

# **Direct DiscRecorder 3.5**

*User Guide  
Corel TW Corp.  
March 2008*

## **Corel®Direct DiscRecorder version 3.5**

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# Welcome to Direct DiscRecorder

With Direct DiscRecorder, users can create, edit, and burn DVD-VR, AVCREC, and BDAV video formats in DVD and Blu-ray Disc media.

**Note:** The availability of features and program modules depends on the Direct DiscRecorder version you have.

## What you can do in Direct DiscRecorder

### Create DVD and Blu-ray discs

- Create standard definition video contents in **DVD-VR** format and burn them onto rewritable DVD discs. You can then add or modify its contents anytime.
- Create high definition contents in BDAV format and burn them onto standard DVD discs. This is referred to as **AVCREC**.
- Create high definition video contents in **BDAV** format and burn them onto Blu-ray Disc media.

### Edit a disc

Insert an editable disc into your burner and modify its DVD-VR or BDAV contents.

### Capture video straight to disc

Capture videos and record directly to a DVD or Blu-ray Disc media in DVD-VR or BDAV format.

## System Requirements

To run Direct DiscRecorder on your computer, make sure the following minimum requirements are met:

	Requirements DVD-VR	Requirements BDAV	Requirements AVCREC
Processor	Intel® Pentium® 4 2.8GHz CPU or higher Intel® Pentium® M 1.8GHz CPU or higher (3.0GHz CPU is recommended when using Straight to Disc)		
Compatible Operating Systems	Microsoft Windows® XP Professional Edition Service Pack 3 Microsoft Windows® XP Home Edition Service Pack 3 Microsoft Windows® XP Media Center Edition Microsoft Windows Vista® Service Pack 1 Microsoft Windows Vista®		
RAM	512MB of RAM (1GB of RAM is recommended when using Straight to Disc)		
Hard Drive	200MB of available hard disk space for program installation		
	4GB or more hard disk space for video capture and editing	20GB or more hard disk space for video capture and editing	4GB or more hard disk space for video capture and editing
Screen	Windows-compatible display with at least 1024x768 resolution		
Optical Drive	DVD burner (supporting DVD-RW and DVD-RAM discs)	Blu-ray Disc burner (supporting recordable or re-writable Blu-ray Disc media)	DVD burner (supporting DVD-RW and DVD-RAM discs)
Supported media types	DVD-R, DVD-RW or DVD-RAM disc	BD-R/RE single or double layer disc	DVD-RW or DVD-RAM discs

To utilize the full capabilities of Direct DiscRecorder, the following additional components are recommended:

- Capture devices such as DV or HDV camcorders
- OHCI compliant IEEE-1394 card for use with DV or HDV camcorder

## Hardware checkup and configuration

To make sure your video production runs smoothly and trouble free, click **Control Panel: System - Hardware - Device Manager** and check if your devices are working properly with your Operating System (OS).

In general, as long as the device can be seen and working properly in the **Device Manager** (this applies to all Windows versions), Direct DiscRecorder will be able to detect it and work with it.

Also make sure that a burner that supports DVD or Blu-ray discs is properly connected and configured and that you have the appropriate DVD or Blu-ray media for recording.

## Running Direct DiscRecorder

Run Direct DiscRecorder from the **Start** menu or program folder.

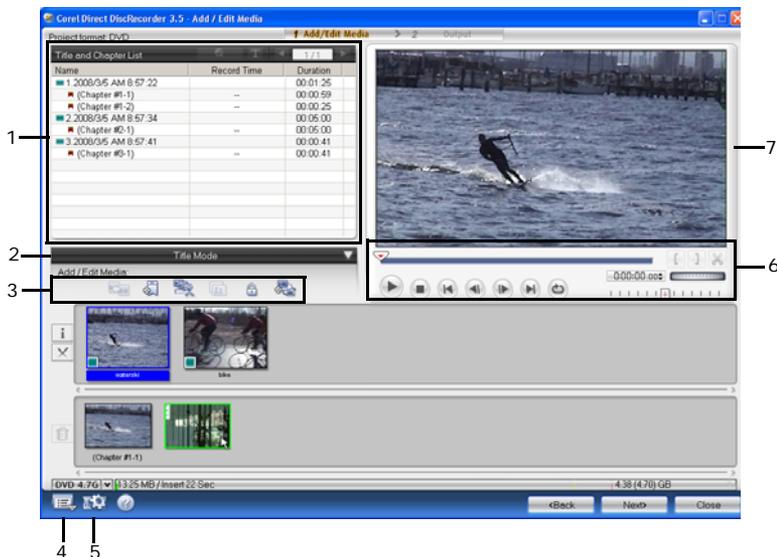
In the **Start** page, the program gives you three options: **Create Disc**, **Edit Disc** and **Straight to Disc**.

