

EZ VHS Converter Tutorial

Document v1.0



Hardware Setup:

VCR2PC is the ultimate tool for archiving your old VHS tapes to your computer. It is important to note that while the VCR2PC may look like a standard VCR, it is specially designed to record to a computer and does not record onto VHS tapes. On front panel's right side you have the Tape/Other selector switch. This allows you to select what source you want to record from. Choosing 'Tape' will output video from the internal VHS tape and choosing 'Other' will have video pass through from the composite RCA connections, if using a camcorder or similar device.

Adjusting the tracking controls allows you to affect the relationship between the control track and the heads to try to get a closer match to tape signal. If you are using very old tapes, it may not be possible to remove all of the artifacts using the tracking control. The USB port is used to output the video/audio signal to a computer using the EZ VHS Converter software. On the back panel of the VCR2PC you have composite video and audio outputs (North American version only), for connecting to a monitor or TV. The PAL version features SCART output. (U.K. and E.U. version only)

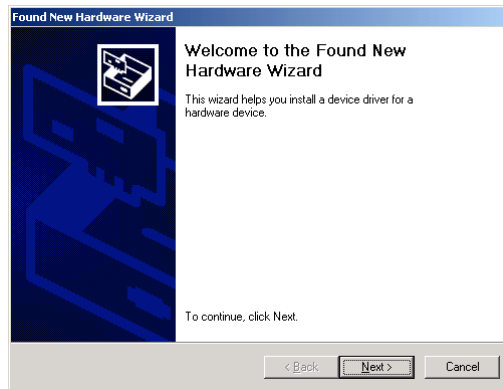
Driver Install:

Windows *XP*:

- Insert the included software CD into your computer's CD drive.
- Connect power cable of VCR 2 PC to power outlet.

- Turn on the VCR2PC.
- Connect a USB cable from the VCR2PC to a USB port (rear port if possible) on your computer. The driver installation process should begin automatically and you will see the “Found New Hardware Wizard” dialog.

When the dialog asks you to connect to Windows Update to search for software, select “Yes, this time only” and click “Next”.



Note: *If the Found New Hardware Wizard does not startup, go to My Computer, right click on your DVD/CD drive, and choose to browse the CD to manually install the drivers and software.*

- Select “Install software automatically” and click “Next”. The driver installation process will begin. Allow for this process to complete. When the process has completed, click “Finish”. Once the drivers have been successfully installed, you will see the message “Your new hardware is installed and ready to use.”
- Lastly, install the software by clicking the “Install EZ VHS Converter Software” button. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the software installation process.

IMPORTANT: Making sure your software is up-to-date ensures best performance. Go to Setup > General > About EZ VHS Converter > Update to check for available updates. (Internet connection required)

Vista:

- Insert included CD into your computer’s CD drive.
- Connect power cable of VCR 2 PC to a power outlet.

- Turn on the VCR 2 PC.
- Connect USB cable from the VCR 2 PC to a USB port on your computer (rear port if possible). The driver installation process should begin automatically and you will see the “Found New Hardware Wizard” dialog. Click “Locate and install driver software automatically”.

Note: *If the Found New Hardware Wizard does not startup, go to My Computer, right click on your DVD/CD drive, and choose to Browse the CD to manually install the drivers and software.*

- Windows will ask you to insert a CD. Click “Next”.
- You may see a “Windows can’t verify the publisher of this software” warning. Click “Install this driver software anyway”.
- The driver installation process will begin. Allow for this process to complete. When the process has completed, click “Close”.
- Lastly, install the software by clicking the “Install EZ VHS Converter Software” button. Follow the on-screen instructions to complete the software installation process.

IMPORTANT: Making sure your software is up-to-date ensures best performance. Go to Setup > General > About EZ VHS Converter > Update to check for available updates. (Internet connection required)

Mac:

Intel Mac users can use EZ VHS Converter if they have Windows XP or Vista installed on their machine using Parallels or Bootcamp.

EZ VHS Operation:

Setup> General> Video Recording Storage menu allows you to choose where your videos are stored on your computer. You can also specify the recording quality. HQ, EP, LP, and SP.



