



Capturing and Converting Video to Different Formats Using Dazzle DVC-800 and Pinnacle Quick Start Software

Capturing Video

To capture a video from a videotape you need to connect the your VCR output to the Dazzle Digital Video Creator. Connect the video out to the yellow jack and two audio outputs to the white and red jacks.

Install Pinnacle Studio software. Open the Pinnacle Studio Quick Start Software. At the top left of the screen you will see three tabs: *1 Capture*, *2 Edit*, and *3 Make Movie*.

Click on the *Capture* tab. Then go to *Settings* in the lower right hand corner. Click on it. Once in *Settings*, click on the *Capture Source* tab. Change the *Capture Device* to Pinnacle DVC 80.

Now, still in the *Settings* menu, click back to the tab that says *Capture Format*. There are three preset settings, *Good*, *Better*, and *Best*. There's also a custom option that allows you to be more specific. You must choose the *Best* setting.

To capture video to be used by the CaptionMaker you do not need the highest quality video, but you must have a frame rate of 29.97. The *Best* preset is the only one with that frame rate, so you **must** choose ***Best***.

Note that at present the CaptionMaker can play AVI, Mpeg and WMV files (although you can only capture to an AVI format) and a video of size 320x240 is more than sufficient. You can play video larger than 320x240. The size of the video file tends to be larger as the video display size increases.

Once you are finished changing your settings click *OK*. Next, there is a small folder to the right of the disk drive display. Click it to choose the location and a file name where your captured video is going to be saved.

Now, play the video on the VCR. You should see it in the preview window. Click on *Start Capture* when you want it to start capturing. When you want it to stop, click *Stop Capture*. Your new file is now saved in the location you chose.

Converting Video to Different Formats

If you already have an AVI file, which is usually much larger than MPEG or WMV, you may convert the file to a smaller size if you want to.

To convert your video, Click on the *Edit* tab.

You will see a text box near the top of the screen, with a small folder next to it. Click the small folder to open videos from your hard drive, but if you just captured a video it should already be there.

It is best to convert from an .avi file because they are the biggest and typically the best quality(usually between 100 and 400 megabytes per minute).

Once you have your video open in the edit window, simply drag it down to the storyboard, timeline, or text view just below where your video is.

Next click tab 3, *Make Movie*. On the left you have many options: output to *Tape*, create *AVI*, create *MPEG*, *Stream* to create Windows Media and RealVideo, and create *Disc* to make a CD.

Converting to Mpeg

To convert to MPEG click on *MPEG*. Click on the Settings button below the drive space display. There are seven different presets for *MPEG*, and a *Custom* option that allows you to make more specific changes.

Choose your video and audio settings if you are using Custom, or choose your preferred preset and click *OK*.

Now click the green button to the left of the *Settings* button that says “Create MPEG file...”

It will ask you what directory you want your new file to be saved to. Choose the location, then click *OK*.

Wait until the video is done converting and you are finished. The new file is now in the location you specified.

Converting to WMV

To convert to WMV, click on *Stream* on the top left of the screen. Now, select *Windows Media* above the *Settings* button. Then click the *Settings* button and choose *Low*, *Medium*, *High*, or *Custom* under *Playback Quality* for more detailed choices.

Next, click *OK*. Now click the green button to the left of the *Settings* button that says “Create Web file...”.

It will ask you what directory you want your new file to be saved to. Choose the location, then click *OK*.

Wait until the video is done converting and you are finished. The new file is now in the location you specified.

Depending on the settings you choose, the file should be significantly smaller than the AVI. This is beneficial if you want to upload this video to a website, it will take a much shorter amount of time to download and will be less strenuous. An MPEG file can be anywhere from 1/10th to 1/100th the size of an AVI depending on the settings you choose. Here is a table of different types of video and the Video Size and File Size of each of them:

1 minute video is about 225 MB in .AVI format at 352x240:

Settings and File Type	Video Size	File Size
Custom (512 kbps) .mpg	320x240	5 MB
Custom (250 kbps) .mpg	320x240	3.2 MB
High Quality (384 kbps) .wmv	320x240	2.5 MB

.mpg = MPEG .wmv = Windows Media

As you see, 1 min video is only 2 to 3 MB when converted to Mpeg or WMV, compared to 225 MB when it is in uncompressed AVI format.