ArcSoft

ArcSoft ShowBiz® DVD 2

User Manual

44601 Fremont Blvd., Fremont, CA 94538, USA
Tel: +1.510.440.9901 • Fax: +1.510.440.1270 • www.arcsoft.com

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1. Introduction

Installation

System Requirements

Workflow Overview

Chapter 1: Introduction

Welcome to ArcSoft ShowBiz® DVD 2, a powerful video application that includes everything you need to edit your home videos and create spectacular DVDs.

This Introduction covers the installation and system requirements and provides an overview of the typical ShowBiz workflow. The rest of the user manual covers how to capture video, edit and assemble video clips, and create a DVD movie. There is also a chapter that covers the program's menus and commands, and a set of "how tos" to walk you through common tasks.

1.1 Installation

1. Insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive.
2. The installer should start automatically.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

Take note as to where the program is installing, and where it can be found in the Start menu.

Note: If the installer does not start automatically, you will need to run it manually:

1. Insert the CD into your CD-ROM drive.
2. Click Start>Run.
3. In the Run dialog, type "X:/setup.exe". ("X" is the drive letter associated with your CD-ROM drive. This letter will vary from system to system.)
4. Click OK.
5. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the installation.

1.2 System Requirements

Minimum System Requirements	
OS	Windows 2000/XP/Vista
CPU	Pentium III 800 MHz or higher (P4 1.6 GHz or higher recommended)
Memory	128 MB RAM (512 MB recommended)
Hard disk space	400 MB available hard disk space for program installation 4 GB+ free hard disk space recommended for video capture and editing (1 hour of DV video requires 13 GB of hard disk space)
Hard drive	7200 RPM hard drive recommended
Display	16-bit color monitor at 1024 x 768 or higher
Other	- DirectX 9 - TV-tuner or video capture board for analog video capture - OHCI-compliant IEEE-1394 card and DV camera for digital video capture - Windows Media Player 9.0 recommended

1.3 Workflow Overview

ShowBiz DVD 2 is divided into four main sections, or "modules." You can start in any module, depending on what you are interested in!

Capture
Record video from your DV camera or other video device.

Edit
Edit your videos and combine them with other video clips, transitions, effects, text, and more.

Create
Use your finished video clips to create your DVD or VCD (each clip will become an individual chapter in your final movie); customize the menu; and burn your movie to a DVD disc or a CD.

Quick DVD
Capture video and create a DVD movie with just a few clicks.

When you first launch ShowBiz, the Welcome screen offers several options for common starting places. Selecting an option takes you right into one of the four modules: Create, Edit, Capture, or Quick DVD.

2. Capture

Video Capture

Audio Capture

The Capture module is where you record video and audio. It consists of two tabs: Video and Audio.

Choose Video to record video from DV camcorders and other connected devices.

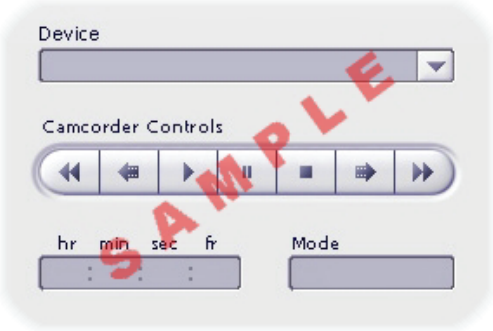
Choose Audio to record sound clips, voiceovers, and other sounds.

When you are in the Capture module, a red Record button in the Player lets you start capturing video. The Live and Playback buttons let you toggle between viewing the video as it's captured from your device and reviewing the captured video. When you are recording, the Record button turns into a Stop button.

2.1 Video Capture

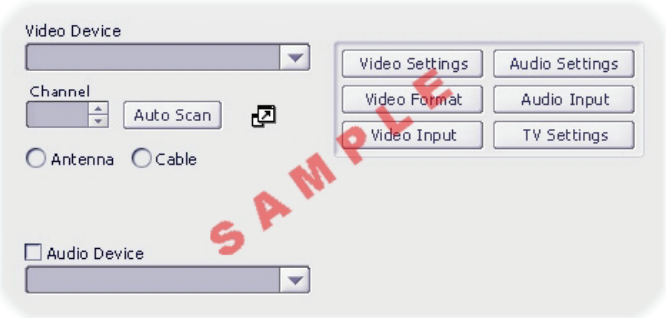
You can capture video from a multitude of video devices, including DV camcorders. The available options vary depending on the device.

Capturing from a DV Tape
When capturing from a DV device, playback controls appear. You can use these controls to navigate to a specific location on the DV tape. Use these controls to go to the beginning of the section you wish to capture.



When you're ready, click the red Record button within the Player.

Capturing from a TV Tuner
When capturing from a TV tuner, first select the channel from which you would like to record. You can choose between cable and antenna reception.



Auto Scan: Click to have the program scan for available channels.

Audio Device: Check the box if you would like to record audio as well. If you check the box, choose your device from the pull-down.

The following buttons may also be available. (Specific options are dependent on your device. Contact the device manager if you have any questions regarding what these options do.)

Video Settings: Generally contains options for selecting your video standard (NTSC or PAL) as well as basic video enhancement settings.

Video Format: Options here typically include frame rate, compression, and output size (resolution).

Video Input: If your capture card has various input options, select the one you want to use here.

Audio Settings: Choose the bit rate and frequency of your captured audio.

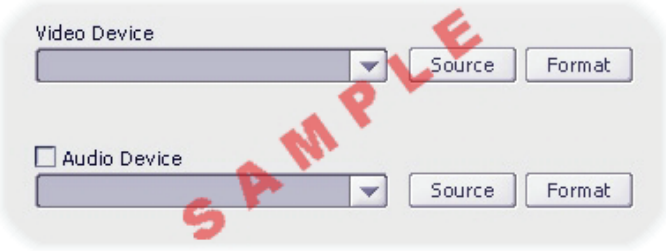
Audio Input: Contains options specific to your sound capture device.

TV Settings: Properties and settings for your TV tuner.

To start recording, click the red Record button within the Player.

Capturing from VFW Devices
VFW ("Video for Windows") devices follow an older Microsoft multimedia framework. Older webcams, USB devices, or PCI devices may use the VFW standard.

To capture video from VFW devices, select your desired VFW device from the pull-down. The Source and Format buttons may have various image size and format options available, and will vary from device to device.

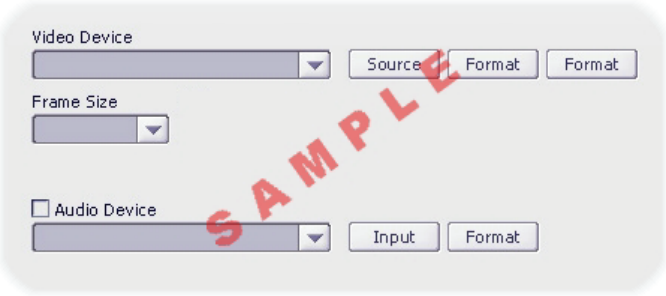


Check the Audio Device box to record audio from your selected sound source.

When you're ready, click the red Record button.

Capturing from WDM Devices
WDM ("Windows Driver Model") devices follow a newer Microsoft driver framework. Newer webcams, USB devices, or PCI devices might use the WDM standard.

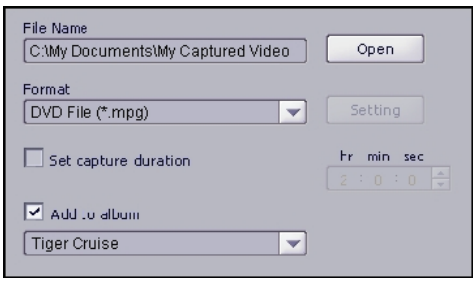
To capture video from WDM devices, select your desired WDM device from the pull-down. The Settings, Format, and Input buttons may contain various options including enhancement features and compression, depending on the device.



Check the Audio Device box to record audio from your selected sound source.

When you're ready, click the red Record button.

Save As
For capturing from any device, after you click the red Record button, you'll be prompted with the Save As window.



In the Save As window, enter in the file name and save location for the captured video. You can also select the save format. (AVI is generally the format for video coming from a DV tape.)

Check the "Set Capture Duration" box if you would like to stop capturing after a set amount of time.

Check the "Add to Album" box if you would like the captured video included into an album of your choice. Albums are discussed in more detail in Section 3.3.

Lastly, you can set the scene detection. Scene detection is discussed further in Section 3.3.

If you choose to have scene detection, you can either do it manually during the capture process (by pressing the space bar on your keyboard), or automatically. For automatic scene detection, scenes can either be separated by date and time, or by changes in content. Use the slider to adjust the sensitivity of the automatic scene detection.

