

AVID MC 6 now 100% compatible with most camera formats.

No more transcoding or re-wrapping of most current camera formats and codecs! That's a big deal I think.

I'm cutting a show with 5D, panasonic AVC INTRA, EX1, EX3, and P2 footage.

With Final Cut I would still have to rewrap or transcode all this footage.

Sony came out with their AMA plugin in Nov 2011 and it works great.

I still transcode H264 from 5D to DNxHD 175 because of performance issues, the other formats link and play fine.

[Here is a recent discussion](#) about the RED AMA plugin, a lot of people still prep their R3D files using RED CineX.

[This is the link to the Red AMA plugin for MC6](#)

Sony XDCAM AMA plugins for MC6 downloads:

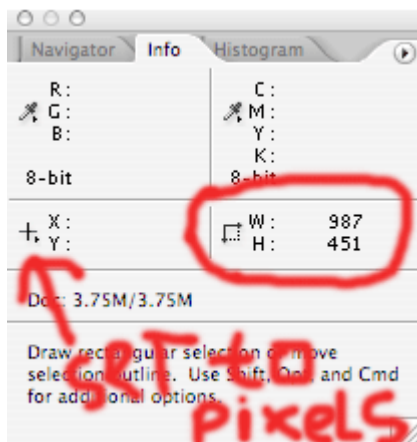
http://support.sonybiz.ca/esupport/Navigation.do?os=Windows http://support.sonybiz.ca/esupport/Navigation.do?os=Mac
--

Using Photoshop to resize images

-100% Rule: determine what the tightest framing of a picture will be without scaling the picture above 100% in FCP or AVID.

Do this:

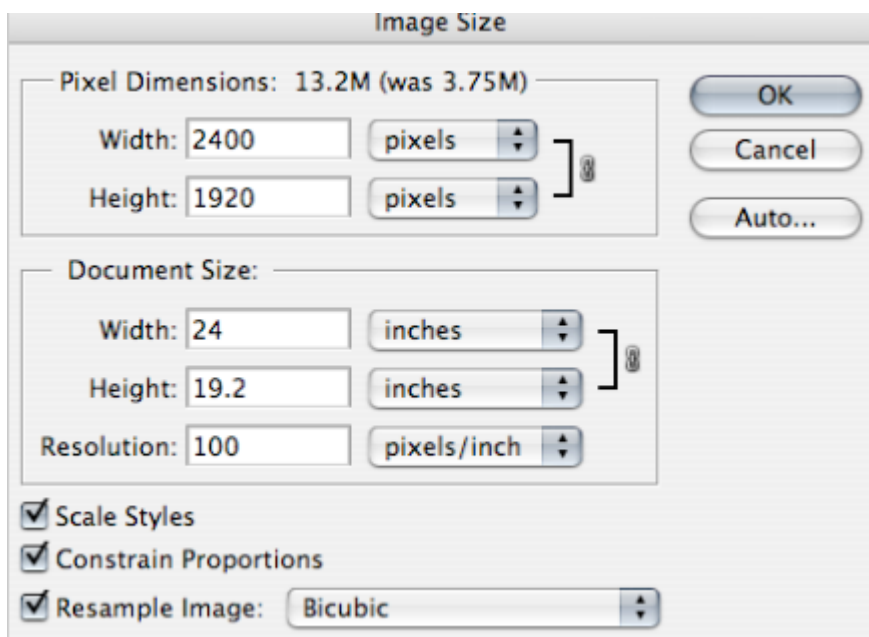
- open the picture in photoshop
- make the Info palette visible
- set options to Pixels



- select the Marquee tool
 - eyeball different zooms on the picture using Marquee
 - on the info palette read the width of your tightest framing.
 - divide 1920 by that number
 - in my example $1920/987=1.9$
- so I know I have to blow this picture up about 2x to be able to zoom in as far as I want.



- Image > Image Size
- Enter the new number for Width
- Check Scale Styles
- Constrain Proportions
- Check >Resample Bicubic
- Resolution > leave unchanged



Pulling video from web pages.