You will see the available disc space on your drive and the total available time the drive will handle (shown in hours and minutes) based on the recording quality chosen. (See chart below)

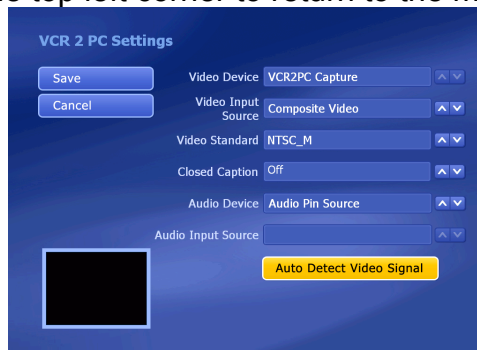
EZ VHS Converter Software File Size Comparison

<i>Video Quality</i>	<i>Video Length (Minutes)</i>	<i>Video Standard</i>	<i>File Size (on computer)</i>
EP (Extended Play)	80 minutes	NTSC (640 x 480)	1.8 gb
LP (Long Play)	80 minutes	NTSC (640 x 480)	2.6 gb
SP (Standard Play)	80 minutes	NTSC (640 x 480)	3.2 gb
HQ (High Quality)	80 minutes	NTSC (640 x 480)	3.6 gb
EP (Extended Play)	80 minutes	PAL (768 x 576)	1.9 gb
LP (Long Play)	80 minutes	PAL (768 x 576)	2.7 gb
SP (Standard Play)	80 minutes	PAL (768 x 576)	3.3 gb
HQ (High Quality)	80 minutes	PAL (768 x 576)	3.7 gb
EP (Extended Play)	80 minutes	Secam (768 x 576)	1.7 gb
LP (Long Play)	80 minutes	Secam (768 x 576)	2.5 gb
SP (Standard Play)	80 minutes	Secam (768 x 576)	3.1 gb
HQ (High Quality)	80 minutes	Secam (768 x 576)	3.5 gb

Recording video to your computer

- After installing the drivers and EZ VHS Converter software, connect VCR 2 PC to USB port (use a rear USB port if possible for best connection).
- Start **EZ VHS Converter**.
- Click on **Settings > Video> VCR2 PC Settings** and select your correct regional setting. Also you can press **Auto Detect Video Signal** to have the software automatically choose the appropriate settings. Press Save and then choose the 'Home'

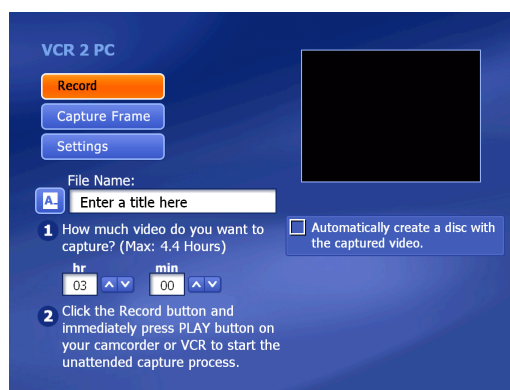
icon in the top left corner to return to the main menu.



- In the Main Menu click **VCR 2 PC**.



- In the **FILE NAME** field, enter name of recording.



- Select duration of recording if you would like the recording to stop automatically (optional). Insert cassette in VCR 2 PC; the cassette will begin playing automatically. Use the transport controls on the VCR 2 PC to locate and pause at the beginning of the section you wish to record.

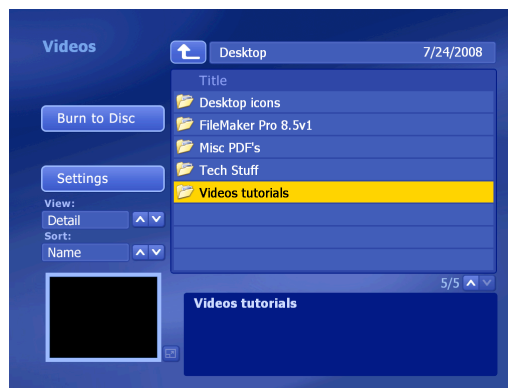
Note: If you're capturing video from a DV camcorder, you will be prompted to choose a recording format (DV-AVI or MPEG-2). Depending on your choice, various options will be available. You can also capture a screenshot and save it as a still image by clicking "Capture Frame."

- Click **RECORD** to begin recording.
- Press **PLAY** on the VCR 2 PC to begin playback.
- When finished, Click **STOP** to stop recording.
- Click **YES** to confirm that you want to stop recording.
- Click **HOME** to go to the main menu.
- Click **VIDEOS** to go to your video folder and view video recordings.



Click on the recorded file to preview.

TIP: Click **?** in EZ VHS Converter to view detailed software instructions, including how to edit and transfer captured video to DVD or iPod.



The **VCR2PC> Videos** menu allows you to playback, edit, or burn your video files to disc.

The video files belong to the folder listed at the top of the page. Click the "Up One Level" button to go up one folder level in the directory.