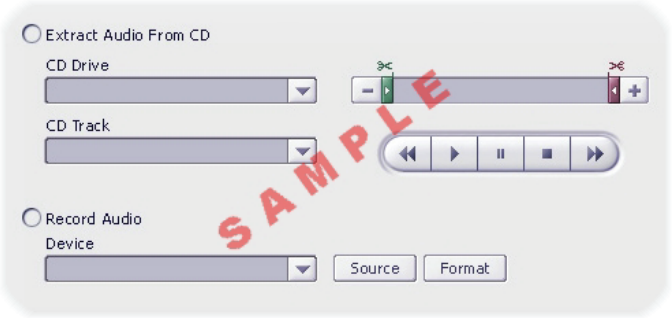
When you're ready, click OK. The program begins to capture video from your device. Click the Stop button within the Player to stop recording. Click the Playback button to review the video you just recorded.

If you enabled scene detection, the album thumbnail representing the file displays a folder icon. Click the folder icon to bring up a window that contains each individual scene.

2.2 Audio Capture

When capturing audio, you have the choice of extracting music from a CD, or recording audio from a sound device.

If you are extracting audio from a CD, select the letter associated with the drive you plan to use. You can then preview the CD tracks with the standard playback controls (play, stop, rewind, etc.).



Use the Start and End markers (scissors) to trim the audio if you wish. Simply drag the marks to the desired spots.

If you are recording audio from a sound device, choose the device from the pull-down. The Format button lets you select the bit rate and other audio settings. The options available after clicking the Source button are dependent on your sound capture device.

When you're ready, click the Record button in the Player. You must then specify the file name for the soon-to-be recorded audio, along with the save location. If you want, you can have the audio automatically put into an album of your choice upon being recorded. Albums are discussed in more detail in Section 3.3

To stop recording, click the Stop button within the Player.

To play back your new recording, click the Playback button within the Player. Standard playback controls become available.

3. Edit

Video Clip Components

Player

Media

Storyboard

Timeline

Text

Transitions

Effects

Export

The Edit module is where you assemble various components to create a new video clip. It contains four primary tabs, one for each type of component you can add to your video clip: Media, Text, Transitions, Effects. A fifth tab, Export, appears as soon as you have content in your video clip. When you're finished, you can use the video clip in your final DVD or VCD movie.

3.1 Video Clip Components

Everything you need to create your video clips is in one of four tabs: Media, Text, Transitions, and Effects.

Media – Choose still images, video files, and audio files that you'd like to use to create a new video clip.

Text – Choose text templates to apply to your video clip, such as scrolling text.

Transitions – Add cool effects between each still image or video file. For example, if you have added two video files (from the Media tab), you can add a transition that shows the first video fading away as the second one fades in.

Effects – Apply frames and various "filters" to your video clip components.

Export – This fifth tab appears as soon as you have content in your video clip. Here, you can save all of the components you have added as a single video clip.

3.2 Player

The Player consists of the preview area on the right side of the screen and all the controls below it. Use the Player to preview and trim your video clip as you compile it. The Player contains standard play/pause/rewind buttons, along with other controls that depend on what you are previewing or recording.

The Player can play back either selected clips (Active Clip) or the entire movie on the Storyboard/Timeline (Entire Project) when you are in the Edit module.

There are two timers. The left timer indicates the total playing time of the selected component. The right timer indicates the current time.

When viewing an audio or video component, the timer (slider) beneath the preview window has two markers: the Start Marker and the End Marker. You can click and drag these to trim the component. You can also click one of the two Trim buttons to set the Start/End Marker at the current point in the component.

Other Player Options:

Print Frame - Click this button to print the current frame shown in the preview window.

Save Frame - Click this button to save the current frame within the preview window as a standard image file.

Full Screen Preview - Click this button to view the preview window full screen.

3.3 Media

The Media tab of the Edit module is where you browse your albums for video content. Content includes still images, video files, and audio files.

Albums
Albums are collections of shortcuts to files stored on your system. The program uses albums to help you organize your media components.

You can "add" files to an album, which means you add a shortcut. For example, when you capture a video or audio clip and save the recorded file, you can automatically add that file to an album. When you add an album component to the Storyboard/Timeline, the program grabs the actual file. You can delete the contents of an album without worrying about affecting the actual files.

Compiling Media
To start compiling a video clip, add media components to the Storyboard/Timeline. To add a file to the Storyboard/Timeline, simply click it to select it. Then, click the arrow beneath the thumbnails.

Use this pull-down to choose your album. To create a new album, choose "< New Album >". Enter a new name for your album (or rename any album) by simply typing over the existing name.

Add - Click this button to add files to your album. A standard Open window lets you browse your system for files to add.

Sort - Click this button to sort the content of your album in a number of ways.

Acquire - Click this button to capture an image from a connected device. The driver for the device will run; follow the directions by the device manufacturer if you have problems.

These two buttons alter the size of the thumbnails.

To the right of the album thumbnails are the file properties for the currently selected file. You can hide this information if you would like more thumbnails displayed at one time.

Scene Detection
Scene detection makes it easy for you to break up long video clips into separate components without having to save each clip individually. The program scans the selected video file and automatically breaks it up according to changes in time or content.

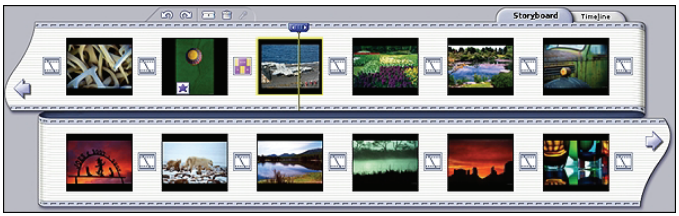
When you right-click a video thumbnail in an album, you see an option called "Scene Detect." This command scans the video and breaks it up into separate video clips. The results are displayed in a separate window with new thumbnails for each clip.

Click the red thumbtack to make the window "sticky." It will remain on top of the program desktop as long as it is stuck. You can click and drag the thumbnails to the Storyboard/Timeline just as you can any other thumbnail from the Media section.

Scene detection is noted on the original thumbnails with the addition of a folder icon in the lower right. To remove scene detection, right-click the thumbnail and select "Delete Scene."

3.4 Storyboard

The Storyboard is one place where you arrange your video clip components. It serves as the template for video construction. You add a still image or video clip to each spot on the Storyboard. Then, when you save your video, all of the components are combined into a single file. You can then use the file in the Create module as a chapter in a DVD movie. Or, you can just leave it as a stand-alone file.



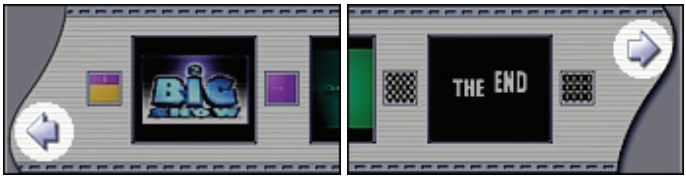
When constructing a video, you can add components by going to the Media, Text, Transitions, and Effects tabs. (The Media tab is where you add still images, video, and audio.) The Storyboard displays the Media and Transitions components that you have added (except for audio). For a more detailed view of everything you are using to make your video, as well as additional editing options, switch to the Timeline (see Section 3.5).

The Storyboard is divided into several large squares, with smaller squares in between. The larger squares are spots that are reserved for still images and video files.

As you add still images or video from the Media tab, the larger squares fill up. As you add transitions from the Transitions tab, the smaller squares fill up.

All of the components on the Storyboard are swappable, meaning you can drag and drop them to swap them with other components. This makes it easy to rearrange video clips and still images, or swap transitions from one spot to another.

Use the arrows at the beginning and end of the Storyboard to scroll through additional components if you cannot view them all on screen.



While working in the Storyboard, you have the following options available:

Undo – Undoes the last command.

Redo – Undoes the last undo command. You can perform the Undo/Redo commands multiple times to go back and forth between various editing stages of your video.

Split and Combine
The Split command divides a single video into two components on the Storyboard or Timeline. It creates two separate video files, split at the current point of the timer in the Player. Click and drag

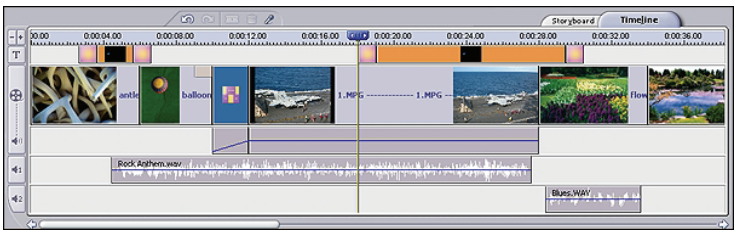
the timer to the spot where you want the split performed, then right-click the video component on the Storyboard or Timeline and select Split. You can recombine two split videos by selecting them both on the Storyboard or Timeline, right-clicking, and selecting Combine.

Delete – Removes the selected clip(s) from the Storyboard.

Record Audio – Opens the Record Audio window. See Section 7.2 for more information.