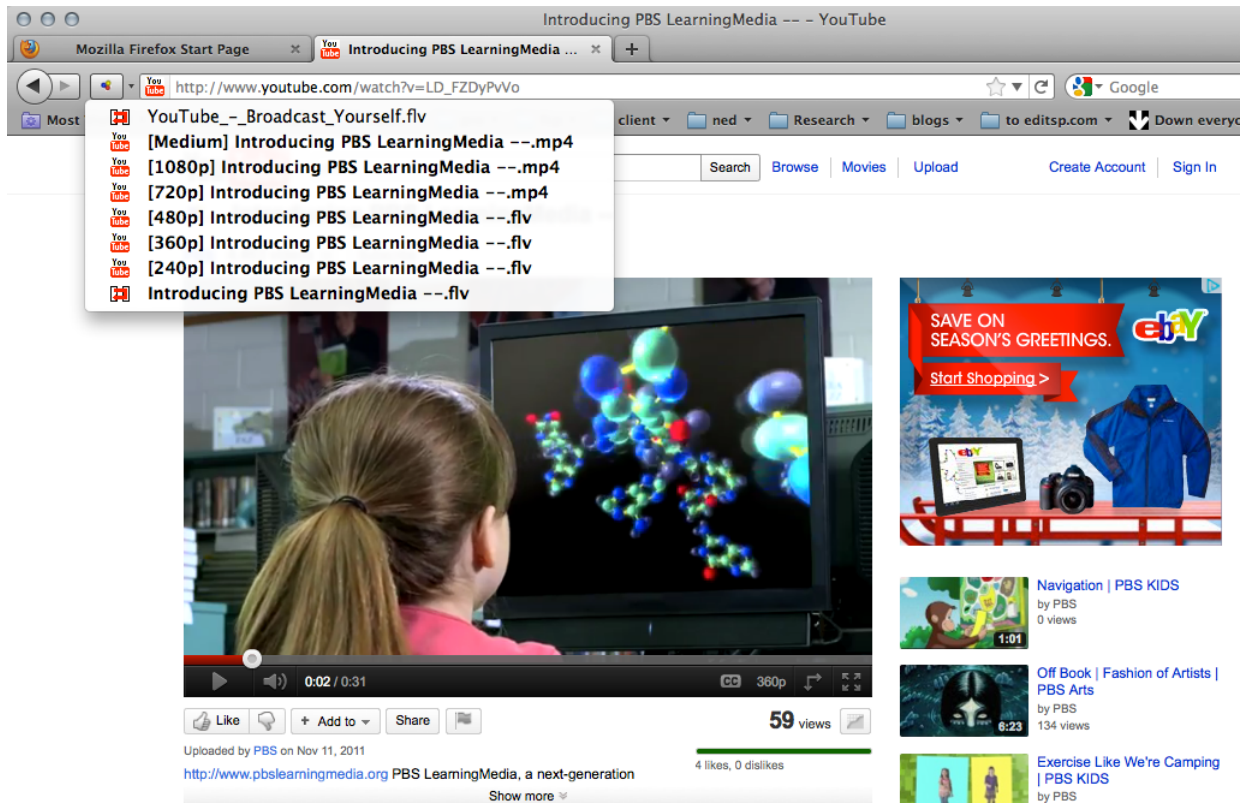
When you need YouTube video's or any other video's from websites for editing.

Do this: (for PC or Mac)

1. install the latest [Firefox browser](#)
2. install the Download helper add-on
[USE this link](#) if you google it, you will get a spammy page where the real link is hidden.
3. go to the page with the video, you'll see the Download helper Icon, come to life.

4. click on the little down arrow to the left of the address bar.
5. choose the highest quality, biggest frame size available from the list
6. in this example the 3rd one from the top 1080p.mp4 (flv, Flash is usually worse than mp4)
7. let the file download to your computer.
8. use MPEG Streamclip on one of the FCP systems to transcode to DVCPROHD.

Sometimes this plug-in can't pull the video > [use Screenflow instead.](#)



SCREENFLOW TIPS

Use Screenflow to [capture a web page in action](#), including video playing on the page.

Look for: ScreenFlow-Tutorial, Shortcuts and manual on the right.