Choosing **Create Disc** allows you to create a new project. **Edit Disc** allows you to edit a DVD-VR or BDAV disc. To capture and burn videos directly to a disc, choose **Straight to Disc**.



## Getting around the workspace

The Direct DiscRecorder workspace allows you to easily work with titles and playlists for your DVD-VR, AVCREC, or BDAV projects. You can add titles by capturing videos, adding video files, or importing digital media files from a disc or hard drive.



### 1 Title and Chapter List

Displays a list of the titles and chapters added to your project. For on-disc editing, **Title and Chapter List** shows all titles and chapters a DVD-VR, AVCREC, or BDAV disc contains.

### 2 Title/Playlist Mode Switch

Toggles between the Title Mode and Playlist Mode.

### 3 Add/Edit Media

Contains buttons for **Insert Media**, **Add/Edit Chapter**, **Multi-trim Video** and other quick tasks.

### 4 Settings and options

Opens a menu where you can customize the settings for playing back video, or viewing information about Direct DiscRecorder.

## 5 Project settings

Allows you to view information about the project and customize its output settings, especially for non-compliant MPEG videos.

## 6 Navigation Panel

Provides buttons for playback and for precision trimming of clips.

## 7 Preview Window

Shows the current video clip for playback.

## Using the Title and Chapter List

The **Title and Chapter List** automatically displays all titles and chapters included in a project or disc. Because it is displayed in list format, you can navigate through your project faster, especially if you are working with numerous titles and chapters.



**Tip:** The  icon represents a title while the  icon represents a chapter. Chapters are always indented below a title. Slideshows, on the other hand, are represented by the  icon.

### To use the Title and Chapter List:

1. When you have all titles, slideshows and chapters added in Direct DiscRecorder, all will be enumerated in **Title and Chapter List**. To learn how to add media, see **Adding media**.
2. Browse through the **Title and Chapter List** and click on the title or chapter you want to locate.
3. You can also use the  and  of the **Index** to go to a particular page. The **Index** specifies the sequence number of a selected page and the total number of pages in your project.
4. Click . This will take you to the thumbnail of the selected clip in the Title or Chapter Thumbnail Areas.
5. Click  to view clip in the Preview Window.

## Working in Title and Playlist Modes

### To switch between Title and Playlist Modes:

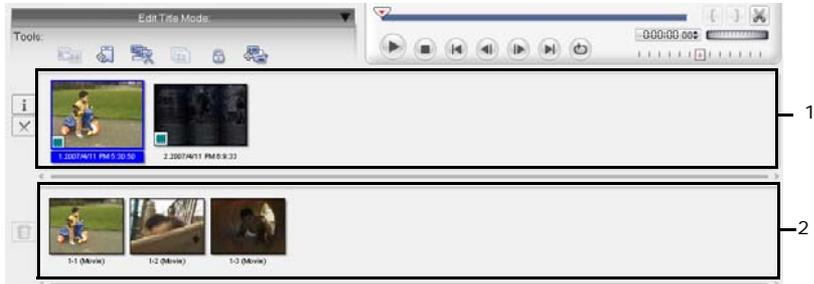
1. Check the **Title/Playlist Mode Switch** to see what mode is currently selected.
2. If it is in **Title Mode** and you want to switch to **Playlist Mode**, click the dropdown arrow in the Title/Playlist Mode Switch and select **Switch to Playlist Mode**.



