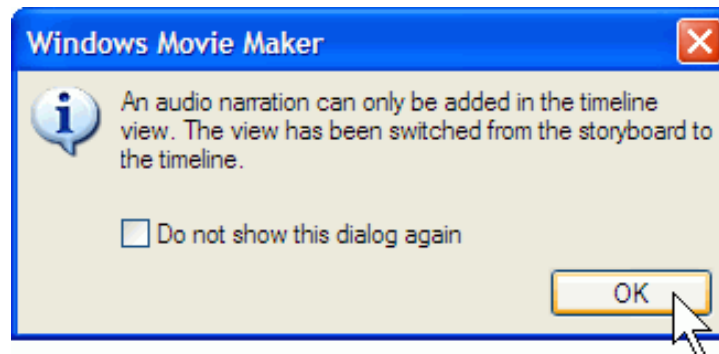


2. [Download video from your camera to your computer](#), and [add clips from your collection to your storyboard](#).

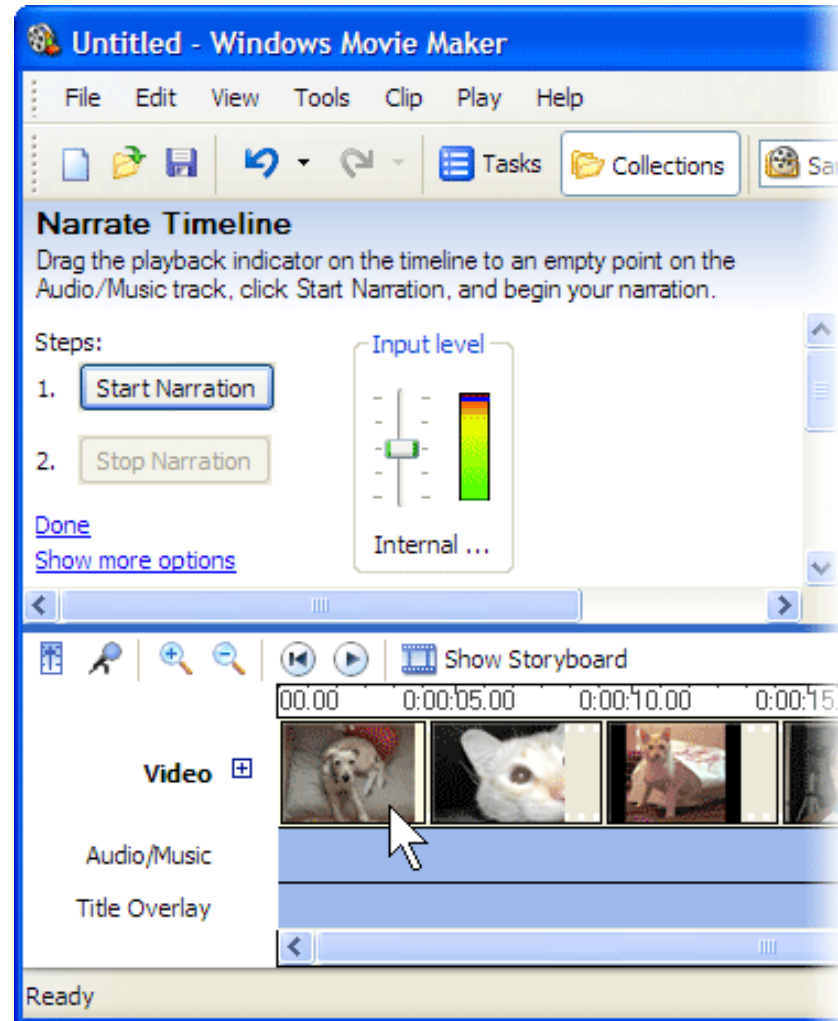
3. In Movie Maker, click the **Tools** menu, and then click **Narrate Timeline**.



4. If prompted, click **OK**.



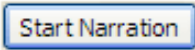

5. On the timeline, click the clip you want to narrate. You can narrate clips one at a time, or you can narrate the entire movie all at once. If you narrate individual clips, you can rearrange them later and keep your narration synchronized.



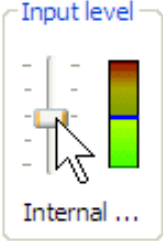
6. Speak normally into your microphone, and adjust the **Input level** so that the bar is about halfway up when you are speaking.

**Narrate Timeline**  
Drag the playback indicator on the timeline to an empty point on the Audio/Music track, click Start Narration, and begin your narration.

Steps:

1. 
2. 

[Done](#)  
[Show more options](#)



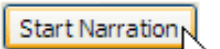

Internal ...

Learn more about [narrating the timeline](#)

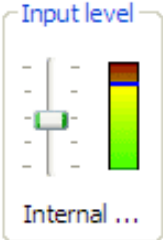
7. Under **Narrate Timeline** click **Start Narration**.

**Narrate Timeline**  
Drag the playback indicator on the timeline to an empty point on the Audio/Music track, click Start Narration, and begin your narration.

Steps:

1. 
2. 

[Done](#)  
[Show more options](#)



Internal ...


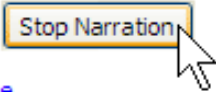
Learn more about [narrating the timeline](#)

8. Speak into your microphone as Movie Maker plays your movie. You can narrate your entire movie at once or just one clip at a time. When you're done narrating, click **Stop Narration**.

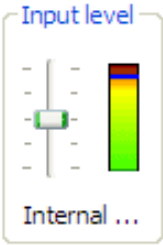
### Narrate Timeline

Drag the playback indicator on the timeline to an empty point on the Audio/Music track, click Start Narration, and begin your narration.

Steps:

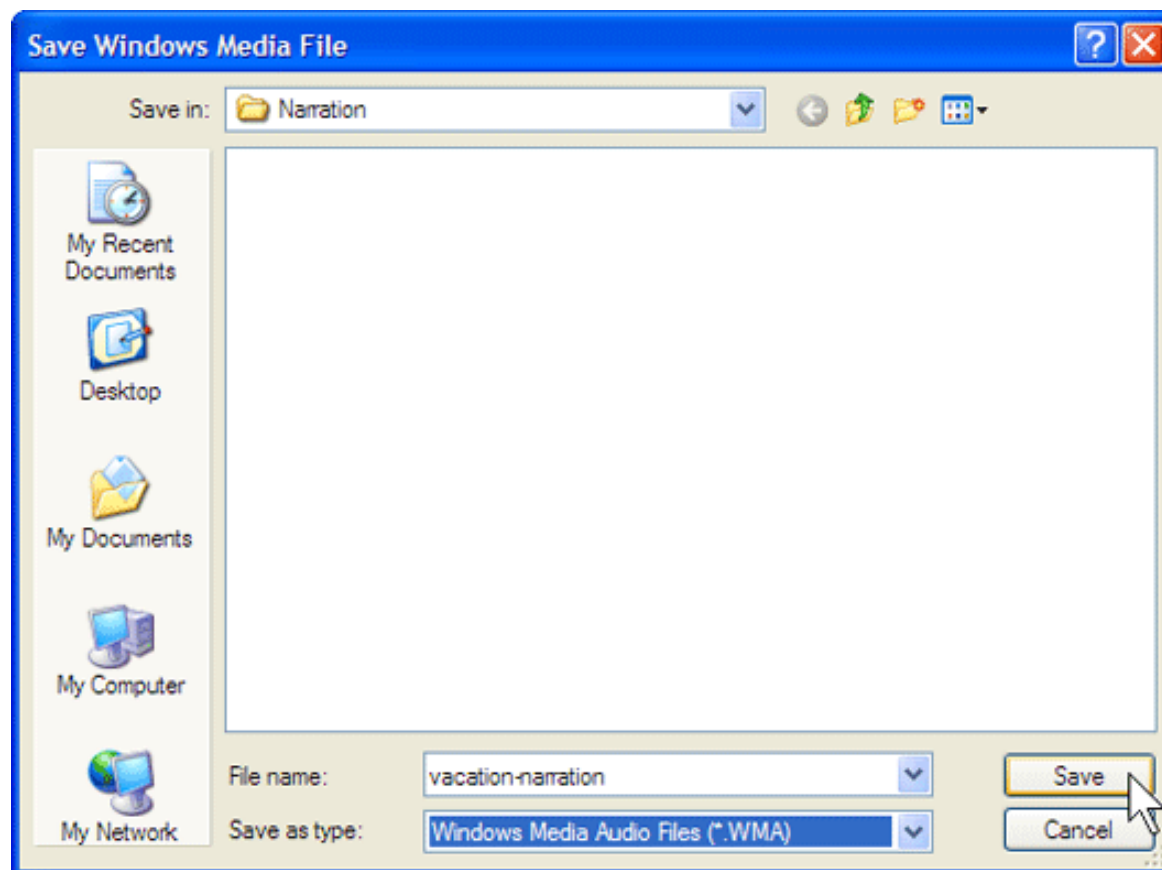
1. 
2. 

[Done](#)  
[Show more options](#)



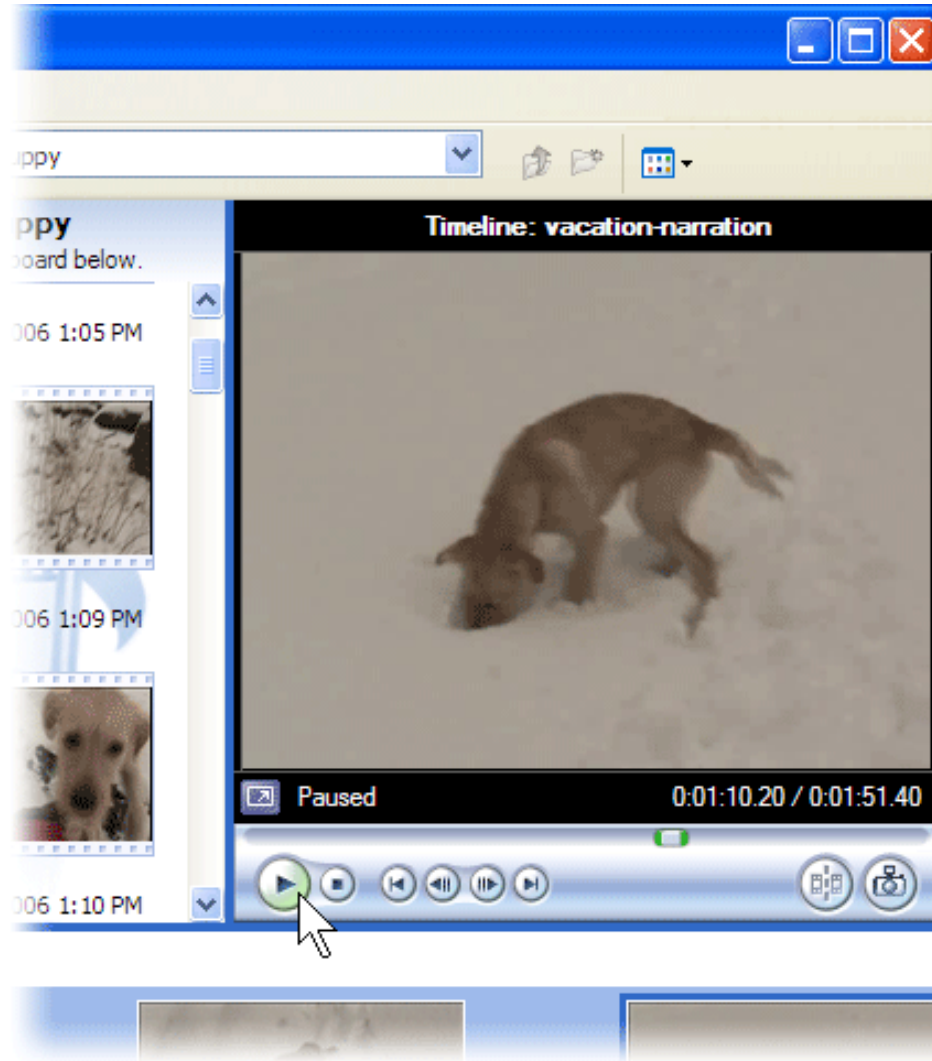
Learn more about [narrating the timeline](#)

9. Movie Maker will save your narration as a separate file. In the **Save Windows Media File** dialog box, type a name for your narration. Then click **Save**.

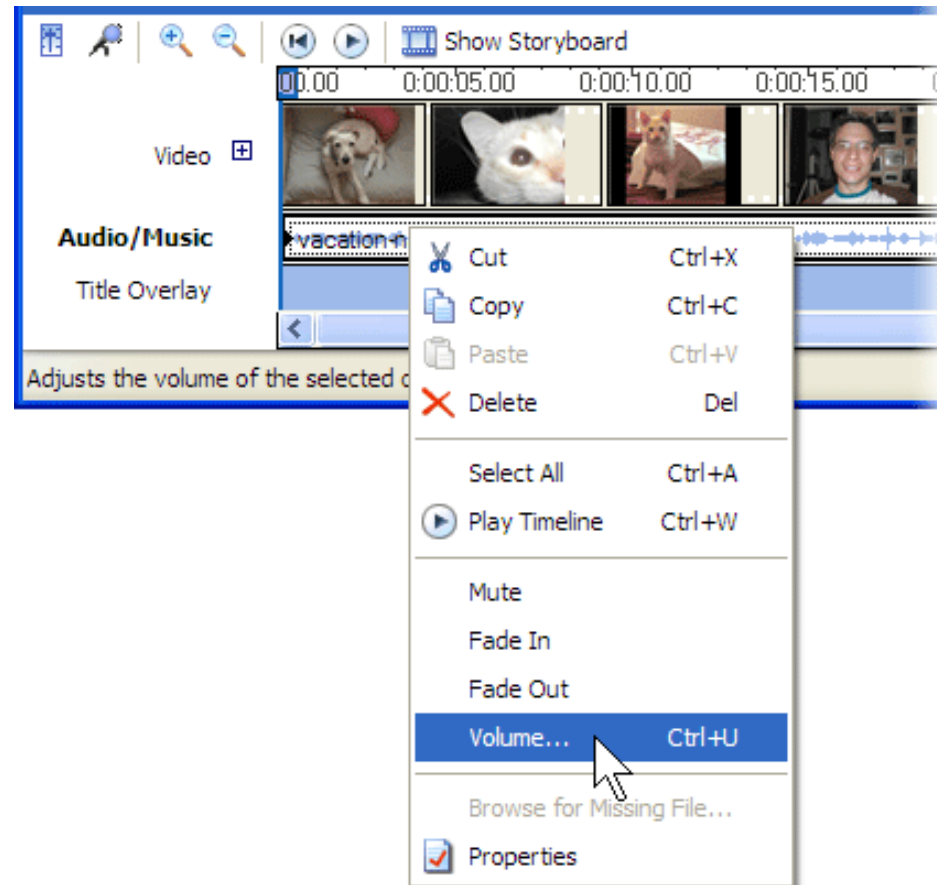


10. Movie Maker adds your narration to your video. If you only narrated part of your video and you want to add narration to other clips, return to [step 5](#).

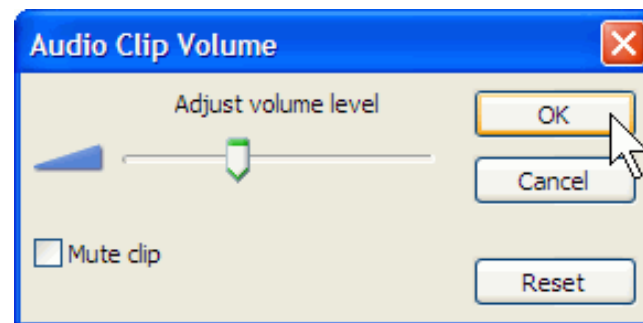
11. Click **Play** in the **Preview Monitor** to watch your movie and listen to the narration.



12. If the narration is too loud or too soft in comparison to the movie, right-click the narration on your timeline, and then click **Volume**. If the audio and narration sound good, you can skip the next step.



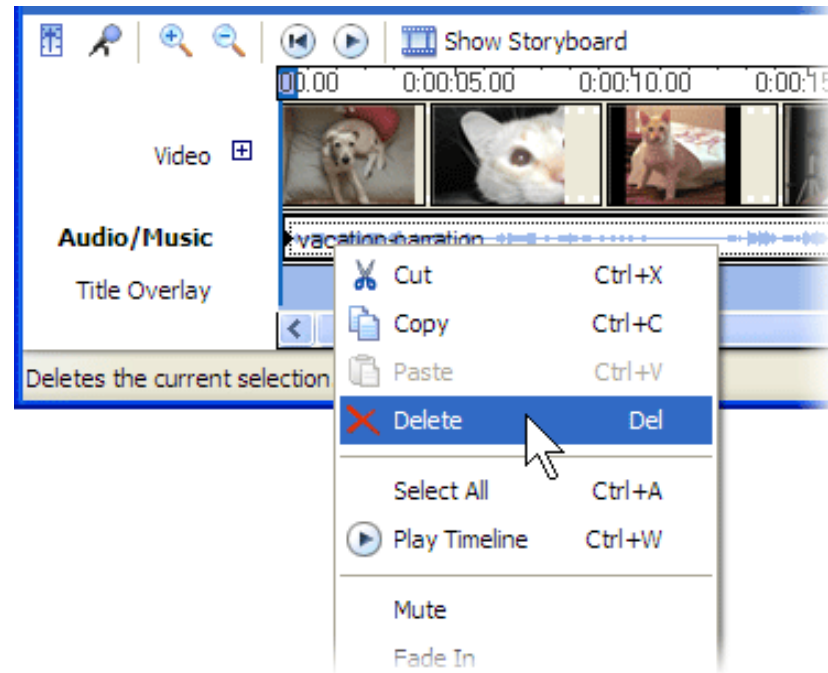
13. In the **Audio Clip Volume** dialog box, move the slider to the left to make the narration quieter, or move it to the right to make it louder. Then click **OK**. Return to [step 11](#) to listen to the narration again, and make another adjustment if necessary.