- For capture set your resolution temporarily to 1344×840 (in OSX System Preferences)

This is to make the capture resolution closer to video resolution.

- Find a neutral desktop BG don't have browser all the way on top. (or export will not be title save)

- Use "Browser zoom" to make pages as big as possible CMD + - (examine this)

- Time and rehearse the moves on the web page.

1. Start screenflow. (Set Audio to computer audio if you need it)
 2. Record the web page.
 3. Save screen flow project as (in a screen flow folder with your other GFX elements for the show)
 4. Add video + Call action
 5. Crop at 1344×800 (this is to counter distortion during export/import to FCP)
 6. Export out as Custom DVCPRO-HD 1080i60 29.97 1280×1080, Audio PCM, 48k 16bit.
-

Good Computer Habits



Pay attention when you look at 20-year-olds or experienced computer users. They usually use “secret” keystrokes that do things in 1 second that would take you minutes, and they seem to click the mouse less. If you want to become an efficient user of editing software you have to try to copy some of their behavior.

Actually, copying habits of experienced users is key to making the deadline and getting into bed on time. Here are some tips:

1. **On a Macintosh a right-click is Control-Click.** Connect a 2 button mouse with scroll wheel to your system. Contextual Menu's (right-click) are very important in FCP.

Try right-clicking in different windows and see what options you get.

2. **Don't close windows** (red x button)

You create extra work for yourself if you have to re-find or re-open things you had before.

If windows are in the way, CMD-tab to switch between open applications, minimize or hide (CMD-H)

3. **Switch between applications and open windows**, using CMD-tab (MAC) or alt-tab (PC)

Apply this habit to all your computers, all the time, everywhere.

4. **Use the mouse for pointing to what you want, shortcuts for an action.**

Example: move the pointer to a cut then press I to put an in-point. Print out the shortcuts. (linked on the right)

5. In the Finder **Press SPACE bar to preview files**. (no double clicking!)

6. **Hover over buttons** and other areas, wait, and see a tooltip appear explaining what it does. It shows the shortcuts too!



7. Cross Platform File Names

When you edit you will exchange files with people over the internet, servers and Windows formatted hard drives. Biggest problem with OSX is that it doesn't force you to be Internet/Windows compatible.

These are the rules:

A. Always save with extensions. (the 3 lower case characters after the period)

B. No_spaces_in_file_names.

C. No period at the end of a file name

D. Don't use illegal Windows characters: ? [] / = + < > : ; " , * |

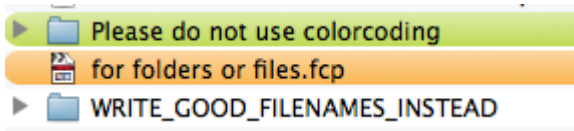
The most common offender is the forward slash, illegal in Windows file names but popular with Macintosh users who like to include a date in the file name. Write a date like this instead: 20090823_vo_johnny23.aif

If you always write your file names like this, they are easy to read and sort.

Please follow this naming convention for FCP projects:

20090423_SA_NEWS_164_mikeP.fcp

YYYYMMDD_SHOW-NAME_episode#_editor.fcp



Color coding is a big waste of time!

Recover P2 card after format or accidental delete.

Recover P2 card after format or accidental delete.

Immediately pull the write protect switch on the card.

Then make an image of it and try to recover that.

PC data recovery software works best since the file system is fat-32

The consensus is: send the card to panasonic and they can recover.

They have their own tool for P2 recovery as the cards seem to have a file system "on top" of the usual FAT32.

Cost \$130 per hour on the card.

Turnaround 3-5 working days.

you only pay if they recover.

Unit of Panasonic Corporation of North America Western Region
Address 3330 Cahuenga Boulevard, Suite 101 ,Los Angeles,
California 90068

Phone (323) 436-3507

Fax (323) 436-3517

Contact Mr. Fast

Unit of Panasonic Corporation of North America Northeast
Region

Address 50 Meadowlands Parkway, Secaucus, New Jersey 07094

Phone (201) 348-7975, (201) 392-4081

Fax (201) 348-5200

Contact Mr. Feldman