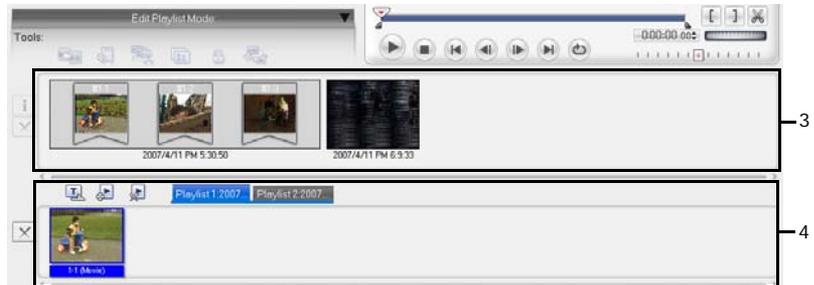
If in Playlist Mode and you want to switch to Title Mode, select **Switch to Title Mode** in the dropdown menu.

## Thumbnail Areas

Areas displaying thumbnails of titles and playlists dynamically change depending on the mode currently selected. To learn how to switch modes, see **To switch between Title and Playlist Modes:**.



Thumbnail Areas in Title Mode



Thumbnail Areas in Playlist Mode

### 1 Title Thumbnail Area

Shows all titles included in your project. Each thumbnail in the Title Thumbnail Area represents a video clip.

### 2 Chapter Thumbnail Area

Shows all chapters of a title.

### 3 Title and Chapter Thumbnail Area

Shows all chapters and titles.

### 4 Playlist Area

Shows different playlist tabs and the playitems added to each playlist.

## Adding media

There are four types of media you can add to your project: videos from analog and digital sources, video files from hard drive, slideshows, and video content from a DVD disc or AVCHD camcorders.

## Capturing videos

**Capturing** is the process of transferring video from your camcorder or other video sources to your computer. Direct DiscRecorder is capable of capturing video from different video sources such as DV and HDV camcorders and VCRs, analog devices, and TV tuners.

When you have properly set up your equipment for capturing, the video feed from your source device should be visible in the **Preview Window** of the **Capture Video** dialog box. If your display card supports TV output connection, you will be able to view your video on a TV monitor.

**Note:** You cannot capture copyrighted sources or videos protected by recognized protection schemes such as Copy Generation Management System for Analog (CGMS-A) and for Digital (CGMS-D), Content Scrambling System (CSS), Theatermark and Macrovision.

### Capturing from a DV Camcorder

Direct DiscRecorder allows you to capture digital video and automatically store it in your selected format.

#### To capture video from a DV camcorder:

1. Click  and select **Capture Video**.
2. Select the device to capture from **Source**.
3. Select a capture mode and video format.

**Note:** You can only choose a video format with Dolby Digital 5.1 channel surround sound encoding if your DV camcorder uses 4-channel audio.

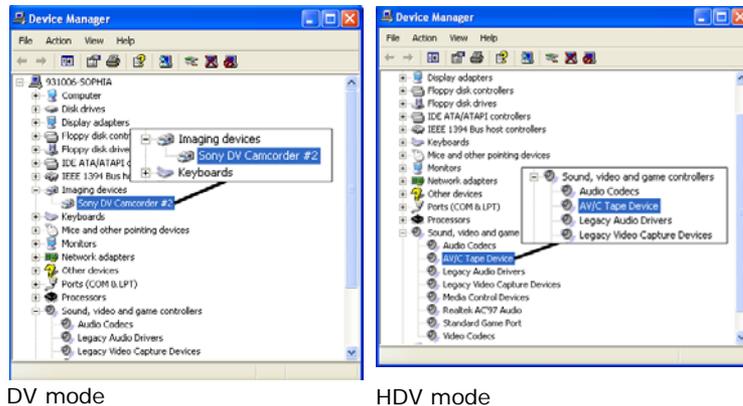
4. Use the navigation controls to locate the starting point of the video to capture.
5. Click **Capture video**  **Capture Video**.
6. Press **[Esc]** to stop. Repeat steps 2 to 6 as needed to capture more videos.
7. Click **OK**.

