

# DVD Database X 1.2 Documentation



## New Features in version 1.2

- Automatic upgrading of IMDB html parsing routines
- International character support
- Custom highlighting of playable and loaned DVD's
- Hide, show, reorder fields
- Movie runtime from IMDB added
- Many interface tweaks and bug fixes

## Download and Installation

DVD Database X is distributed as a zipped archive. Double-click the DVD Database X.zip file to uncompress it. Drop the DVD Database folder into your Applications folder, or keep it on your desktop. The **DVD data** folder must remain in the same folder as the application.

Drag and Drop the DVD Database application icon into your Dock for easy access to your movie collection.

## Adding Movies Manually

Click the Add button on the main screen (or hit Command-N), and fill in the fields. You must assign a unique movie title for each DVD that you add.

If you rarely use this screen, consider setting the Add button to bring up the IMDB screen. You can find this setting in Preferences > Behavior.

## Adding Movies Using IMDB

If you have an active internet connection, DVD Database X can perform a title search using the IMDB website.

From the menu, click Search > IMDB Lookup (or hit Command-M). Type in the movie title, and click Lookup (or hit the Enter key). DVD Database X will query the IMDB website. Search results are returned in the list, or the database fields are automatically filled in if an exact match is found. If more than one result is found, click the movie in the list to load the fields for each search result.

Click Add Movie to add the selected movie to your database.

IMDB changes its website layout periodically, so I've externalized the html parsing routines for DVD Database X. The file **IMDB script.txt** contains the REALbasic code that's used to separate the IMDB fields. When IMDB changes its website, I'll post a new version of this script on my webserver, and DVD Database X will download and install it automatically if the preference to do so is set. This preference is on by default, but you may turn it off from Preferences > IMDB.

IMDB is an independently operated website, and the author of DVD Database X cannot take responsibility for its content.

## **Editing Movies**

Select a movie from the main screen, and click Edit. Or, you may simply double-click a movie.

## **Searching Your Movies**

You can search the Title, Director, or Cast fields in your movie collection. From the menu, click Search > Search My Movies (or hit Command-S). Pick the field you want to search and type in what you want to search for. Searches are not case sensitive.

After a search, hit the Show All button to display your entire collection.

## **Showing and Hiding the Cover Graphics and Plot**

From the menu, click View > Show Cover and Plot (or hit Command-Z). The Movie and Plot drawer will slide out from the left side of the main screen, and display the cover art and plot for each movie clicked.

Click View > Hide Cover and Plot (or hit Command-Z again) to hide this feature.

DVD Database X will now remember if the drawer is out when you quit the program.

## **Printing a List of Your Movies**

Click File > Print > Print Movie List. Check the fields that you wish to print, or click All to print all fields. Click the Print One Movie per Page checkbox for a separate page for each movie. Click the Print button, and you will see the standard page setup and print dialogs for your printer.

## **Printing DVD Labels**

Select the movie from the main screen that you want to print a label for. Click File > Print > Print DVD Label (or hit Command-L). Check the fields that you want to print on your label, click Print, and you'll see the standard page setup and print dialogs for your printer.

The Horizontal Offset and Vertical Offset fields are used to adjust the position of the label printed on your label stock. If the print is not correctly positioned on your label sheets, you need to make adjustments to these settings. Each pixel is 1/72".

## **Printing DVD Jacket Inserts**

Select the movie from the main screen that you want to print a jacket for. Click File > Print > Print DVD Jacket (or hit Command-J). Check the fields that you want to print on your jacket, click Print, and you'll see the standard page setup and print dialogs for your printer.

## **Lending and Returning Movies**

Select the movie that you want to lend out. Click the Loan button, and select your friend from the pull-down list, or Add New to enter a new name. Click the Loan button.

When the movie has been returned, select it on the main screen, and hit the Return button.

## **Friends and Formats**

Delete friends (who have not returned your movies!) and video and audio formats by selecting Edit > Friends and Formats. Select the appropriate table, the appropriate entry, and click delete.

## **Importing and Exporting**

DVD Database X will import a tab-delimited text file (you can create this in AppleWorks) and add the movies to the database. Here is the file layout:

Movie title  
Genre  
Year  
Director  
Video Aspect Ratio  
Sound  
Cast  
Borrower  
Borrowed Date  
Path to VIDEO\_TS Folder  
Image file name (located in DVD data/images)  
Plot  
Runtime

To import a data file, click File > Import... and select the appropriate file.

Your movies can be exported to the same format by selecting File > Export...

## **Playing Movies From DVD Database X**

**IMPORTANT** - Any movie that you wish to play from DVD Database X cannot be encrypted. You can use any of the available utilities to create a backup of a commercial

DVD on your hard drive (such as DVDBackup 1.3).

From the Add New Movie or Edit Movie screen, click the Browse button next to the Path to VIDEO\_TS Folder text box. Navigate to the unencrypted VIDEO\_TS files, and click Choose. Click the Save button.

If you have done the above step, the Play button will appear when you click on the movie from the main screen. Click it, and the movie will play in full-screen mode within Apple's DVD Player.

I've included the source to the AppleScript that actually plays the movie, so you can edit it and recompile if you like. The source file is named **dvd script code.sct**. Once edited, it should be saved as an application (run only) and named **dvd script**.

## Preferences

I've included a new preference panel which allows you to set the appearance and behavior of DVD Database X.

### IMDB

Automatically check for new IMDB script file  
If this is set, DVD Database X will look on my webserver for updates for the IMDB script. If IMDB changes their website, I'll post a new version of the script within a day or two.

Check for new version now  
Checks for a new version of the IMDB script and installs it.

### Behavior

Add Button brings up IMDB screen  
If this is checked, the Add button will bring up the IMDB search screen. If unchecked, the manual add screen will be shown. You can still access either screen from the keyboard shortcuts.

### Display

Drag and drop the individual fields to reorder them on the main window.  
Check them to show, or uncheck them to hide their display on the main screen

### Appearance

Here you can select the colors for highlighting your playable and loaned movies. The color key on the top of the main screen can also be hidden.

I really appreciate all of your comments and suggestions! I'm currently looking into features to add to version 2.0, so if you have any ideas, please let me know.