If you don't like the way your narration sounds, don't worry—nobody likes to hear their own voice. Just relax and speak in a normal tone, as if you were telling a friend on the phone about your movie. It may take you a few tries to get the timing right so that your

narration doesn't go on longer than your movie. If you misspeak often, it might help to write a script that you can read during the narration.

To delete narration so that you can re-record it, right-click the narration on the timeline, and then click **Delete**. You should also [delete the narration from the collection](#).



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## Add titles and credits

Published: August 8, 2006

You can use the same techniques that movies and TV shows do to begin and end their films. By using the title and credits feature in Windows Movie Maker, you can easily create an interesting title sequence at the beginning of your movie and provide a list of credits at the end. You can also place titles in between scenes of the movie.

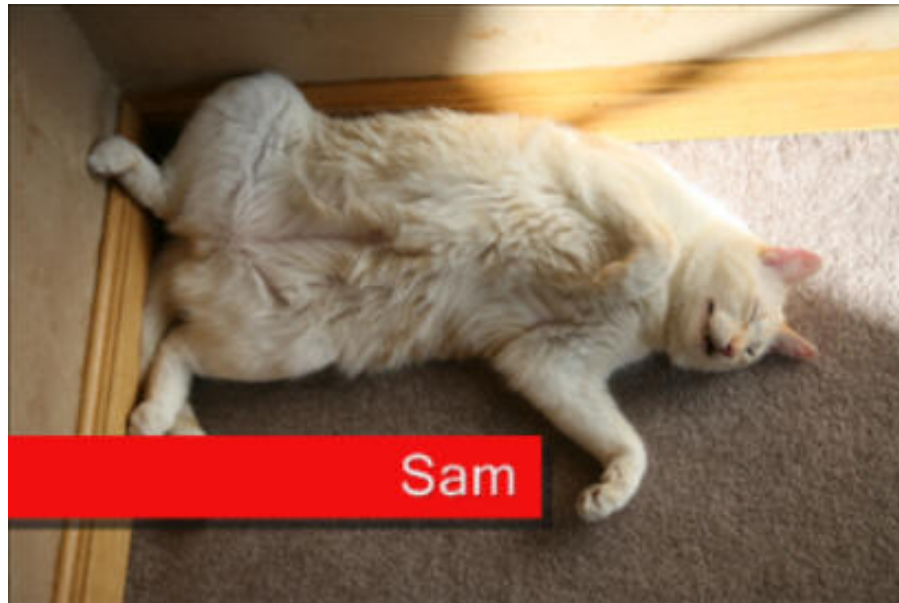
Opening titles introduce your movie to your audience and provide background information about what they're about to watch. For example, a good opening title might be, "Tom's Fourth Birthday Party" or "Hite Family Vacation 2006." You can show a title on a blank background or over your first clip.



Credits at the end of your movie provide a more satisfying ending while telling the viewer who was in the movie. This is also a great place to thank the people who helped you make the movie. You can show credits on a blank background or over your last clip. In Movie Maker, credits are considered a special type of title that can comprise many lines.

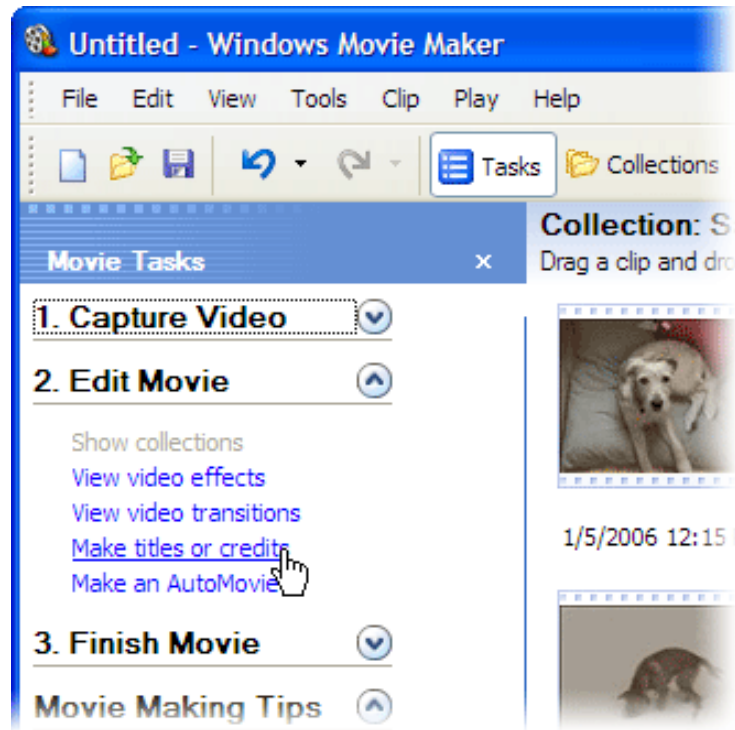


You can also use titles throughout your movie to introduce scenes or describe what is happening on screen. For example, in a vacation movie, you might add a title between scenes that reads, "Day 2: The Water Park". Or you can use titles to introduce people. For example, the first time each of your family members appears on screen, you might display a title over the video that shows their name.

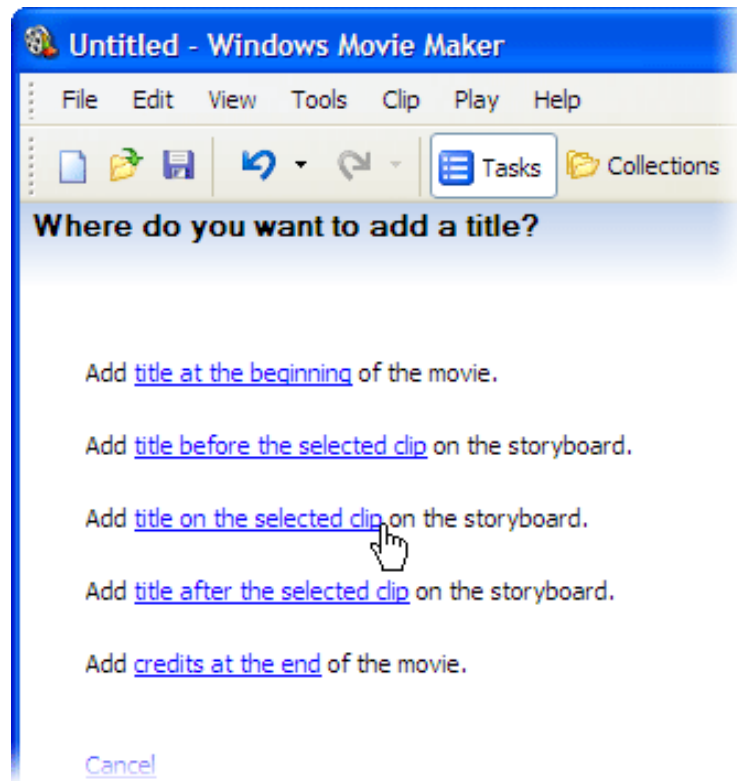


**To add a title screen before your movie**

1. [Download video from your camera to your computer](#), and [add clips from your collection to your storyboard](#).
2. If you want to add a title before, after, or on top of a clip, click the clip on the storyboard or timeline.
3. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Edit Movie**, click **Make titles or credits**.



4. Choose the type of title you want to add.



5. Click **Change the title animation**. Notice that you can choose between one-line titles, two-line titles, and credits, which can be many lines. You can use credits any time you need to display more than two lines of text, not just at the end of your video.

## Enter Text for Title

Click 'Done' to add the title to the movie.

[Done, add title to movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Change the title animation](#)

[Change the text font and color](#)



6. On the **Choose the Title Animation** page, browse through the different animations and watch them in the **Preview Monitor** to get an idea of what they'll look like. When you find the animation you want to use, click **Change the text font and color**.

## Choose the Title Animation

Click 'Done' to add the title to the movie.

Name	Description
Zoom, Out	Zooms out
Zoom, In	Zooms in
Spin, In	Spins in
Spin, Out	Spins out
<b>News Video, Inset</b>	<b>Video inset with news banner (overlay)</b>
Fade, Slow Zoom	Fades, zooms in slowly
Zoom, Up and In	Zooms up and in
Stretch	Stretches up and in

[Done, add title to movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Edit the title text](#)

[Change the text font and color](#)



7. On the **Select Title Font and Color** page, choose the color and font you want to use. If you're adding the title over a clip, use a dark font color for bright scenes and a light font color for dark scenes. Then click **Edit the title text**.

## Select Title Font and Color

Click 'Done' to add the title to the movie.

Font:

Microsoft Sans Serif

**B** *I* U

Color:



Transparency: 0%



Size:



Position:



[Done, add title to movie](#)

[Cancel](#)

More options:

[Edit the title text](#)



[Change the title animation](#)



8. On the **Enter Text for Title** page, enter your text. Then click **Done** to add the title to your movie.

### Enter Text for Title

Click 'Done' to add the title to the movie.

Sandi the Puppy

[Done](#)

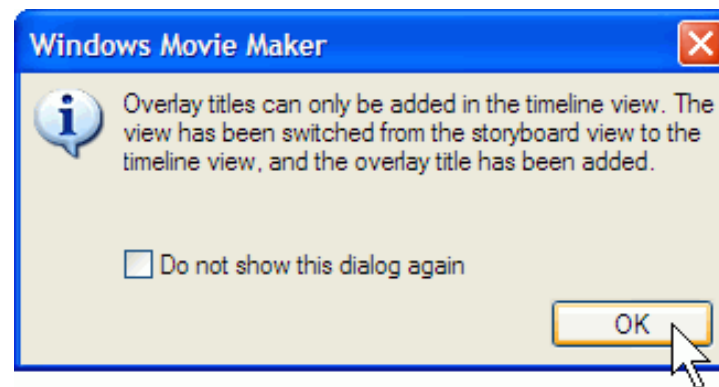
[Cancel](#)

More options:

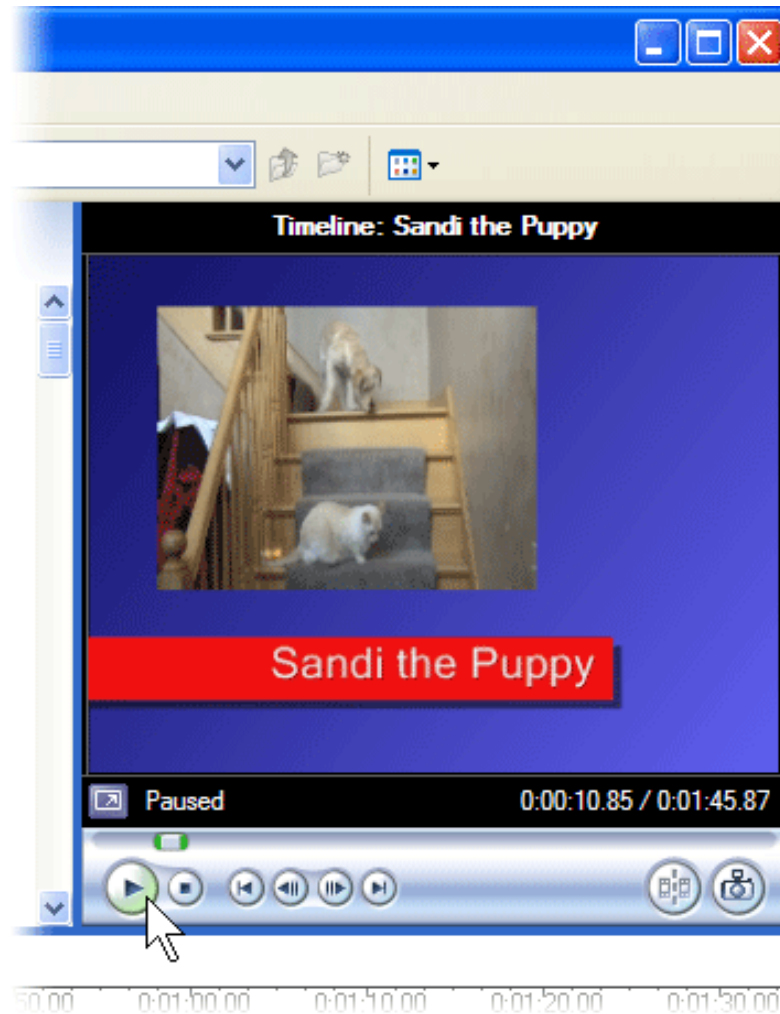
[Change the title animation](#)

[Change the text font and color](#)

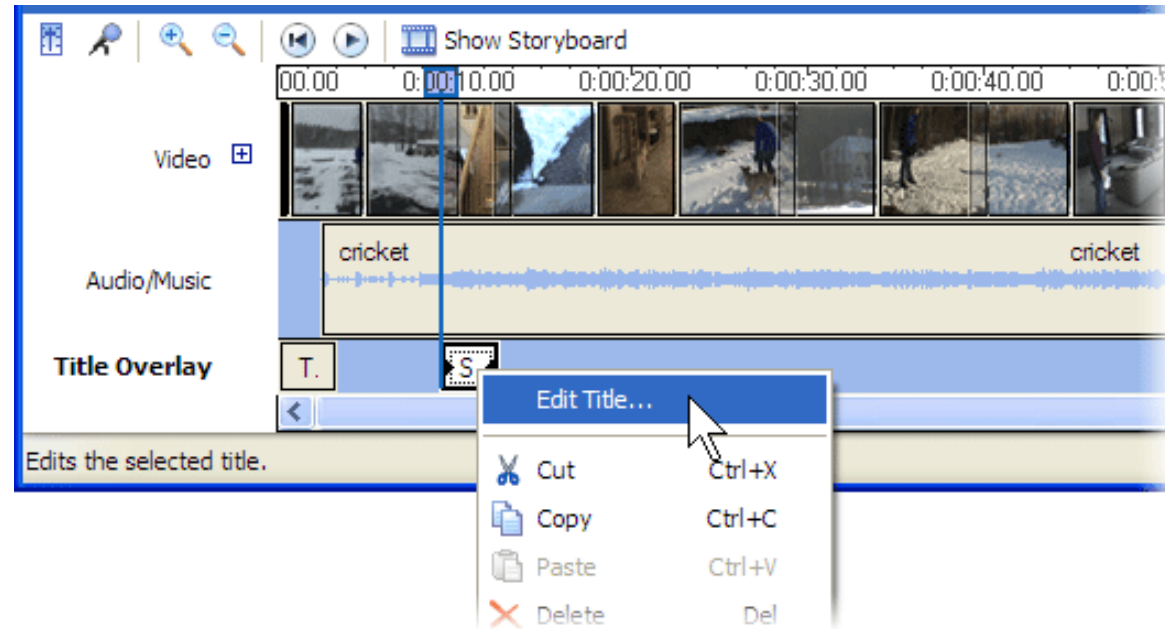
9. If prompted to switch to the timeline view, click **OK**.



10. In the **Preview Monitor**, click the **Play** button to see how your title will look in your video.



11. If you want to change your title (for example, to change the color of the text to make it more readable), right-click the title on the **Title Overlay** row of the timeline, and then click **Edit Title** on the shortcut menu.



Remember, you can add titles any time you want the viewer to know what you're showing or who someone on the screen is.

