



Nero ShowTime Manual

Nero AG

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1 General information

1.1 About the manual

This manual is intended for all users who want to learn how to use Nero ShowTime. It is therefore structured according to operations and provides step-by-step instructions for what you want to do.

In order to make best use of this manual, please note the following conventions:

Symbol	Meaning
	Indicates warnings, preconditions or instructions that have to be followed strictly.
	Indicates additional information or advice.
1. Start ...	A number at the beginning of a line indicates a request for action. Carry out these actions in the order specified.
	Indicates an intermediate result.
	Indicates a result.
OK	Indicates text passages or buttons that appear in the program interface. They are shown in bold print.
<u>Chapter</u>	Indicates references to other chapters. They are executed as links and are shown in red and underlined.
[...]	Indicates keyboard shortcuts for entering commands.

1.2 About Nero ShowTime

Nero ShowTime allows you to play back all digital recordings (movies, TV programs, home videos, DVD format) with excellent picture and sound quality. Nero ShowTime features a reminder function for each disc inserted and allows you to create screenshots of the video being shown during playback. Nero ShowTime supports the formats DVD-Video (also from a hard drive), VCD, SVCD, miniDVD, Nero Digital™, MPEG-1/-2/-4 as well as AVI - in both PAL and NTSC. The playback window can be scaled down or viewed in full-screen mode. The audio output of Nero ShowTime supports Dolby® Digital AC3, LPCM, MPEG-1/-2 and S/PDIF for digital sound.

1.3 Versions of Nero ShowTime

Different versions of Nero ShowTime are available:

- **Nero ShowTime Retail**
- **Nero ShowTime Essentials**
- **Nero ShowTime Essentials CE**

Nero ShowTime Retail and **Nero ShowTime Essentials** provide the full functionality.

If the DVD-Video plug-in is not installed, **Nero ShowTime Essentials CE** will have the following functionality restrictions in comparison with the full version:

- It is not possible to play back from the drive (see [Playing discs from the drive](#))
- Only the playlist (media files) can be used as a playback source (see [Playlists from media files](#))
- No read character functionality (see e.g. [Bookmarks editor](#))
- No parental control (see [Parental control](#))
- It is not possible to change perspective

2 Technical information

2.1 System requirements

Nero ShowTime is installed together with the Nero Suite and the system requirements are the same. Refer to the QuickStart Guide for detailed information on system requirements. The following additional requirements also apply:

- Microsoft® DirectX® 9.0c (or higher) must be installed on your operating system. You can download and install the latest version of DirectX from the <http://www.microsoft.com/windows/directx> via the Internet.

- Plus:**
- DVD drive for playing DVD-Video
 - 16-bit Windows® compatible sound card and speakers
- Optional:**
- Multichannel/Dolby® Digital 5.1 channel decoding plug-in (Dolby® Digital 5.1 sound system for audio playback in 5.1 channel)
 - DVD-Video plug-in for DVD-Video functions and encoding in Dolby® Digital 2 channel sound. (The DVD-Video plug-in is already included in the retail version.)



Installation of the latest WHQL-certified device drivers is recommended. WHQL stands for Windows Hardware Quality Labs and means that the device driver certified by Microsoft® is compatible with Microsoft® Windows® and the relevant hardware.

2.2 Formats supported

Nero ShowTime supports playback of the following formats or technologies:

Audio formats	Video formats	TV formats	Disc formats	Copy protection-mechanisms
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nero Digital™ Audio ■ Nero Surround ■ DAT ■ Dolby Digital/Dolby Surround ■ LPCM ■ MPEG-1 ■ S/PDIF output for digital sound ■ MPEG-2 ■ WMA 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Nero Digital™ Video ■ MPEG-1 ■ MPEG-2 ■ MPEG-4 ■ ASF ■ AVI ■ DV ■ DVD-MS ■ H.264/AVC ■ MOV ■ Windows movies ■ WMV 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ 16:9 Wide-Screen ■ NTSC and PAL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ DVD-Video (from disc and hard drive) ■ VCD 2.0/SVCD ■ DVD+VR/-VR ■ miniDVD (DVD files on CD) ■ HD DVD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ WMA (DRM) ■ WMV (DRM) ■ CPRM

3 Launching the program

3.1 Launching Nero ShowTime via Nero StartSmart

To launch Nero ShowTime via Nero StartSmart, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the **Nero StartSmart** icon.
→ The Nero StartSmart window will open.
2. Click on the arrow button on the left side of the window.
→ The extended area will open.



Fig. 1: Nero StartSmart

3. Select the Nero ShowTime entry from the **Applications** selection list.
→ The **Nero ShowTime** window will open.

→ You have successfully launched Nero ShowTime via Nero StartSmart.

3.2 Launching Nero ShowTime directly

To launch Nero ShowTime directly, proceed as follows:

1. If you are using the Windows-XP Start menu, click on the menu Start > All Programs > Nero 7 (Premium) > Play > **Nero ShowTime**.
If you are using the traditional Start menu, click on the menu Start > Programs > Nero 7 (Premium) > Play > **Nero ShowTime**.
→ The **Nero ShowTime** window will open.

→ You have successfully launched Nero ShowTime.

4 Program interface

The Nero ShowTime program interface is the starting point for all actions that you perform using Nero ShowTime.

The program interface consists of a playback window containing the status bar and the control panel with the playback, settings and information areas.



Fig. 2: Program interface





A minimized version of the control panel is also available. You can use the  button to switch between the normal and minimized views. The minimized version of the control panel does not contain all buttons.



Fig. 3: Minimized view of control panel

4.1 Playback window

The movie is shown and played in the Nero ShowTime playback window. The following buttons are available in the status bar:

	Minimizes Nero ShowTime in the taskbar.
	Changes between full-screen and normal view. [Z]
	Exits Nero ShowTime.

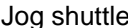













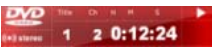





4.2 Control panel








The control panel allows you to select a file or a video to play, to open options, to adjust the volume and to view information on the file you have just played.



Nero ShowTime allows you to play back both discs (e.g. Video-DVD or Audio CD) and media files from the hard drive. The configuration options are not enabled for every playback form, but are sometimes grayed out and cannot be used.