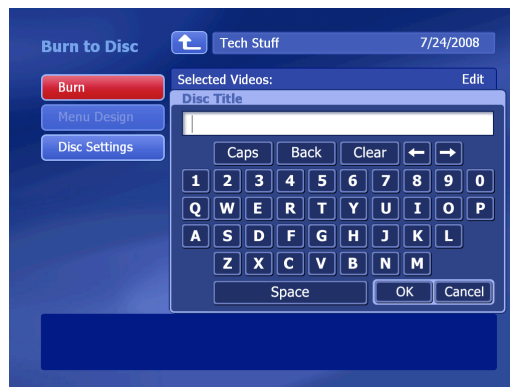
Click on the video file to preview it.

Select the video file to play it and use the buttons on floating toolbar to control playback. There is a preview window at the bottom left corner of the screen. You can click the button next to it to switch to full screen mode. Press "Esc" to exit full screen.

To trim the video, click the scissors icon to the right of your selection.

Note: *The video file trimming is non-destructive, meaning the original video file stored on your hard drive does not contain the edited video. The trimmed video will need to be burned to a DVD/VCD.*

To rename the video file, click the "A_" icon to access a virtual keyboard.



From "View" you can choose either "Detail" or "Thumbnail". "Detail" view includes file names, dates and other information. "Thumbnail" view shows the file thumbnail. You can set a different frame in the video as the thumbnail in the Edit Video section.

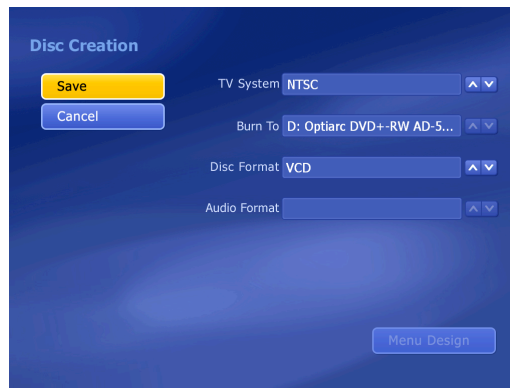
Use the "Sort" feature to present your video files in order by file name, file size or date.

- **Automatically burn your video to disc after it has been captured**

Start EZ VHS Converter, Click on Settings > Disc Creation. Choose the appropriate TV System setting. Although VHS video format is the same throughout the world, the video standard or electronic signal that is recorded on the cassette varies from country to country.

The two most common video standards are NTSC and PAL. NTSC is the video system or standard used in North America and most of South America. PAL is the predominant video system standard mostly used overseas.

Note: A VCR2PC purchased in a country that uses the NTSC format will only play back NTSC tapes. Also a VCR2PC purchased in a country that uses the PAL format will only playback PAL tapes.



Select the DVD/CD drive you will be using in the '**Burn To**' field. Choose what type of format you will be burning to in '**Disc Format**'.

The **DVD format** stores video in MPEG-2 format and organizes video in a hierarchy of VOB files readable by commercially available players. This stores content on 4.7GB single layer or 9.4GB dual layer discs (the kind used for most commercial movies).

The **VCD format** writes to a standard CD-sized disc and uses MPEG-1 compression. VCD video quality is on par with VHS video. The VCD format is defined by its 352x240 resolution at 29.97 frames-per-second, encoded at 1150kbps to allow for up to 74 minutes of storage per disc.

In the **Audio Format** submenu you have the choice of AC3, LPCM, or MPEG-Compressed. **AC3** (Also known as Dolby Digital) supports audio sample-rates up to 48kHz.

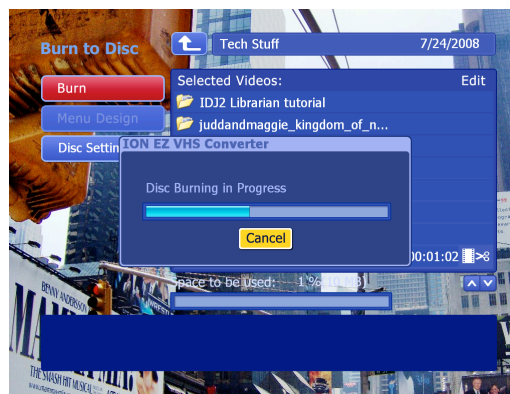
***Did you know...** Batman Returns was the first film to use Dolby Digital technology when it premiered in theaters in the Summer of 1992. Also the LaserDisc version of Clear and Present Danger featured the very first home theater Dolby Digital mix in 1995.*

LPCM is the method of encoding in conjunction with the WAV format, the standard for uncompressed audio with computers. LPCM is further

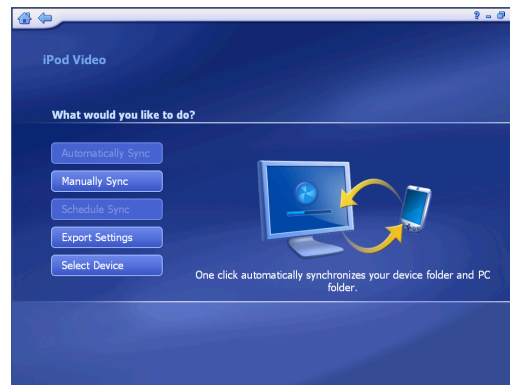
used for the lossless encoding of audio data and has been defined as a part of the DVD standard.