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Security At Home

Microsoft At Home

Microsoft At Work

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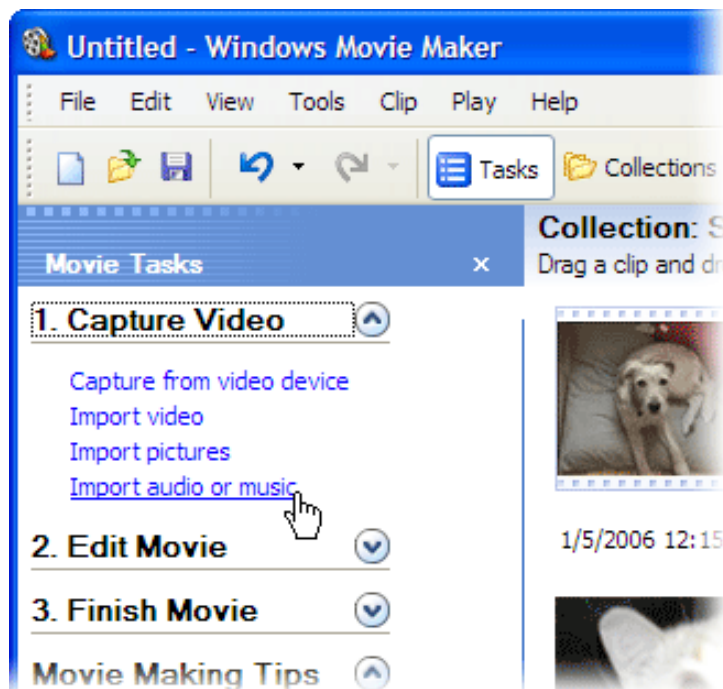
## Add music

Published: August 8, 2006

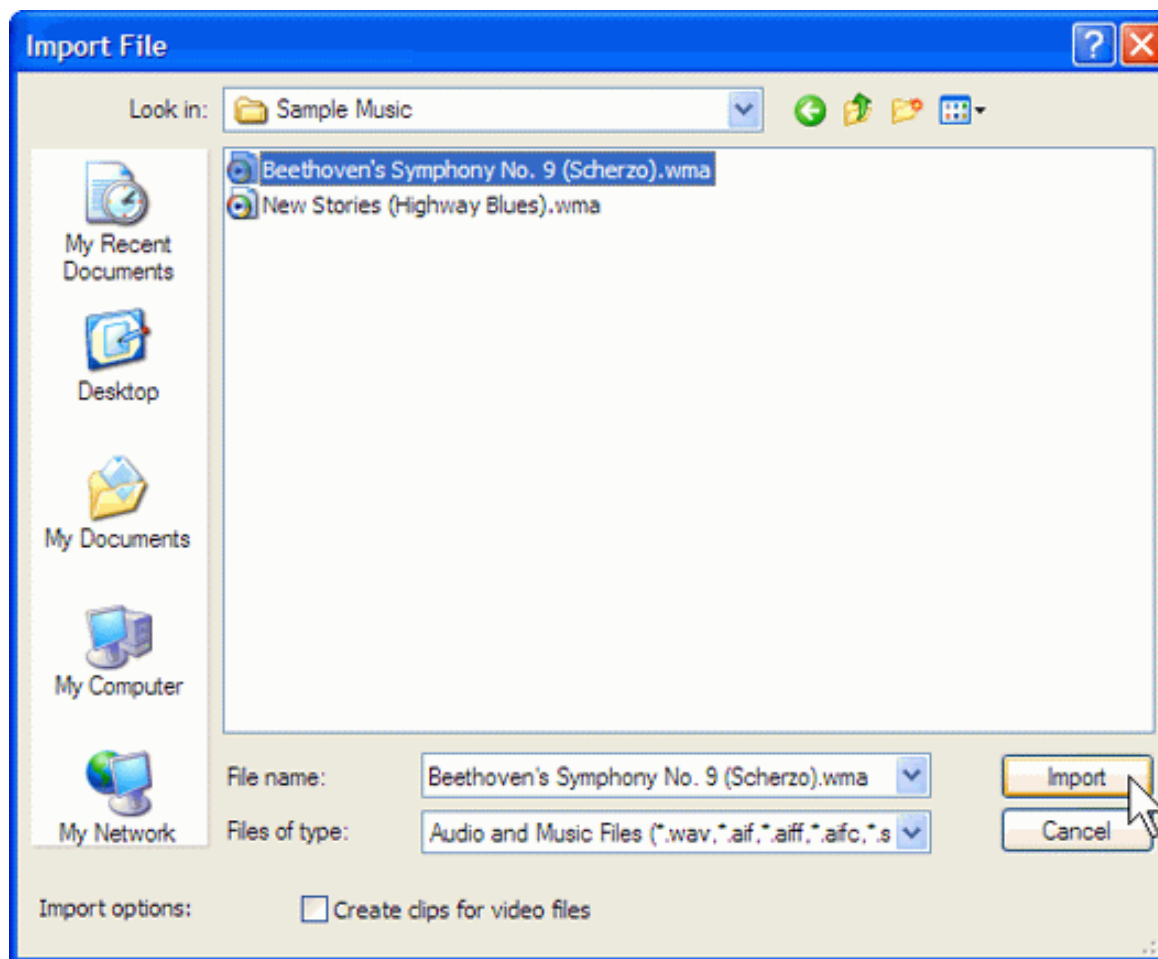
There's no better way to create a mood or crank up the energy in your home movies than by adding music. If you haven't yet copied your CDs to your computer, read [Quickly Rip CDs to Your Computer](#) to learn how. With Microsoft Windows XP and Windows Movie Maker, you can add any music from your CD collection to your home movies.

To add music to your movie:

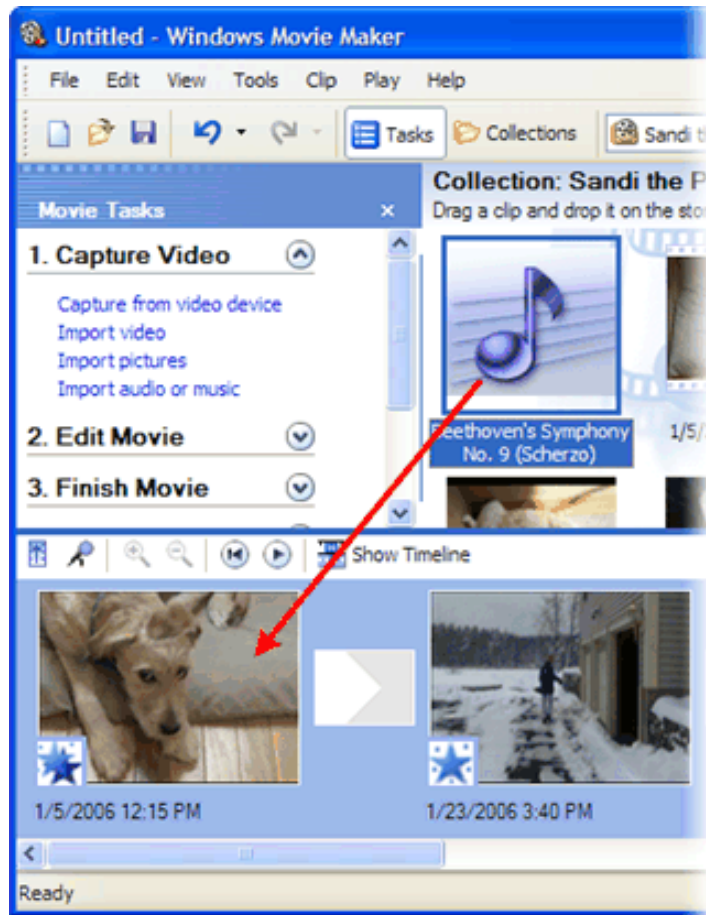
1. [Download video from your camera to your computer](#), and [add clips from your collection to your storyboard](#).
2. In the Movie Tasks pane in Movie Maker, under **Capture Video**, click **Import audio or music**.



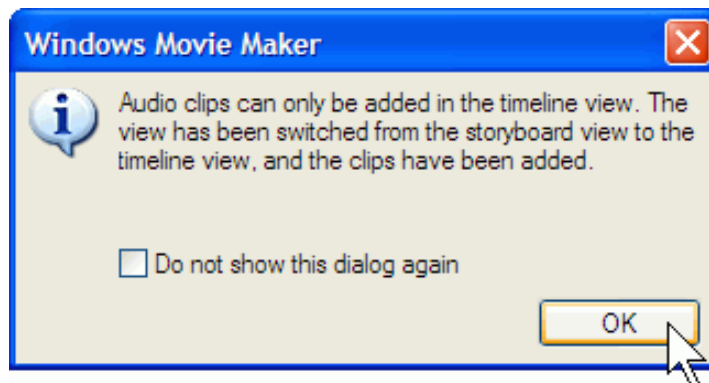
3. In the **Import File** dialog box, click the name of the song you want to use in the background. Then click **Import**. This adds your song to your collection but does not add it to your video.



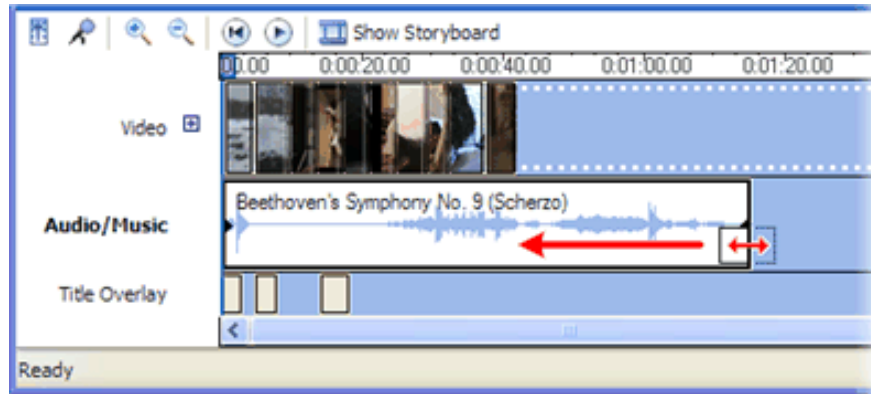
4. Drag the song from the collection to the video clip where you want the music to start playing.



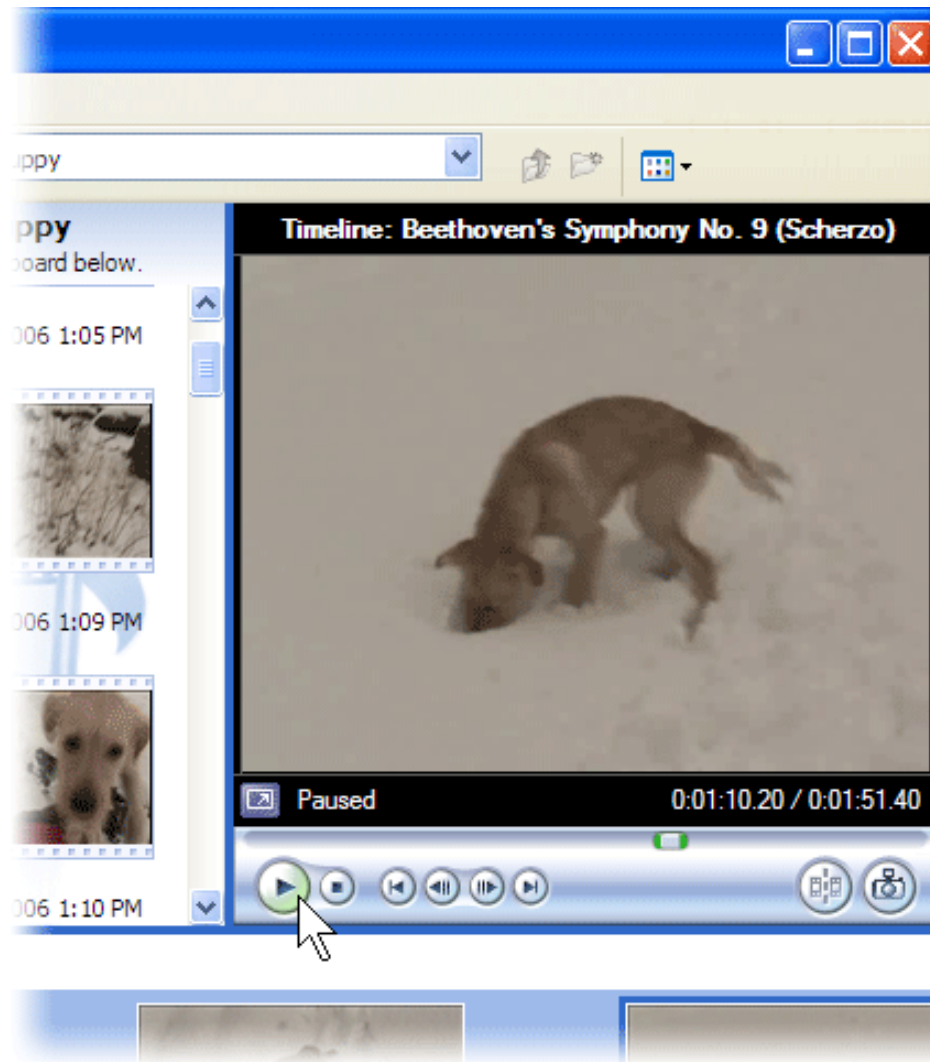
5. If prompted, click **OK**.



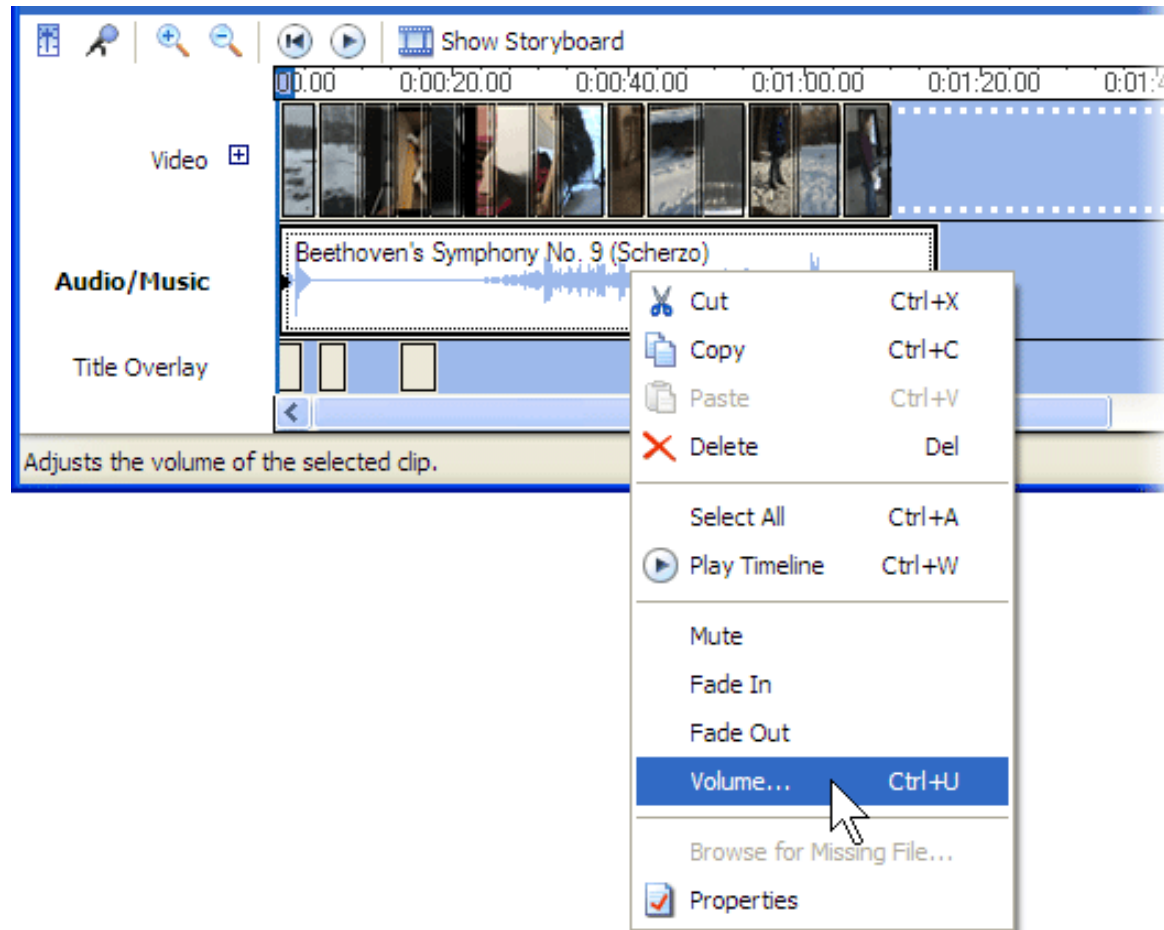
6. Movie Maker shows your song on the timeline. If the song extends beyond the end of the movie, drag the right edge of the song so that it ends at the same time as your movie. Otherwise, the song will keep playing after your movie is done. It's a nice touch to have the music stop during a quiet spot so that it doesn't just stop abruptly.



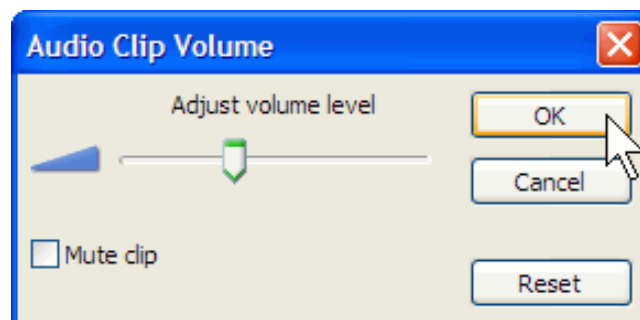
7. Click **Play** in the **Preview Monitor** to watch your movie and listen to the background music.



8. If the background music is too loud or too soft in comparison to the movie, right-click the music on your timeline, and then click **Volume**. If the audio and music sound good, you can skip the next step.



9. In the **Audio Clip Volume** dialog box, move the slider to the left to make the music quieter, or to the right to make it louder. Then click **OK**. Return to [step 7](#) to listen to the audio again and make another adjustment if necessary.



Next time you're filming video, think about the background music. For example, if you're filming a football game, see if you can get a copy of the team's fight song. If you're on vacation, buy a CD of local music so you can add it to your movie.

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## Add transitions and special effects

Published: August 8, 2006

Windows Movie Maker includes about 60 transitions and 28 special effects you can easily use to add professional touches and visual interest to your movies.

Transitions are how one scene switches to the next. Rather than simply ending one scene and beginning the next, you can use Movie Maker transitions to insert fades, flips, dissolves, and other dramatic shifts between scenes.