The following configuration options are available:

Playback area	
	Rewinds and fast forwards within the track. The further the wheel moves in one direction, the faster it winds.
	Opens selection of the playback source. This is where you can select the media file or a playlist that is to be played back. [O]
	Starts playback. [Enter]
	Jumps to the previous chapter or to the previous media file. [P]
	Jumps to the next chapter or to the next media file. [N]
	Interrupts playback, then continues it after a second click. [Space]
	Finishes playback. [S]
	Ejects the disc. [J]
	Navigates smoothly (no chapter boundaries).
	Selects a rewind speed. [B]
	Selects a fast forward speed. [F]
	Adjusts the volume. Move the slider up to increase the volume. Move the slider down to reduce the volume
	Switches to mute/loud. [Q]
	Selects the chapter. Move the slider up to select the next chapter. Move the slider down to select a previous chapter.
Information area	
	Among other things, displays the activated function, title, current chapter, and running time. If you double-click on the runtime, the Seek to time dialog box will open. You can select a specific runtime here. [Ctrl+G]
	Displays the subtitle language, drive, regional code, language, angle, and the audio settings.
Settings area	
	Jumps back one intra code picture, approximately 10 frames. [Ctrl+B]
	Jumps one frame forwards. [T]
	Jumps to the next bookmark. [G]
	Adds a bookmark. [M]

	Opens the Options menu. [Ctrl+C]
	Shows the Help file. [F1]
	Minimizes Nero ShowTime in the taskbar.
	Exits Nero ShowTime .
	Displays the minimized view of the control panel.
	Opens selection of the existing menu or the playlist. [L]
	Changes between full-screen and normal view. [Z]











4.3 Extended area

You can open an extended area on the control panel. This contains advanced selection and configuration options.




Fig. 5: Program interface – Extended area

The following operating elements are available in the extended area:

	Opens/closes the extended area.
	Allows you to jump to chapters immediately when playing back VCDs and Audio CDs.
	Opens subtitle selection. [U]
	Changes language. [H]
	Repeats a chapter, a title or everything. [Ctrl+R]
	Repeats a section or stops repeating. [R] Depending on the format, first set two markers between which the chapter or title is repeated using this button.
	Changes the perspective insofar as the movie provides different camera settings for individual scenes. [A]
	Changes channels in a karaoke DVD. This option is only available if a karaoke DVD is inserted. [K]
	Activates/deactivates the enlargement tool (digital zoom). [D]
	Creates a screenshot and saves it to the specified folder (see Capturing a frame). [C] This function is only available if hardware acceleration is disabled.

5 Options window

The **Options** window provides various options for customizing the appearance of the Nero ShowTime interface and for performing settings according to your requirements. You can open the window with the  button. It consists of a navigation tree and a screen area. Depending on the entry that is selected in the navigation tree, a different screen area is displayed.

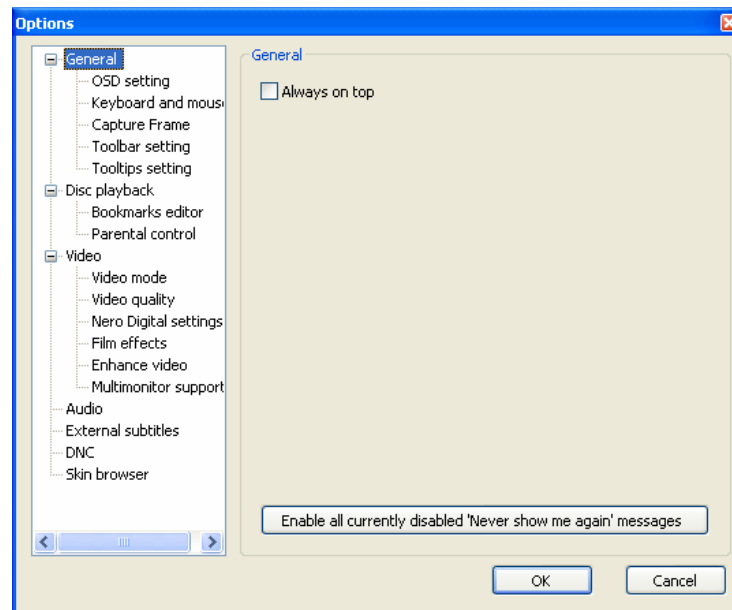


Fig. 4: **Options** window

5.1 General

The **General** area contains general configuration options. The following configuration options are available:

Always on top	Nero ShowTime remains in the foreground even if other programs are started.
Enable all currently disabled "Never show me again" messages	Re-enables all dialog boxes that you had disabled with the "Do not show this message again" check box.

5.1.1 OSD setting

The area **General > OSD setting** contains configuration options for the on-screen display. The on-screen display indicates the current procedure in the playback window such as "Play" or "Volume increased" for instance.

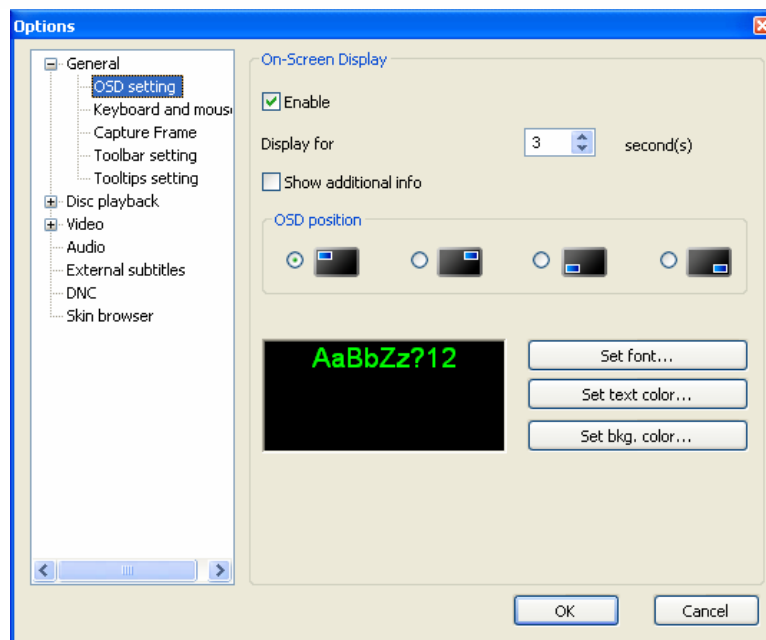


Fig. 5: Options – OSD setting window



The following configuration options are available:

Activate	Enables/disables the on-screen display. If the on-screen display is enabled, the current procedure is displayed in the playback window.
Display for	Defines the time of the on-screen display in seconds.
Display extra information	Enables display of additional information, e.g. about the video stream bit rate and audio encoding.
OSD position	Defines the position of the on-screen display in the playback window.
Set font...	Defines the font for the on-screen display.
Set text color...	Defines the text color for the on-screen display.
Set bkg. color...	Defines the background color for the on-screen display.

