

NCH Software

Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter

This user guide has been created for use with
Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter Version 3.xx

Technical Support

If you have difficulties using Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter please read the applicable topic before requesting support. If your problem is not covered in this user guide please view the up-to-date Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter Online Technical Support at www.nchsoftware.com/g

If that does not solve your problem, you can contact us using the technical support contacts listed on that page.

Software Suggestions

If you have any suggestions for improvements to Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter, or suggestions for other related software that you might need, please post it on our Suggestions page at www.nch.com.au/suggestions/index.html.

Many of our software projects have been undertaken after suggestions from users like you. You get a free upgrade if we follow your suggestion.

Golden Videos VHS to DVD Converter

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Golden Videos Overview

Golden Videos is software that guides you through converting your old VHS tapes to digital format. Using an easy-to-follow wizard, you'll set up your recording source, restoration tools and effects to fully optimize your video for the best conversion possible.

Features

- Burn movies to DVD to view on a computer or television
- Automatically correct defects in analog video to improve image quality
- Built-in restoration tools, including brightness and sharpness, bring videos back to life
- Set audio recording level to optimize sound
- Add titles and captions to your videos
- Adjust effects before or after your video is captured
- Save movies for YouTube and share online with friends

System Requirements

- Windows XP / Vista / 7 / 8
- Video capture device. We recommend a USB capture device, see <http://www.altoedge.com/usbcapture> for more information.

Shortcut Key Reference

The following key combinations can be used to access the various functions in Golden Videos:

New recording	Ctrl+N
Options	Ctrl+O
Watch recorded file	Ctrl+P
Save to file	Ctrl+S
Help documentation	F1
Exit Golden Videos	Alt+F4

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- 8)

The contract arising out of this agreement is governed by the laws and courts of the Australian Capital Territory.

New Recording Wizard - Golden Videos New Recording Wizard

To create a new recording, use the Golden Videos New Recording Wizard, which is opened by clicking the **New** button on the main screen toolbar. The wizard will walk you through the steps of connecting your recording device to your computer, selecting output options including restoration effects, capturing your video and saving, burning, uploading or editing your movie.

- [Recording Source](#)
- [Restoration Tools and Effects](#)
- [Set Recording Output Format](#)
- [End of Video Options](#)
- [Capturing Process](#)
- [Recording Complete](#)

New Recording Wizard - Recording Source

This is the first page of the [Golden Videos New Recording Wizard](#), where you select the video and sound capture devices you would like to use.

To set up your capture system, follow these steps:

- 1) Connect your video cassette recorder (VCR) to your capture device.
- 2) Connect your capture device to your PC.
- 3) Select your capture device from the **Video Device** list.
- 4) Start playing something on your VCR. If your settings are correct, you will see your video in the preview area.
- 5) Select the **Capture Sound** checkbox if you would like to capture sound along with your video.
- 6) Connect the audio output of your VCR to the Line-In port of your PC.
- 7) Select your Sound Record Device from the drop menu. If your settings are correct, you will hear the sound from your VCR.
- 8) Adjust the recording volume level so that it generally stays in the green field. You can adjust the volume either by clicking the **Windows Mixer** button or by dragging the Volume slider.

To see a list of recommended video capture devices, visit www.nchsoftware.com/capture/acc/index.html

Select Video Input Device

Video Device

Select your video capture device from this drop down list. If the device is selected and plugged in correctly you will see video in the preview area.

Video Input

If you can't see the image from your capture device or it doesn't seem to be correct (for example, it does not show the correct colors), you can try selecting the correct input of the device (e.g., S-Video, Composite), but generally the input should be detected automatically.

PAL or NTSC

If the video is not displaying correctly, you can try changing the video standard from PAL to NTSC or vice versa. Note that NTSC and PAL are regional settings and selecting the wrong format could result in creating a video that cannot be played on your playback device.

Manual

Check this box and select from the pull-down list to override the default capture resolution / frame rate / color space.

Select Audio Device and Volume

Capture Sound

Select this checkbox if you would like to capture video with sound.

Sound Record Device

Select your sound recording device from the drop menu.

Recording Volume Level

Adjust your volume level by either clicking the **Open Windows Record Mixer** button and using the standard Windows mixer dialog, or directly affect the master volume by moving the slider.

New Recording Wizard - Video Effects Setup

The second page of the New Recording Wizard is used to apply different effects to your video to optimize the output quality. The preview shown is of the live video from the capture device.

Filters

Select a filter to record in Black and White or Sepia tones, or select None to record in the original colors.

Color Effects

Brightness

Adjust brightness of the video by moving this slider. Setting the slider to a higher position (to the right) will result in lightening the image, whereas setting to the left will darken the image.

