

Fun With Computers Windows Movie Maker (MM)

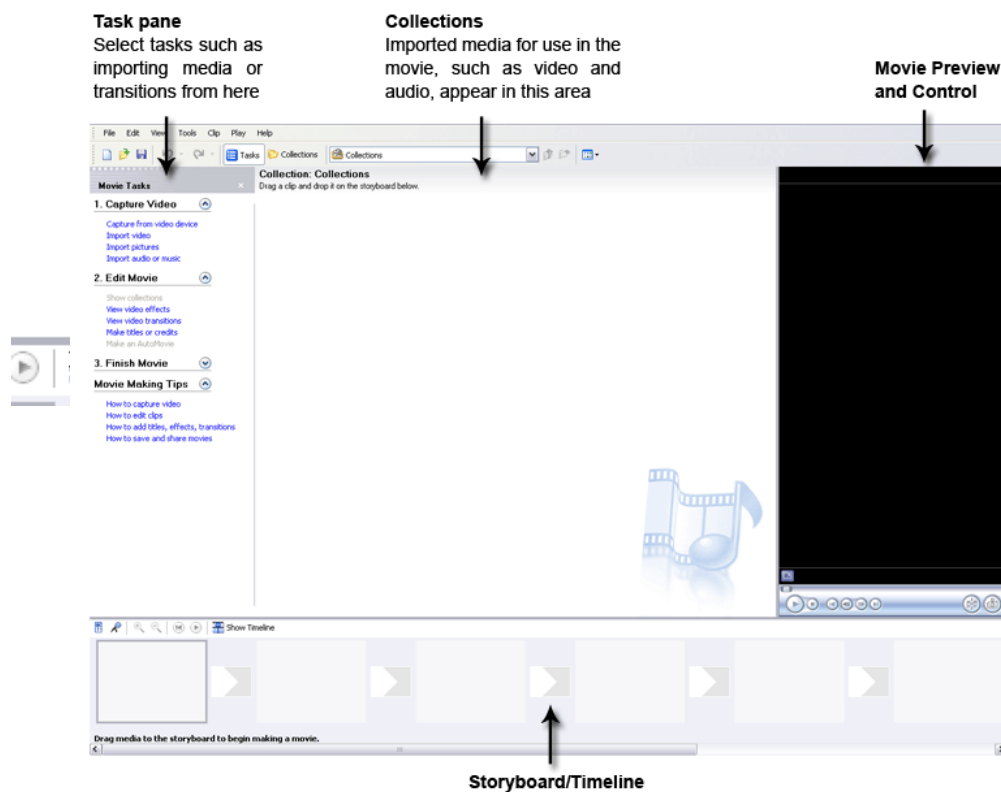
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This handout covers enough to get you started with using video clips.

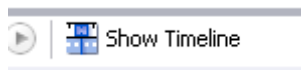
MM comes as part of the Windows operating system. It allows you to edit and create videos/movies and is simple to use. With MM you can use movies from camera and video camera, photos, audio files and create your own narrative audio. MM is found in Accessories under All Programmes.

To Begin

On opening MM the screen looks like this:



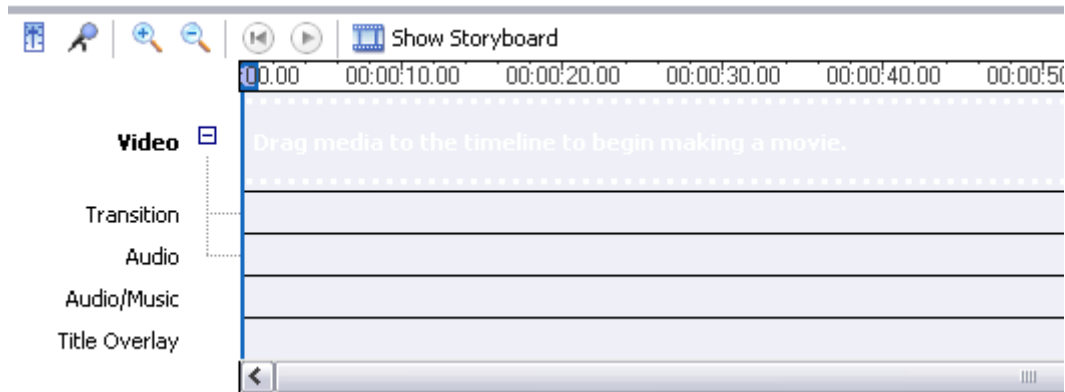
Click on the *Show Timeline* button to change the lower part of the screen from storyboard to timeline.



This will reveal three tracks:

- Video
- Audio/Music
- Title Overlay

You can imagine the timeline as a reel of movie film with tracks for different elements of your movie. This is where the movie will be made. The movie can be as long as you want it to be. Click on the + sign by the word Video to expand the Video track. This will reveal two extra tracks: Transition and Audio.