5.1.2 Keyboard and mouse

The area **General > Keyboard and mouse setting** contains configuration options for control via the keyboard and mouse.

The following configuration options are available:

Use mouse wheel for	Defines which function the scroll wheel on the mouse should take on during playback. The Volume , Time and Previous/Next Chapter entries are available.
Inverse	Reverses the scroll wheel function of the mouse.
Time seek duration	Defines the time interval in seconds that makes it possible to jump forwards and backwards in the program using the  and  buttons.

5.1.3 Capturing a frame

The **Capture Frame** entry provides configuration options for the frame. A frame is a snapshot of the playback window.

The following configuration options are available:

Capture to...	
Clipboard	Depending on the configuration of your PC saves one picture only.
Wallpaper	Saves one snapshot immediately as the desktop wallpaper.
File	Numbers your snapshots and saves them in BMP format. You can use the button to specify the path of the folder where the saved pictures are to be stored.
Printer	Sends a snapshot directly to the printer.
Captured aspect ratio	
Original video source size	Saves the snapshot in the original aspect ratio of the movie.
Current video window size	Saves the snapshot in the current aspect ratio of the playback window.

5.1.4 Configuring the toolbar

The **Toolbar setting** entry provides configuration options for the toolbar. The toolbar is used principally so that the entire control panel does not need to be displayed during playback. It is displayed at the top of the screen during playback if you move the cursor to this position and provides selection and configuration options for the movie being shown (see [Toolbar](#)).

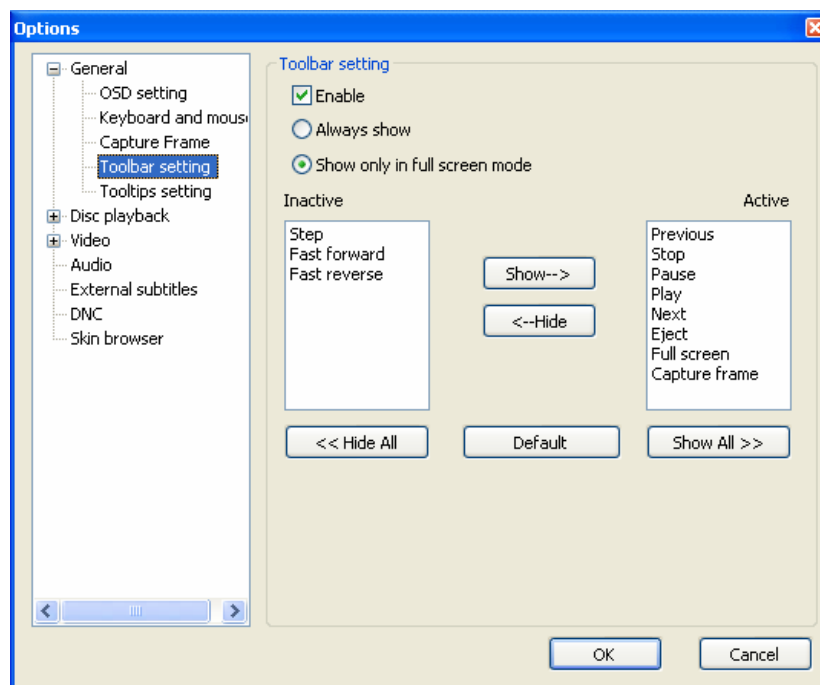



Fig. 6: Options – Toolbar setting window

The following configuration options are available:

Activate	Enables the toolbar.
Always show	Enables the toolbar for playback in full-screen and normal mode.
Show only in full screen mode	Activates the toolbar only for playback in full screen mode.
Inactive	Displays the functions that are not on the toolbar.
Active	Displays the functions on the toolbar.
Hide All	Removes all functions from the Active selection list and moves them to the Inactive selection list. The toolbar is displayed without any additional buttons. Only the slider for the content view, time display and the  button is displayed.
Standard	Resets the Active and Inactive selection lists to the default setting. The most frequently used buttons are displayed in the toolbar.
Show All	Adds all functions to the Active selection list. All buttons are displayed in the toolbar.

5.1.4.1 Toolbar settings

To configure the toolbar, proceed as follows:

1. If you want to add a function to the toolbar:
 1. Select the desired function from the **Inactive** selection list.
 2. Click on the **Show** button.
 - The function is added to the **Active** selection list.
 3. Repeat the two last steps until you have added all of the desired functions to the toolbar.
 2. If you want to remove a function from the toolbar:
 4. Select the desired function from the **Active** selection list.
 5. Click on the **Hide** button.
 - The function is added to the **Inactive** selection list.
 6. Repeat the two last steps until you have removed all of the desired functions from the toolbar.
- You have configured the toolbar according to your requirements and can use them during playback.

5.1.5 Tooltip settings

The **Tooltip settings** entry provides configuration options for the tooltips. Tooltips contain brief explanatory information that is displayed if you hover the cursor over individual elements on the Nero ShowTime interface.

The following configuration options are available:

Do not show tooltips	Hides the tooltips.
Show Windows style tooltip	Shows the tooltips in classic Windows style.
Show balloon tooltips	Shows the tooltips in comic style (as "speech balloons").

5.2 Disc playback

The **Disc playback** entry provides configuration options for showing videos from a drive.

