

Different Files... Different Players

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/WinXP/microsoft.public.windowsxp.moviemaker/2006-02/msg00089.html>

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 - *Date:* Mon, 6 Feb 2006 17:33:24 -0500
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I've been working on a custom sized video inset for the main page of my website... replacing a thick horizontal black line with a custom video sized at 800x24 pixels...

I started down the path of making it a movie... but then thought a story would be smaller and open quicker... my rule of thumb being that story files are only 10% the size of movies. This exercise is giving me some things to think about, and I'd appreciate any of your comments....

Here are 4 files... a Photo Story 3 file that is the smallest file size I can make it without taking too much of a quality hit, and then 3 movies made in MM2 from a high quality story (580K file size for a 7 second story). All are made by using custom profiles to make a video file of 800x24 pixel dimensions.

<http://www.papajohn.org/Newsletters/90-PhotoStory3.wmv> - 202KB

<http://www.papajohn.org/Newsletters/90-MM2-V7.wmv> - 76 KB

<http://www.papajohn.org/Newsletters/90-MM2-V8.wmv> - 73 KB

<http://www.papajohn.org/Newsletters/90-MM2-V9-PoorQuality.wmv> - 51 KB

Here are the tradeoffs I'm seeing when viewing the website page on my computers...

The PS3 file looks good on all of my systems, but won't be visible on Macs and Firefox browsers... and the file size is 3 to 4 times larger than the movies....

The WMV V7 and V8 movie files look good on my Windows 98 and XP computers, but don't play on my Vista system. On Vista they download and sit there as a big black bar.

The WMV V9 movie file plays on all of my systems, including Vista.... but the quality took such a nosedive that it's not suitable for use.

At the moment, the website page is using the WMV-V8 movie file... I'm taking the hit with Vista and hoping it'll work on other systems.

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About viewing these files in players.... the PS3 story shows correctly proportioned in WMP10 and in Vista's WMP11.... the movies play distorted to standard 4:3 aspect ratio in WMP10 in XP, and look fine in WMP11 in Vista.

I'd appreciate any and all feedback about....

- does the embedded WMV8 movie file on the main page of my website... <http://www.papajohn.org> ... play in your browser? what system and browser are they?
- do the story and movie files play in your players?
- do they play with the right aspect ratio, or are they mis-shaped to suit?

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PapaJohn

Movie Maker 2 and Photo Story 3 website – <http://www.papajohn.org>
MM2 Tips and Tricks: <http://www.simplydv.co.uk/simplyBB/viewtopic.php?t=4693>
Online Newsletters: <http://www.windowsmoviemakers.net/PapaJohn/Index.aspx>

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