

## What is iDVD?

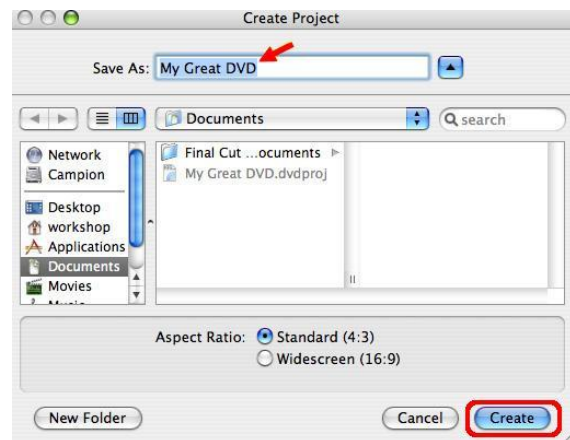
iDVD is a software program used to create menus for DVD projects and to burn video to DVDs.

## Starting a new iDVD project

You can open iDVD directly, or from the Share menu in iMovie when you are ready to burn your DVD.

The first time you open iDVD, a dialog box appears. You can click a button to open an existing project, create a new project, or let iDVD create a DVD for you. You can return to this window any time by closing the current project.

Click "Create a New Project."



In the dialog box that appears, type a name for your project and choose where you want to save it. Then click Create.

A project window opens, with the main menu showing in the iDVD window.

If this is the first time you've used iDVD, you may want to check the settings in iDVD preferences. Choose iDVD > Preferences to see the settings (see image below). Here is where you can choose to lose the apple logo that appears at the corner of the screen.

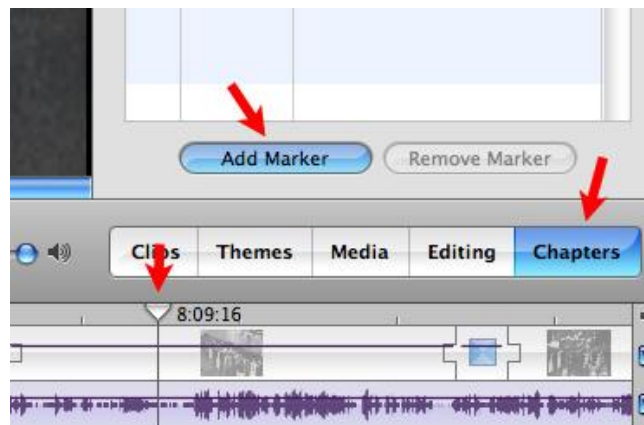


You can find explanations for the settings by searching iDVD Help. When the settings are the way you want them, close the iDVD preferences window.

### Bringing your video into iDVD

If you've created a movie using iMovie HD, you can send the movie from iMovie HD into an iDVD project through the Share menu in iMovie. You can also import your video as a QuickTime movie directly into iDVD.

### Marking chapters for your DVD in iMovie



- In iMovie, once all editing is complete, click on the "Chapters" button.
- Click on the clock icon to switch to timeline viewer mode.
- Place the playhead where you want your first chapter to start. Click on the "Add Marker" button in the Chapters area. You can edit the name of the chapter by typing the chapter title you want over the default name.
- Add additional chapter markers as needed to your movie.
- In iDVD, you will see a new title on your front page called "scene selection". If you click on that, you will see a listing of your chapters.

### **Here are ways to prepare your iMovie for iDVD:**

1. To bring your iMovie directly into an iDVD project use the Share command or dialog (in iMovie HD) to send your movie to iDVD. iDVD opens with your project in the iDVD window. If you've added chapter markers to your iMovie, iDVD uses these chapter markers in a scene selection menu.
2. To save your iMovie as a QuickTime movie that you can import into an iDVD project later, choose File > Export (in iMovie HD). Click QuickTime, choose Full Quality from the pop-up menu, and then click Share. Your movie is saved as a QuickTime movie in your Movies folder, so it is available in the Media pane of iDVD. The movie is self-contained (it includes all the source files). Chapter markers are not preserved.

### **Directly importing video into iDVD**

You can also import your video as a QuickTime movie into iDVD. Save your QuickTime movie in your Movies folder, so it is available in the Media pane of iDVD. In iDVD, go to the Media pane and choose Movies. Drag your movie into the background of your DVD menu (not into a dropzone).

### **Preparing QuickTime movies to work with iDVD**

If you wish to create QuickTime movie files to put into iDVD directly, the suggested settings are below:

QuickTime movies smaller than the standard DVD size of 720 x 480 (NTSC) or 720 x 576 (PAL) are scaled to fit the DVD window, which may decrease the image quality.

For best results, in the QuickTime export settings of your video-editing application, choose NTSC-DV with a frame rate of 29.97 or PAL-DV with a frame rate of 25. Choose No Compression for audio and set the sample rate to 48 kHz.