[Special effects](#) change the appearance of a video clip by rotating it, slowing it down or speeding it up, or making it appear like old film footage. Like transitions, you can easily add special effects to your movie by dragging the relevant special effect icon onto your movie timeline.

### How to add a transition

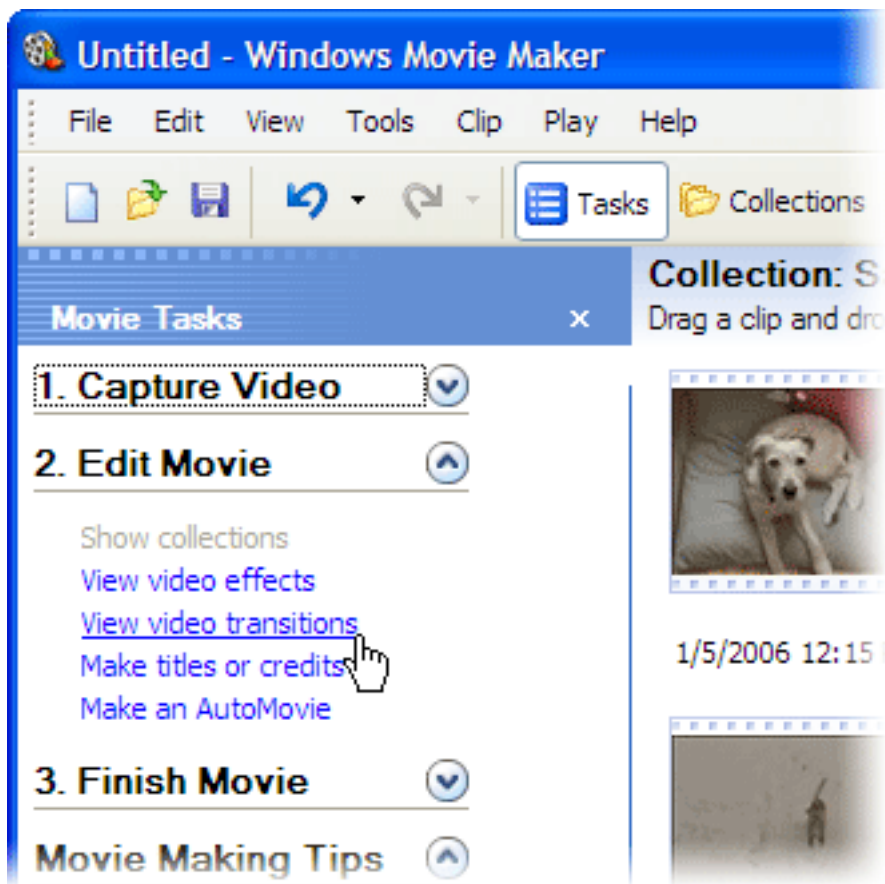
Transitions do cool things as your movie switches from one scene to the next.

**Note:** In most movies and TV shows, there are no transitions; scenes simply advance from one to the next. Therefore, for the most professional appearance, don't use any transitions. Home movies are supposed to be fun, though, so use all the crazy transitions you want. However, remember your audience: you might want to use just use a few so you don't overwhelm your viewers.

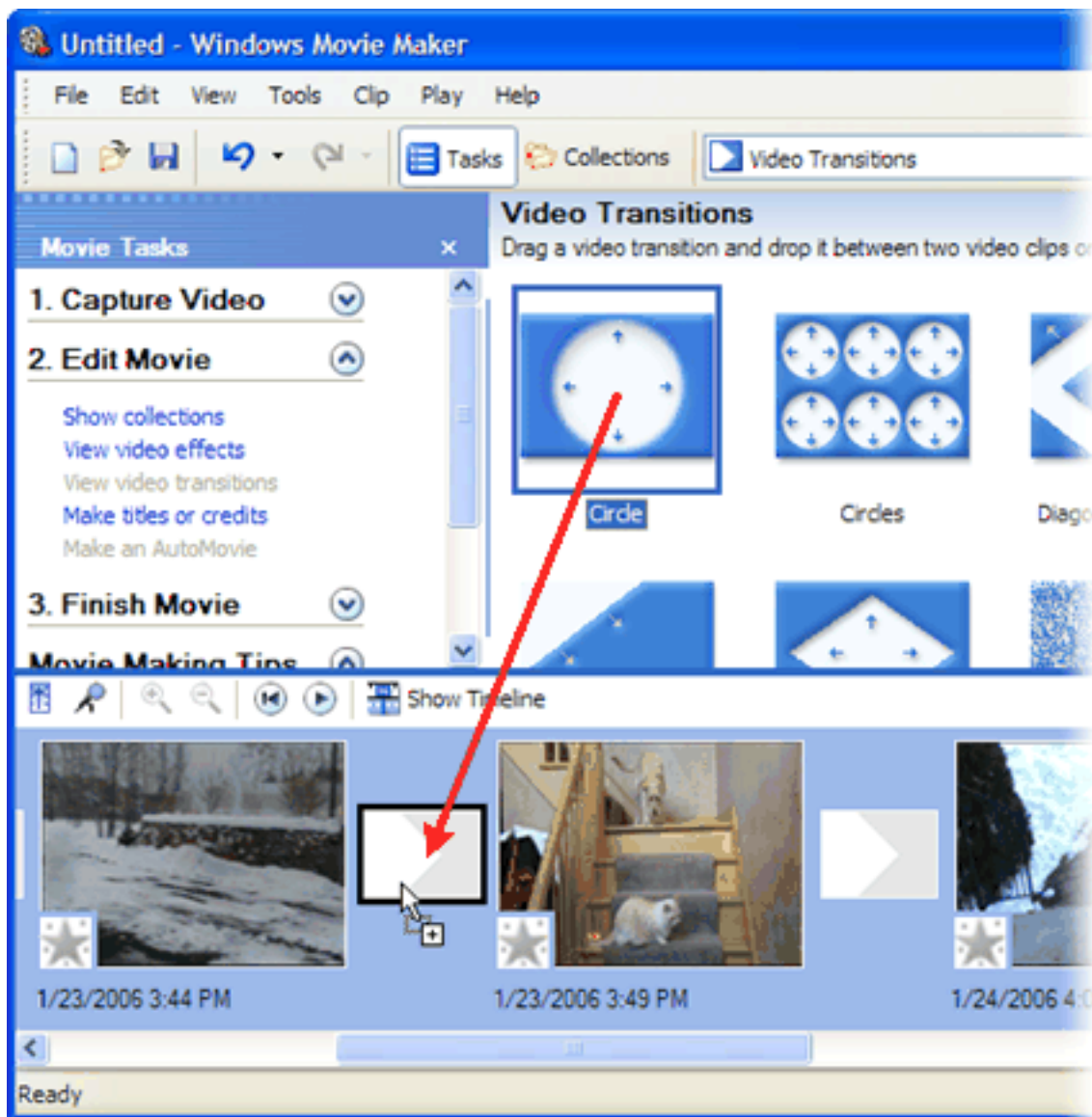
#### To add a transition between two movie clips

1. [Download video from your camera to your computer](#), and [add clips from your collection to your storyboard](#).

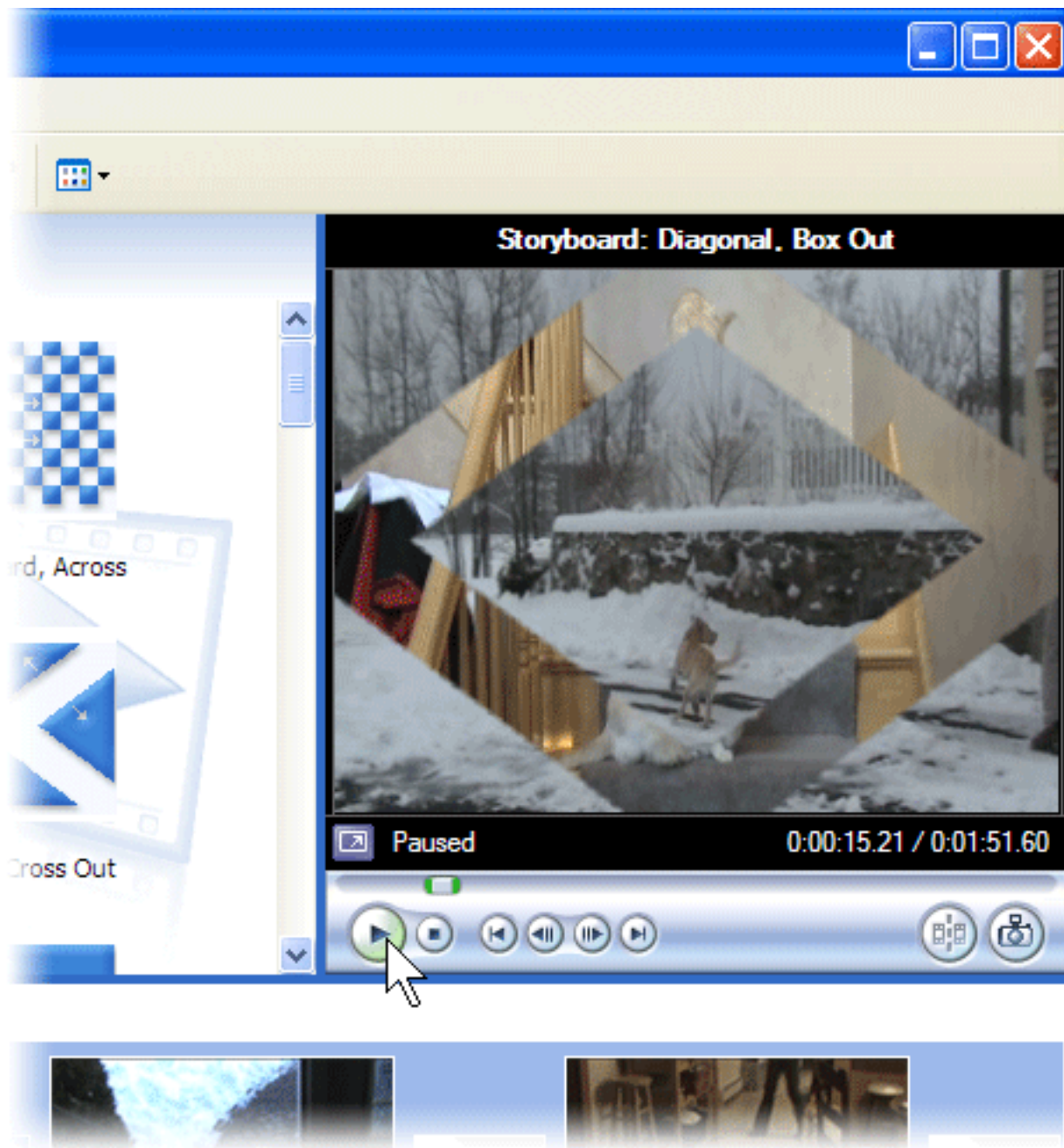
2. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Edit Movie**, click **View video transitions**.



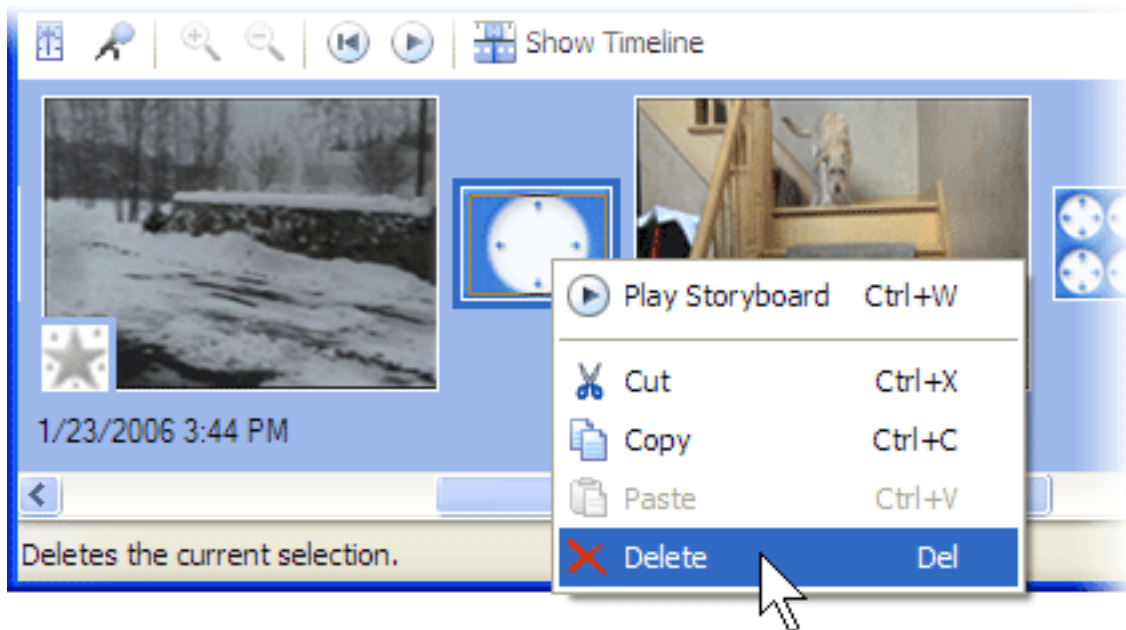
3. Preview transitions by double-clicking them and watching the Preview Monitor. Once you've found a transition you like, drag it from the **Video Transitions** pane, under **Edit Movie** pane to the box between two of your clips. This inserts the transition between the two clips.



4. In the Preview Monitor, click the **Video Transitions** pane, under **Play** button to watch your transition in action. If you don't like it, just return to the previous step to replace it with a different transition.



If you decide not to use any transition, right-click it on the storyboard, and click **Delete**.



Transitions cause your video clips to overlap by about one second, which means you won't see all of the first or last second of your clip. So, when you're filming, it's good to start the camera a few seconds before the action starts, and to keep filming for a couple of seconds afterward so that you have time to transition between scenes. This also helps you get a steadier shot. If you don't need the extra time in a clip, you can [trim it from your clip in Movie Maker](#).

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## How to add a special effect

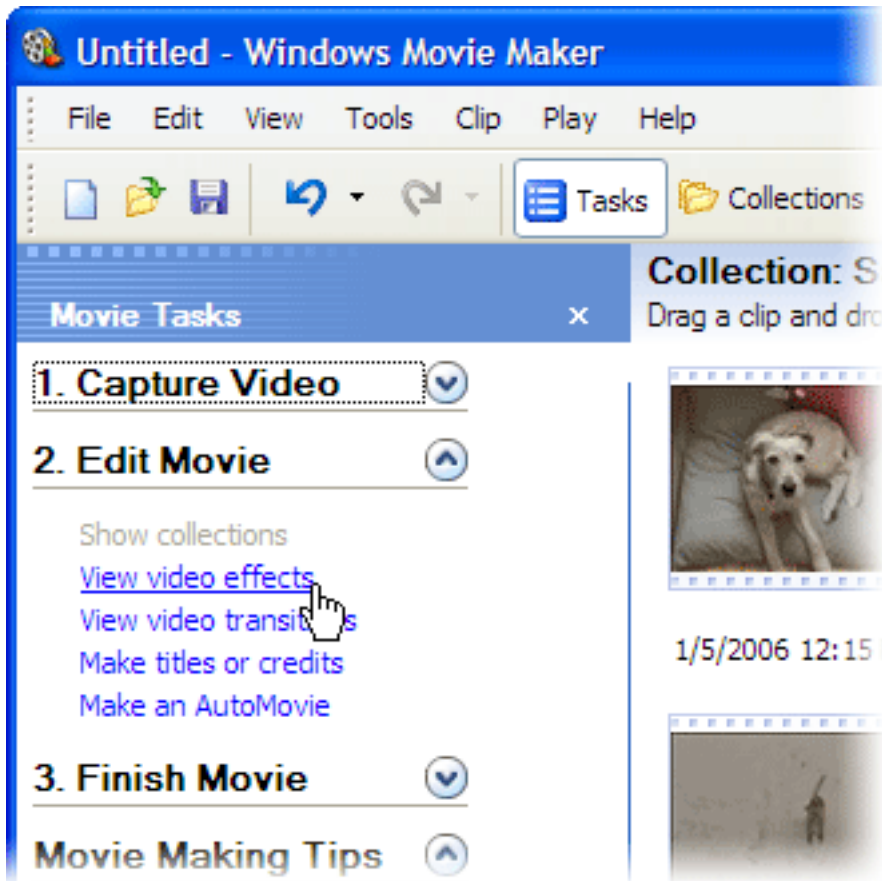
You can use special effects to change how your clips play in several different ways:

- Speed up a clip using **Speed Up, Double**, or slow down a clip using **Slow Down, Half**.
- Zoom in using **Ease In**, or zoom out using **Ease Out**.
- Make a clip appear older by using **Sepia Tone, Film Age**, or **Grayscale**.
- Rotate a clip using one of the **Rotate** effects (perfect if someone accidentally holds the camera sideways).
- Fade in using one of the **Fade In** effects, or fade out using one of the **Fade Out** effects.
- Fix exposure problems using **Brightness, Decrease** or **Brightness, Increase**.