3.5 Timeline

The Timeline is the other place where you arrange your video clip components. It serves as the template for video construction. It offers a more in-depth view of your constructed movie than the Storyboard. Every component that you have added (still images, videos, audio, transitions, text, and special effects) can be seen and altered here.



The top area of the Timeline shows any added text effects. The section below shows all of your still images, video files, transitions, and any associated special effects. Immediately beneath are the various audio tracks, the first being reserved for audio that is embedded into video files. Two additional audio tracks are available.

The "-" and "+" buttons let you contract and expand the Timeline. If you want to focus on one key area of the Timeline, expand it. If you want to see more components at one time, contract it.

Text Track
Items on the Text Track include text and text effects added from the Text tab of the Edit module (see Section 3.6). Text effects can be added to either the beginning or end of their respective text component.

Click and drag the edge of a text component to adjust the display time.

Right-click a Text Track component to display a pop-up menu with various options. These include delete options (for deleting everything on the Text Track as well as individual or every text effect), alignment options (you can align added text to the

beginning or end of video clips or the entire movie), and cut, copy, and paste commands.

Editing Text Effects. To edit text effects, click the Edit Text button that appears on the left of the Player. Options for editing text are discussed in Section 3.6.

Video Track
Items on the Video Track include still images, video clips, transitions, and special effects.

You can drag and drop them to arrange their order (except for effects, which are "stuck" to video clips or still images).

Click and drag the edge of a still image, video, effect, or transition to adjust the display time.

Right-click to see additional options. Right-click options include adding random transitions to the entire Timeline, standardizing the display time for still images and transitions, and modifying how still images are displayed.

One right-click option that is exclusive to video components is Split (this command is also available from the Storyboard).

Having a variety of image and video dimensions can lead to frames within your video looking out of place because of empty space. However, with the available options here, you can stretch your image (Stretch to Fit), crop and enlarge it (Fill & Crop), or enlarge it to the largest size without cropping out any areas (Best Fit).

Editing Videos. When a video is selected on the Timeline (or Storyboard), editing options appear to the left of the Player.

- Use the top slider to adjust the overall volume for any audio that the video may have.
- Use the sliders below to adjust video brightness, contrast, hue, and saturation.
- Use the bottom slider to modify the video speed. You can speed up and slow down video to create cool effects. Check the Smooth box to eliminate any choppiness that may result from altering your video timing.

Editing Still Images. When a still image is selected on the Timeline (or Storybard), editing options appear.

- Drag the sliders to the left of the Player to adjust the brightness, contrast, hue, and saturation.
- Use the top timer to modify the display time for each still image. This is the time that the image remains on the screen before changing to the next component on the Timeline.

Editing Transitions. Select a transition on the Timeline (or Storyboard) to see the available editing options to the left of the Player.

- Use the timer to modify the duration of the transition.
- Use the pull-down to select options for your transition; the options are dependent on the specific transition. Generally you can modify the direction that the transition moves.

Editing Special Effects. Click a special effect to see the available editing options to the left of the Player. The options are dependent on the specific effect. You can play around with the various options to create unique video effects.

Audio Tracks
There are a total of three audio tracks.

The top audio track is reserved for audio that is embedded into a video component. The other two audio tracks can be used to include songs, special sound effects, narration, etc. You can add multiple files to each track.

Click and drag the edge of an audio component to trim it.

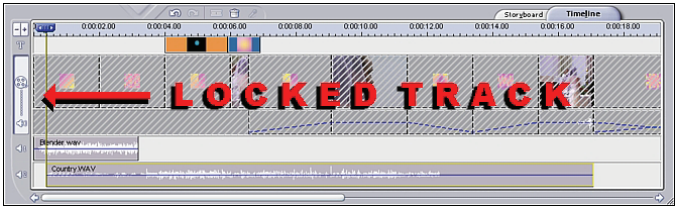
Right-click options let you align the audio, or remove all audio content on a specific track.

Click and drag the blue line that appears across an audio component to modify its volume. You can do this at virtually any point; the volume during the span of the audio clip can fluctuate however you want.

Editing Audio Tracks. Click any audio file on the Timeline to display a slider on the left of the Player. Adjust the slider to control the volume of the selected audio component.

You can "lock" any of the tracks on the Timeline by clicking the icon on the left. Locking a track makes all of the related

components uneditable. This is useful if you want to move around or edit specific areas without having to worry about unintentionally modifying other components.



While working in the Timeline, you have the following options available:

Undo – Undoes the last command.

Redo – Undoes the last undo command. You can perform the Undo/Redo commands multiple times to go back and forth between various editing stages of your video.

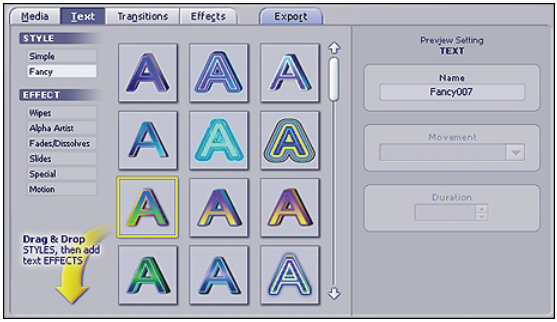
Split and Combine
The Split command divides a single video into two components on the Storyboard or Timeline. It creates two separate video files, split at the current point of the timer in the Player. Click and drag the timer to the spot where you want the split performed, then right-click the video component on the Storyboard or Timeline and select Split. You can recombine two split videos by selecting them both on the Storyboard or Timeline, right-clicking, and selecting Combine.

Delete – Removes the selected clip(s) from the Timeline.

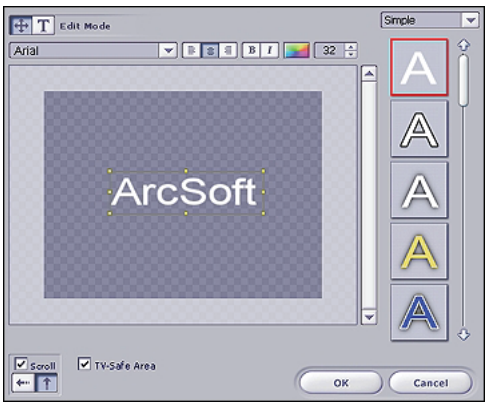
Record Audio – Opens the Record Audio window. See Section 7.2 for more information.

3.6 Text

Add text over any video clip or still image. Click on any text option to preview it in the Player. Add the selected text component to your project by dragging it to the Storyboard/Timeline.



The Text tab is divided into two categories: Style and Effect. Components from the Effect category are attached to the actual text messages from the Style category. Once you have added text to the Storyboard/Timeline, you will be in Edit Mode and you can see options for editing your text:



Click anywhere on the image to start typing your text. Standard text formatting options are available, including font, size,

alignment, color, and style (bold and italic). On the right is a column of text styles. Chose the one you like best.

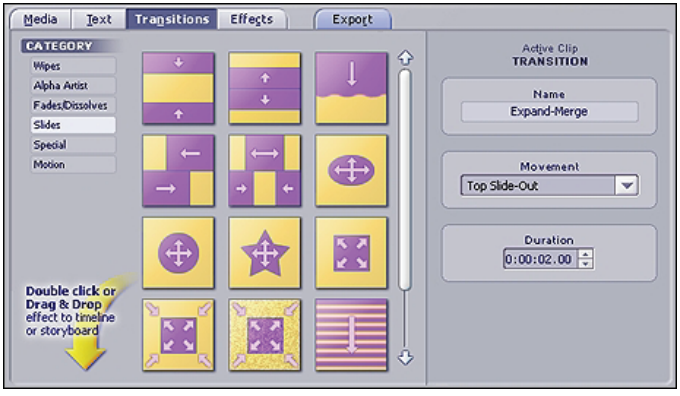
In Edit mode, choose either Move or Text. With Move selected, you can reposition your text by clicking and dragging. With Text selected, your mouse functions as it would in a word processor.

Check the box to have the text scroll as it is displayed. The scroll buttons designate in which direction the added text will move.

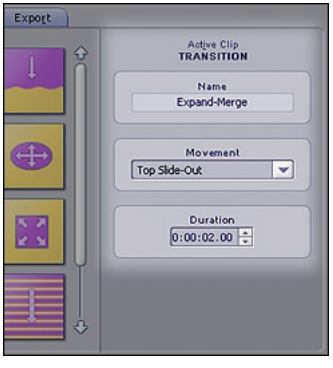
Check the TV-Safe Area box to display the area that is ideal for text placement to ensure that the text can be fully seen on a TV.

3.7 Transitions

Transitions are special effects that can be inserted between video clips or still images on the Storyboard/Timeline. In the Transitions tab, choose your transition from the available categories, then click the arrow to add it to the Storyboard/Timeline.



The available options for a transition vary depending on the type of transition you choose.



On the Storyboard/Timeline, click and drag a transition to reposition it. On the Timeline, click and drag the edge of a transition to alter the display time.