Not all QuickTime formats can be added to your iDVD project. For example, MPEG-1 or MPEG-2 files, QuickTime VR movies, and movies with sprite or Flash tracks cannot be added.

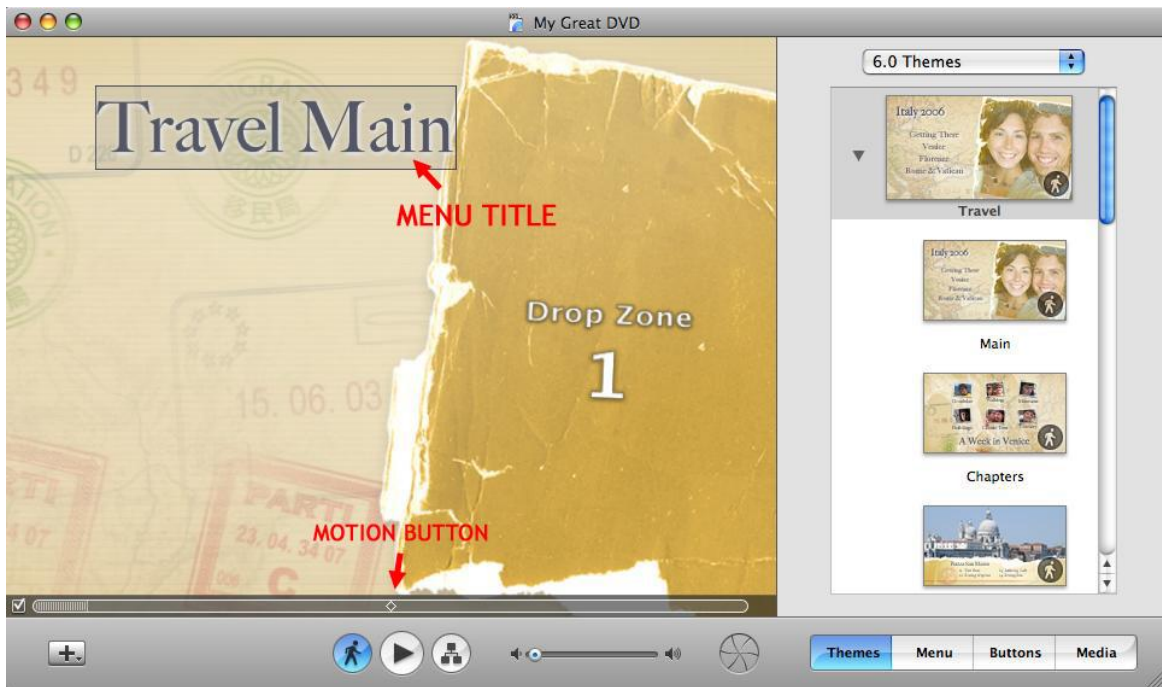
Note: If you drag a QuickTime movie file to an audio well in iDVD, iDVD uses the first audio track in the file and none of the video.

### **Creating Your Menu**

Click the Themes button and click a theme to select it for your project. To see themes from earlier versions of iDVD, choose a group of themes from the pop-up menu.

If the theme you selected has a motion icon in the bottom-right corner, click the Motion button at the bottom of the iDVD window (shown below) to preview the theme. This lets you see how the DVD will play and helps you decide what you need to edit. Click the Motion button again to stop the movement.

Double-click the menu title that appears in the menu and type a new title.



### About drop zones and buttons

Drop zones are sections of a menu background where you can add slideshows, movies, and still images. Adding your own media to the background lets you show images related to your specific project.

Drop zones only show the media you designate; they don't link to other parts of a project. For example, a viewer cannot click a drop zone to play a movie or to link to another menu. Some themes contain dynamic drop zones that move around the menu on pre-set paths.

When you drag an item to a drop zone, a black and yellow border appears to show where to drop the item. Double-clicking a drop zone opens the drop zone editor, where you can add or change the contents of all the drop zones in the menu at once.

Buttons provide links that a user can click to play a movie, display a slideshow, or open another menu. Buttons can display text, still images, or even part of a movie or a slideshow that plays on the button. You can change the style and look of the buttons in a variety of ways.

Note: You can't add audio to a drop zone or a button. Audio can be added only to the entire menu background.

### Adding images and movies to drop zones

You can display your own movies, slideshows, or still images in the drop zones of a DVD menu. iDVD themes can have multiple drop zones, or even dynamic drop zones that move in the background.

You can use the drop zone editor (shown below) to add images, movies, and slideshows to themes with multiple drop zones.