MPEG Compressed (MP3) records audio to a much smaller audio file than the other formats. If you are attempting to burn a DVD/VCD but receive a message that there is not enough room on the disc, try using the MPEG- Compressed option.

Follow steps 4-7 as seen in '**Recording Video to your computer**'. Insert a disc in your DVD/CD drive then click the 'Automatically create a disc with the captured video'. After recording is completed, you will be prompted to select your video and burn it to disc.



- **Exporting your video to an iPod:**



To Go menu:

First connect the iPod to the computer and then start the EZ VHS Converter software. Select the 'To Go' menu and select 'iPod' from the list. You can then choose the video files you want to transfer as well as the file format options to use.

It is important to note that you will need to be using a video compatible iPod. The iPod Shuffle and iPod Nano 1G & 2G are not capable of playing back video.

Automatically Sync – This option is used to transfer all compatible videos that are located in a pre-selected folder (chosen in the 'Export Settings' menu) to the iPod. There are two progress bars on the sync page. One is for the current file conversion, and the other is for the overall progress. When the sync has been completed, the program will prompt you to view the sync log. To cancel the sync, click the "Stop" button at any time.

Manually Sync – This option is used to personally select the files you want to transfer to the iPod.

There are three sections on this sync page: My Computer, My Device and a Preview area. You can click and drag the line in the middle to change the size My Computer and My Device sections.

You can also select a folder under My Computer or My Device in the pull-down list. The files in the selected folder will show the name, size, status, duration, type and date/time. This list can be sorted in a variety of ways by clicking the respective header. In each list, the files shown belong to the folder listed above. Click the "Up One Level" button to go up one folder level in the directory.

Note: The files on the iPod will not be shown.

Double-click a folder to open it. If you double-click a file, the file will be added to the other list and the status will be "Ready". Highlight a folder/file and click the arrow button in the middle to add it to the list of files to synchronize. Create a "New folder" or delete a selected file/folder by clicking the corresponding icon.

Click the music icon to open your playlist and check the "Preview" box to play a selected file. Use the buttons on the floating toolbar to control playback.

The required disc space and the available space will be shown at the bottom of the screen.

If you have selected a video file, click "Cutting Room" to trim your video clip. When you're ready to transfer, click "Sync Now".

There are two progress bars on the bottom right of the screen. One is for the current file conversion, and the other is for the overall progress. When the sync has completed, the program will prompt you to view the sync log. To cancel the sync, click the "Stop" button at any time.

Schedule Sync - This section lets you set a schedule to synchronize between your PC and iPod. The program will monitor the schedule and synchronize files automatically on the schedule you set.

Check the "Enable Scheduled Synchronization" box to activate this feature. Type in the start time directly and click the up/down arrow to select AM or PM. Choose how often you want synchronization to take place using the Frequency setting. When you're ready, click "OK". Or click "Cancel" at any time to exit without saving.

Export Settings - Set your file conversion format, synchronization folder, etc. This area lets you configure the settings for To Go module:

Which Image format should I use for Frame Storage?

Frame Storage allows you to choose where to store snapshots of your videos. You can choose JPEG, PNG, TIF, and BMP.

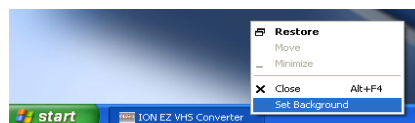
JPEG produces a smaller file than PNG and is better suited for photographic images.

PNG is a better choice than JPEG for storing images that contain text, line art, or other images with sharp transitions. Where an image contains both sharp transitions and photographic parts, a choice must be made between the large but sharp PNG and a small JPEG with artifacts around sharp transitions. PNG is useful for saving temporary photographs that require successive editing. When the photograph is ready to be distributed, it can then be saved as a JPEG, and this limits the information loss to just one generation.

TIFF is a file format ideal for storing images, including photographs and line art.

BMP is a common format that many image editing programs can read and write. BMP files have a large file size due to lack of any compression.

***Tip:** You can customize the look of the background picture in EZ VHS Converter with your own graphics. To do this, open the EZ VHS software, minimize the program window, right click on the program in the taskbar, choose 'Set Background'.*



Now you have a custom background for EZ VHS Converter!