## Capturing High-Definition DV video from an HDV camcorder

Before capturing your HDV or HD video into Direct DiscRecorder, make sure that your camcorder (or deck) is properly detected by your computer. Also check the following:

On Sony HDV camcorder:

If you have connected your Sony HDV camcorder to your computer, check the **Device Manager** to see if your camcorder is detected as a **DV device** or **AV/C tape device**. If the camcorder is detected as a DV device, you can capture DV footage. If your camcorder is detected as an AV/C tape device, you can capture HDV footage.



**Note:** The Sony HDV camcorder can be detected only under Windows XP Service Pack 2.

## To capture video from an HDV camcorder:

1. Connect your HDV camcorder to your computer's IEEE-1394 port using the IEEE-1394 cable.
2. Turn on your camcorder and switch it to **Play** mode. If you have a Sony HDV camcorder, make sure it is switched to **HDV** mode.
3. Click  and select **Capture Video**.
4. Select the device to capture from **Source**.
5. Use the navigation controls to preview your project or move around your programs.

6. Click **Capture Video**  to start capturing. Press **[Esc]** to stop capturing.
7. Repeat steps 6 and 7 to add more clips. Click **OK** after capturing to go back to the **Add/Edit Media** page.

## Adding video files

You can add video files of different formats such as **AVI**, **MPEG**, **WMV**, and others to your movie.

### To add a video file to your project:

1. Click  and select **Add Video File** to open the associated dialog box.
2. Browse for videos on your computer and select video file(s). Use **[Ctrl]** or **[Shift]** to select multiple files to your project.
3. Click **Open**.
4. When adding multiple clips, drag the clips according to your desired sequence in the **Change Clip Sequence** dialog box, and then click **OK**.

## Adding and editing slideshows (DVD-VR projects)

Aside from video files, Direct DiscRecorder lets you add photo slideshows to your video projects. The slideshows contain still images and can include transition effects, text, music and voice annotations.

### To create a slideshow:

1. Click  and select **Add Slideshow**.
2. Locate the folder that contains your image files and select those that you want to include in the slideshow. Use **[Ctrl]** or **[Shift]** to select multiple images (maximum 64 images in a slideshow).
3. Click **Add Photo** or click **Add All** to include all images in the current folder to your project. Repeat steps 2 and 3 to add more images.
4. Add a slideshow title, background music, and transition effect as needed. Click **Preview** to see the result.
5. Click **OK** after you have finished.

## To edit a slideshow:

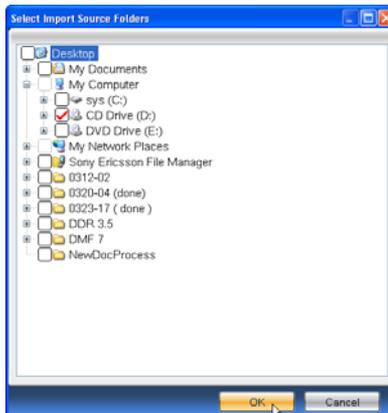
1. Select the slideshow from the Title Thumbnail Area and click  in **Add/Edit Media**.
2. Modify the selected slideshow in the **Edit Slideshow** dialog box. For example, you can add images, slideshow titles, transition effects, and background music.
3. Click **OK** after you have finished.

## Importing digital media

You can import DVD-Video, DVD-VR, AVCHD or BDMV .m2ts and .mts files from a disc or hard drive. You can also import from an AVCHD camcorder.

### To import digital media:

1. Click  and select **Import Digital Media**.
2. In the **Select Import Source Folders** dialog box, locate the folders that contains your movie. You can select multiple folders.



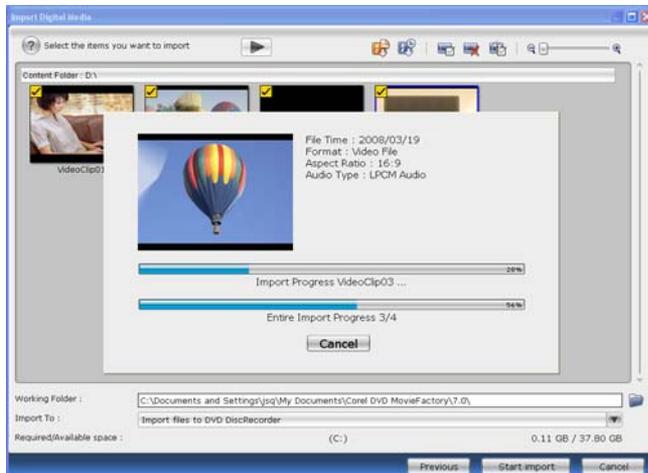
**Note:** If your AVCHD camcorder is connected to your computer, Make sure that the computer recognizes your camcorder as a removable drive.