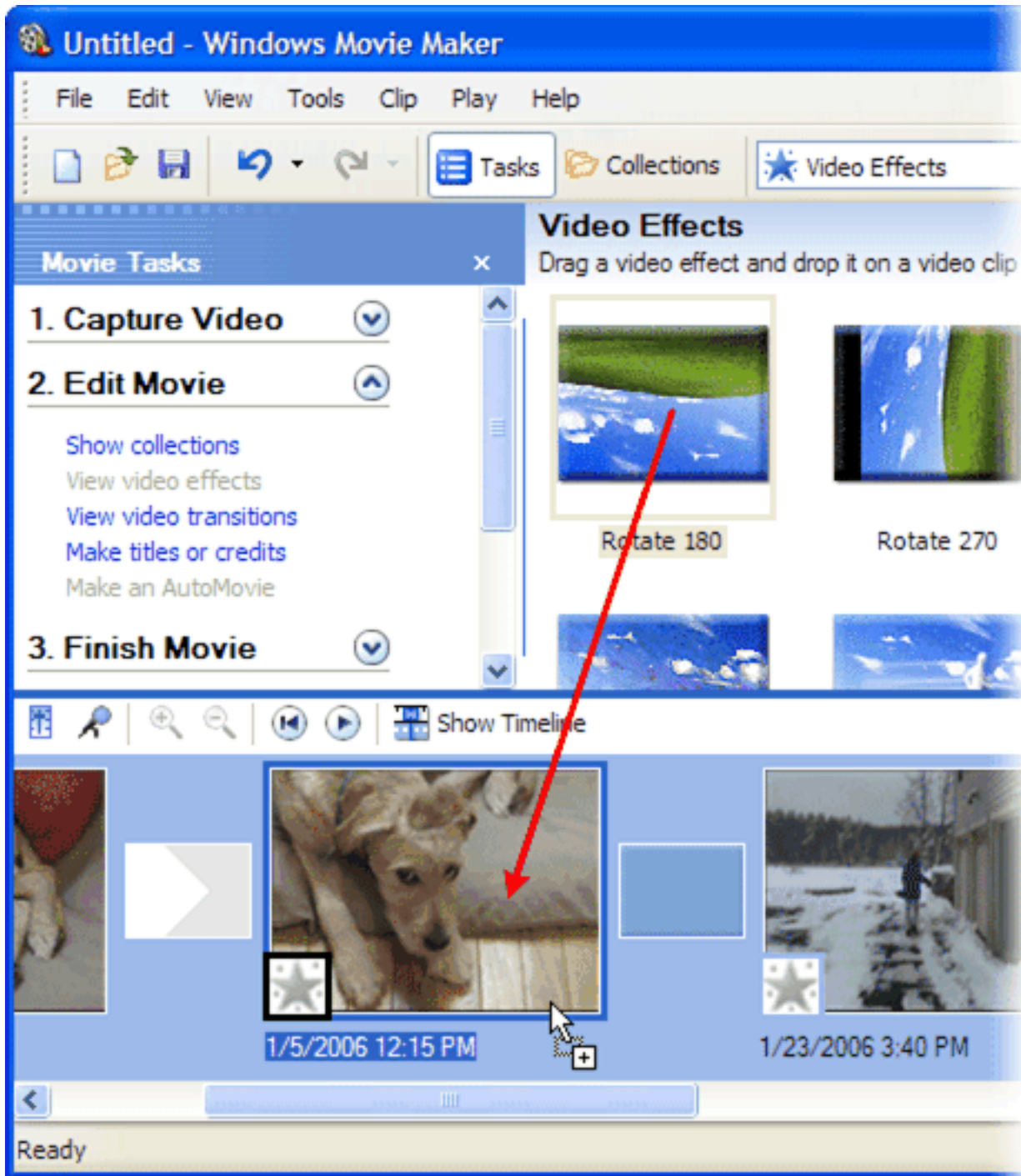
### To add a special effect

1. [Download video from your camera to your computer](#), and [add clips from your collection to your storyboard](#).

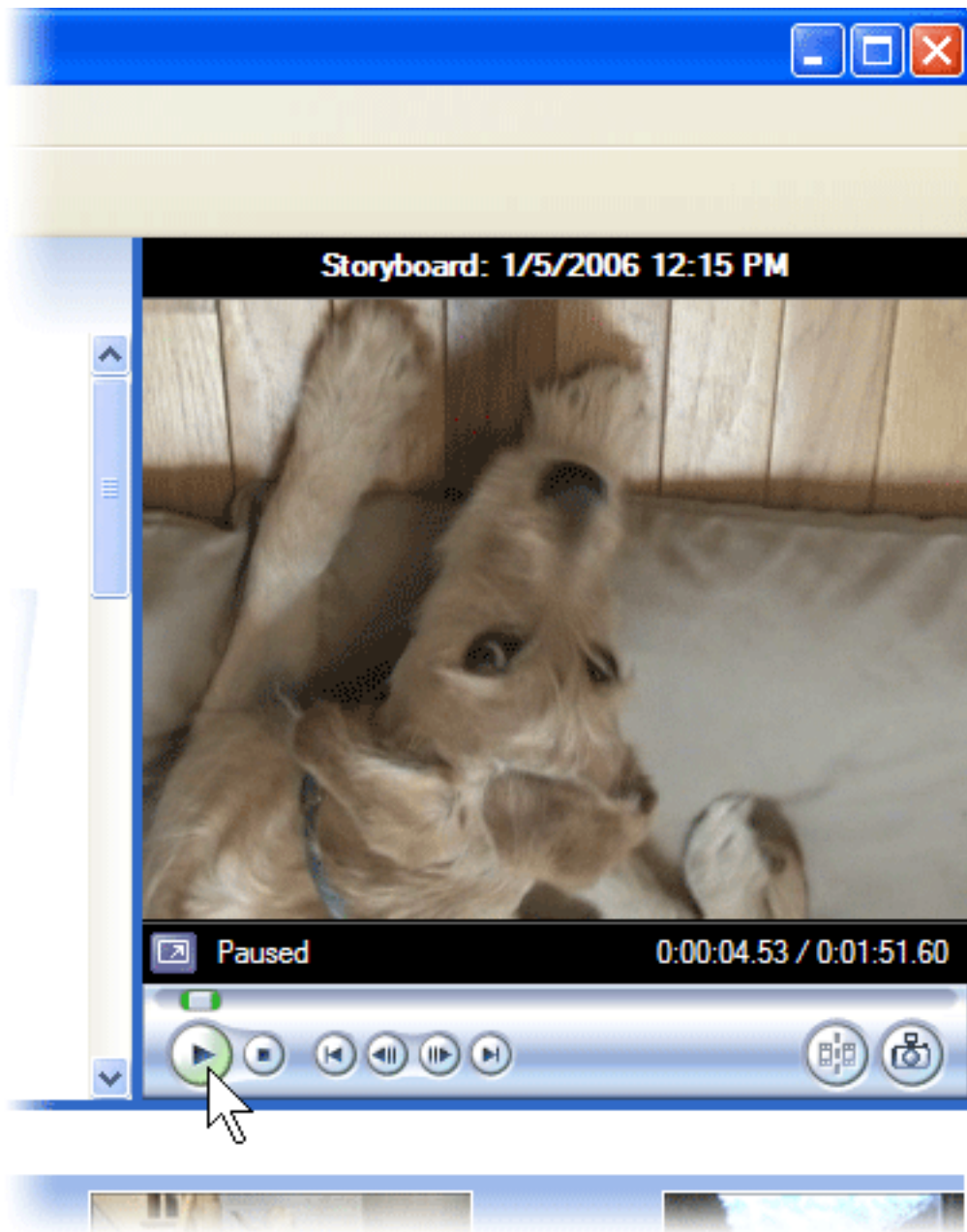
2. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Edit Movie** click **View video effects**.



3. Preview effects by double-clicking them and watching the Preview Monitor. Once you've found an effect you like, drag it from the **Video Effects** pane to one of your clips. This adds the effect to the clip, which you can see by looking at the star in the lower-left corner of the clip.

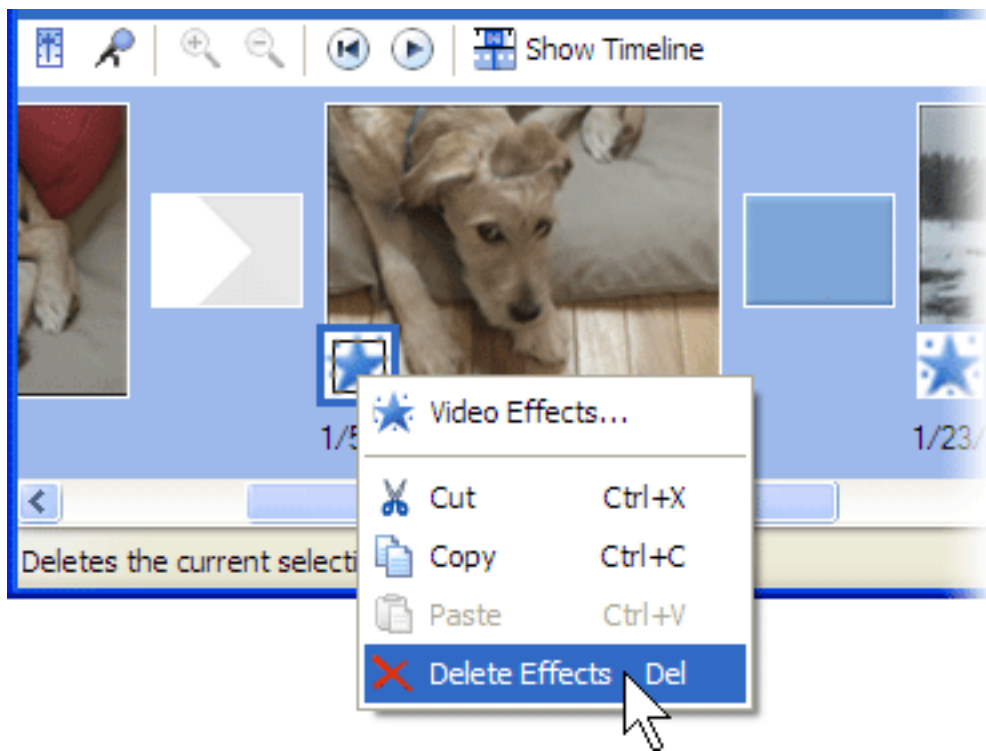


4. In the Preview Monitor, click the **Play** button to watch your effect in action.



You can add more than one effect to a clip. For example, if you want to both brighten a clip and add a zoom effect, you can add **Ease In** and **Brightness, Increase**. You can also add a single effect multiple times to increase the effect. For example, add multiple **Brightness, Increase** effects to brighten a scene even more, or add two **Speed Up Double** effects to quadruple the speed of a clip.

If you don't like the effect, right-click the **star** icon in the lower-left corner of the clip, and click **Delete Effects**.



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## Save your movie to a DVD

Published: August 8, 2006

Part of the tradition of home moviemaking is gathering the family around the TV to watch the movie. You don't have to give up that tradition when you make the switch to digital video. You can save a Windows Movie Maker project to a high-quality video file, and then burn (or write) that file to a DVD using a DVD burner and video DVD burning program. You can then watch the DVD in almost any standard DVD player. DVDs are a great way to share movies with friends and family, and they make great gifts.

To save your movie to a DVD:

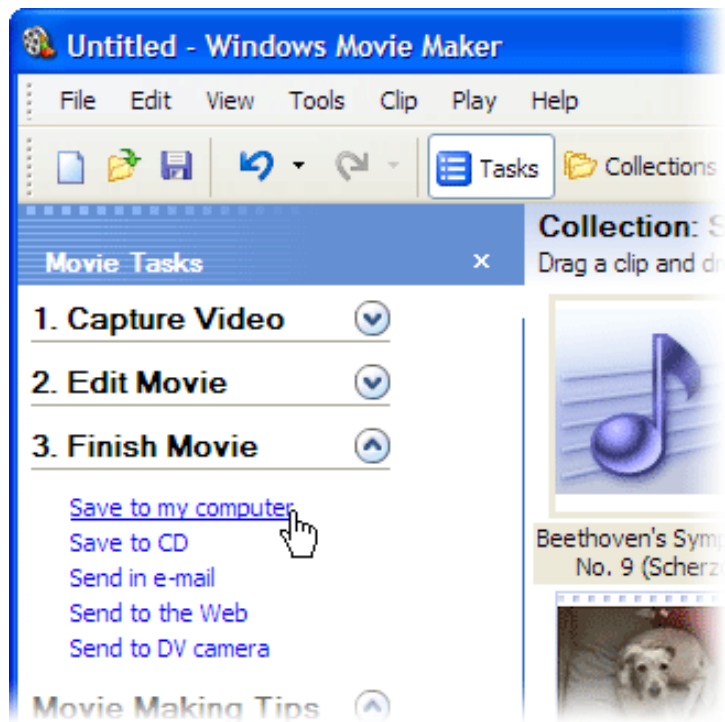
1. [Save your movie to your computer.](#)2. [Burn the file to a DVD.](#)

### Save your movie to your computer

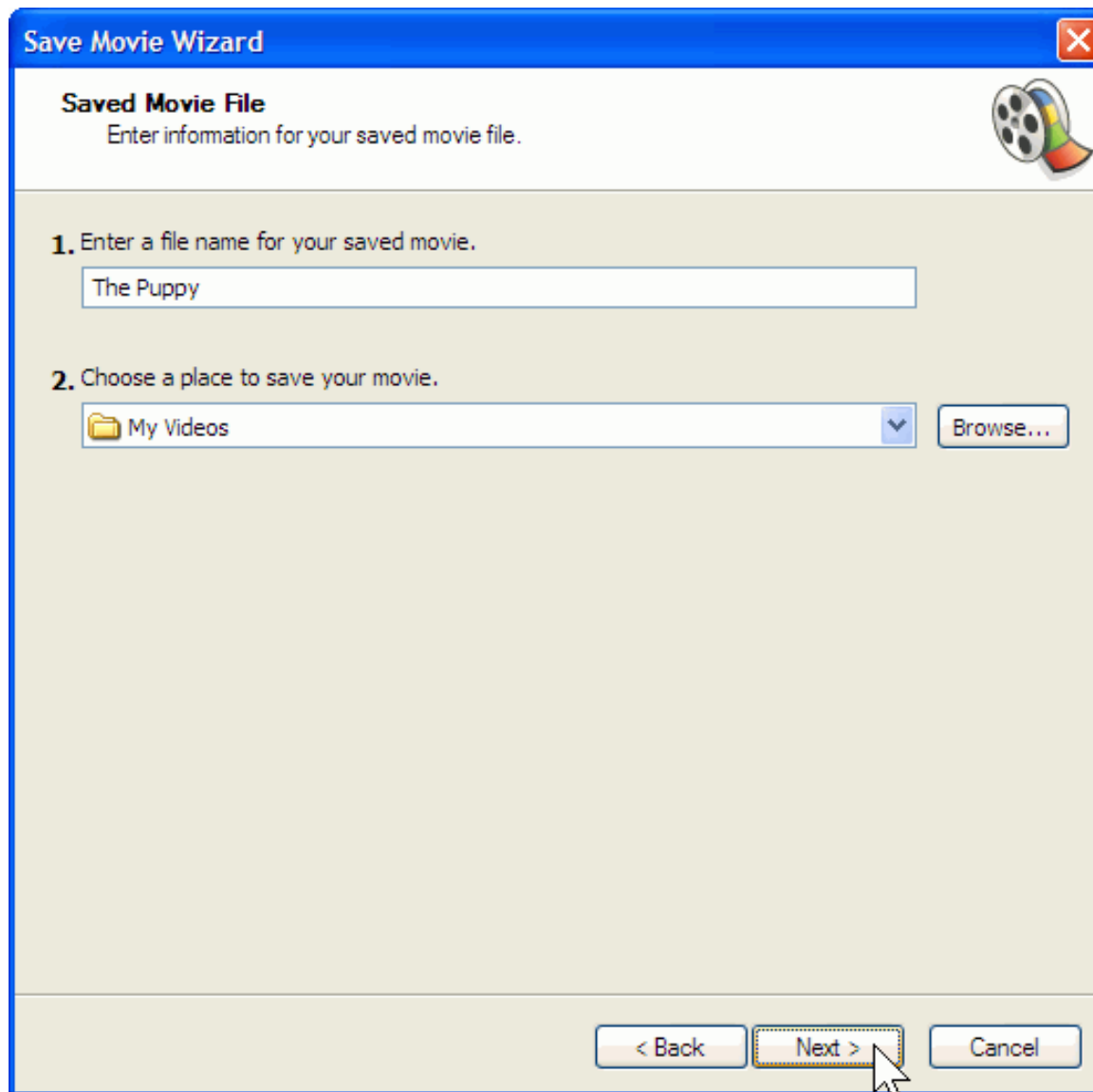
**To save your movie in the ideal video format for burning to a DVD**

