

How to make a Digital Movie with a Web Cam

Note: The following instructions should work with the Pyro web cams in the Macintosh lab at the Robert Henderson Language Media Center. The result will be a QuickTime movie that can be played on either Windows or Macintosh.

To make a digital movie, you will need the following:

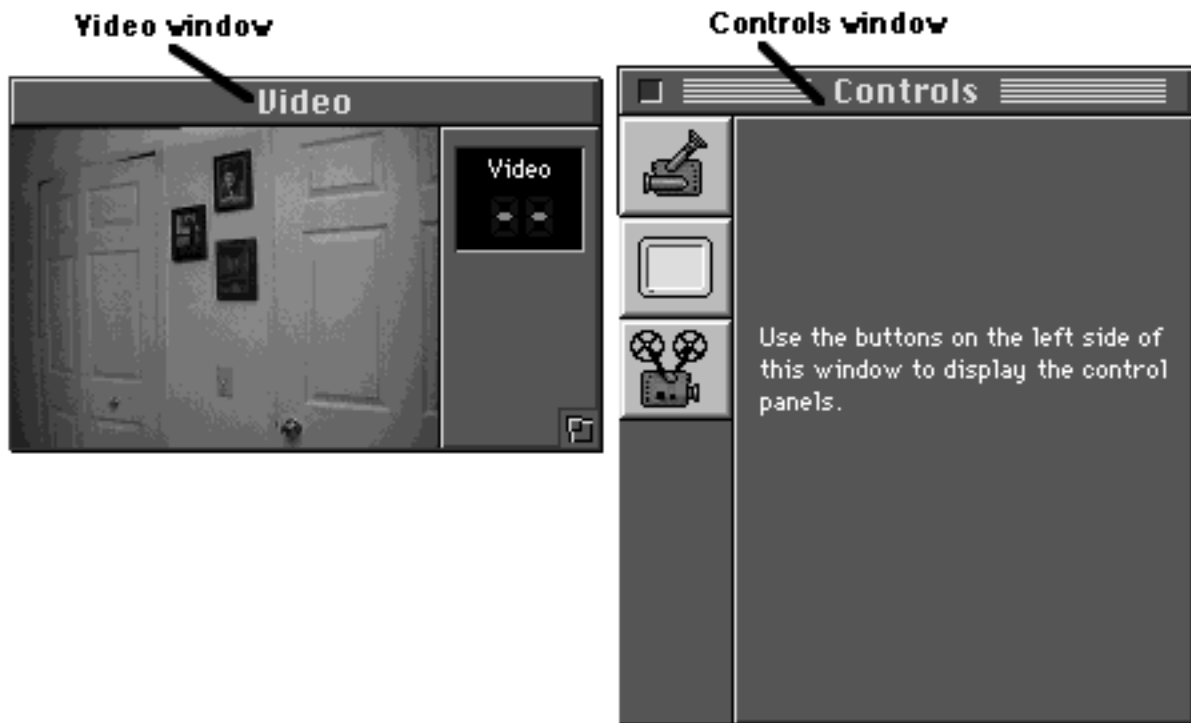


There are 2 steps in the process.

1. Record the movie.
2. Compress the movie.

1. **Record the movie.** Double-click on the Apple Video Player to start the program.

You should see two windows:



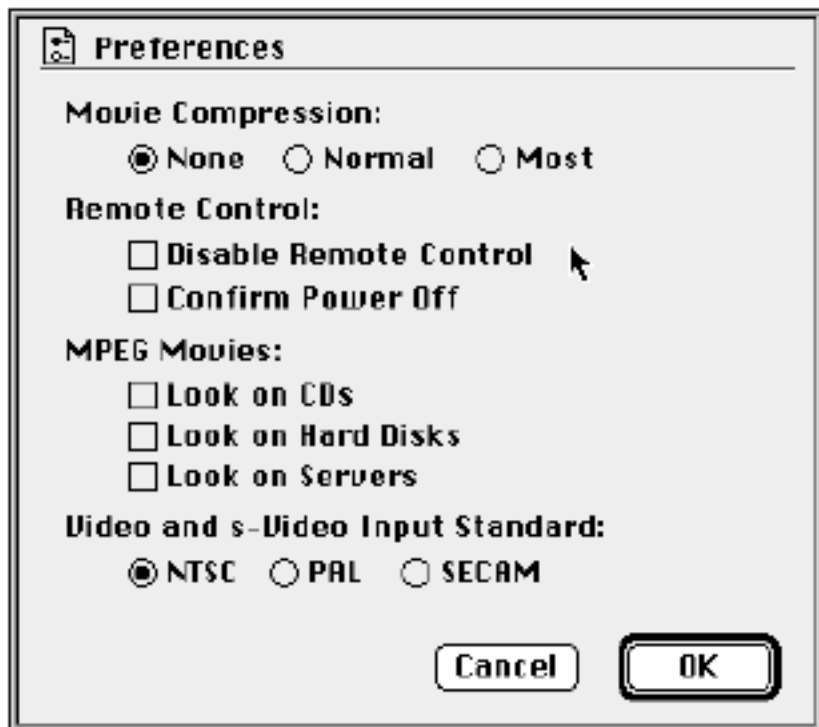
Under Setup, select Preferences ...