3. Specifically for DVD, find the **VIDEO\_TS** folder on a disc (DVD+R/RW or DVD-R/RW) or hard drive, or the **DVD\_RTAV** folder for DVD-VR files on a disc (DVD-RW or DVD-RAM) or hard drive. Click **OK**.

- The folders will be in the **Import Digital Media** dialog box. You can arrange your selections by clicking the **Up** and **Down** arrows. You can delete entries by selecting them and clicking **Delete**. To add more files click **Select Import Source Folders**.



- Click **Start**.
- In the main **Import Digital Media** dialog box, select the specific folder or file to import and click **Start Import**.



The **Import Digital Media** dialog box also provides options for previewing your selection, showing/hiding clips, arranging list order alphabetically or by date and time, and zooming in and out the interface.

## Editing media

After importing the media files into your project, you can now play and edit the content using Direct DiscRecorder's playback controls and editing tools.

### Splitting a title

Trimming allows you to modify the length of the video according to your needs. When you have a title selected in the Title Thumbnail Area, you can separate it into two by dragging the Jog Slider to a part of the video, its midpoint--for example, and click  .

### Multi-trimming your video

**Multi-trim Video** lets you select multiple segments from a video and extract these segments to the Title Thumbnail Area.



#### To use Multi-trim Video:

1. Select the video to be trimmed in the Title Thumbnail Area.
2. Click  to open the **Multi-trim Video** dialog box.
3. Drag the Jog Slider to locate the start of the segment to retain/delete, and then click **Mark-in** or press **[F3]**.
4. Drag the Jog Slider to locate the end of the segment to retain/delete, and then click **Mark-out** or press **[F4]**. The extracted segment will be added to the Title Thumbnail Area.
5. To select more segments, repeat steps 3 and 4.

6. To remove any extracted segment, select it in the Title Thumbnail Area and click **Remove selected clips**  .
7. To preview all extracted clips, click  .
8. Click **OK**.

## Combining titles

Working with titles lets you combine two or more video clips into one thumbnail in the Title Thumbnail Area.

**Note:** Titles originally on-disc cannot be combined with titles imported from the hard drive.

### To combine titles:

1. Multi-select two adjacent clips in the Title Thumbnail Area.
2. Click  . This will combine the two selected clips.

## Adding chapters

Represented as a video thumbnail in the Chapter Thumbnail Area, each chapter is like a bookmark for a video clip. Note that these small video thumbnails only link to its “mother” video without generating any additional physical files.

### To create or edit chapters:

1. Select a video in the Title Thumbnail Area.
2. Click  in **Add/Edit Media**. The **Add/Edit Chapter** dialog box opens.
3. Click **Auto Add Chapters**. You can also drag the Jog Slider to move to a scene to use as the first frame of a chapter and click **Add Chapter**. Repeat this step until all chapter points have been added.
4. Use **Remove Chapter** or **Remove All Chapters** to delete unwanted chapters.
5. Click **OK**.

**Tip:** To use **Auto Add Chapters**, your video must be at least one minute long or have scene change information.

## Removing chapters

When in Title Mode, click a clip to remove in the Chapter Thumbnail Area and select . This will remove the clip by combining it to a chapter before it.

## Setting a name for a title or chapter

You can assign names to titles and chapters in order to easily identify them.

### To set a title/chapter name:

1. Select a title or chapter in the **Title and Chapter List**.
2. Click .
3. Enter the name and then click **OK**.

**Tip:** You can also click the name under the title or chapter thumbnail to edit.

## Protecting/Unprotecting titles

To ensure that video clips (titles) will not be changed or removed, you can click the lock icon in the **Add/Edit Media** to switch between protected and unprotected modes. Protected titles have the  icon on its thumbnails. When a title is protected, only playback is allowed.