1. Open your project in Movie Maker.

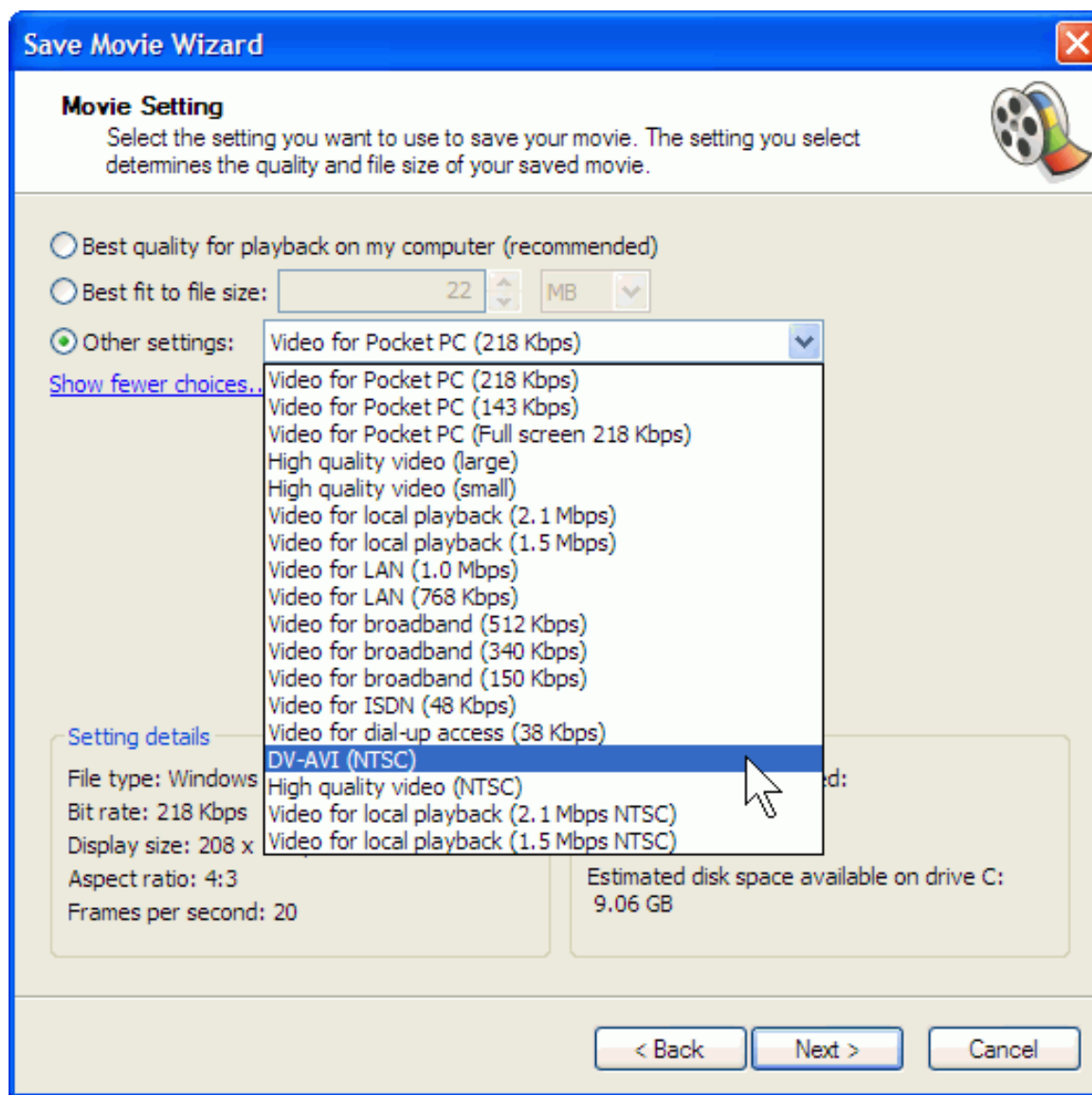
2. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Finish Movie**, click **Save to my computer**.



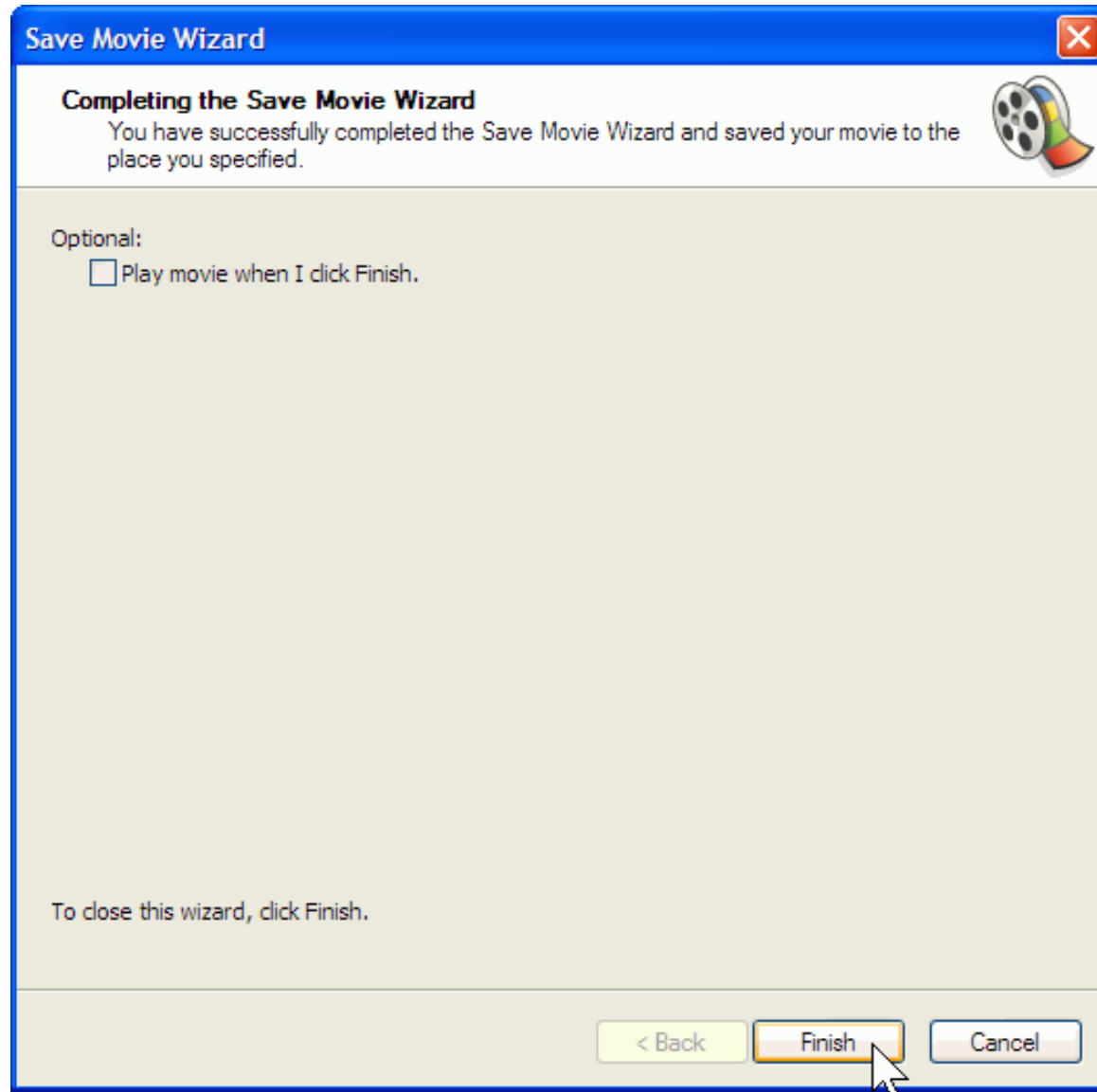
3. The Save Movie Wizard opens. On the **Saved Movie File** page, type a name for your movie. You can also choose a folder to save it in by clicking the **Browse** button, but My Videos (the default) is usually the best place. Then click **Next**.



4. On the **Movie Setting** page, click **Show more choices**, then select the **Other settings** list, and click **DV-AVI**. Then click **Next**.



5. Movie Maker saves your movie, which may take several minutes. On the **Completing the Save Movie Wizard** page, clear the **Play movie when I click Finish** check box, and then click **Finish**.



If you want to save more than one movie to a DVD, repeat steps 1 through 5 to save a different movie. Then follow the steps in the next section to burn the file to a DVD.

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## Burn your movie to a DVD

To burn a DVD that you can play in a video DVD player, you need to have a DVD burner and video DVD burning software on your computer. Many new computers come with an internal DVD burner. However, if your computer does not already have one installed, you may find it easier to install an external [USB DVD burner](#).

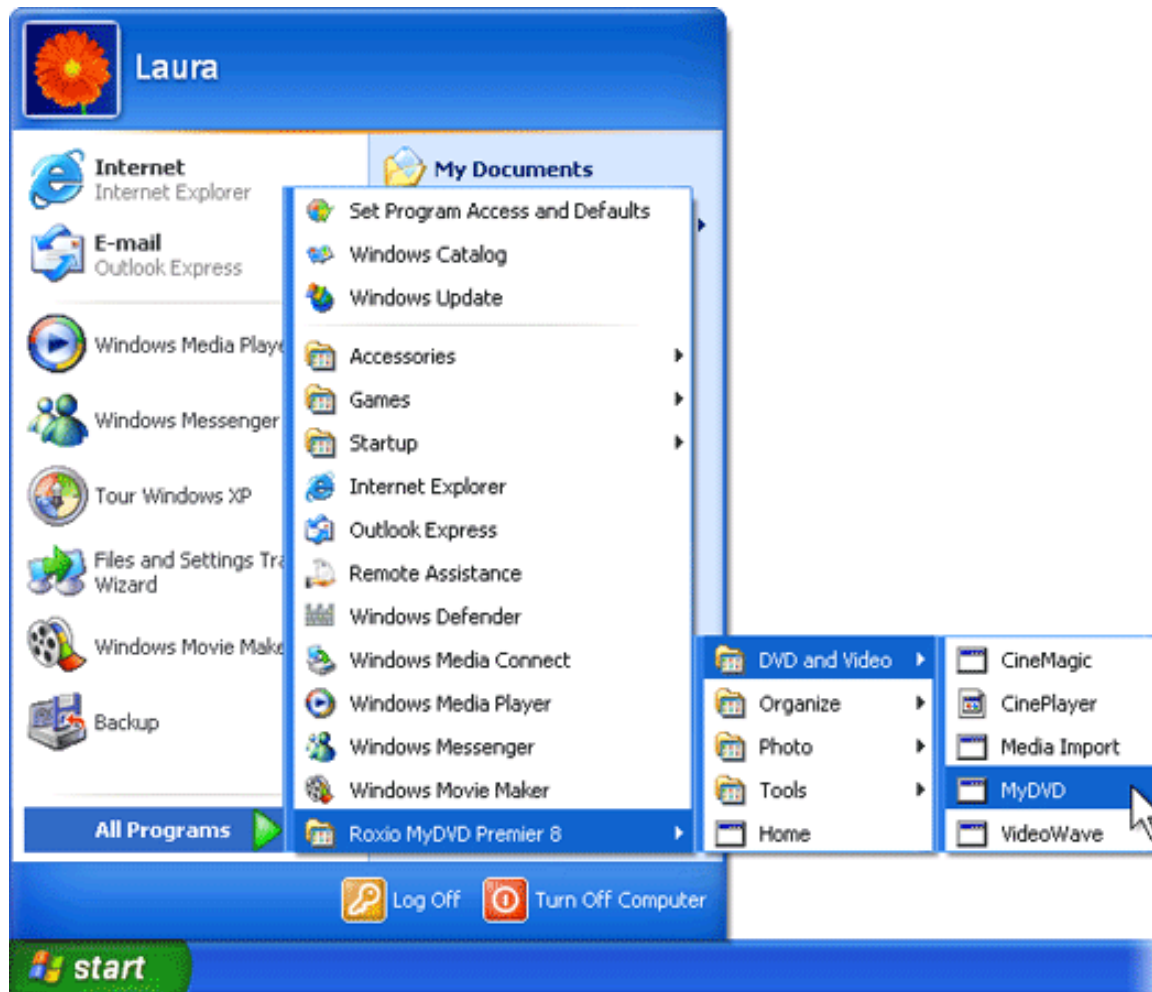
You can choose from a number of programs for burning video DVDs, such as [Roxio MyDVD](#). Keep in mind that every program is different, but the basics are the same. These instructions show you how to create a DVD using Roxio MyDVD 8.

### **To burn a movie to a DVD**

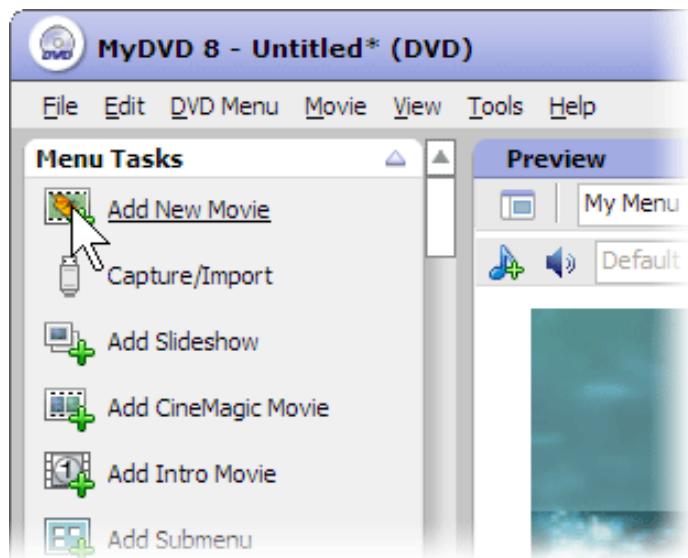
1. Insert a blank, writeable DVD into your DVD drive.



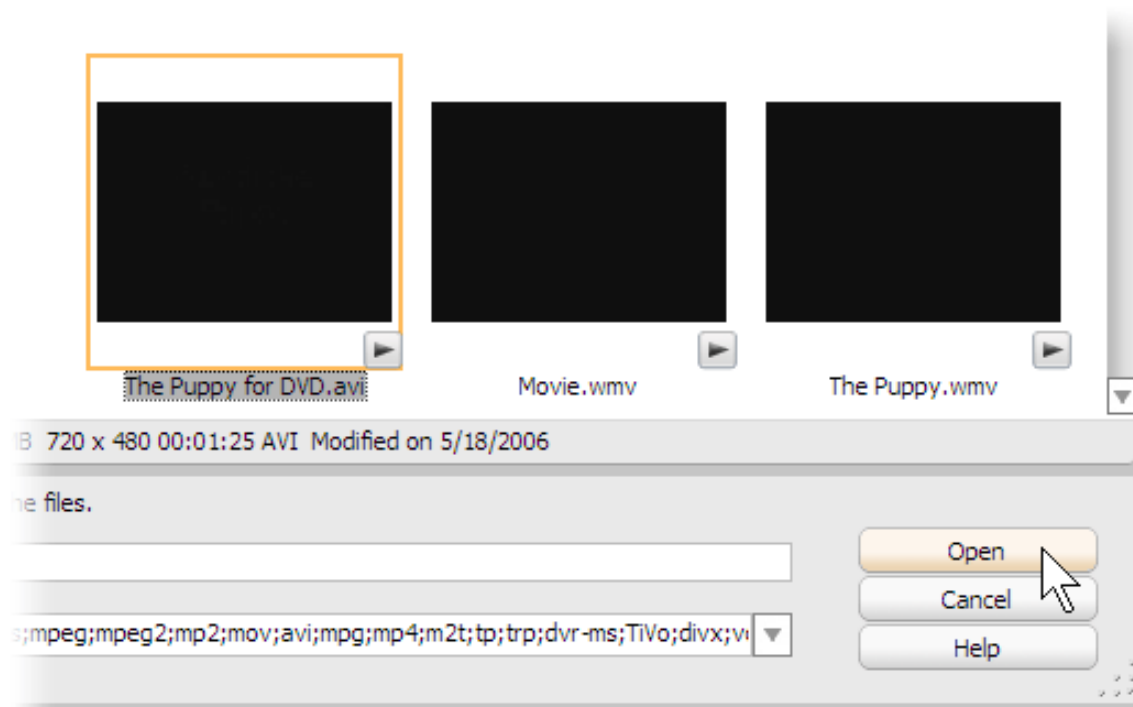
2. Click **Start**, then click **All Programs**, point to **Roxio MyDVD**, point to **DVD and Video**, and then click **MyDVD**.