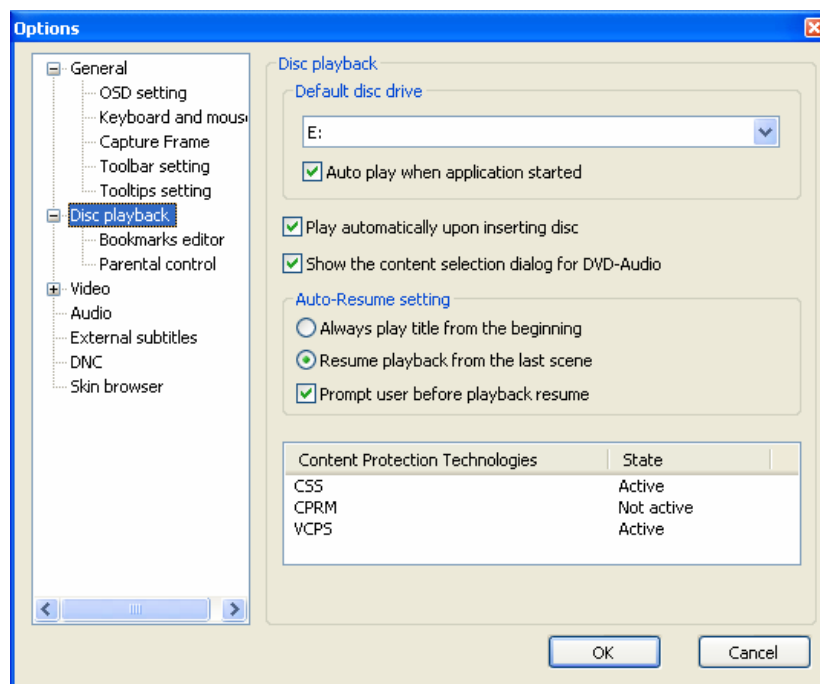


Fig. 7: **Options – Disc playback** dialog box

The following configuration options are available:

Default disc drive	Defines the drive from which discs are played by default.
Auto play when application started	Checks the drives when launching Nero ShowTime and starts playback if a relevant disc has been inserted.
Play automatically upon inserting disc	Starts playback as soon as the appropriate disc has been inserted.
Show the content selection dialog for DVD-Audio	Prior to playback of a DVD-Audio disc, shows a dialog box for selecting content.
Always play title from the beginning	Starts playback from the beginning if a disc that is already known is inserted again.
Resume playback from the last scene	Resumes playback if a disc that is already known is inserted again.
Prompt user before playback resume	Asks the user before playing back a disc that is already known whether it should be resumed at the last position viewed or started from the beginning.

5.2.1 Bookmarks editor

The **Disc playback > Bookmarks editor** entry makes available the bookmarks editor **Nero DVD**. The **Bookmarks editor** area contains a list of all bookmarks that have been set so far under the name of the DVD. You can display the bookmarks for a DVD by clicking on the **+** icon before of the name.

The following configuration options are available:

Go to	Selects the point to which the selected bookmark jumps in the video. If you close the Options window, you can resume the movie from the selected bookmark.
Edit name...	Edits the name of the selected bookmark.
Delete	Deletes the selected bookmark.
Bookmark file	Displays the path where the bookmark file is stored. You can change the path by clicking on the button.

5.2.2 Parental control

The **Disc playback > Parental control** entry enables you to set up parental control. The parental control feature in Nero ShowTime enables you to prevent your children from watching a movie that is not appropriate for them. You can also create a user profile for each of your children and specify restrictions. If a DVD - for which parental control criteria are relevant - is inserted, a login window is displayed. A user with a defined profile can log in and show the movie, or can be prevented from doing so by virtue of inadequate rights.

Users (children) cannot change their profiles themselves, only an administrator (parent) can view and administer the profiles.



You must have administrator rights on your computer in order to be able to set up parental control.

The **Parental level** area indicates the restrictions that apply for the user currently logged on. The following levels are available:

G	Released without age restriction. Suitable for general audiences.
Level 2	Films up to release Level 2 are played. Suitable for most audiences.
PG	Not suitable for children under 13.
PG-13	Parental guidance suggested for children under 13.
Level 5	Films up to release Level 5 are played. Suitable for teenagers.
R	Parental guidance suggested for children under 18.
NC-17	Not suitable for children under 18.
Level 8	Films up to release Level 8 are played. Maximum age restriction.
Unlimited	All films are played.

The following buttons are available:

Login	Opens the Login window where an administrator or a user can log into the system.
Administrator	Opens the User administration dialog box where you can create new profiles for administrators and users. You can also view and edit the profiles of the administrators and the

	<p>users. For example you can change the parental control level and/or the password.</p> <p>The button is only active if you have logged into the system as an administrator. Users cannot view or change profiles.</p>
--	---



To create a user you must have created an administrator first and then log into the system as an administrator.

5.2.2.1 Setting up parental control: creating an administrator

In order to set up parental control, you must first create an administrator. Only an administrator can create users and specify a restriction for them for watching movies. To create an administrator, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the **Administration...** button.
→ The **User administration** dialog box will open.
2. Click on the **Add User** button.
→ The **Edit user** dialog box will open.
3. Enter a name and a password.
4. Select the **Unlimited** option button in the **Parental level** area



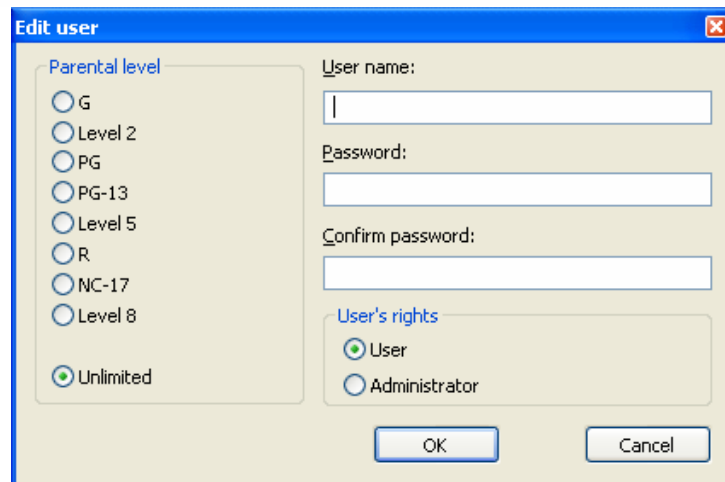
All films will be played only if the **Unlimited** option has been activated.

5. Click on the **OK** button.
→ You are entered as administrator. You will see your profile in the list in the **User administration** dialog box.
You can now log into the system to create users.

5.2.2.2 Setting up parental control: creating a user

An administrator can create profiles for users. You can specify which movies can and cannot be viewed for each user. To do this, define the parental level. To set up parental control and to create a user, proceed as follows:

1. If you are not logged into the system, click on the **Login** button and log in.
→ The **Administrator** button is enabled.
2. Click on the **Administrator** button.
→ The **User administration** dialog box will open.
3. Click on the **Add User** button.
→ The **Edit user** window will open.



The 'Edit user' dialog box has a blue title bar and a light beige background. It is divided into three main sections. The left section, titled 'Parental level', contains a list of radio buttons: G, Level 2, PG, PG-13, Level 5, R, NC-17, Level 8, and Unlimited (which is selected). The right section contains three text input fields labeled 'User name:', 'Password:', and 'Confirm password:'. Below these is a section titled 'User's rights' with two radio buttons: 'User' (selected) and 'Administrator'. At the bottom right are 'OK' and 'Cancel' buttons.