Contrast

Adjust contrast of your video by moving this slider. Setting the slider to a higher position (to the right) increases the contrast, and setting it lower decreases the contrast between colors.

Gamma

Adjust gamma of your video by moving this slider. A higher value will result in a lighter image, where a lower value will result in a darker image.

Restore Default

Click this button to remove all the brightness, contrast, and gamma changes applied to your video.

New Recording Wizard - Set Recording Output Format

The third page of the New Recording Wizard allows you to choose which format to output to - either DVD or File. If you plan to burn your video to a DVD, select DVD. Otherwise, select File.

DVD

If you have selected **DVD**, enter the disc name (this is usually the same as the video title) and select the burner drive you will use from the drop menu.

If you have checked **Verify contents after burning.**, the video data burnt will be verified when it is written to disk.

File

If you have selected **File** choose the file type from the list. Your options are .avi, .wmv and .mp4.

Additional Output Options

When the recording is complete, you will be presented with additional options for uploading your file to YouTube, convert it to another format to play on a Portable Device, or many other options on the [Recording Complete](#) window.

New Recording Wizard - End of Video Options

The fourth page of the New Recording Wizard allows you to specify if and when Golden Videos stops recording automatically by detecting an idle (still) screen or static screen at the end of the tape. Please note that these options require additional CPU power. It is strongly suggested you have a PC with at least the recommended parameters to use these features.

Otherwise, if you know the length of the movie you want to capture, you can set up Golden Videos to stop recording after the specified amount of time.

Video Duration

I know the duration of my video

If you know the duration of your video, make sure this radio button is selected. Enter the duration of your video into the box.

The duration is used to automatically stop the video after recording for that length of time. It is also used to calculate DVD bitrate (this affects the video quality) if you are burning to a DVD.

I do not know the duration of my video

If you are not sure about the video's duration, it is best to select this option. Otherwise, you risk cutting off the end of your video.

End of Video Detection

Stop recording if the screen goes idle and there is a low level of audio

Select this checkbox if you want Golden Videos to detect the end of movie and stop recording when the screen is idle (still) and there is only silent audio captured.

Input the number of seconds the idle screen should last. The default value is 30 seconds. Golden Videos will stop the recording if the image is unchanged and there is no sound for this amount of time.

Stop recording if static fills the screen

Select this checkbox if you want Golden Videos to try detecting the end of movie by the static screen of the VCR.

Input the number of seconds the static screen should last. The default value is 30 seconds. Golden Videos will stop the recording if the video is static screen for this amount of time.

New Recording Wizard - Capturing Process

In the fifth wizard step, the actual video capturing is taking place.

Rewind your tape and press play on your VCR. Click the **Record** button on the Capturing Process dialog. If you have end of video detection enabled, the recording should stop automatically when the video cassette finishes playing. If you have set a recording duration, recording will stop after the specified amount of time has elapsed. Otherwise, click the stop button on this page at the end of the video to end recording. Click the **Next** button when your recording is done.

Restart

This button is only enabled after you have clicked the Record button. Click this button if you want to restart the recording from the current position. Note that this will erase the recording you have made so far and start again.

Record

Click this button to start the recording.

Stop

Click this button to stop the recording.

Record Volume Level

Indicates the input volume level. If the level appears too low, you can stop your recording and return to the [Recording Source](#) step of the wizard to reconfigure the recording volume level.

Recording time:

Indicates the total length of the recording so far.

Frames per second:

Shows you the number of frames received from the capture during the last second. It should be approximately 24-25 for PAL and 29-30 for NTSC.

Frames Dropped:

This shows how many frames could not be recorded. It is normal to have some dropped frames, but if the number is increasing rapidly, try closing all other applications except Golden Videos while capturing.

End of Video Options:

When the video has finished recording, it will either be saved to a file or burnt to a DVD (depending on which option you chose in the [End of Video Options](#) wizard step). If you would like Golden Videos to play a sound or shut down after saving the file or burning to DVD, tick the box labeled **Play sound when finished**.

When recording is complete

Once your recording is finished, if you click the Next button:

- If you selected to burn to DVD you will see the [Burn to DVD](#) dialog, where you enter your Video's name, select the burner, and burn your disc.
- If you selected to save to a file, the **Choose location for new file** will open. Browse to the location you want to save your movie and click the Save button.

New Recording Wizard - Converting and Burning

This page is where the burning is taking place.

If your target format is some kind of optical disc (CD/DVD/Blu-ray/HD DVD), make sure you have empty (or rewritable) media installed into your burning device.