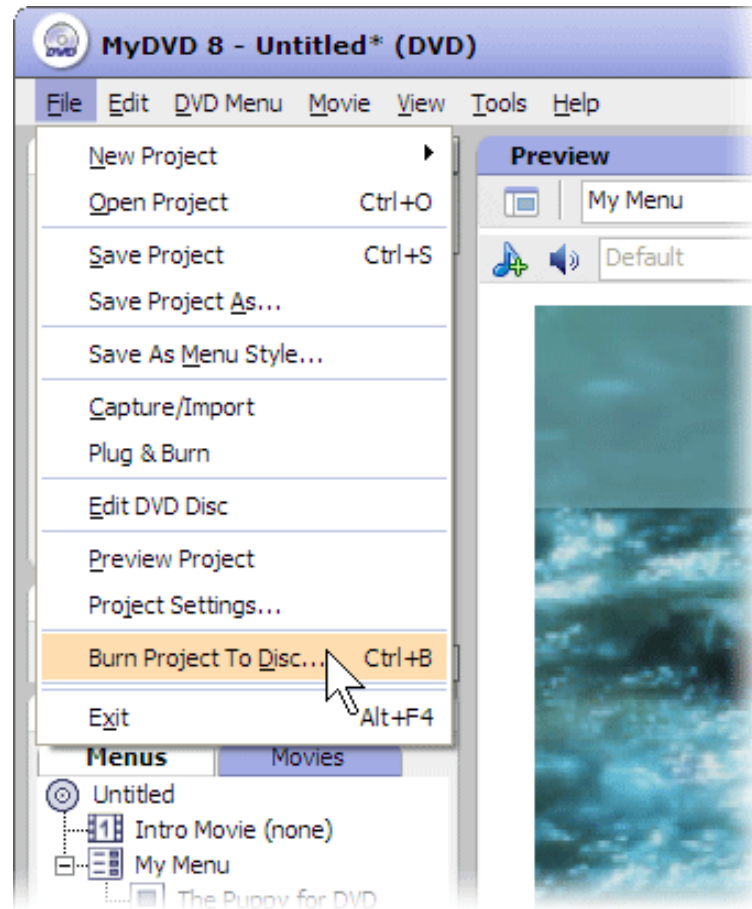
3. In the **MyDVD** window, under **Menu Tasks**, click **Add New Movie**.



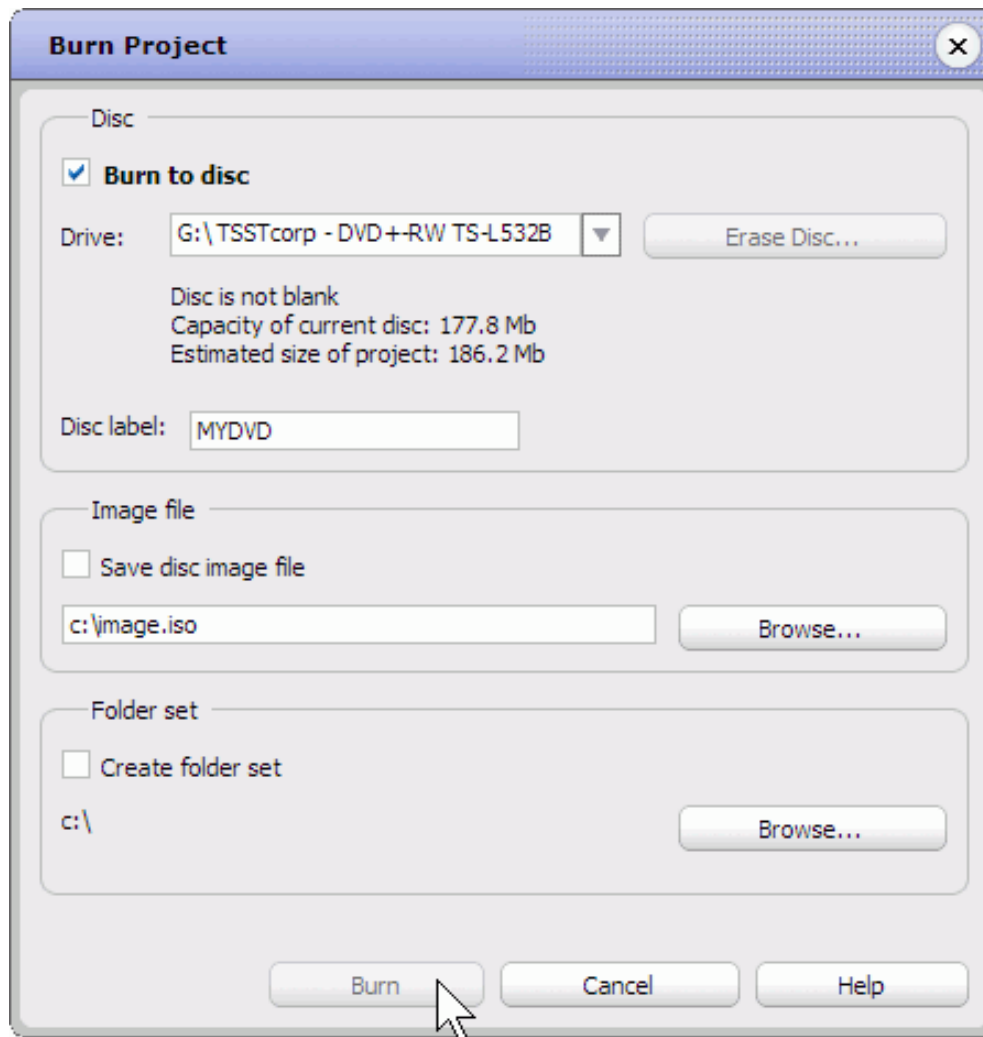
4. In the **Select Media File** dialog box, choose your video, and then click **Open**. If you want to add more than one video, return to the previous step and add more movies.



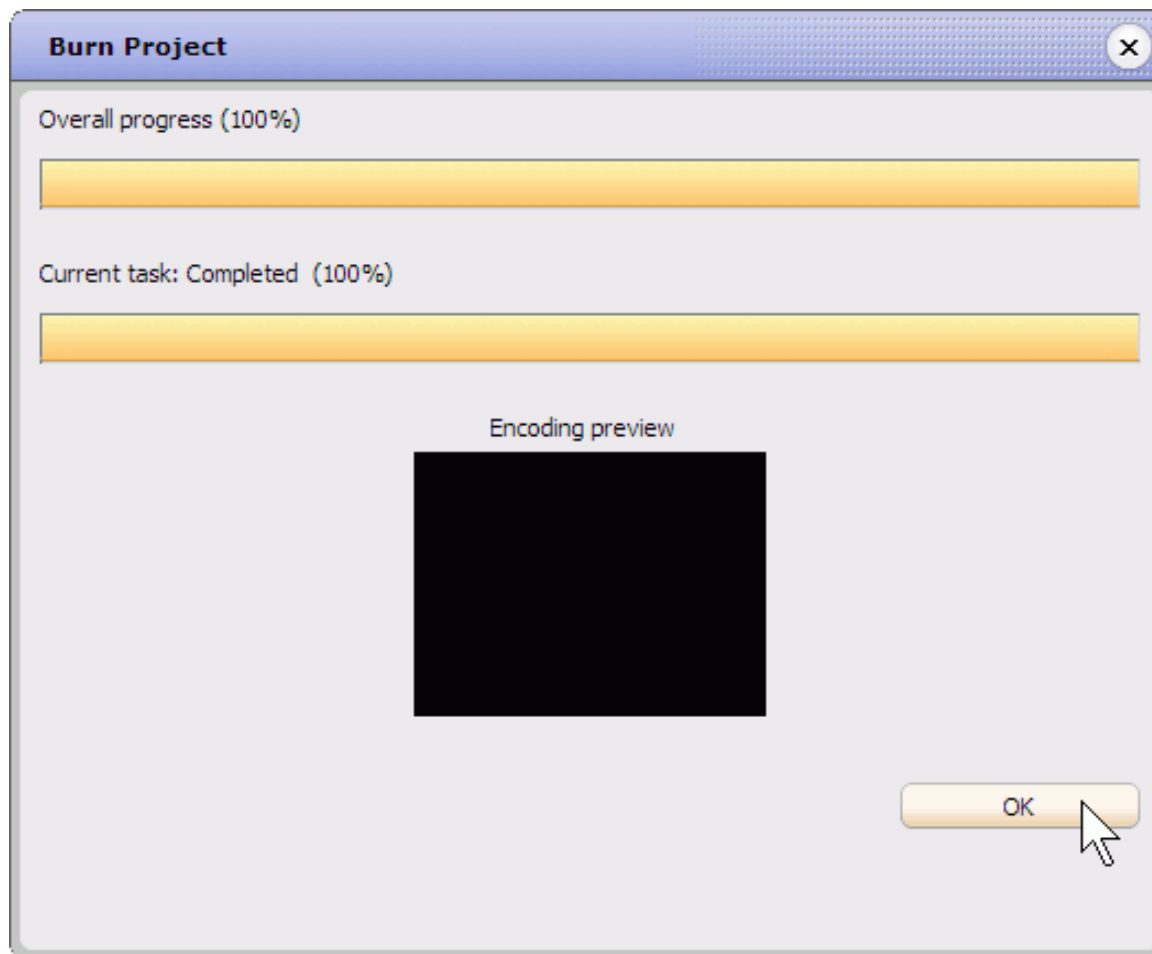
5. In the **MyDVD** window, click the **File** menu, and then click **Burn project to disc**.



6. In the **Burn Project** dialog box, make sure the **Burn to disk** check box is selected, and then click **Burn**.



7. MyDVD burns your movie to a DVD, which will take several minutes. After MyDVD finishes, it automatically plays the movie. Close the movie, and then click **OK** in the **Burn Project** dialog box.



You can now eject the DVD and play it in a standard DVD player. Be sure to label it with a permanent marker so that you can identify it later. To burn another copy of the DVD, insert another writeable DVD, and then return to [step 6](#).

**Note:** While most new DVD players support most types of writeable DVDs, some older DVD players can have problems playing custom DVDs. DVD-R or DVD+R are compatible with most players. DVD-RW and DVD+RW media are only supported by newer DVD players that specifically support rewriteable discs.

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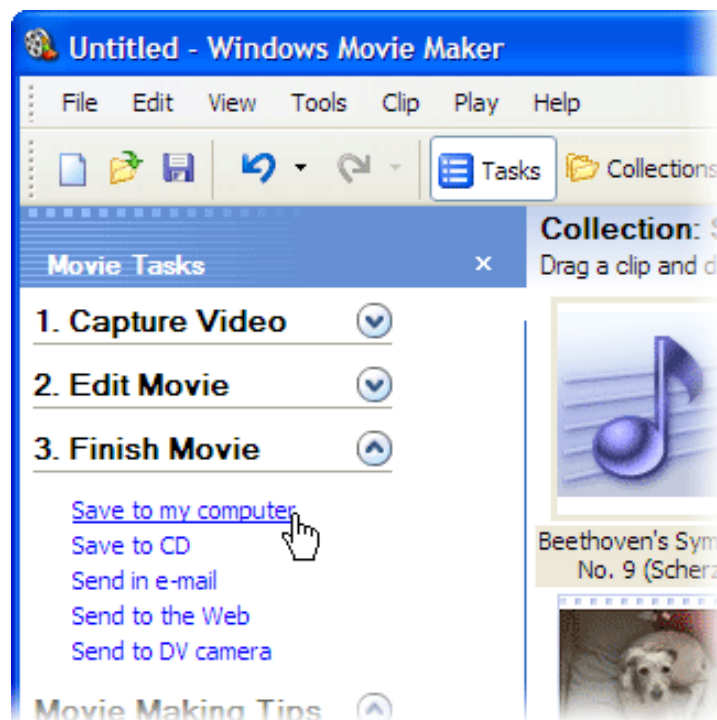
## Save your movie to your computer

Published: August 8, 2006

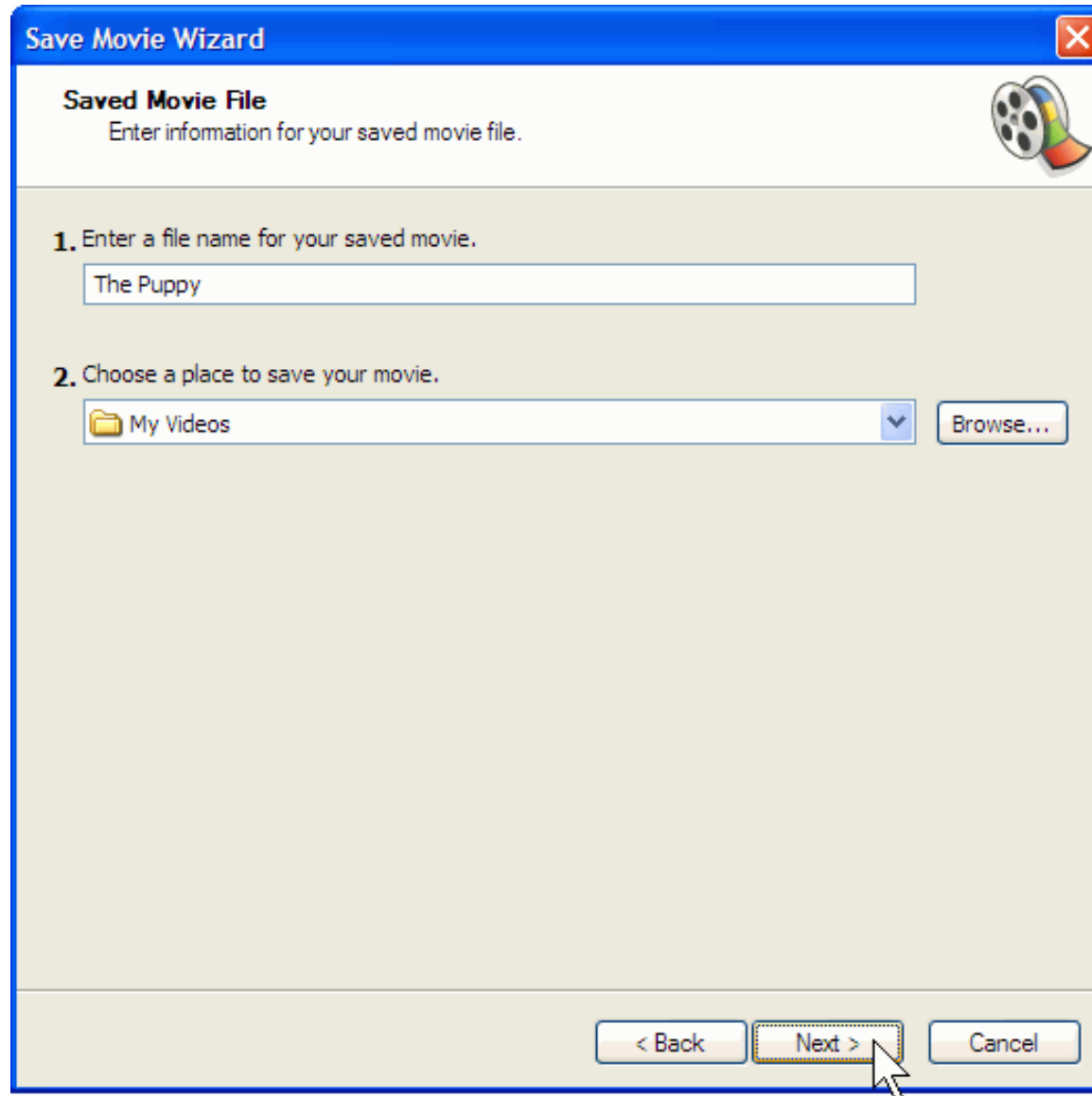
Saving a movie that you created in Windows Movie Maker as a file on your computer will give you the highest-quality movie file. Later, you can watch the movie by double-clicking it, which opens and plays it in Windows Media Player. Computers will probably always support common video formats, so saving your video to your computer is also a great way to make sure it will always be accessible.

### To save your movie to your computer

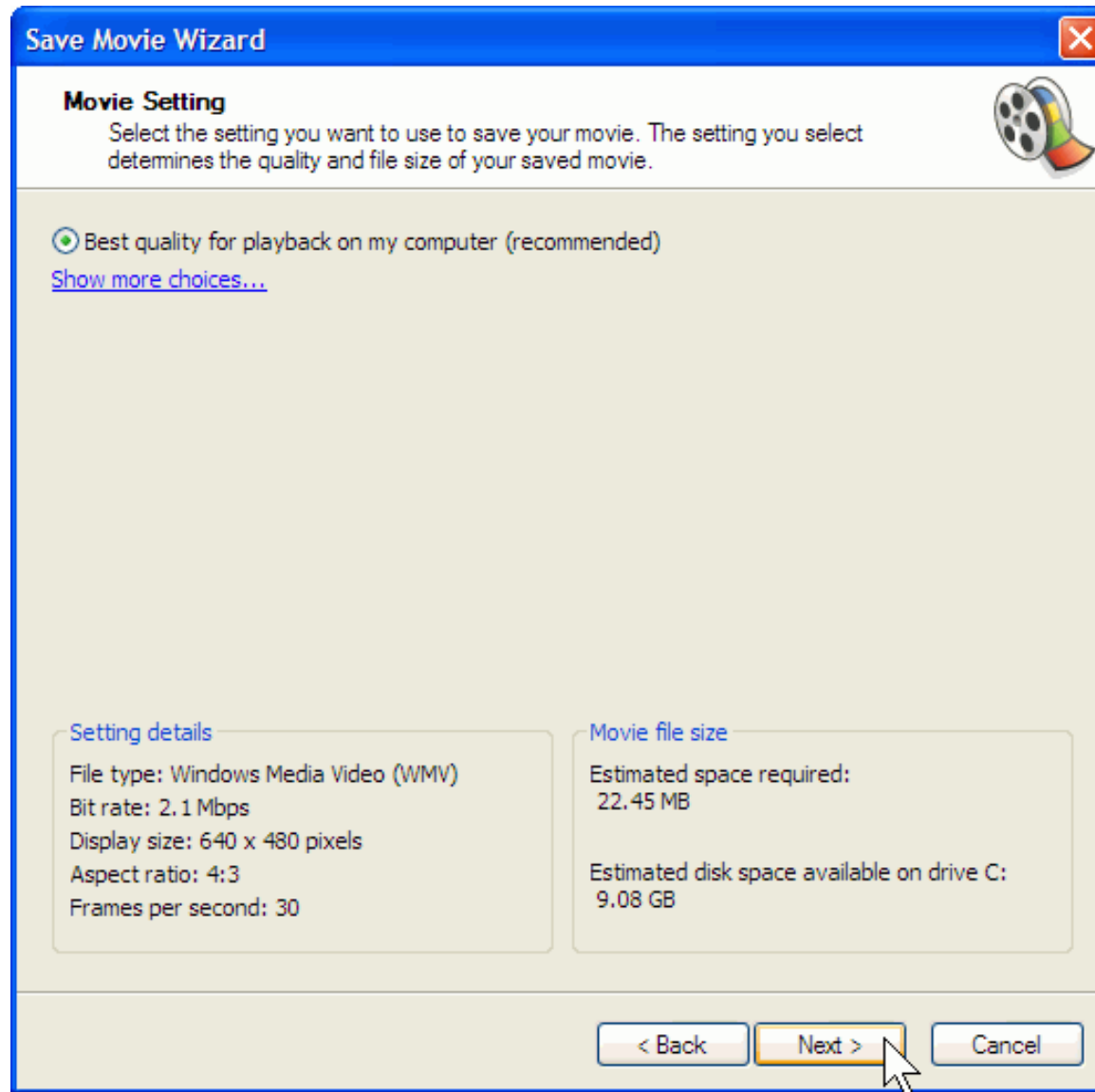
1. Open your movie in Movie Maker.
2. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Finish Movie**, click **Save to my computer**.