Fig. 8: **Edit user** dialog box

4. Enter a name and a password for the user.
5. Select the desired restriction option in the **Parental level** area (see [Parental control](#)).
6. Click on the **OK** button.
 - ➔ The desired profile is created and entered in the list.
7. If you want to create other profiles, repeat the last four steps.
 - ➔ You have successfully set up parental control and created users.



If a DVD for which the parental control criteria are relevant is inserted, then a login window appears. A user with an established profile can log in to watch the film.

5.3 Video

The **Video** entry provides configuration options for playing videos.

The following configuration options are available:

Hardware acceleration	
Activate	Enables hardware acceleration. This means that DVD-Video image acceleration is performed by the graphics card. This reduces the load on the main processor.
Screen control	
Run full screen	Shows the movie automatically on the full screen.
Keep aspect ratio	Shows the movie in proportion to its original aspect ratio.
Hide video window	Only shows the playback window when the movie has been played.
Video mode preference	Establishes the format in which the videos are played.

5.3.1 Video mode

The **Video mode** entry provides configuration options for interlacing. In interlaced mode video images are shown as two half images. In the first half image every second line (1, 3, 5, ..., 575) is shown. The second half image displays the rest of the lines in the image (2, 4, 6, ..., 576) so that it appears as a complete picture to the eye. Most video material consists of half images.

A deinterlacer is required for display on a full-screen device (monitor, projector). Nero Show-Time supports the deinterlacing techniques weave, bob and adaptive.

Weave, the simplest type for filling in the half images consists of displaying even and uneven half images simultaneously. In this way a half image fills in the missing lines in the other half image. This method is appropriate when both half images originate at the same time and can interleave without being conspicuous.

With adaptive deinterlacing the missing lines in the fields are found and added taking into consideration the surrounding fields. Good adaptive deinterlacers take into consideration up to five images in both directions. The more images the algorithm takes into account, the more the output may lag.

With bobbing the missing lines in the fields are found thus expanding each field to form a full image. The result of this technique is soft blending and some horizontal details may be missing.

The following configuration options are available:

No deinterlacing	Defines that deinterlacing is not used.
Adaptive deinterlacing	Defines that the computer performance takes over the deinterlacing process. Depending on the processor, there may be interruptions in the images. This is not possible if the hardware acceleration is deactivated.
Fine-tuning view	Adjusts the picture quality.
Fixed deinterlacing	Defines that the hardware takes over the deinterlacing process. Recommended in particular for older PCs with less than 600 MHz processor performance.
Set default values	Restores the default setting.



If you detect stripes running through the image during playback of a film, you should disable the **No deinterlacing** option.

5.3.2 Video quality

The **Video quality** entry provides configuration options regarding the quality of Nero Digital™ videos.



The settings in this section only affect Nero Digital™ videos and have no significance for DVD-Videos, VCDs and SVCDs.



To guarantee the best quality setting for your computer, it is recommended that you select the **Auto-adjust** entry from the selection list.

The following option buttons are available.

Off	Deactivates adjustment of the quality.
Manual	Selects manual quality setting.
Auto-adjust	Adjusts the quality automatically.

5.3.3 Nero Digital settings

The **Nero Digital settings** entry provides configuration options for playing Nero Digital™ videos.



The settings in this section only affect Nero Digital™ videos and have no significance for DVD-Videos, VCDs and SVCDs.

The following configuration options are available:

Remember subtitle setting when play Nero Digital movie	Retains the settings for the subtitles for the next time a film is played.
Display subpicture smoothly	Improves the display of subtitles.
Use Mpeg-4 SP video padding	Fits a Nero Digital™ video with black bars into the Nero ShowTime video window. Subtitles are adjusted in the picture.

5.3.4 Film effects

The **Film effects** entry provides the option for applying effects to the video movie.

The following configuration options are available:

Use film effects	Activates the use of film effects.
Luma	Defines the brightness of the image.
Chroma	Defines color hue and color saturation.
Reset	Restores the default setting.

5.3.5 Enhance video

The **Enhance video** entry allows you to change the appearance of the video. To do this you can define presets.

The following configuration options are available:

Presets	Selects a predefined entry and adjusts the slider accordingly. If the values are changed, the Custom entry is selected.
Save preset as...	Opens the New Preset dialog box where you can store the current setting under a name of your choice.
Delete Preset	Deletes the currently selected self-defined preset. (Presets pre-

	defined by the system cannot be deleted.)
Brightness	Defines the brightness of the video.
Contrast	Defines the contrast of the video.
Saturation	Defines the saturation of the video.
Hue	Defines the hue of the video.
Gamma	Adjusts the gamma setting of the video.
Sharpness	Defines the sharpness of the video.
Reset	Restores the default setting.

5.3.6 Multimonitor support

The **Multimonitor support** entry allows you to access multiple monitors.

The following configuration options are available:

Enable	Activates multimonitor support.
Automatically Crop Letterboxing	Fits a video with black bars into the playback window.
Monitor Border Size	Changes the distance between the video content and the margin of the playback window.

5.4 Audio

The **Audio** entry provides configuration options for the output of audio files.

The following configuration options are available:

Audio Output	Defines the number of loudspeakers used.
Output mode	Defines the output mode.
Enable Cover Art	Displays the cover in the playback window during playback of Nero Digital™ audio files.
Enable Display of Nero Digital Audio Logo	When Nero Digital™ audio files are started, displays the Nero Digital™ Audio Logo in the playback window.

5.5 External subtitles

The **External subtitles** entry allows you to enable external subtitles and to define the display.

The following configuration options are available:

Enable external subtitles	Enables display of external subtitles. External subtitles are only available if the relevant file with external subtitles is saved in the same directory as the selected film.
Set font...	Defines the font of the subtitles.
Set text color...	Defines the font color for the subtitles.
Use shadow	Enables shadows around external subtitles.

5.6 DNC

The **DNC** entry provides configuration options for Dynamic Noise Control. It reduces the noise produced by the drive during playback.

The following check box is available:

Enable DNC	Enables dynamic noise control if the integrated drive supports this function.
-------------------	---

5.7 Skin browser

The **Skin browser** entry allows you to adjust the appearance of the skin or graphical interface of Nero ShowTime. It is opened by default when you launch Nero ShowTime for the first time.