3.8 Effects

Special effects are included to help you spice up your movies. In the Effects tab, they are organized into various categories including crop shapes, frames, and filters.

Click and drag an effect onto any video clip or still image on the Timeline. It will appear at the top of the clip or image.

You can remove an effect by right-clicking it and selecting Delete.

You can add up to two effects on a single movie component.

3.9 Export

The Export tab offers various options for saving your video. All of the components on the Storyboard/Timeline will be combined into a single video file. (The Export section only appears once you have components on the Storyboard/Timeline.) You choose how and where the file is saved. The following save options are available:

Hard Disk. Choose this option if you would like to save your file to your hard drive. You can select the file type and modify the various settings for that type. For example, if you choose the AVI file type, you can modify the frame rate and size of the video. Different formats offer different options. Click the Settings button to see the available options for any given file type. You can even keep any settings that you modify and save them as a new format type. If you are unsure about what file format to use, a description of each format appears after you select it.

DV. Choose this option if you would like to save your video to a digital video device tape. Camcorder controls are available that let you navigate to any point on the tape. Use these controls to set the tape at the location where you would like your new video saved. Once the tape is set, click the Save To Tape button to being sending the movie from the Storyboard/Timeline to your tape.

Email. Choose this option if you would like to save your video and then send it directly to a friend or family member using an email program. Supported email programs include Hotmail, Microsoft Outlook, Mozilla, and Outlook Express. The available file types for you to choose are WMV (Windows Media) and MOV (QuickTime). Generally, choose WMV if you are sending a message to a Windows user; choose MOV if you are sending a message to a Macintosh user. You can set a few options such as frame rate and size. When you're ready, choose your mail client, then click Send.

VHS. Choose this option to play your movie for recording onto a VHS tape. A diagram appears, showing you how to connect your computer to your VCR for recording. Simply follow the diagram, then click Start to begin.

4. Create

Media

Themes

Customize

Text

Set Chapters

Preview Area

Slide Shows

Write Disc

The Create module is where you go after you have edited your video files, when you want to create a DVD or VCD. The module is divided into six tabs:

Media – In this tab, you choose individual video files that you want to use in your DVD movie. Each video that you add becomes a separate chapter. (You can also divide a single file into multiple chapters; see Section 4.5.)

Themes – This tab consists of creative content for designing menus that focus on a particular motif.

Customize – This tab lets you modify the chapter thumbnail borders and layout.

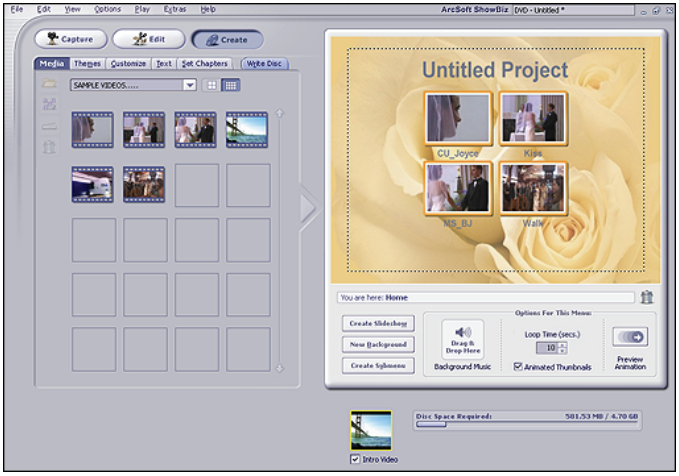
Text – This tab lets you alter your menu text, and any text beneath the chapter thumbnails.

Set Chapters – In this tab, you can break up individual chapters into multiple chapters. They will then be grouped together under one submenu.

Write Disc – In this tab, you can burn your movie onto a DVD disc, or save it to your hard drive.

4.1 Media

The Media tab is where you choose the videos you want to include in your DVD movie. Each video you add is made into its own chapter in your movie. The preview area on the right side of the screen shows you your current movie layout. As you add video files, thumbnails for each video appear.



To add a video file to your movie, click one to select it, then click the arrow button between the album and the preview area.

You can also include an introduction video clip that will play before the main DVD menu appears. To do this, simply drag and drop a video clip over the Introduction Video box.

4.2 Themes

The Themes tab is where you add background images to your projects. Themes are albums of categorized images that can be used as menu backgrounds for your DVD.

From the pull-down, select the category you want. You can then choose the exact menu background. Double-click it to add it as the background for the current menu. You can have a different background for each submenu or menu page.

To create your own album of themes, select "< New Theme >" from the pull-down.

To add a theme to an album, click the New Background button in the preview area. Once you've selected the image, click the Save As Theme button to save the theme in the album of your choice.

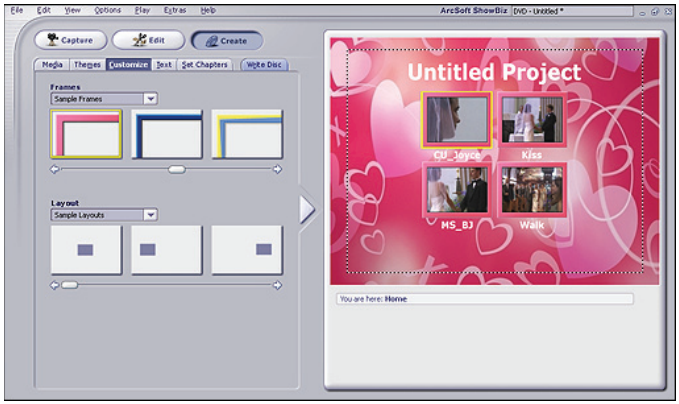
To delete a custom theme, right-click it and select "Delete."

4.3 Customize

The Customize tab lets you customize the look and feel of the chapter thumbnails seen in your menus.

You can choose the thumbnail borders as well as the thumbnail arrangements. If you update one thumbnail frame and would to apply that frame either to all thumbnails on the current menu or to all thumbnails throughout the project, right-click the thumbnail and choose "Apply frame to all thumbnails in this menu" or "Apply frame to all thumbnails in all menus," respectively.

You can also click and drag the chapter buttons, thumbnails, and text around the page.

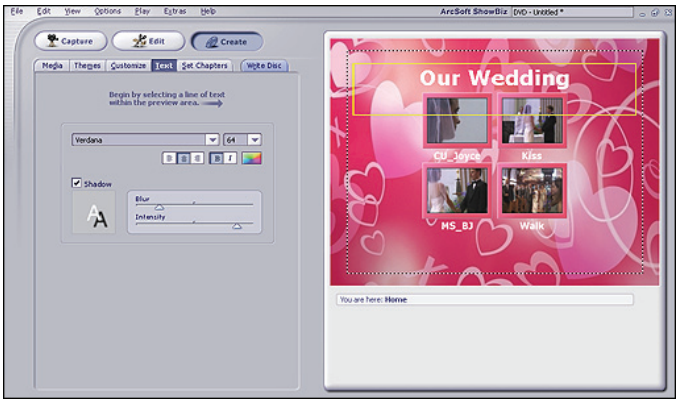


4.4 Text

In the Text tab, you can modify any text that appears on any menu. Simply click on the text you want in the preview area, then edit as you see fit.

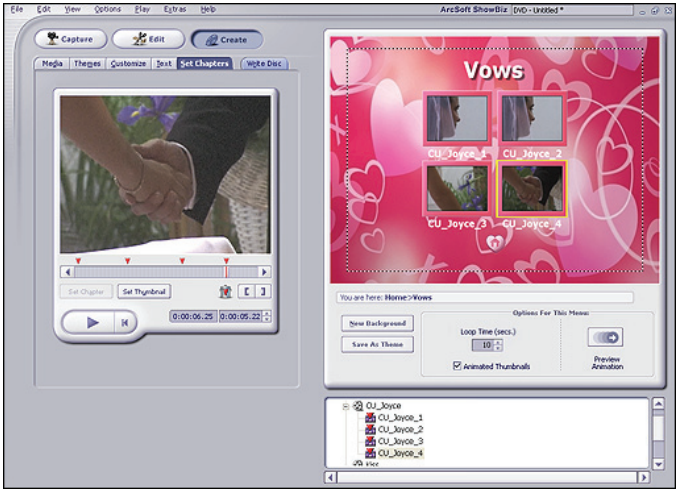
You can alter the font, size, style (bold and italic), and text color. If you like the style and color of a particular string of text that you have added and would like to apply those settings either to all other text on the current menu or to all other text throughout the project, right-click the text and choose "Apply style and color to all text in this menu" or "Apply style and color to all text in all menus," respectively.

You can also include text shadow by clicking the "Shadow" box. Click and drag the shadow within the little preview window to position the shadow where you want. Use the Blur and Intensity sliders to adjust the shadow's sharpness.



4.5 Set Chapters

The Set Chapters tab lets you trim video clips and break them up into multiple chapters. Videos that contain multiple chapters will automatically be turned into their own submenus. Setting chapters is only available for DVD projects.