You should see this screen:

Compression should be set to None.

Video and S-Video Input Standard should be set to NTSC if you are using the US standard.



If you don't see an image in the video window, click on the TV monitor in the Controls window:



Select the video source: Video or S-Video:

Adjust the other controls (brightness, sharpness, contrast, color) as needed:



Now click on the camera icon:

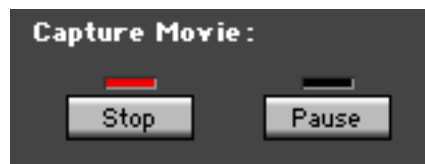


Press Record

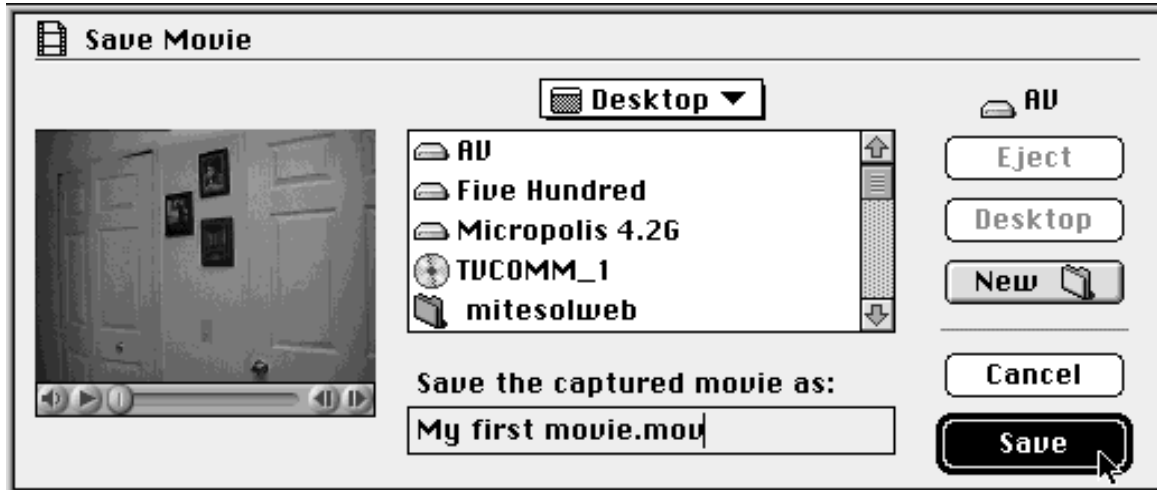
The recording will begin when the red indicator goes on.



Press Stop when you are finished.



Name the movie and click on Save.



The icon of the movie should appear on the desktop.



Important note: At this point, you may get an error message. If you do, there is no alternative but to repeat the recording process. You should not get an error message the second time.

The file will be in SimpleText format.

Hide the Apple Video player.
Select "Hide Apple Video Player" from the menu in the upper left-hand corner of the screen.



2. Compress the movie

Start with an uncompressed movie file.



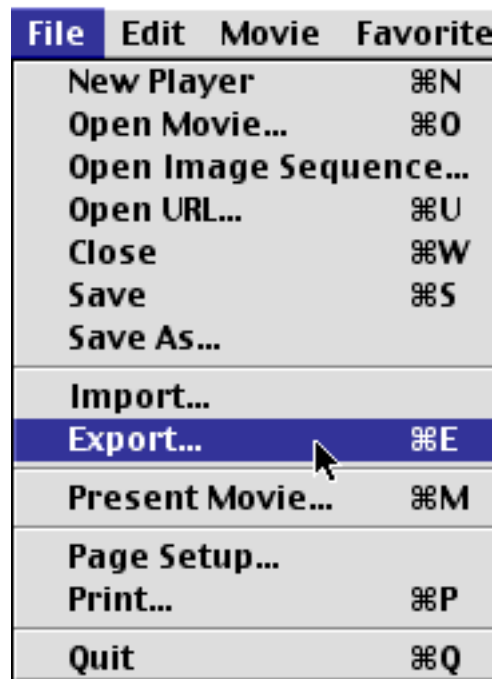
You will compress the movie with QuickTime Player.