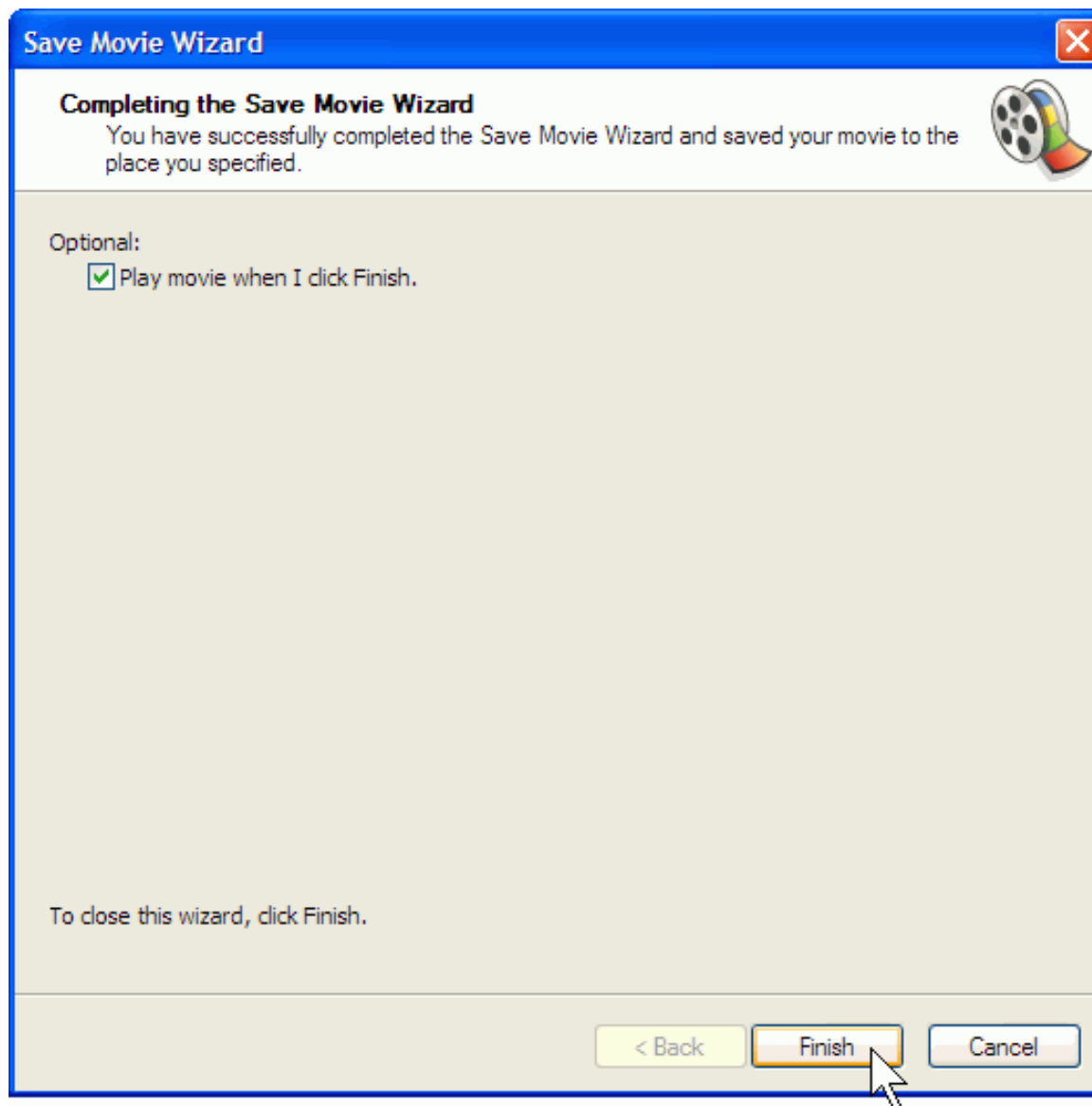
3. The Save Movie Wizard appears. On the **Save Movie File** page, type a name for your movie. You can also choose a folder to save it in by clicking the **Browse** button, but My Videos (the default) is usually the best place to save your movie. Then click **Next**.



4. On the **Movie Setting** page, click **Next** to accept the default setting of **Best quality for playback on my computer**.



5. Movie Maker saves your movie, which might take several minutes. On the **Completing the Save Movie Wizard** page, click **Finish**. If **Play movie when I click Finish** was selected (it is selected by default), the movie will automatically play in Windows Media Player.



Now you can watch your videos anytime by opening your **My Videos** folder and double-clicking your movie. While the movie is playing in Windows Media Player, press ALT+ENTER to show the movie in full-screen view. Then press ESC to return to your desktop.

If you want to share your movie across the Internet, the most convenient ways are to [send it in an e-mail message](#) or [save it to a Web site](#). However, both these methods reduce the video quality so that the movie downloads faster. If you want to share the high-quality movie you created by following the steps in this article, you can [copy the movie to a CD](#) or store it on a [USB flash drive](#). Then you can

share the movie with friends or family members by giving them the CD or flash drive, which they can use to view your masterpiece on their own computers.

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## Save your movie to a CD

Published: August 8, 2006

After creating a movie in Windows Movie Maker, you can share it with your family and friends in a variety of formats. One of the most popular media for sharing movies (and many other types of files on your computer) is the CD. In just a few steps, you can save or burn a Movie Maker project to a CD using a CD burner connected to your computer.

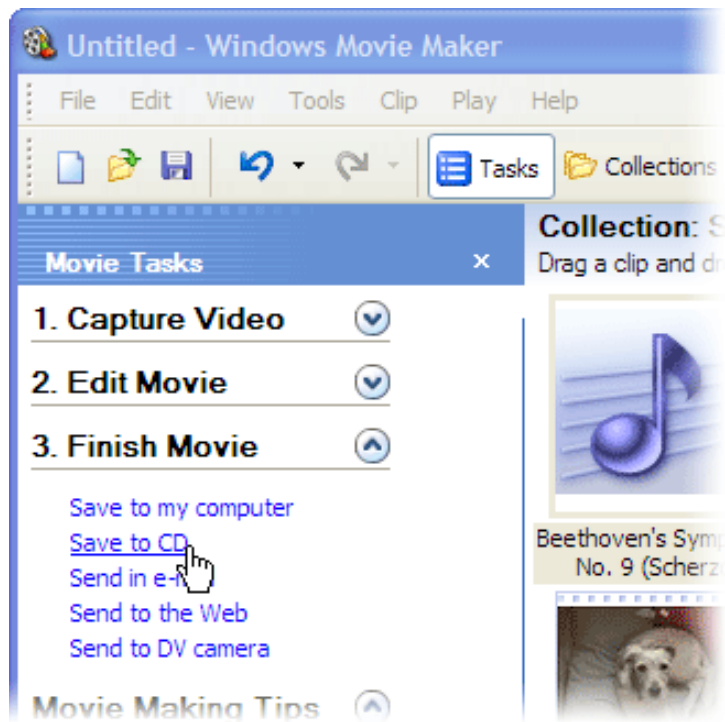
Before you begin, make sure to [save your movie to the hard disk on your computer](#) for safekeeping.

**To save your movie to a CD**


1. Open your project in Movie Maker.
2. Insert a blank, recordable CD into your CD burner.




3. In the **Movie Tasks** pane, under **Finish Movie**, click **Save to CD**.



4. The Save Movie Wizard opens. On the **Saved Movie File** page, type a name for your movie. Then click **Next**.

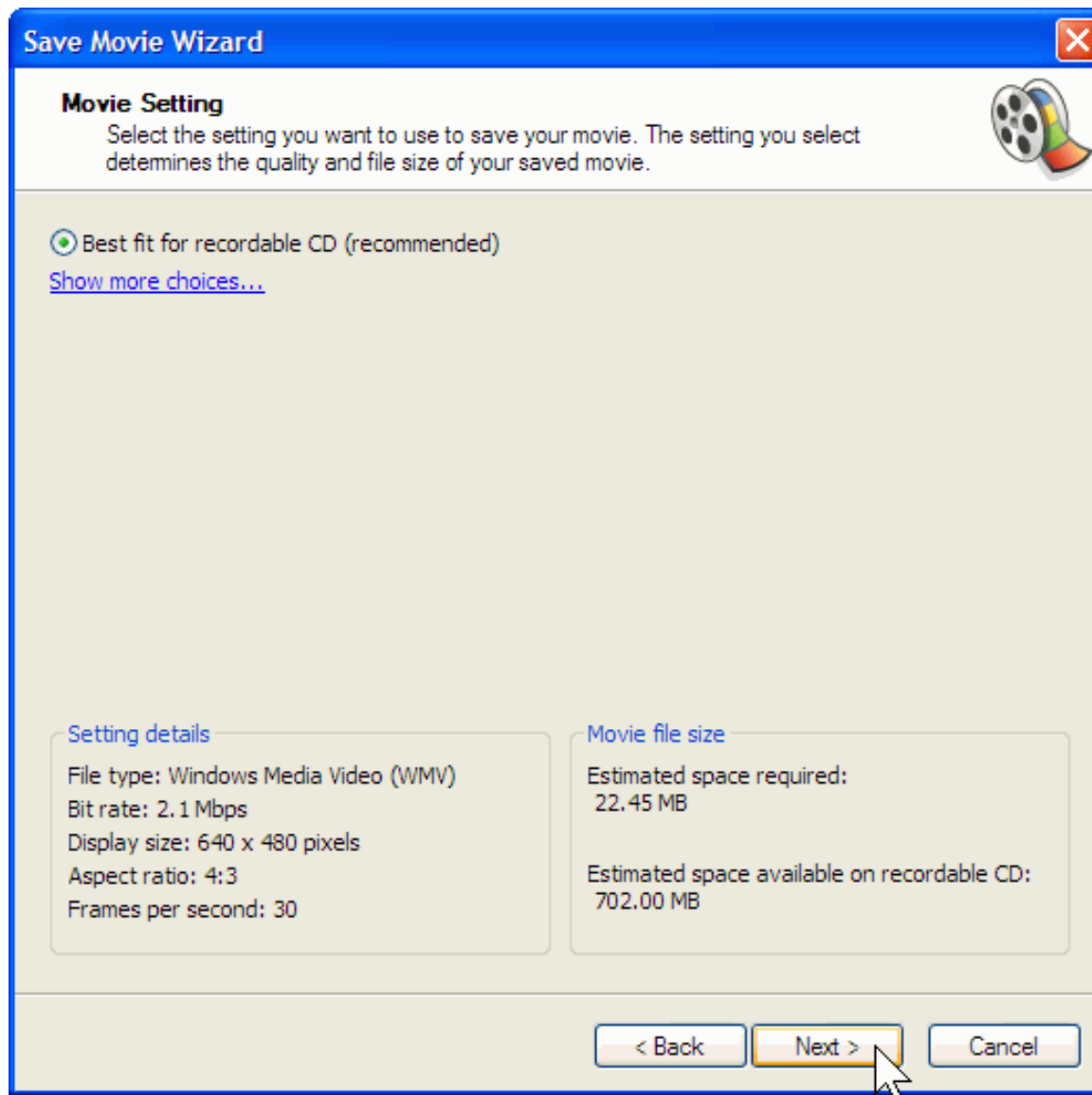
**Save Movie Wizard** 

**Saved Movie File**   
Enter information for your saved movie file.

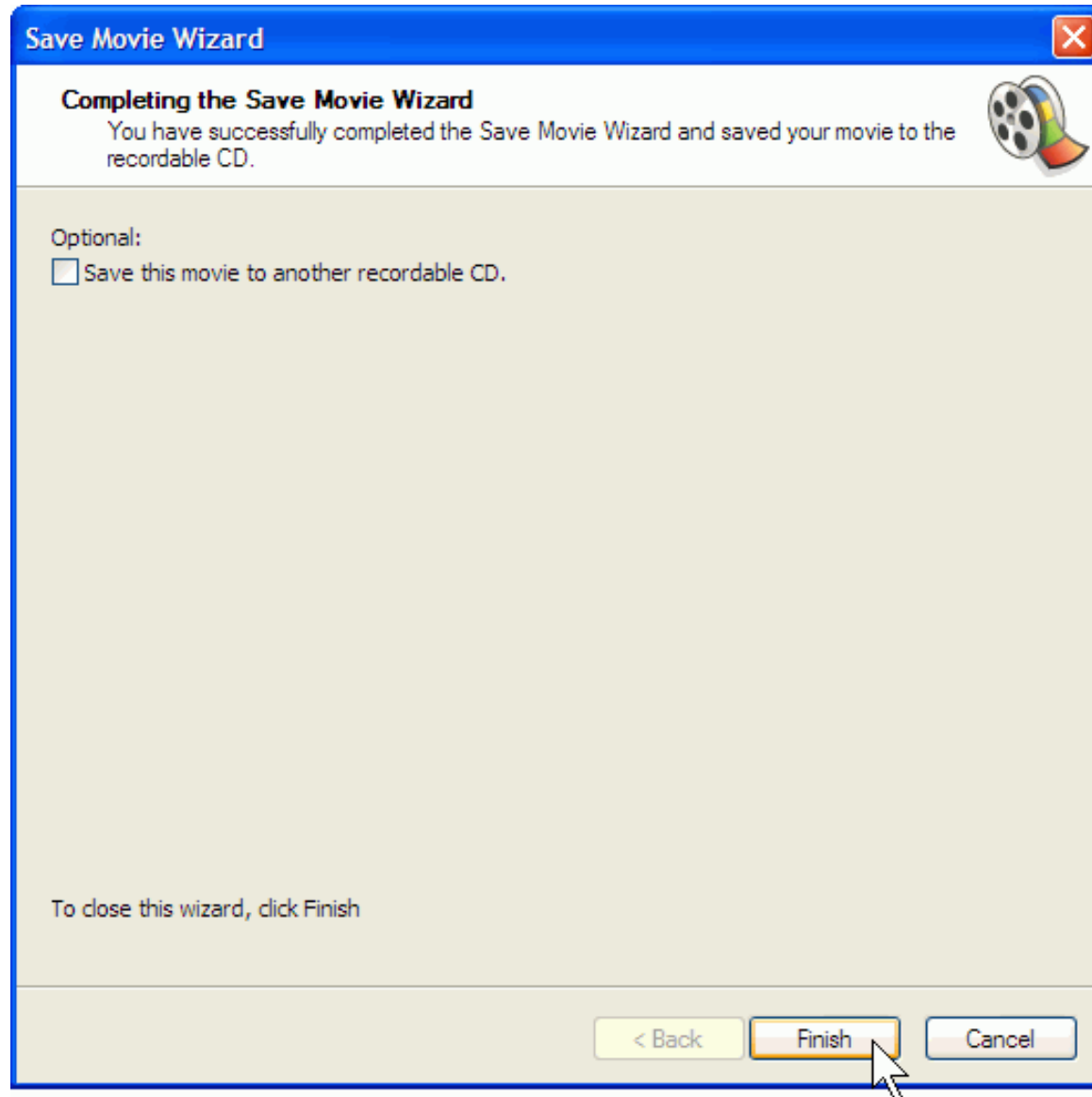
**1.** Enter a file name for your saved movie.

**2.** Enter a name for the CD.

5. On the **Movie Setting** page, click **Next**.



6. Movie Maker saves your movie, which might take several minutes, and then ejects your CD. If you don't want to make another copy, click **Finish**. If you do want to make another copy, insert a new blank, recordable CD, select the **Save this movie to another recordable CD** check box, and click **Next**. Then return to [step 4](#).



You can watch your movie by inserting the CD into a DVD player or the CD drive on your computer. Be sure to label the CD with a permanent marker. If the quality is not acceptable or your DVD player cannot play the CD, you can [save your movie to a DVD](#) instead.

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