This button plays the selected video clip.

This button stops and rewinds the selected video clip.

Use this slider to navigate to the location that you wish to set as a new chapter or trim point.

Use this button to create a new chapter starting at the current position of the timer. You must have at least one second between chapters.

Click this button to set the current frame as the thumbnail for the chapter.

Click this button to remove all chapter points from the video.

Click this button to set the starting point of the video at the current position of the timer.

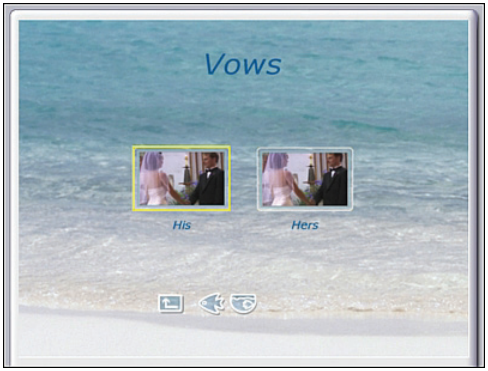
Click this button to se the ending point of the video at the current position of the timer.

The left time indicates the total time of the video. The right time indicates the current position of the timer.

4.6 Preview Area

The preview area shows you how your DVD menu will appear. You can also use it to play your DVD. When you do, a virtual remote control appears, letting you navigate through the DVD menu in the same way that you would on your TV.

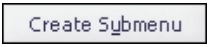
This virtual remote control lets you use the preview area as a TV. The remote control varies depending on the project type (DVD or VCD). When creating a DVD, arrow buttons let you navigate over menus. When creating a VCD, the bulk of the remote control is a number pad. Each number corresponds to a specific chapter thumbnail on the current menu screen. For example, if you only have four thumbnails, only numbers 1-4 on the remote control will work.



Depending on where you are in the Create module, different options in the preview area may be available:

Click here to remove the video file (chapter) from the DVD.

Click this button to select another image to use as the menu background.



Click this button to create a menu within the current menu.

Click here to create a slideshow.

Click here to save your background as a reusable template under the Themes section.

Click and drag audio to this spot to have music/narration play during the current menu.

Check this box to animate the menu thumbnails (the respective chapter will play within the chapter button for the specified time). Click "Preview Animation" to see it at work.

When you are working in the Set Chapters tab, an area like this appears beneath the preview area, showing you a "tree view" of your menu and submenus.

4.7 Slide Shows

Slide shows can be added to your movie as separate chapters. Double-clicking the respective chapter button lets you edit an existing slide show. To start creating a slide show, make sure you are in the Media tab of the Create module and click the "Create Slideshow" button below the preview area.

Choose Photos
Gather photos for your slide show by clicking "Add Photos." Browse through your system and pick the images you want to use.

If you have a scanner or digital camera and wish to download images, use the "Acquire Photos" button. Depending on the hardware you have connected, choose either TWAIN or WIA, and follow the instructions to capture your images.

Arrange Photos
Click and drag the photos to arrange them in the order you want. You can also right-click photos and cut/copy/paste them to change the order or add duplicate slides.

Orient Photos
If a photo needs to be rotated, select it (by clicking it), and then click the appropriate rotate button until the photo is oriented correctly.

Insert Blank Slides
Click the button to add a blank slide anywhere in your slide show. Blank slides are great to serve as breaks or title pages (adding text is described below). Change the background color of any slide by right-clicking it and selecting "Background Color." You have the option of applying the color you select to all slides.

Enhance Photos
Each slide can be edited in a variety of ways. Select a slide, then click "Edit Photo." See Section 3.5 for more information.

Add Pan & Zoom Effects
The Pan & Zoom option lets you add a unique movement effect to your slides. See Section 7.8 for more information. This option is only available for DVD projects.

Add Audio
You can attach music files to each slide. Select the slide you want, and then click "Audio Annotation."

To attach an existing file, choose "Attach Audio" and browse your system for the file of choice.

To record new audio, choose "Record Audio."

Click Format to alter the audio preferences. Click Record to begin recording; click Stop to stop. Click Play to hear your recording.

If you are happy with the recording, click Save. After you specify the file name and save location, the audio is attached to the slide.

Whenever audio is attached to a slide, you will see this icon:

You can remove audio attached to a slide by selecting the slide, clicking "Audio Annotation," and selecting "Detach Audio."

Set the Chapter Button Thumbnail
Your slide show is represented on the menu as a chapter button. You can set a single slide as the chapter thumbnail. Select the slide you want and then click the "Set Thumbnail" button.

The slide that is set as the chapter thumbnail will display this icon:

Once you have gotten this far in creating your slide show, click "Next."

Transitions
Transitions are effects that occur when one slide changes to another. Choose a set effect, or "All Effects (Random)," to have the program randomly insert transitions between each slide. Transitions are only available for DVD projects.

Soundtrack
In addition to having individual audio files attached to each slide, you can have music play over the entire presentation. Click "Select Audio Files" to browse and choose the music files you want. To remove a file from the list, select it, and click the trash can (delete) icon.

Name Slide Show
Type in a name for your slide show. A copy of the slide show file will be saved to your computer in the directory specified. You can then use the slide show in another project at a later time.

Duration
Set the duration for each slide. Check "Repeat soundtrack to fit" if you would like to loop the audio you have added until the slide show is finished. If you choose the "Auto-Fit to Soundtrack" option, the program automatically adjusts the display time of each slide to fit the duration of the audio files you have included in the "Soundtrack" section.

Preview Slide Show
Click this button to view your slide show in a separate window. Controls allow you to play/pause/stop, and to skip slides.

Finish
Click this button to finish your slide show and add it to your project as a new chapter.

4.8 Write Disc

This is the final step in creating your DVD or VCD. The top meter shows the amount of available and required space to create your movie. The lower meter shows you the progress in the creation of your movie.

When you're ready, click Start. You will need to set your TV standard (NTSC or PAL) and the save location of your movie (choose either your DVD/CD writer or your hard drive).

If you choose to burn a DVD or VCD, select the drive you want to use, then choose the burn speed.

If you choose to save your movie to your hard drive, select the directory in which you want it saved.

When you're ready, click OK.

5. Quick DVD

By choosing the Quick DVD option, you'll have a "wizard" that will walk you through each step in order to capture and create your movie. Just follow the instructions in each step. The wizard is designed to guide you throughout the entire process.

5.1 Quick DVD Steps

The Quick DVD wizard guides you through the following steps. You can start the Quick DVD wizard at any time by selecting File > Quick DVD.

1. Choose the drive to which your DVD will be saved. You can choose either a DVD writeable (or rewriteable) drive, or your hard drive.

2. Choose the type of DVD that you'd like to create.

DVD-Video discs are playable on most set-top DVD players. DVD+VR and DVD-VR discs can be edited on most DVD+VR and DVD-VR recorders, respectively. Double-layer DVD+R discs are also supported. Choose the option that best suits your needs. If you have a DVD recorder, verify which format (DVD+VR or DVD-VR) is supported so that you make the right choice.

3. Choose the option that best describes the total length of your movie. The shorter the time, the higher the quality (depending on your choice, the program will automatically select the bit rate, which affects the video quality).

The exact choices offered here are dependent on your audio setting (under "DVD Options"). Using MPEG or Dolby audio allows up to around 4 hours for a single-layer DVD, or up to around 8 hours for a double-layer DVD. (Dolby may not be available in all versions of the program.) PCM audio allows up to around 2.5 hours for single-layer DVD and up to around 5 hours for a double-layer DVD.

4. The program then searches for a connected video device.

If no device is found, you can still create a DVD from existing video clips on your computer. **If this is the case, skip to step 6.**

5. Choose if you would like to create a DVD from saved video files, capture one video to DVD, or capture multiple videos to DVD. Here's what happens when you select each option:

- Create a DVD from saved video files: Skip to step 6.

- Capture one video to DVD:
Enter a title for your movie. Optionally, you can also enter the date, which will appear below the title. You can also choose a menu design. From the pull-down, select the category you wish to view. Then, use the left and right arrows to browse through the different designs within the category.

Use the navigation controls on your video device to go to the start of the video you want to capture. Set the amount of time that you would like the program to capture. You can even add a few existing video clips if you want.

Once the program finishes capturing your video, it will burn your DVD disc automatically. Therefore, once capturing starts, you no longer need to wait by the computer – the program does everything by itself! **Skip to step 8.**

- Capture multiple videos to DVD: This step is similar to capturing a single video to DVD (see above), but you can capture several clips and incorporate existing video clips before, after, or in between each newly recorded clip. You can trim any clip that you capture, or any existing clip that you add, before you burn your movie.

To trim any clip, click and drag the green and red markers to trim sections at the beginning and end of your videos respectively.

After you finish adding, recording, and trimming your video clips, **skip to step 7.**

6. Create your DVD from existing clips. (Ignore this step if you are capturing video and not creating a DVD from existing clips.)