Open the movie in QuickTime Player.



The easiest way to do this is to drag the icon of "My first movie.mov" over QuickTime Player.

From the File menu, select Export.



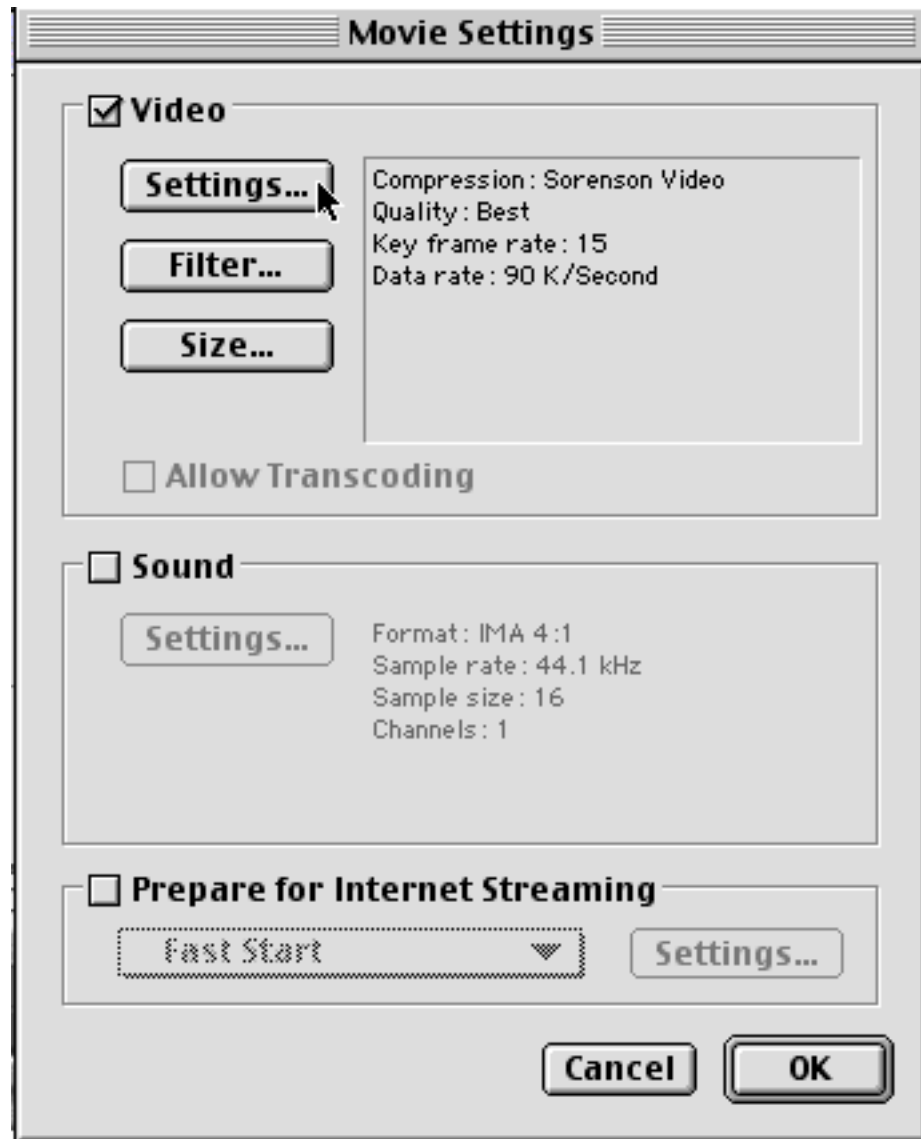
On the next screen, click on Options ...



Note: A sound track will automatically be included. To remove the sound track and reduce the size of the file, make sure that the box next to **Sound** is NOT checked.

Make sure that the box next to **Video** is checked.

Click on **Settings....** to adjust the video settings.

