

Visual Effects and Compositing

DVD Studio Pro

Exporting from FCP

Go to File > Export > QuickTime Movie. Make sure you have Current Setting Selected and uncheck “Make Self-Contained. Name the file title_ref.mov. The _ref will remind you later that this is not a complete file, but only a reference file. Save the file with the rest of your project. You must have all the FCP file and the reference file on the same computer (or external hard drive) in order for this to work. The reference file will need to look at the projects FCP files.

Set up DVD Studio Pro

Advanced

Go to Window/ Configurations/ Advanced (Cinema)

Preferences

Now go to DVD Studio Pro/ Project

For both SD and HD, you will choose SD DVD – HD DVD no longer exists.

Now go to DVD Studio Pro/ General

1. Display Mode 4:3 for SD, 16:9 for HD
2. Choose the correct resolution and Display Mode for HD.

Now go to DVD Studio Pro/ Preferences/ Encoding

choose MPEG-2 SD tab

1. Aspect ratio at 4:3 or 16:9 depending on your video ratio.
2. Leave drop frame checked (if shot on mini DV with drop frame time code, if not sure leave checked).
3. Leave field order on auto unless you know the hierarchy of your field order.
4. Under Mode use 2 Pass VBR (variable bit rate)
 - a. this is the better quality, but it will take longer to encode.
 - b. The two pass analyses the video twice to decide which info it needs to keep in order to make the video look better.
5. Bit Rate Slider
 - a. How long is the video?
 - i. Two hour 3 – 5 mbs
 - ii. 5 mins. Don't set higher than 8Mbs – some old DVD players cannot play at a higher bit rate.
 - iii. If you know your DVD will be played on old computers, than use no more than 6.5 Mbs.
6. Motion Estimation = best
7. Method

- a. If you have a newer Mac that is faster (G5 or better) than set on Background encoding
- b. If you have an older/slower machine, set at encode on build
Encode on build will encode the entire DVD menu and video when you go to build the DVD – it will take longer, but wont slow down your machine while you are trying to work on it.

Destinations

1. After you have set your preferences, click on the *destinations* tab.
2. Click choose
 - a. this is where your files will be rendered for your DVD.
3. Choose the folder where your movie file is.
4. Click OK in preferences

Importing Assets

1. Go to Assets
2. Click on Import
3. Choose your movie file and click import
Notice in the Assets window, that it divides our movie into 2 clips – audio and video. It does this incase we want to use a different language.
4. Scroll to the right to view the status.
 - a. The status shows the encoding of the files. When it turns to a green ball, the clip is ready for creating your DVD.
 - b. If you do not show the status column, right click on the column names and choose *status*.
5. Take a break and wait for the clips to encode.

A note about encoding – DVD Studio Pro is not the best quality for MPEG-2 encoding. Their tend to be errors and pixilation in the final product. The best way to encode is to use Compressor and use either the DVD presets, or learn more about MPEG-2 encoding and create your own settings.

Working With Templates -test

1. Choose Filmstrip Cover from the menu templates
2. Once loaded you can see there are drop zones just like in Motion. You can drop video or a still image from you Assets.
If the drop zone is only giving you background or button option when you hold your cursor down, do not drop. Highlight the drop zone and in the editor window (bottom right) select your click or image from the Assets drop down menu. Note the motion option for video.
You can also use the slider under the preview window in the editing window to choose the part of the video you want to show.
3. To Change Company Name to your name simply click to highlight. You can change it in the Menu or in the Text Object editing window.
4. You can delete unnecessary buttons or text simply by clicking on it and hitting delete on your keyboard.
5. MAKE SURE TO SAVE YOUR WORK REGULARLY!

6. You can move text or drop zones by clicking and dragging. You will see guides to help you align. If they are not there go to DVD Studio Pro > Preferences > Alignment to turn on.

7. Double-click to add new text

8. Change on the background. Click the background and in the editing window you will see a small square with the color of the background. You can use the drop down menu right above the square and choose from a plethora of options for your background.

9. To draw a new button – click drag. The set asset to the button.

BURNING THE DVD

1. Click Simulator.

a. If you had set chapter markers in FCP, you can jump to those markers in the simulator.

2. Go to file/ Burn and insert a blank DVD.

3. When it is completed a window will pop up stating it has burned successfully and your DVD will pop out of the drive.