**Here are ways to add images or movies to drop zones:**

1. To add a movie, drag a movie from the Media pane or another location on your computer to the drop zone.
2. To add a slideshow, drag an iPhoto album from the Media pane to the drop zone or drag image files from another location on your computer. You can add up to 99 images.
3. To add a still image, drag the image from the Media pane or another location on your computer to the drop zone.
4. Press the Control key and click the drop zone, then choose Import from the shortcut menu and browse to locate the movie or image file you want to import.

To have iDVD automatically fill all drop zones with images from the media in your DVD, click Menu and then click Autofill.

**Adding sound to a menu**

You can use a single song, a group of songs, or an entire iTunes playlist as background audio for a menu. The songs play in the same order in which they appear in the playlist. You can also use audio from a QuickTime file in a menu.

Note: You can't drag playlists directly from the iTunes application.

**To add a soundtrack to a menu:**

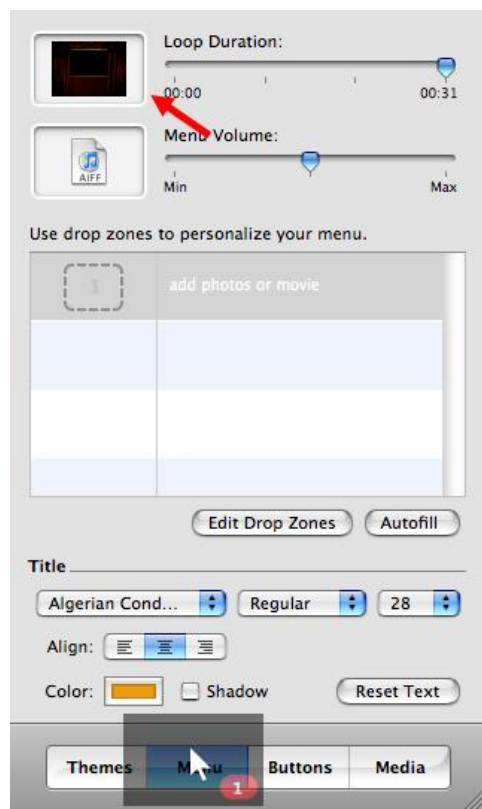
1. Open the menu where you want to add the audio.
2. Use one of the following methods to add a song or playlist to the background:
  - a. Click Media to open the Media pane, then click Audio. Select a song or playlist and click the Apply button.

- b. Drag an audio file directly from the Media pane or from another location on your computer to the background of your iDVD menu.
- c. Click the Menu button to open the Menu pane, then drag an audio file or a QuickTime movie to the audio well in the Menu pane (shown below).

Click the Menu button and drag the Loop Duration slider to the duration you want the audio file to play. The duration you choose applies to both the audio file and any background movies you've added. The maximum duration is 15 minutes.

### Replacing menu background with a picture or movie

Click Media, then select the video or image you want to use. Drag the video/image and hold the pointer over the Menu button. When the Menu pane opens, move the pointer over the background well (as indicated by arrow) and release the mouse button. The “Theater” theme from the old themes is a good option to work with.



### Previewing an iDVD project before burning a DVD disc

Be sure to preview your project before you burn it to disc. Make sure that all the media plays as you expect it to. Depending on how complicated your project is, it may take an extended time to complete the project encoding and disc burning, so it's best to make sure your project has no errors before you burn.



### To preview a project for burning to a disc:

1. Click the Map button, and look at the icons to see if any warning symbols appear. If they do, move the pointer over the symbol to read the error message.
2. Make any necessary adjustments to project assets that have warnings.
3. Click the Preview button. Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select a button and then press Enter. (You can also click the buttons directly on the DVD menu using your pointer.) When you activate a button, the movie or slideshow it links to plays. When a movie is finished, you see the DVD menu again.
4. Use the Next button on the remote control to advance through the slides in a slideshow or chapters in a movie. Click the Menu button to return to the DVD menu.

When you are done with your preview, click the Exit button on the remote control.

### Burning an iDVD project to a DVD disc

When you are finished with your iDVD project, you can burn it to a recordable DVD disc. DVD-R is the recommended disc format.

(Note: must set for expanded format – 2 layer disc)

Before burning your DVD, be sure you have at least twice as much free space as your project uses available on your hard disk, to allow for encoding and burning. Check the DVD Capacity meter in the Project Info window to determine the size of your project. For example, if your project uses 4.0 GB, you need at least 8.0 GB of free space on your hard disk.

### To burn your DVD:



1. Click the Burn button (shown above) to indicate you are ready to burn.
2. When prompted, insert a recordable DVD disc into the drive.
3. If you insert a rewritable disc (DVD-RW or DVD+RW) that isn't blank, iDVD asks whether you want to erase the disc.

iDVD first encodes your project's information and then burns it to the disc. Depending on the complexity of a project, some projects may take longer to encode and burn. iDVD shows the progress of the encoding and burning as it happens.