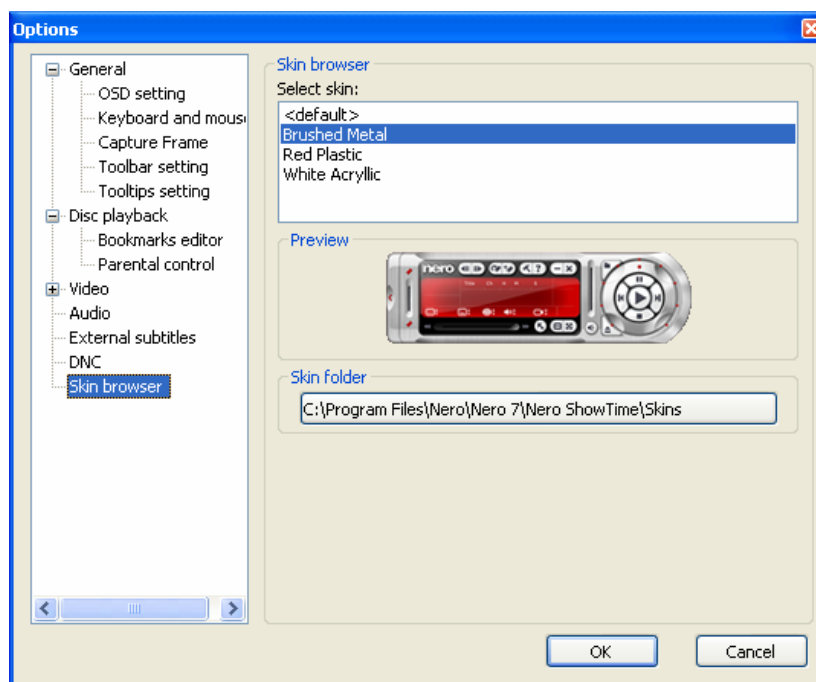


Fig. 9: Options – Skin browser dialog box

The following configuration options are available:

Select skin	Defines the desired graphical user interface.
Skin folder	Defines the folder where the templates are installed.




Two files are required so that a skin can be loaded in Nero ShowTime. One file in the format *.skn and one *.bmp file, both of which must have the same file name (e.g. Blue_Interface.bmp and Blue_Interface.skn).

6 Playback



Nero ShowTime allows you to play media files. You can select the following media files to play:

- Video files
- Audio files
- Video movie that is available in a video folder structure, on a DVD or hard drive for instance
- Audio CD
- Picture files

You can start media files from different sources. Select the source using the  button.

6.1 Playing discs from the drive

Nero ShowTime can play media files that are contained on an optical disc (e.g. CD or DVD) . You can play a video movie for example from DVD or an Audio CD. To do this, proceed as follows:

1. Insert the optical disc in the drive.
2. Click on the  button.
 - ➔ The selection list for the source will open.
1. Select the drive containing the optical disc.
2. Click on the  button.
 - ➔ The media file or files are played by the selected drive.



If a DVD-Video has already been played, the **DVD Auto-Resume** dialog box opens. You can select here whether the DVD-Video should be resumed at the point last seen or from the beginning.




Normally each DVD-Video has a menu with various options with which you can define the language of the movie, the picture size or view bonus material. Playback of the feature movie is also started in the menu.


These menus in your DVD-Video are independent of Nero ShowTime!

6.2 Play from Folder

Nero ShowTime can play media files that are contained in a folder. The folder can contain a video title such as a DVD-Video movie copied to the hard drive or any other media files. To play media files from a folder, proceed as follows:


1. Click on the  button.
 - ➔ The selection list of the source will open.
2. Select the **Play from Folder** entry.
 - ➔ The **Select folder** dialog box will open.

3. Select the folder you want and click on the **OK** button.

➔ Playback from the folder starts.
 If the folder has a video title, the video movie is played.
 If the folder contains any number of media files, the files are played in alphabetical order. You can use the  button to view the list during playback and to select individual files.

6.3 Playing a media file

Nero ShowTime allows you to select an individual media file to play it. To do this, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the  button.
 ➔ The selection list for the source will open.
2. Select the **File** entry.
 ➔ A dialog box is opened.
3. Select the media file you require and click on the **Open** button.
 ➔ The media file is played back.



You can only select one media file using the **File** entry. If you would like to select multiple media files to play, create a playlist using the entry **Media Files** (see [Playlists from media files](#)).

6.4 Playlists from media files

Nero ShowTime allows you to create playback lists. A playlist can contain media files of different formats. During playback, the files are played in the order in which you compiled them. You can save the playlist you created and load it again later in order to play them again or to edit them quickly and easily.

6.4.1 Playlist window

The **Playlist** window is the starting point for creating, loading, saving and editing playlists. It consists of various buttons and three areas where - if the **Browser** tab is selected - you can select folders from a navigation tree, select files and compile the playlist.

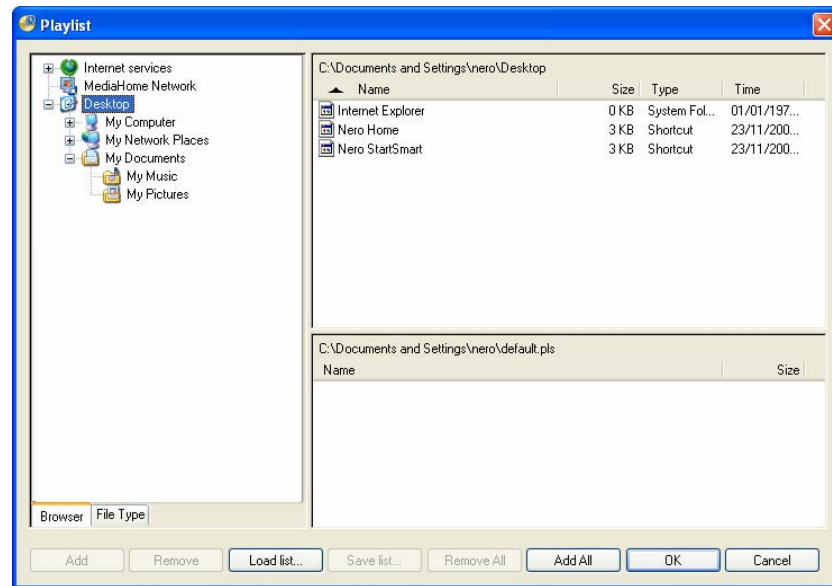


Fig. 10: Playlist window

If the **Browser** tab is selected, a navigation tree is displayed in the left-hand area from which you can select the media files. The familiar Windows® folder structure is always displayed. The **MediaHome Network** entry may also be available.