## Deleting titles

To delete a title, right-click the video clip in the Title Thumbnail Area and then select **Delete** or click . Use **[Ctrl]** or **[Shift]** to select multiple files.

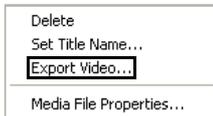
## Exporting videos

Direct DiscRecorder lets you easily export your video clips into other video formats (AVI, MPEG, WMV, etc.). To speed up the workflow, you can also create templates for video settings that you frequently use.

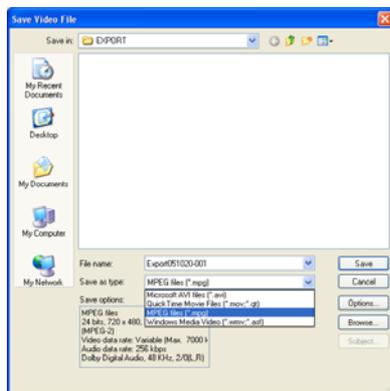
**Note:** You can decide which audio channels to export by adjusting the **Audio export** mode on the **General** tab of the **Preferences** dialog box.

### To export video files:

1. Select a title, chapter or playitem you want to export from the Title, Chapter or Playlist Thumbnail Areas.
2. Right-click the video clip. Select **Export Video**.



3. Select a file type (and the following settings if needed).
  - To use a template, click **Template** and select the one to be used. Select **Add Template** to create a new template using the current video settings. Select **Delete Template** to delete templates.
  - To change the video settings, click **Options** to open the **Video Save Options** dialog box. Click **OK** when finished.

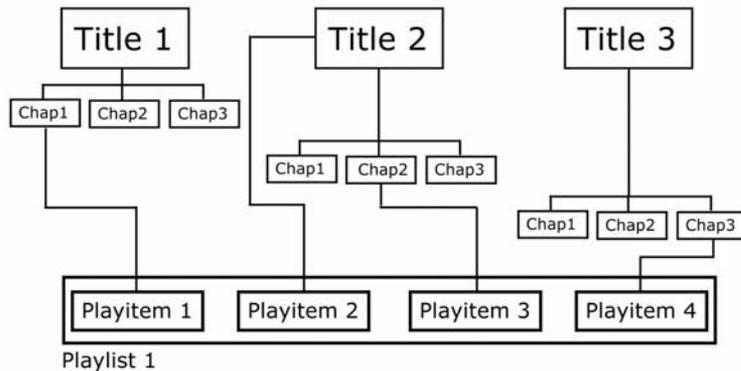


4. Select the folder to save the file in and enter the file name.
5. Click **Save**.

## Creating playlists

With playlists, you can watch specific video sections in a desired playback sequence. This is done by creating a series of video scenarios retrieved from DVD-VR, AVCREC, or BDAV videos.

See the illustration below to better understand the titles, chapters and playlist structure.



In this example, we have three titles in our project. Among the four elements of your project (title, chapter, playlist and playitem), the title is the biggest unit. A title can be subdivided into chapters.

The case is different in creating playlists. Playlist is simply a list or queue of video clips created for immediate playback of all clips included in a playlist. A video clip added to a playlist, whether title or chapter, is called a playitem. You can add many playlists to your project or also choose not to include one.

**Note:** Deleting a title or chapter, however, automatically deletes the clip from the playlist. Once the playlist is empty, the playlist will be removed.

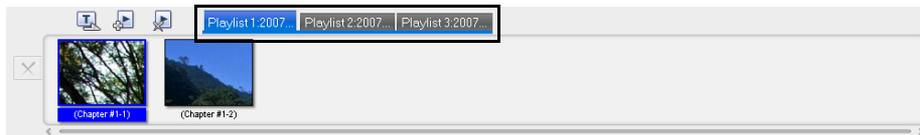
### To create or edit a playlist:

1. Select **Playlist Mode**.
2. Drag video clips from the Title and Chapter Thumbnail Area to the Playlist Area.

**Note:** When adding chapters from different titles, drag the clips individually to the Playlist Area. Multi-selecting chapters from different titles is not supported.