New Recording Wizard - Recording Complete

After your recording is complete you will be shown the Recording Complete options, which is a list of everything you can do with your recorded video.

Preview Video

Select this option to view the recording you just made.

Burn to DVD

Select this option to burn the recording you just made to DVD.

Save Video as File

Select this option to save your video on your computer. For best results, it is recommended that you begin the recording process over again, otherwise the quality of your recording will be reduced.

Upload to YouTube

This option uploads your video to your YouTube account.

Convert for Portable Device

This option allows you to convert your movie for a portable device such as iPhone, iPad, PSP, or mobile phone.

Edit With VideoPad

Select this option to edit your video with [VideoPad video editing software](#).

Convert With Prism

This option give you the option of converting your movie to a format not offered within Golden Videos using [Prism video format conversion software](#).

New Recording

Selecting New Recording will restart the New Recording Wizard and your last recording will be lost if it wasn't saved.

Recording Didn't Work - I Need Help

Select this option to troubleshoot problems you had with capturing your recording.

Quit Program

To exit Golden Videos without doing anything else, select the Quit Program option.

Captured Video Options - Captured Video Options

After you have captured your video and before you capture a new video, there are several options Golden Videos gives you for working with your video. On the main screen under the **Previous Recording** heading, there are eight buttons:

- **Preview** - Preview your recorded video to make sure the quality is as you expected.
- **Save** - Create a file of your recorded video by selecting the save location.
- **Burn** - Burn your video to DVD.
- **YouTube** - Upload your video directly to YouTube.
- **Portable** - convert your video to a format suitable for portable devices such as an iPod, iPad, PSP or mobile phone.
- **Edit** - Edit your video in VideoPad video editing software.
- **Convert** - Convert your video to another format using Prism video format converter.
- **Problems** - Troubleshoot problems you are having capturing your video.

Screen References - Convert To Portable

The Convert for Portable Device dialog allows you to convert your movie to a format suitable for a portable device. To open this dialog, select the Convert for Portable Device option from the Recording Complete dialog after capturing your movie, or by clicking the **Portable** button on the main interface when the button is enabled.

Save Destination

Enter or browse for the location you want to save the converted file.

Preset

Select the device you want to convert for from the drop menu. The rest of the settings will be set automatically for your device. If you do not see your device in the list, but know which settings you need, select the Custom option.

File Format

Select the file format from the drop menu for your device.

Resolution

For resolution settings, see <http://www.nch.com.au/kb/10231.html>

Frame Rate

For frame rate settings, see <http://www.nch.com.au/kb/10232.html>

Screen References - Custom Resolution

Specify a custom resolution Input the width and height of the output video, in pixels.

Screen References - Custom Frame Rate

Specify a custom frame rate Input the frame rate of the output video, in frames per second (FPS). The value must be between 1 and 60.

Screen References - Preview Video

The preview dialog has five buttons:

- **Return To Start:** Clicking here will return you to the start of the video. It is like an instant rewind to the start of your video.
- **Step Back:** Clicking this button will move you a little bit further back in the video. It is like hitting "Rewind" on your video player, then pressing "Pause" straight away.
- **Play/Pause:** This button is similar to the Play and Pause buttons on your video player. Clicking Play will start the video playing, then Clicking it again will Pause the video.
- **Step Forward:** Clicking this button will move you a little bit forwards in the video. It is like hitting "Fast-Forward" on your video player, then pressing "Pause" straight away.
- **Go To End:** Clicking here will take you to the end of your video. It is like an instant fast-forward to the end of your video.

Below the video there is a timeline. You can click any position on the timeline to instantly go to that time of your video. It is like instantly rewinding or fast-forwarding until you reach that position in your movie. You can also drag the red cursor line on the timeline to watch as the video rewinds or fast-forwards if you would like.

Screen References - Burn to DVD

DVD Name:

Type a name for your DVD here. For example, "My Video".

DVD Burner:

Select which burner to use here. Note that the drive letter is displayed at the start of each item.

If the disc has data, erase it and replace with my video.

For rewritable discs, check this option to erase the disc before burning your video.

Verify contents after burning.

Check this box if you want to verify data after burning

Screen References - Options ~ General

Temporary Recording Folder:

You need around 4GB of hard drive space (possibly more) to record a video. Please make sure your temporary folder has enough space for that.

Alternative synchronization method (try this only if recording doesn't work properly)

Golden Videos supports two different methods of synchronizing video. While the default one is likely to work for most people, some capture devices work better with the other method. If the recording isn't working for you, try checking this option. When this check box is enabled, the program uses time-stamps from the system clock instead of the time reported by the capture device.