Click "Get Files" to browse your system for files to add to your project. The files you add appear on the Storyboard at the bottom of the wizard. Click a thumbnail on the Storyboard, and then click "Preview" to view the clip.

You can trim video clips by dragging the green and red markers along the video timer.

7. Design your DVD. Enter a title for your movie. Optionally, you can also enter the date, which will appear below the title.

You can also choose a menu design. From the pull-down, select the category you wish to view. Then, use the left and right arrows to browse through the different designs within the category.

Finally, set the number of discs to be burned. (This option is not available when creating DVD-VR discs, or when saving your project to your hard drive.)

8. Print a jewel case or DVD case cover. Simply choose what you'd like to print from the pull-down.

6. Menus

File

Edit

View

Options

Play

Extras & Help

Keyboard Shortcuts

The menus are located at the top of the program desktop. The menus include: File, Edit, View, Options, Play, Extras, and Help. This chapter also includes information on keyboard shortcuts.

6.1 File

The following commands are available under the File menu:

New Project – Takes you to the Edit module (if you are not already there), where you can create a new video clip.

Open Project – Lets you open a previously saved project.

Save Project – Saves your current project.

Save Project As – Lets you save the current project with a new name (and new save location, if desired).

Convert Current Project To – Convert your DVD project to a VCD project, or vice versa.

Import Media Files – Lets you add files to your albums.

Import Video Clips from DVD – Grab video segments from a previously created DVD.

Quick DVD – Launches the Quick DVD wizard, where you can capture video and create a DVD in just a few clicks. The wizard walks you through each simple step. See Chapter 5.

Edit ArcSoft DVD Disc – Lets you edit the contents of a previously created ArcSoft DVD.

Recent Projects – Displays a list of the most recently opened projects.

6.2 Edit

The following commands are available under the Edit menu:

Undo – Reverses the last command.

Redo – Reverses the last Undo command.

Cut – Removes the selected component and stores it in memory.

Copy – Places a copy of the selected component in memory.

Paste – Places the contents of the previous Cut or Copy command into the selected location.

6.3 View

The following commands are available under the View menu:

Capture – Takes you to the Capture module. See Chapter 2.

Edit – Takes you to the Edit module. See Chapter 3.

Create – Takes you to the Create module. See Chapter 4.

TV Safe Zone – Displays a dashed border in the Player, indicating the possible view boundaries of a TV.

Storyboard – Switches you to the Storyboard view.

Timeline– Switches you to the Timeline view.

6.4 Options

The following commands are available under the Options menu:

Preferences – Lets you view and modify various program settings. Settings include: default display time for still images, text, transitions, and special effects; automatic scene detection; automatic rewind; progressive or interlaced video; TV standard (NTSC or PAL); and photo resize options (Best Fit, Fill & Crop, and Stretch to Fit, as discussed in Section 3.5).

DVD Quality Setting – Lets you choose the bit rate for DVD files.

Temporary Folder – Lets you choose the location in which temporary and backup files are stored on your system.

Timeline View Options – Lets you choose how files appear on the Timeline.

DVD Options – Here you can change the default settings for your DVD projects.

DVD Playback: Choose to have your movies play their chapters back to back (one after another), or return to the menu after each chapter is played.

DVD Navigation: Check the box to add a "Play All" option to your main menu. Your movie will start on the first chapter and play all the way through.

Audio Type: Choose the type of audio you would like for your movie. The "Dolby" option may or may not be available depending on your specific version of the program. Older set-top DVD players may have problems playing discs with "MPEG" audio. Typically, DVDs played through digital audio output may not have sound.

Media Type: Choose between single- and double-layer DVD media.

6.5 Play

The following commands are available under the Play menu:

Play/Pause – Starts/pauses playback of the currently selected video component.

Play Entire Storyboard/Timeline – Plays all of the components on the Storyboard/Timeline in order.

Stop – Stops video playback.

Previous Frame – Goes back one frame on the video track.

Next Frame – Advances one frame on the video track.

Back – Goes back one component on the video track.

Forward – Jumps to the next component on the video track.

Full Screen – Displays the entire preview window over the entire screen. Press ESC to return to the normal view.

6.6 Extras & Help

The following commands are available under the Extras menu:

More ArcSoft Products – Offers additional ArcSoft products that complement your program.

Updates and Patches – Automatically detects and installs the latest program updates to your software.

Available Upgrades – Checks the web for any program upgrades.

Register Product – Opens the product registration form, using your default web browser. Here you can view your product serial number and register your product. An Internet connection is required to register your product.

Send Us Feedback – Brings up an online feedback form where your comments can be submitted.

Visit ArcSoft.com – Visit the ArcSoft home page.

The following commands are available under the Help menu:

Help – Opens the online help.

About – Displays the program splash screen, which contains the product version number.

6.7 Keyboard Shortcuts

Menu Shortcuts:
File: ALT + F
Edit: ALT + E
View: ALT + V
Options: ALT + O
Play: ALT + P
Extras: ALT + X
Help: ALT + H

Capture Module: ALT + 1
Capture Video: ALT + I
Capture Audio: ALT + U
Live Toggle: ALT + L
Playback Toggle: ALT + Y

Edit Module: ALT + 2
Media: ALT + M
Add: ALT + D
Sort: ALT + S
Acquire: ALT + Q
Text: ALT + T
Transitions: ALT + N
Effects: ALT + C
Produce: ALT + R
Disk: ALT + K
Email: ALT + I
DV Tape: ALT + D
VHS: ALT + S

Create Module: ALT + 3
Media: ALT + D
Select: ALT + L
New Background: ALT + B
Create Submenu: ALT + U
Create Slideshow: ALT + W
Themes: ALT + M
New Background: ALT + N
Save As Theme: ALT + A
Customize: ALT + C
Text: ALT + T
Set Chapters: ALT + S
Set Chapter: ALT + C

Set Thumbnail: ALT + U
Write Disc: ALT + R
Start: ALT + A
Main Menu: ALT + U
Intro: ALT + I

Quick DVD: CTRL + D

Player Shortcuts:
Active Clip: ALT + A
Entire Project: ALT + J

Storyboard View: ALT + Y
Timeline View: ALT + L
Video Track: CTRL + 1
Text Track: CTRL + 2
Audio Track 1: CTRL + 4
Audio Track 2: CTRL + 5
Move Clip: CTRL + Right/Left ARROW
Frame Seek: ALT + Right/Left ARROW
Start Marker Trim: I
End Marker Trim: O
Clear Start Marker: D
Clear End Marker: F
Clear Both Markers: G
Cut: CTRL + X
Copy: CTRL + C
Paste: CTRL + V
Select All: CTRL + A
Stop and Rewind: HOME
Undo: CTRL + Z
Redo: CTRL + Y
Delete: DELETE
Navigation: ARROW Keys
Contract Timeline: CTRL + -
Expand Timeline: CTRL + +
Create Clip Copy: CTRL + Mouse drag to new location
Select Multiple Clips: SHIFT + ARROW keys

Album Shortcuts:
Scroll Up: PAGE UP
Scroll Down: PAGE DOWN
Jump to Top: HOME
Jump to Bottom: END
Thumbnail Navigation: ARROW keys

Delete Thumbnail/File: DELETE
Select All: CTRL + A
Deselect All: CTRL + D
Cut: CTRL + X
Copy: CTRL + C
Paste: CTRL + V
Save: CTRL + S
Add to Storyboard/Timeline: ENTER

Edit Panel: ALT + I (Use this shortcut to jump to the editing panel when any component is selected on the Storyboard/Timeline or within any text, effect, or transition album.)

Text Editing:
Once within the Color Palette, use the ARROW keys to select your color, then press Enter.
Bold: CTRL + B
Italic: CTRL + I
Decrease Font Size: CTRL + SHIFT + <
Increase Font Size: CTRL + SHIFT + >

Misc. Shortcuts:
New Project: CTRL + N
Open Project: CTRL + O
Save Project: CTRL + S
Save Project As: CTRL + SHIFT + S
Import Media File: CTRL + I
Edit ArcSoft DVD Disc: CTRL + E
Start/Pause Video: SPACE
Stop/Rewind: HOME
Previous Frame: ALT + Left ARROW
Next Frame: ALT + Right ARROW
Back: CTRL + ALT + Left ARROW
Forward: CTRL + ALT + Right Arrow
Full Screen: ALT + ENTER
Print Current Frame: CTRL + P
Execute Current Button/Checkbox/Etc.: SPACE
F1 - Help
F2 - Display right-click options
F7 - Narrate (ESC to stop recording)
F9 - Small View
F11 - Full Screen

7. How Tos

Capture Video

Capture Audio

Create New Album

Add Content to Storyboard

Modify Content

Create DVD

Create Slide Show

Add Pan & Zoom

Perform Advanced Editing

Design Menus

Burn to Disc

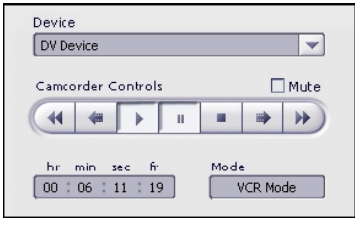
ShowBiz DVD can seem like a complex program. In this chapter, rather than descriptions of the user interface function by function, you'll find short "how to" procedures for common tasks.