The **MediaHome Network** entry contains accessible files if a Nero MediaHome Server has been started in the local network.



Nero MediaHome is an application in the Nero 7 program suite and is automatically installed while Nero 7 is being installed. Nero MediaHome is a media server, which makes files available in a local network and transcodes them in real time as required. Please refer to the Nero MediaHome manual for further information.

If you subscribe to Nero Scout Internet services such as Internet TV or Internet radio, the **Internet Services** entry contains these Internet addresses.



Nero Scout is an application in the Nero 7 program suite and is automatically installed while Nero 7 is being installed. Nero Scout indexes and catalogs all media files on your computer. Please refer to the Nero Scout manual for further information.

The files in the selected folder are shown in the top right-hand area.

The bottom right-hand area shows the playlist. It contains the media files that you have added to the list using the **Add** button.


The following configuration options are available:

Browser	Displays the folder and services in a navigation tree.
File Type	Displays a selection list with formats. This is where you can select which formats should be displayed.
Add	Adds a selected media file to the playlist.
Remove	Removes a selected media file from the playlist.
Load list...	Loads a saved playlist.
Save list...	Saves the current playlist.
Remove All	Removes all media files from the current playlist.

Add All	Adds all media files in the selected folder to the playlist.
OK	Closes the window and begins playing the playlist.
Cancel	Cancels the procedure and closes the window.

6.4.2 Creating and saving a playlist

To create and save playlists, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the  button.
→ The source selection list will open.
2. Select the **Media Files** entry.
→ The **Playlist** window will open.
3. Select the desired file.
4. Click on the **Add** button.
→ The file is added to the playlist.
5. Repeat the last two steps for each additional file that is to be added to the playlist.
6. Click on the **Save list...** button.
→ The **Save As** dialog box will open.
7. Select the desired playlist format in the **File Type** text box.





The formats PLS, M3U and RSS are available for selection.

8. Enter the desired file name in the **File Name** input field.
9. Click on the **Save** button.
→ The playlist is saved.
You can now play the playlist by clicking on the **OK** button. To close the window without starting playback, click on the **Cancel** button.

6.4.3 Playing a playlist


To load a saved playlist, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the  button.
→ The source selection list will open.
2. Select the **Media Files** entry.
→ The **Playlist** window will open.
3. If you want to play a saved playlist:
 1. Click on the **Load list...** button.

- The **Open** dialog box will open.
- 2. Select the desired playlist.
- 3. Click on the **Open** button.
 - The playlist is displayed in the **Playlist** window.
- 4. If you want to create a new playlist:
 - 1. Select the desired file in the left-hand area.
 - 2. Click on the **Add** button.
 - 3. The file is added to the playlist.
 - 4. Repeat the two last steps for each additional file to which the playlist is to be added.
- 5. Click on the **OK** button.
 - The **Playlist** window is closed.
 - Nero ShowTime starts by playing the playlist.
 - During playback you can use the  button to view the list and select individual files.

6.4.4 Editing a playlist

To edit a saved playlist, proceed as follows:


- 1. Click on the  button.
 - The source selection list will open.
- 2. Select the **Media Files** entry.
 - The **Playlist** window will open.
- 3. Click on the **Load list...** button.
 - The **Open** dialog box will open.
- 4. Select the desired playlist.
- 5. Click on the **Open** button.
 - The dialog box closes and the selected playlist is displayed at the bottom right-hand area of the **Playback** window.
- 6. If you want to add files to the playlist:
 - 1. Select the desired file.
 - 2. Click on the **Add** button.
 - The file is added to the playlist.
 - 3. Repeat the last two steps for each file that is to be added to the playlist.
- 7. If you want to remove files from the playlist:
 - 1. Select all files that you want to remove.
 - 2. Click on the **Remove** button.
 - The file is removed from the playlist.
- 8. If you want to save the playlist under a new file name:

1. Click on the **Save list...** button.
 - The **Save As** dialog box will open.
2. Enter the desired file name in the **File Name** input field.
 - The playlist is saved.
9. If you want to save changes to the selected playlist:
 1. Click on the **Save list...** button.
 - The **Save As** dialog box will open.
 2. Select the file name of the selected playlist.
 3. Click on the **Save** button.
 - The selected playlist is overwritten.
- You have successfully edited a saved playlist.

6.5 Playing media

Nero ShowTime enables you to play various media. If a Nero MediaHome Server is started in the network and has made TV channels available for streaming , you can watch TV using Nero ShowTime.


To play media, proceed as follows:

1. Click on the  button.
 - The source selection list will open.
2. Select the **Media Files** entry.
 - The **Playlist** window will open.
3. Select a medium of your choice from the **MediaHome Network** entry.
4. Click on the **Add** button.
 - The file is added to the playlist.
5. Click on the **OK** button.
 - The **Playlist** window closes.
Nero ShowTime commences playback.

6.6 Using Internet services

If you have entered Internet services in Nero Scout such as Internet TV or Internet radio , you can retrieve and use these Internet services in Nero ShowTime.

To use Internet services, proceed as follows:

6. Click on the  button.
 - The source selection list will open.
7. Select the **Media Files** entry.

- The **Playlist** window will open.
- 8. Select a medium of your choice in the **Internet Services** entry.
- 9. Click on the **Add** button.
 - The file is added to the playlist.
- 10. Click on the **OK** button.
 - The **Playlist** window closes.
Nero ShowTime begins with playback.

7 Control during playback

7.1 Toolbar



Fig. 11: Program interface- Toolbar

You can show a toolbar during playback by moving the mouse pointer to the top of the screen.



The precise configuration of the toolbar will depend on your settings made under **Options** (see [Configuring the toolbar](#)).

The following buttons are available:

	Opens the Options window. [Ctrl+C]
	Interrupts playback, then continues it after a second click. [Space]
	Jumps to the next chapter or to the next media file. [N]
	Jumps to the previous chapter or to the previous media file. [P]
	Creates a snapshot. [C]
	Ends playback. [S]
	Starts playback. [Enter]
	Jumps one frame forwards. [T]
	Selects a fast forward speed. [F]
	Selects a rewind speed. [R]
	Ejects the disc. [J]
	Switches between full-screen and normal view. [Z]
	Navigates smoothly (no chapter boundaries).
	Shows the playback time.