3. To create another playlist, click  .

4. To switch from one playlist to another, click its corresponding Playlist tab.



5. To delete a playlist, select a playlist to delete and click  .

### Trimming a title or chapter and adding it to a playlist

When you only want to include short parts of a video clip and not the entire title or chapter to your playlist, you can trim the clip to suit your liking.

To trim a clip in the Title and Chapter Thumbnail Area (Playlist Mode), use the navigation controls or drag the Jog Slider to where the clip will start and click  or press **[F3]**. Drag the Jog Slider again to move to the point where the clip will end then click  or press **[F4]**. Click  to add the trimmed video to your playlist.

### Rearranging playitems in a playlist

To rearrange playitems, drag and position playitems in the Playlist Area according to the order you want.

### Setting a name for a playlist

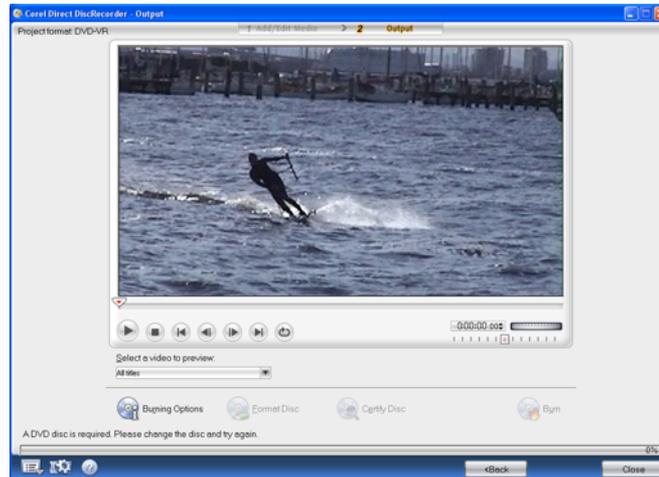
You can assign names to playlists in order to easily identify them.

#### To set a playlist name:

1. On the **Playlist Mode**, select a playlist from the Playlist Thumbnail Area.
2. Click **Set playlist name**  .
3. Enter the name and then click **OK**.

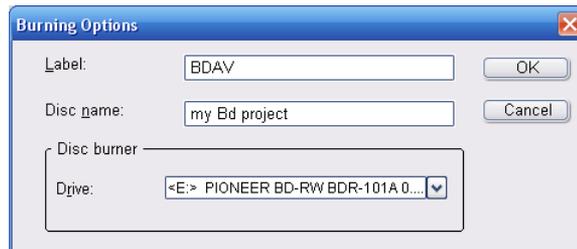
## Burning your disc

After creating the contents of your project, click **Next** to move to the **Preview and Finish** page. You are now ready to burn it onto a disc.



### To burn your disc:

1. Use navigation controls to preview your movie.
2. Click **Burning Options** and specify the following settings:
  - **Label** The disc label name as seen in Windows Explorer.
  - **Disc name** The disc name as seen in DVD or Blu-ray recorder.
  - **Disc burner** The burning device that contains the disc.



3. Click **Burn** to begin the burning process.

## Formatting a disc

You can also choose to format your disc first before burning. Direct DiscRecorder formats your DVD-VR disc using UDF 2.0 (Universal Disc Format) or UDF 2.5/UDF 2.6 file system for BDAV disc.

In the Start page of Direct DiscRecorder, select **Edit Disc**. Click  and select whether you want to format your disc to **DVD-VR** or **AVCREC**, then click **OK** to start.

Direct DiscRecorder automatically chooses the file system appropriate when formatting the disc inserted in your burner.

### Notes:

- BD-R discs can be appended if burner supports UDF 2.6 file system.
- Format Disc is also available on the Straight to Disc page.

## Protecting a disc

To ensure that all the existing DVD-VR or BDAV content on a disc cannot be changed or removed, you can click **Protect Disc** under **Edit Disc** option of **Create/Edit Disc** to toggle between protected and unprotected modes. When a disc is protected, only playback is allowed.

## Certifying a disc

For a UDF 2.0 formatted DVD-RW disc, you can apply disc certification to scan the disc and check if there is any problem. The certification process marks bad sectors to improve future writing reliability. On DVD-RW burners that support DRT-DM (Distributed Real-Time Defect Management), the certification process also moves the data in the recoverable defected sectors (DRT-DM Level-1 and Level-2 defects, if any) to healthy sectors to further improve data reliability.