7.1 Capture Video

Step 1. Connect your camera to the computer and turn the power on. Launch the program. From the welcome wizard, select "Capture, create, or edit videos." From the next screen, select "Capture From Device."

If you already have the program open, click "Capture" at the top of the screen to go to the Capture module.

Step 2. Once within the Capture module, you'll see controls for navigating through the video on your camera.



Use the playback controls to jump to the spot where you would like to begin recording.

Step 3. Click the big red Record button beneath the preview window. You'll be prompted to define the specifics of the file you are about to capture:

- Choose the file name and save location.
- Set the file type. If you plan on using the video when you create a DVD, choose the DVD (MPEG-2) file type.
- Optionally, enter a capture time. If you have a really long video and only want to capture a small part, use this option.
- Optionally, check the box to add your captured file to an album. If you plan on doing any type of editing, your file will need to be in an album. See Section 3.3 for more information on albums.

Step 4. When you are finished recording, click Stop. You can view your captured file by clicking the Playback button.

For more information on capturing video, see Section 2.1.

7.2 Capture Audio

Step 1. Launch the program and click "Capture" at the top of the screen to go to the Capture module.

Step 2. Click the Audio tab. Select to record audio from a CD or from a recording device.

If recording from a CD, select the track and then use the playback controls to jump to the spot where you would like to begin recording.

If recording from a recording device, select the device from the pull-down. Click the Format button to select the bit rate and other audio settings.

Step 3. Click the big red Record button beneath the preview window. You'll be prompted to define the specifics of the file you are about to capture:

- Choose the file name and save location.
- Optionally, check the box to add your captured file to an album. If you plan on doing any type of editing, your file will need to be in an album. See Section 3.3 for more information on albums.

Step 4. When you are finished recording, click Stop. You can listen to your captured file by clicking the Playback button.

For more information on capturing audio, see Section 2.2.

7.3 Create New Album

In order to add content to the Storyboard/Timeline, you need to first create an album. Albums consist of shortcuts that link to the picture, music, and video files stored on your computer. There are a few sample albums included in the program.

Step 1. Launch the program and click "Edit" at the top of the screen to go to the Edit module.

Step 2. Click the Media tab. From the album pull-down, choose "< New Album >."

Step 3. Enter in a new album name. Just click on and type over the existing name.

Step 4. Click where indicated to browse your system for files to add to the album.

You can add still pictures, video clips, and audio tracks.

Step 5. Add additional files to your album at any time.

Select the album from the pull-down and click the Add button.

Don't forget that you can create more than one album. Organize your media so that it's easy to find what you need when you're making your movies.

For more information about albums, see Section 3.3.

7.4 Add Content to Storyboard

The Storyboard is where you add content to piece together your movie. The Storyboard consists of several squares.

The larger squares are for STILL IMAGES and VIDEOS. The smaller squares are for TRANSITIONS. (Transitions are effects that occur as one video or image changes to another.) When your final movie is compiled, everything on the Storyboard is combined into a single video file.

Step 1. Launch the program and click "Edit" at the top of the screen to go to the Edit module.

Step 2. From the Media tab, click a thumbnail to select it.

Then click the "Add" arrow to add the video or image to the next available space on the Storyboard. Alternatively, double-click the thumbnail. Or select the thumbnail and drag it to the Storyboard.

Step 3. Click on the Transitions tab. Choose a transition that you like and add it before or after any photo or video by selecting the transition and clicking the "Add" arrow. Alternatively, double-click the transition. Or select the transition and drag it to the Storyboard.

A quick and easy way to apply transitions to your movie is to right-click the Storyboard and choose "Random Transition to All." The program automatically adds transitions to every available spot on the Storyboard.

For more information about the Storyboard, see Section 3.4.

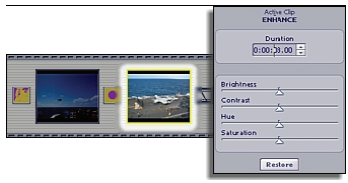
7.5 Modify Content

This section covers simple content modifications that can be done on the Storyboard. For more information on advanced editing, see Section 3.5 and Section 7.9.

Modification 1: Rearranging Photos and Videos
Rearrange photos and videos on the Storyboard by clicking and dragging any thumbnail on the Storyboard to a new location.

Modification 2: Rearranging Transitions
Transitions are replaced, rather than rearranged. Clicking and dragging any transition on the Storyboard to a new location replaces the transition that was at that location.

Modification 3: Editing Still Images
Select a photo on the Storyboard. In the preview area, specify the display time duration (hours, minutes, seconds, frames). To use the same display time for multiple photos, right-click an image thumbnail and choose "Apply Duration to All Following." You can also use the sliders in the preview area to adjust each image's brightness, contrast, hue, and saturation.



Modification 4: Editing Video Clips
Select a video clip on the Storyboard. In the preview area, you can adjust the brightness, contrast, hue, and saturation, as well as the volume and playback speed. In the player, you can trim the video by either dragging the green and pink trim markers, or adjusting the timer to the spot you want and clicking the respective Trim button (pink and green scissors).

7.6 Create DVD

The Create module of the program is where you actually put together your DVD (or VCD).

Step 1. Launch the program and click "Create" at the top of the screen to go to the Create module.

Step 2. From the Media tab, choose the album that has the video clips you wish to add.

Step 3. Double-click the video clip you want to add. The video clip appears on the DVD menu as a new chapter. Add all the video chapters that you plan on including in your movie. You can choose video clips from several different albums.

Step 4. Once your content is added, you can customize the look and feel of your menu by changing the background, title, and chapter button layout and text. Menu customization options are covered in detail in Section 7.10.

Step 5. Introduction videos play as soon as the disc is inserted into a DVD player. Once the introduction video clip completes, the main movie menu is shown. To add an introduction video, click and drag the desired video from the album area to the Introduction Video box.

Step 6. Click the Write Disc tab to burn your movie to disc. You can preview the movie first, or just click Start. More details on burning your movie to disc are in Section 7.11.

7.7 Create Slide Show

You can create a photo slide show, which is added to your movie as a separate chapter.

Step 1. Launch the program and click "Create" at the top of the screen to go to the Create module.

Step 2. From the Media tab, click "Create Slideshow."

Step 3. Click "Add Photos" to browse your system for photos to add to your slide show, or click the "Acquire Photos" button to add photos directly from your scanner.

Step 4. Click and drag the photos you have added to order them.

Step 5. Use the buttons in the Slide Show dialog to further customize your slide show. When you're finished, click "Next."

- Click "Edit Photo" to crop, enhance, or add text to the selected photo.
- Click "Pan & Zoom" to apply your own scrolling and zoom effect to each photo. See Section 7.8 for more information on Pan & Zoom.
- Use the buttons along the top of the dialog to rotate the selected photo, add blank slides, add an audio annotation to the selected photo, or set the selected photo as the chapter button thumbnail.

Step 6. If you would like to include a soundtrack, click "Select Files" and choose the audio tracks you would like to add. The soundtrack plays over the entire presentation, whereas the audio annotation from Step 5 plays just for one slide.

Step 7. In the "Duration" section, set the display time for the slides. To automatically time the slide show according to the length of your soundtrack, choose "Auto-fit to Soundtrack."

Step 8. In the "Transition" section, choose the transition or special effect you want.

Step 9. When you're ready to produce your slide show, click "Finish." The program will compile it and add it to your movie.

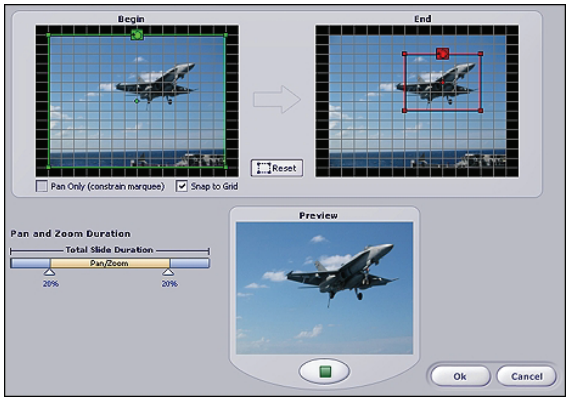
More information about slide shows is in Section 4.7.

7.8 Add Pan & Zoom

Pan & Zoom is a neat effect that can be applied to photos on the Storyboard while in the Edit module, or to slides in slide shows created in the Create module.

In the Create module, check the "Auto-Pan & Zoom" box to have the program automatically apply a random Pan & Zoom effect to each slide in the slide show.

