iMovie & Final Cut Pro
Importing 8mm & VHS tape

The copyright law of the United States (Title 17, United States Code) governs the reproduction of copyrighted material. The person using this equipment and software is liable for any infringement.

Import from a VCR or 8mm camcorder on the workstation with an analog to digital converter box. This is available on workstations 8 and 16. Composite, S-video cables, and a cartridge for compact VHS (c-VHS) tape are available at the Interactive Media Center desk. You will need to supply the 8mm camcorder and be responsible for it. It likely will be stolen if left unattended.

Notify Regina Conboy, 442-3608, rconboy@albany.edu if you intend to leave your movie on the Mac; it may be deleted otherwise.

**VCR**

Set up for VCR importing on workstation 16 Plug the firewire cable into the Sony converter box. Turn on the SONY DV media converter; select Analog In and insert the VHS tape. Select channel L-1 on the VCR. The VCR must be in “VCR” mode. Select TV/VCR on the remote until you see VCR displayed. Use the playback controls on the VCR to control movement of the videotape.

Set up for VCR importing on workstation 8 Plug the white firewire cable into Movie Box’s OUT port. Confirm that it is plugged into the back of the Mac; you may need to remove the silver firewire cable to do this. Insert the VHS tape and select channel L-1 on the VCR. The VCR must be in “VCR” mode. Select TV/VCR on the remote until you see “VCR” displayed on the VCR. Use the playback controls on the VCR to control movement of the videotape. [Note: when importing the Pinnacle movie box’s green light displays above the IN video source line—should be S-Video (center light)]. Press RESET if imports Black and White, but should be color.

**8MM tape with Camcorder [we do not provide]**

Set up for 8mm camcorder importing on workstation 16 Plug the firewire cable into the Sony converter box. Plug the audio and video cables from the camcorder into the front of the VCR. The VCR must be in “VCR” mode. Select channel F-1 on the VCR. Option for video: Plug the S-Video cable into the IN port [from vcr/camera IN to the Mac] of the SONY converter box. Put the camcorder in Play mode. Mute the playback volume. Use the playback controls on the camcorder to control the movement of the videotape.
Set up for 8mm camcorder importing on workstation 8. Plug the white firewire cable into Movie Box’s OUT port. Confirm that it is plugged into the back of the Mac; you may need to remove the silver firewire cable to do this. Plug the audio and video cables from the camcorder into Movie Box’s IN ports. If using S-Video, plug the cable from the camcorder into the S-Video IN port. [Note when importing the Pinnacle movie box’s green light displays above the IN video source line—should be S-Video [center light] or composite [yellow port]. Select channel L-1 on the VCR. Select TV/VCR on the remote until you see “VCR” displayed on the VCR. Put the camcorder in Play mode. Mute the sound on the camcorder. Use the playback controls on the camcorder to control the movement of the videotape. Press RESET if imports in Black and White, but should be color.

Importing in iMovie
Click the Camera Import button.

Use the playback controls on the equipment or use the remote control to control the movement of the tape. Select Manual import.

When you are ready to import, select Import

Select Create New Event. iMovie will import the video clips and store them in the Events folder. The new Event name automatically defaults to the current date. We recommend that you name the Event the same as your project. Do not use the default “New Event ‘date’” format.

Select Import again and then select Play on the VCR or camcorder. The video imports as it plays in real time. You will not be able to hear it. When finished click Stop then Done. After the video has been imported, iMovie creates thumbnails of the video clips. This process may take a while. [below] Drag to adjust the number of frames per thumbnail to display.
Creating the Project [the timeline/storyboard] to build and edit the movie

When you opened iMovie typically the last iMovie project opens. To create your movie select File > New Project from the top line menu. The Project saves automatically to the Movies folder located in Finder when the IMC Public Folder is double clicked or select your hard drive. Name your project and set the aspect ratio to Standard, 4:3.

Drag and drop video into the Project area to edit and make a movie

To build your movie, make selections from the Event Library and drag the footage onto the Project. To select an entire clip, hold down the shift key then click once on the clip. The clip will be outlined in yellow. To select a frame range, or part of clip, click on the clip and adjust the yellow outline to include roughly only the footage you will use in your project. Then, put your mouse in the middle of the clip and when it turns into a hand, drag the clip to the project by holding down on the mouse. iMovie automatically saves the changes. iMovie does not create a new copy of the video for your project; the original video remains untouched in your library. If you’re creating a project that includes media, audio or images stored on an external hard disk, that hard disk must be connected in order for the media to work in the project.

The orange line indicates video that you have used in your project.
**Importing into Final Cut**

Select **Import from Camera**

At the next screen select **Import** again.

Select **Create New Event**. Final Cut will import the video clips and store them in the Final Cut Events folder. **We recommend that you name the Event the same as your project.** Select **Import** again and then select **Play on the VCR or camcorder**.

The video imports as it plays in real time. When done, click **Stop Import** then **Close**.

To select additional clips from the top line menu select **File > Import from Camera** or press the icon:

Final Cut creates thumbnails of the video clips. This process **may take a while**. **Drag to adjust the number of frames per thumbnail to display**.

---

**Creating the Project [the timeline/storyboard] to build and edit the movie**

Select **File > New Project** from the top line menu. Name your project and take note of the Default Event. You may change it. The Project automatically is saved in the **Final Cut Projects** folder located within the **Movies** folder. It is located in Finder when the IMC Public Folder is selected.

**Drag and drop video into the Project area to edit and make a movie**

To build your movie, select footage from the Event Library and drag it into the Project. To select an entire clip, hold down the shift key then click once on the clip. The clip will be outlined in yellow. To select a frame range, or part of clip, click on the clip and adjust the yellow outline to include roughly the footage you will use in your project. Then, put your mouse in the middle of the clip and when it turns into a hand, drag the clip to the project by holding down on the mouse. Final Cut automatically saves the changes. **Final Cut does not create a new copy of the video for your project; the original video remains untouched in the library. If you’re creating a project that includes media, audio or images stored on an external hard disk, that hard disk must be connected in order for the media to work in the project.**

---

prepared by Randy Bien-Aime, IMC Student Assistant 9/09; Final Cut instructions added by Nick Smith, 6/12