**Note:** Certifying a disc is only supported when editing DVD-RW discs.

## Capturing video straight to disc

Direct DiscRecorder provides a fast way to capture videos and then burn them directly onto a disc in the DVD-VR or BDAV file format. When this task is selected, Direct DiscRecorder will initially check both your burner and disc to ensure that there are no problems with your output device and media.

### To capture video directly onto a disc:

1. Make sure your video source is switched on and properly connected to your computer.
2. Insert a disc into the burner. Then click **Straight to Disc** and click **Next**.
3. Select the device to capture from **Source**.
4. Select a capture mode (for example, select fixed duration, marked duration, or full DV tape if capturing from DV camcorder). Click **Show/Hide Options Panel**  to view additional settings as needed.
5. Select the capture format.
6. Click **Burning Options** to set the volume name and disc burner to use.
7. Locate the starting point of your video to capture, and click **Start capture**. Click **Pause capture** to pause the capturing process. Click **Stop capture** to end the capturing process.

## Setting Preferences

The **Preferences** dialog box lets you determine most of the program settings. To open the **Preferences** dialog box, click **Settings and Options** and select **Preferences** or press **[F6]**.

### General

- **Resume all confirmation dialog boxes** Overrides the “Do not show again” option and makes all confirmation dialog boxes appear.
- **Check Corel Web site every XX days** Specifies how frequently the program checks the Corel Web site for news and updates.
- **TV system** Specifies your analog TV System (NTSC or PAL/ SECAM).
- **DTV standard** Specifies the standard format of your Digital TV (ISDB or ATSC) when working with BDAV projects.
- **Working folder** Enter or locate a folder for temporary files.
- **Still image playback time** Specifies the photo duration when creating a slideshow.
- **Audio playback mode** Determines how the audio streams of the video are played.
- **Audio export mode** Determines how the audio streams of the video are exported.
- **Enable DRT-DM during playback** Allows support for DRT-DM (Distributed Real Time Defect Management) for DVD-RW discs, which marks bad sectors in order to prevent them from being written on and improves future writing reliability. This option is available depending on the Direct DiscRecorder version you purchase, and is enabled only when a DVD burner supports DRT-DM.

### Capture

- **Click OK to start DV capture** Launches a confirmation message before performing the actual capturing process.
- **Stop tape once capturing stops** Automatically stops the connected capture device in your computer once the program stops capturing.
- **Captured image format** Select either JPEG or Bitmap format for the still image that you captured.
- **Image quality** Specifies the quality of the captured JPEG image.

# Glossary

Commonly used terminologies are listed below to help you better understand the DVD-VR, AVCREC, and BDAV technologies and make the most of Direct DiscRecorder.

## **AVCREC**

AVCREC enables recording of high definition video on DVD recordable discs. AVCREC compresses HD images using MPEG4 AVC recording and playback standard.

## **BDAV**

BDAV (Blu-ray Disc Audio Visual) is the next generation video format, making the future of High Definition videos a reality. It was created by the Blu-ray Disc Association (BDA) to bring HD technology and higher storage capacity to video editing.

## **Blu-ray Disc**

A format that allows recording, rewriting and playback of high-definition video (HD). A single-layer Blu-ray Disc can hold 25GB and can record over 2 hours of high definition videos or more than 13 hours of standard-definition videos. There are also dual-layer versions that can hold 50GB.

## **DVD-VR**

Direct DiscRecorder allows you to create DVDs in DVD-VR format. DVD-VR (DVD Video Recording) is a recording format in video production that allows on-disc editing such as adding programs or adding chapter points. You can use this format on DVD-RAM and DVD-RW discs.

## **Playitems**

A title, chapter or trimmed video clip that is added to a playlist.

## **Playlist**

A pre-defined sequence of video playback. The sequence consists of one or more titles or chapter points. Though playlists are not a must on a DVD-VR or BDAV disc, creating playlists is strongly recommended if you want to watch specific scenes immediately or watch videos in the order you want.

## **Title**

A video clip captured from a video source or imported from a DVD disc. A title can also be an existing video file.

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