In the Create or Edit module, you can also create a custom Pan & Zoom effect for each photo. Check "Enable Pan & Zoom" and then click "Edit" (Edit module), or just click "Pan & Zoom" (Create module, slide show dialog).



Step 1. Set the "Begin" focus.
In the "Begin" window, notice the green marquee around the entire photo. Click and drag the corners, edges, and within the marquee to resize, rotate, and reposition it any way you like. When the slide show reaches the photo, only the area within the marquee will be displayed to start out.

Step 2. Set the "End" focus.
In the "End" window, reposition the red marquee over the area that you want displayed just before the photo switches to the next slide.

Step 3. Preview.
When the slide show reaches the photo, the focus will be exclusively on the "Begin" marquee. The display will then "pan & zoom" to the "End" marquee. Use the preview to get an idea how the effect works.

Additional Options:

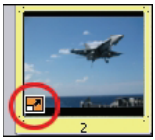
Rotation. Rotate marquees by clicking and dragging the rotate marker located on the top-center bar of the marquee. Also, notice that there is a single point in the center of each marquee box. Click and drag this point to any location; the marquee revolves around the point as it rotates.

Duration. Generally, slides don't need to "pan & zoom" over the entire display time. The Pan & Zoom duration slider has two markers. Use these markers to shorten the pan & zoom effect in relation to the total display time. When you leave both cursors at 0%, the pan & zoom effect lasts for the entire duration of the slide (meaning the slide is panning, zooming, or rotating for the entire display time). Preview your work as necessary until you're satisfied with the effect.

Pan Only. Check the "Pan Only" box to lock the marquee width/height ratio.

Snap to Grid. Check the "Snap to Grid" box to make it easier to horizontally or vertically align the "Begin" and "End" marquees. This is useful if you want to create a simple pan effect that scrolls up/down or left/right.

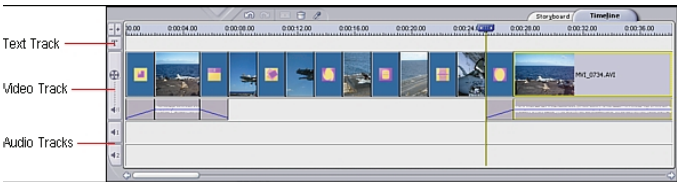
Slides that have the pan & zoom effect applied to them display the following icon:



7.9 Perform Advanced Editing

On the Storyboard, you can perform basic content modification, including adding still images, video clips, and transitions to your movie, as well as enhance your still images and trim your video clips. See Section 3.4 and Section 7.5 for more information. To perform more advanced editing, you need to use the Timeline.

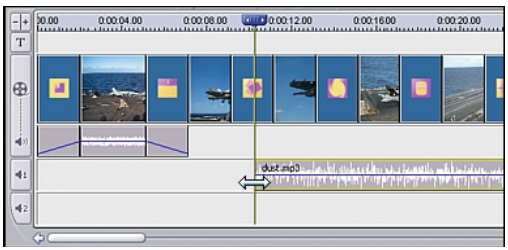
Step 1. Open a movie that you are working on in the Edit module. Click the Timeline tab.



The Timeline is divided into separate tracks. The tracks are:
Text – add text effects
Video – add still images, transitions, and video clips; view audio included with the video clips
Audio 1 and Audio 2 – add audio files, layering files if desired

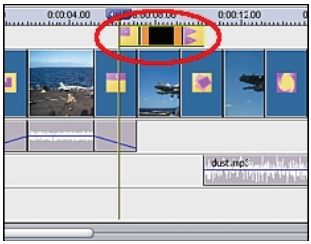
Step 2. To add audio to the Audio 1 or Audio 2 track, make sure you are in the Media tab. Choose the album with your desired audio files, then select the file you want. Double-click the thumbnail to add it to the Timeline. Click and drag added audio tracks to move them from one audio track to the other.

Step 3. To trim audio, click and drag the edge of the file on the Timeline to change the start/end point. You can also trim it in the preview area using the Trim (scissor) buttons.



Step 4. To add text, click the Text tab. Click the Style category you want ("Simple" or "Fancy"), then click and drag the particular text style you want to the Timeline. The Text Editor appears. Click within the text box to modify the sample text, or add more text by clicking anywhere outside the existing text box. You can alter the font, size, style, and justification. Use the Scroll checkbox and corresponding buttons to add motion to the text.

Step 5. To add text effects, click the Text tab. Click the Effect category you want, then click and drag the effect directly over one of the effects on either side of text on the Timeline. (You can use a different effect for when text appears and disappears.)



Modify text or text effects by clicking on the component and adjusting the options, such as display time and effects properties.

Step 6. To add special effects, click the Effects tab. These effects are added to specific components on the video track. Click the Effect category you want, then click and drag an effect onto the component on the video track. Click and drag the edges of an effect to modify its duration. (On the Storyboard, components with added special effects will have a star icon.)

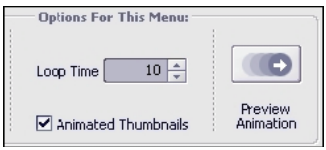
More information about the Timeline is in Section 3.5.

7.10 Design Menus

Once you have added content to your DVD in the Create module, you can customize the look and feel of your menu.

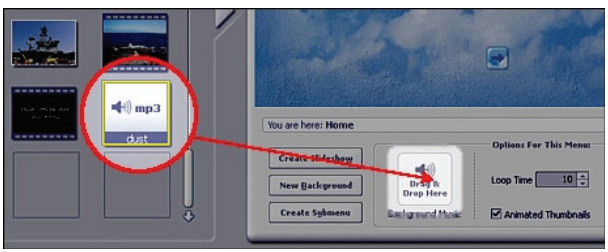
Modification 1: Organizing Chapter Buttons
To organize the chapter buttons, click the Customize tab. In the Layout section, double-click the layout that you want. You can also click and drag the chapter buttons to customize the layout.

Modification 2: Animating Chapter Buttons
Chapter buttons, rather than being static, can actually play the videos they represent. From the Media tab, check the "Animated Thumbnails" box. Set the time (in seconds) that the video should play before it loops. Click "Preview Animation" to see how it looks. Note that there may be considerable processing time depending on your system and the length of the animated loop.



Modification 3: Updating Chapter Button Frames
Each chapter button can have its own unique frame. Click the Customize tab. Then, select the chapter button that you want to update and double-click the frame you want to use.

Modification 4: Adding Audio
Add music to your menu by clicking and dragging an audio file to the "Background Music" section beneath the preview area. You can add a different track to each menu page.



Modification 5: Choosing a New Background
To choose a new background, click the Themes tab. Double-click the theme that you want. You can also click the "New Background" button in the preview area and browse your system for an image that you want to use.

Modification 6: Customizing Menu Text
To customize menu text, click the Text tab. Double-click any text on the menu to edit it. You can modify the font, size, style, alignment, and color, and add a shadow effect.

Modification 7: Creating Submenus
Submenus are useful if you have lots of different videos under a broad subject. For example, your DVD might be titled "Vacation," with submenus for your various trips (each of which has several video clips).

You can create a submenu by clicking "Create Submenu" beneath the main preview area when you are in the Media tab.

You can also break a longer video clip into separate chapters, and have a submenu created automatically created for the video file, with new chapter buttons appearing for each chapter break you set. Here's how:

- Select the video clip you wish to break up into smaller segments.
- Click the Set Chapters tab.
- Use the playback controls/slider to go to the point where you would like to insert a chapter break.
- Click "Set Chapter." A chapter break is inserted.
- You can also trim the overall length of the video using the left and right bracket icons.

7.11 Burn To Disc

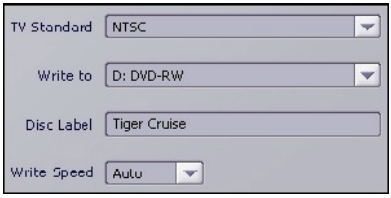
Once your video clips and menus are all ready to go, you can preview your project, choose the output options, and burn it to disc.

Step 1. When you're all ready to go, click the Write Disc tab in the Create module.

Step 2. Preview your movie with the virtual remote control. It should work similarly to a standard DVD player remote control. Use it to navigate through your various menus and play back your movie. If you're creating a VCD, press the corresponding number on the remote to view the chapter.

Step 3. Once you're ready to burn your movie to disc, click "Start." You'll be prompted to set the output options:

- Choose the playback format. If you are in the US or Japan, choose NTSC. Most of Europe uses PAL.
- Choose where to save the movie. From the pull-down, select either your DVD burner drive or your hard drive.
- In the Disc Label field, enter a title for your movie.
- Choose the burn speed of the drive if you are burning your project to disc, or the directory on your hard drive to save the movie if you are saving a copy locally.



When you're ready, click "OK." Your movie is converted into DVD or VCD format, and the burned to your disc or written to your hard drive.

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