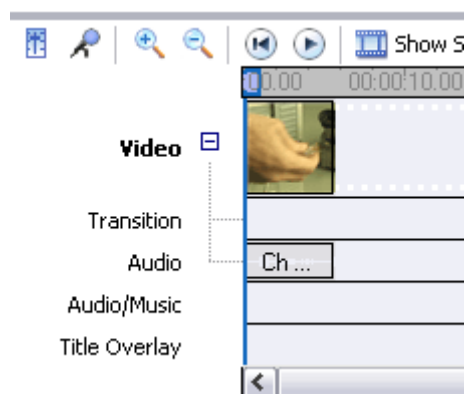
Import video

Import video into the Collections area. Presuming that you have video already on your computer, click on *Import Video* in the Movie Tasks pane. *If the Movie Tasks pane is not visible, click on the Tasks button below the menu at the top of the screen.*

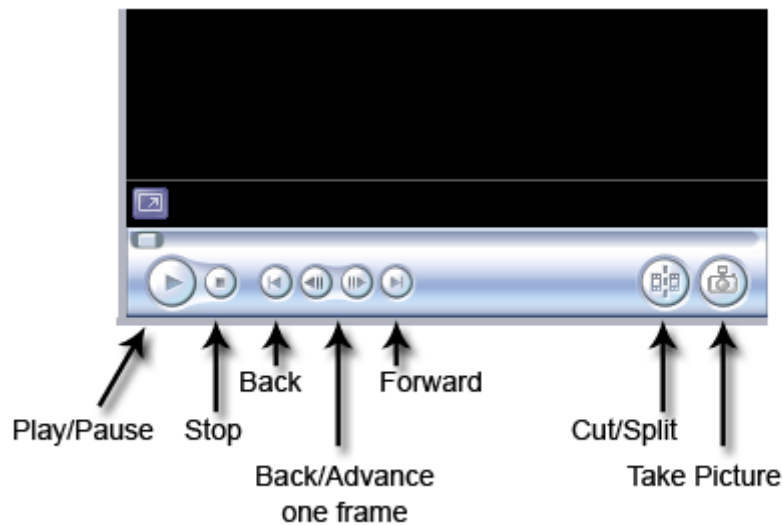
When video is imported it appears as video clips in the Collections area. A clip can be played in the Movie Preview window.

Editing a video clip

Drag a movie clip from the Collections area down to the Video track in the timeline. If you want to, you can mute the sound attached to the movie clip by right clicking in the Audio track and choosing *Mute*. Your own sound can be added to the Audio/Music track.

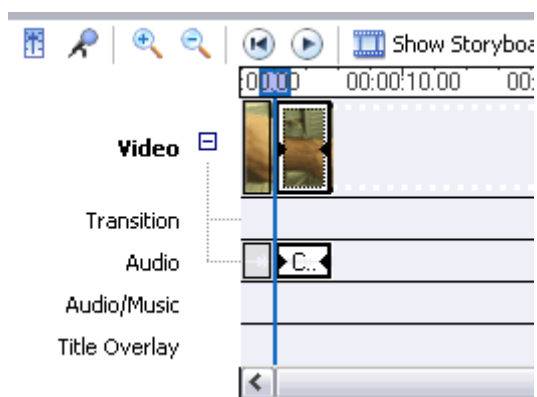


Select the clip in the timeline to preview it in the Preview window. The controls in this window are:



When the clip is previewed the play head advances along the Timeline.

Edit the movie by cutting it at a point where you want the clip to begin. Use the Preview window and the controls to get the exact point, click on the Cut button and the clip will be cut in two.



Delete the part that is not required by right clicking on it and choosing Delete. *Video clips can also be split when previewing them from the Collections area.*

Drag another video clip to the timeline and continue as before to build up your movie. Clips can be rearranged and copied and pasted in the timeline.

Video effects

Click on *View Video Effects* in the Task pane to view a library of effects. Click on an effect to preview it in the Preview window. Apply an effect by dragging onto a video clip in the timeline. More than one effect can be applied to a clip.

To remove an effect, right click on a clip in the timeline and choose *Video Effects...*

Transition

Transitions, such as fades, can be made *between* video clips in the Timeline. Click on View Video Transitions in the Task pane to see the library of effects. These can be previewed in the Preview window. To apply a transition, drag it down to the Transitions track in the timeline so that it is beneath the join of two video clips. Only one transition can be used in any one place. Dragging a transition onto another transition replaces the previous one.

Saving your work

Your work can be saved in two different versions, one for editing within MM and one for playback on a computer.

File > Save Project saves your work so it can be opened again in MM. This saves it with .mswmm as the file extension.

To save your work so it can be played on a computer go to File > Save Movie File... This will take you to the Save Movie Wizard where you can specify how you want to view the saved file. This file will not be editable.

Supported file types

A list of files that can be used in MM

- **Audio files:** .aif, .aifc, .aiff, .asf, .au, .mp2, .mp3, .mpa, .snd, .wav, and .wma
- **Picture files:** .bmp, .dib, .emf, .gif, .jfif, .jpe, .jpeg, .jpg, .png, .tif, .tiff, and .wmf
- **Video files:** .asf, .avi, .m1v, .mp2, .mp2v, .mpe, .mpeg, .mpg, .mpv2, .wm, and .wmv