7.2 Context menu

You can use the context menu to control Nero ShowTime during playback. It is not configurable. The functions of the individual entries correspond to the buttons on the program interface (see [Program interface](#)).

The following entries are also available:

Enter New Serial Number	Allows you to enter a new serial number if you have received one for switching from the test version to the full version.
About	Opens the About Nero ShowTime window where you will find information on the version number for instance.

8 Key combinations

The following keyboard shortcuts and key combinations have been defined for Nero Show-Time:

+	Raises the volume.
-	Reduces the volume.
[Enter]	Starts playback.
[Space]	Cancels playback/resumes playback.
[Q]	Switches to mute/loud.
[R]	Repeats a selected part of the movie.
[Ctrl+R]	Repeats a chapter or title.
[T]	Jumps one frame forwards.
[Ctrl+t]	Minimizes the program interface.
[U]	Opens subtitle selection.
[Ctrl+U]	Shows/hides the subtitles.
[Ctrl+Alt+U]	Shows/hides external subtitles.
[O]	Opens the selection of the playback source.
[Ctrl+O]	Opens the playback list.
[P]	Jumps to the previous chapter.
[N]	Jumps to the next chapter.
[Ctrl+P]	Opens the file.
[A]	Changes the camera perspective.
[S]	Ends playback.
[D]	Enables/disables the zoom tool.
[F]	Plays the movie forwards.
[G]	Jumps to the next bookmark.
[Ctrl+G]	Opens the Time dialog box.
[Ctrl+Alt+S]	Opens the Subtitle Control dialog box.
[H]	Changes the language.
[J]	Ejects the disc.
[K]	Switches between the channels on a karaoke DVD.
[L]	Opens the selection of the available menus.
[Z]	Changes between full-screen and normal view.
[B]	Plays the movie backwards.
[Ctrl+B]	Jumps back one intra codec picture. An intra codec picture is compressed in the video stream independently of other pictures while the picture is being processed. This corresponds to approximately 10 frames.

[C]	Creates a snapshot.
[Ctrl+C]	Opens the Options menu.
[M]	Adds a bookmark.
[0-9]	Keyboard range 0-9.
[F1]	Shows the Help file.
[Page up]	Fast forwards.
[Page down]	Rewinds.

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10 Glossary

Container format

A container format defines type and structure, in other words sets out the framework for packing the file types. AIFF for audio, AVI for video, MPG or MP4 for audio, video, and subtitles for instance are particularly commonly used containers.

DRM

Abbreviation for **D**igital **R**ights **M**anagement. The purpose of digital rights management is to protect intellectual property rights against illegal copying by means of pirated editions and to create billing options for licenses.

Dolby Surround

Dolby Surround is an analog system that makes four channels from two audio tracks. In addition to the stereo channels (left and right) there are two other surround channels (rear left and rear right). The surround signal is mono and is extracted from both stereo channels. Furthermore, the frequency range is restricted.

Dolby Surround Pro Logic II

Dolby Surround Pro Logic II is a further improvement on Dolby Surround. The surround channels are in stereo and the rear channels have no frequency restrictions.

DTS

Digital **T**heater **S**ystem. This multi-channel sound format works for Video-DVDs with a bit rate of 754.5 or 1509.25 Kbps. DTS works with higher data rates than Dolby Digital and therefore requires more space on the DVD.

High Efficiency AAC Audio

High Efficiency AAC Audio is an audio compression process based on the MPEG-4 specification. Compared to other formats such as MP3, High Efficiency AAC Audio has a variety of advantages, for instance improved quality at the same file size or support for multi-channel audio with up to 48 sound channels.

Intra Codec Picture

An intra codec picture is compressed independently of other pictures in the video stream while the image is being processed. It corresponds to approximately 10 frames.

miniDVD

A miniDVD is simply a CD-R or CD-RW, which has been burned in UDF format with a DVD structure. It has the same technical options and qualities as a DVD. MiniDVDs can be played on the computer without any problem whereas there is no guarantee that they can be played in all DVD players.

MPEG

Is short for Motion Picture Experts Group. This is a group of experts concerned (among other things) with standardizing audio and video compression or container formats.

MPEG-1

MPEG-1 is a compression standard for video and audio files. The standard is tailored to the multi-media area where only a limited storage capacity (Video-CD) or limited bit rates are available. The quality roughly corresponds to that of a VHS video cassette. The **MPEG-1 Audio-Layer 3** audio coding process is popularly known as "MP3".

MPEG-2

MPEG-2 is a compression standard for video and audio files. Because of higher bit rates on the video side, the quality of videos compressed using MPEG-2 is higher on the video side than the quality of videos compressed using MPEG-1. MPEG-2-coded videos are used for both SVCDs and DVDs. Audio files were upgraded to lower bit rates and multiple channels (5.1).

MPEG-3

MPEG-3 was originally planned as the standard for high-definition television (HDTV) and has meanwhile been implemented in the MPEG-2 standard. The MPEG-3 standard has not materialized.

MPEG-4

MPEG-4 is a further development of the MPEG-2 format. In comparison with MPEG-2, the data is compressed even more and the format has been extended to support video objects, 3-D contents, artificial objects, and so on. Certain standards such as AAC as well as the support of Digital Rights Management (DRM) have been defined in the audio sector.

Nero Digital

Nero Digital is the next generation of MPEG-4-compatible compression technology – with algorithms for premium-quality video encoding and with full **High Efficiency AAC Audio**. Nero Digital is compatible with ISO/14496-2/3, MPEG-4 and all MPEG-4 applications.

S/PDIF

Abbreviation of **Sony/Philips Digital Interface**. S/PDIF is a standardized transmission format for audio data. The interface is found on digital audio devices such as DAT recorders or high-quality PC sound cards. S/PDIF permits digital transmission from one device to another, without the need to first convert the data to produce an analog signal.

SVCD

Super Video Compact Disc. Movies and audio/video data with the MPEG-2 compression standard are stored on a SVCD. In comparison with a VCD, there is an improvement in the picture quality.

VCD

Video Compact Disc. Movies and audio/video data are stored on a CD with the MPEG-1 compression standard. The basis for this is an ISO file system and digital video movies are also included. A VCD can be played back by most CD-ROMs, DVD players and DVD-ROM drives using the software. The picture format is played back in 4:3 and the sound in stereo. Multiple sound tracks or selectable subtitles are not provided for.

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