

Digital Video

Downloading and editing



Videos from the Web

Digital videos can come from a variety of sources, the most popular being YouTube (www.youtube.com). Other user-generated sites with online video include Daily Motion (<http://www.dailymotion.com/us>) and Metacafe (<http://www.metacafe.com/>). You can find videos in your target language about a variety of topics on YouTube. Be aware that quality can vary and you must also be careful about copyright issues (i.e., some videos available on the Internet are protected by copyright from legally being downloaded).

You can show videos to your students directly from the video websites, without downloading the video to your computer. However, this has some significant drawbacks:

- Video sites such as YouTube sometimes have advertisements that are inappropriate for the classroom setting (e.g., 'adult' content).
- The website may delete the video or the administrators may shut down the site and the videos will no longer be available.
- You must have a live (and relatively fast) Internet connection to show the video.

In contrast, if you download the video to your hard drive, you can play it in Quicktime, Windows Media Player, or PowerPoint free of advertisements and you don't have to be connected to the Internet to play it.

Downloading Videos from the Web

There are a variety of options to download online videos to your computer. Below I describe two of them that will work in most situations.

Bookmark Method for YouTube

For videos from YouTube (but not other sites), always try this method first. This is the preferable method, however, it only works with about 80-90% of YouTube videos. If it doesn't work for the video you want, you'll have to use the other method described below. Go to this website <http://googlesystem.blogspot.com/2008/04/download-youtube-videos-as-mp4-files.html> and right click (Mac: control + click) on the link "Get YouTube Video". **Bookmark** that link and remember where the link is in your Bookmarks.

Now, search for a YouTube video. When you find the one you want, go to your "Get YouTube Video" Bookmark and click on it. After you click on that Bookmark, a link called "Download as MP4" will appear in the upper right-hand side. **Right click** on that link and select **Save Link As...**, and then decide where to save the video on your computer. The video will then start downloading and may take a few minutes, depending on the size. The downloaded video