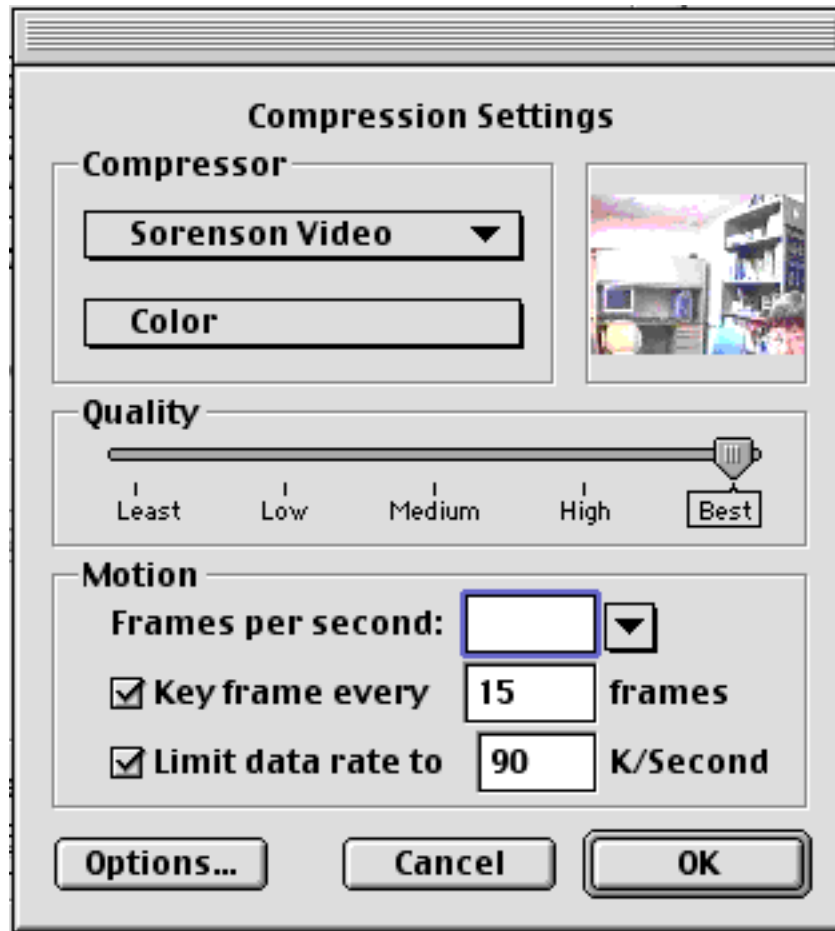


Under **Compressor**, select **Sorenson Video**.

In order to get the clearest possible picture, slide the **Quality** bar to **Best**.

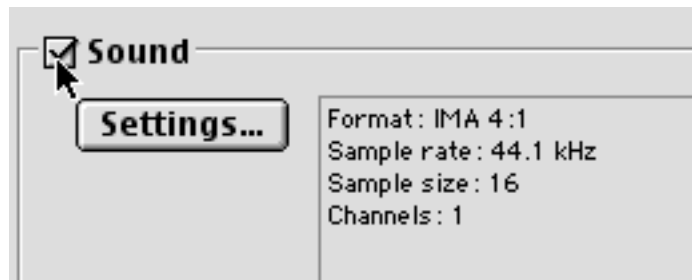
Set the **Frames per second** option to **Best**.

Click OK when you are finished.

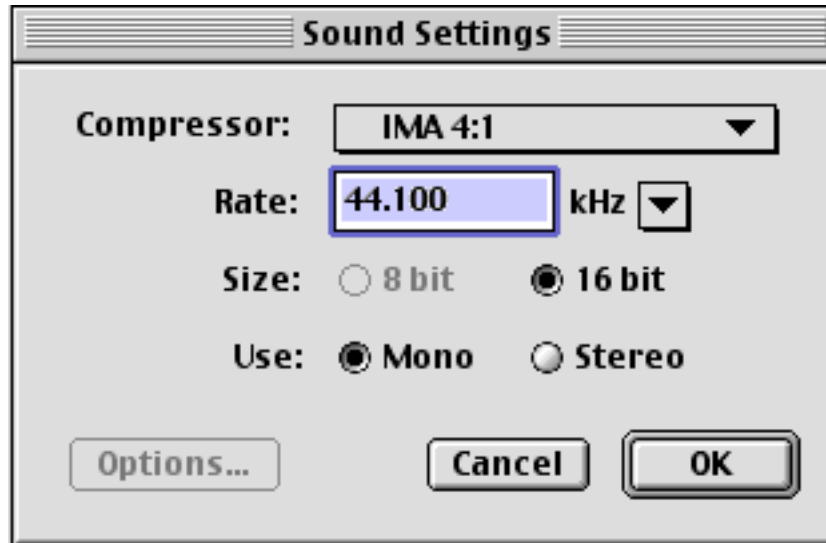


If you want a sound track, check the box next to **Sound** and click on **Settings...**

The settings used here are recommended. To change these, click on **Settings....**



Use the settings indicated here and click on OK.



Re-save the movie

Make sure that "Movie to QuickTime Movie" is selected under **Export**.

You will be prompted to save the movie.

Change the name to avoid replacing the original, uncompressed movie.

Click on **Save**.

