

DV video capturing using iMovie (Mac)

This document describes how to capture video and export audio from a DV recording using Apple iMovie. You should know whether your recording is in PAL or NTSC format. **iMovie does not copy the time code from the DV tape while capturing. This means that it's not possible to re-capture exactly the same piece at a later point unless you manually look up the correct time codes on the tape.** Final Cut Pro does copy the time code from the tape.

Requirements:

- Apple Macintosh with Mac OS X 10.2 or higher
- Enough free hard disk space (about 250-300 MB for 1 minute of video)
- Apple iMovie software
- DV camera suitable for your video format (PAL/NTSC)
- FireWire cable (4 to 6 pin)

1. Capture a DV tape

- Connect the DV camera (iLink connection) to the computer (FireWire connection) using a FireWire cable.
- Put the camera in Playback or VCR mode.
- Set the right preferences for iMovie in iMovie->Preferences...
 - Deselect "Automatically start new clip at scene break"
 - Deselect "Filter audio from camera"
 - Choose PAL or NTSC for new projects
- In iMovie, select File->New project ..., give it a name and select a destination.
- Put iMovie in Camera mode (switch button from "scissors" to "camera").
- Locate the beginning of the recording using the controls and click "Import" to start capturing.
- Click "Import" again to stop capturing.

2. Export WAV audio

- Put iMovie in Edit mode (switch button from "camera" to "scissors")
- Drag a clip from the Clip viewer (right) to the Timeline (bottom)
- From the File menu, select "Share..."
- Click on QuickTime and select "Expert settings" in the "Compress movie for" menu
- Click "Share".
- Select "Sound to Wave" from the Export menu and click on "Options"
- As Sound Settings, use Compressor: None, Rate: 48.000 kHz, Size: 16 bit, Use: Stereo. Click "OK"
- Give the output file a name, select a destination and click "Save".