

Exporting your sequence

You will have many options when exporting. In order to keep your file under 500MB, you will want to select an export option that compresses the information into a small size so that it is easy to upload.

Video Compression refers to reducing the quantity of data used to to digitally store your video files. Compression is achieved through the use of pieces of software called Codecs (short for compression/decompression.)

Good codecs will drastically reduce the amount of digital information needed to signify an image (i.e. the file size), while maintaining a high image quality and smooth playback. You will have many codecs to choose from when exporting. In order to keep your file under 500 megabytes you will want to select one that compresses the information into a small size so that it is easy to upload and store. We recommend using H.264 as it produces small, high image quality files that are optimized for web playback.

The following list is a comparison of some common codecs based on the amount of data they need to store one second of footage. Find more information about exporting at: <http://vimeo.com/forums/topic:3671>

Codec	File Size
DV(25) HDV (1080i)	3.6 MB/sec.
DVCPRO 50	7.2 MB/sec.
DVCPRO HD (1080i60) DVCPRO HD (720p60)	14.4 MB/sec.
DVCPRO HD (720p24)	5.8 MB/sec.
Uncompressed SD video	24 MB/sec.
Uncompressed 8-bit video 1080 29.97i HD video	124 MB/sec.
Uncompressed 10-bit video 1080 29.97i HD video	166 MB/sec.
H.264	The size of an H.264 is variable, and depends on the bitrate. However, files tend to be smaller than many other formats while maintaining very high image quality. To find out more about H.264, we recommend you read: http://www.vcodex.com/h264overview.html

Watch your Video

Now you have a video file that contains your final sequence. Congratulations!!! You've accomplished the challenging task of making a video.

Open your file and watch it at various sizes, verifying the quality of the image. You are also checking that your exported video contains all of the media that was in your sequence, and that it plays back properly. It is not uncommon during the export of a video to have a shift in the media as it transposes itself to another location. If there is a technical problem--sound issue, skipping images, missing frames, "media offline"--you may need to check your sequence to see if any media is missing or re-export your sequence using a different setting.

TIP: Close all other computer applications when exporting.

Once you have your video exported to your liking, try "test screening" it with a selected audience of your fellow classmates, teacher or friends. Decide if you would like to ask for feedback from them. If so, specify which aspect of the video requires their input. How does it feel to watch your video in a room of other people? Do you notice things you had not seen before? Make any additional changes to your video based on this experience.

