

Re: Playing movies from a server.

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- *From:* "Pete Delgado" <Peter.Delgado@xxxxxxxx>
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"Frank Rizzo" <none@xxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:eWV9Sxx4GHA.1244@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

My kids have about 200 DVDs and they always get scratched (because they are used a lot and the kids don't tend to be careful with them). This results in me having to make copies of these DVDs, so that the kids can watch them again.

I am looking to rip all these DVDs to a gigantic hard drive (or a RAID array) and have some device play these movies either wirelessly or with a network wire. I thought that D-Link DSM-520 Media Player was that device, but so far its USB port does not recognize my portable hard drive (it only recognizes flash drives). I am in the process of seeing whether it can play ripped DVDs over the network.

If the DLink device doesn't work in the way that I want, I was wondering whether the Media Center can be the device that I want. Can it play ripped DVDs over the network? Or from attached hard drive? And also, does it have a way of aggregating the movies on a certain drive and displaying them as a menu to pick?

Media Center can do what you want. I am doing **exactly** what you want to do for the **exact** same reason. My three (soon to be 4) kids, ages 6-9 aren't very careful with DVDs. Since they are so expensive (especially Disney DVDs) I make a backup on my server in my office and share the media out to all of my MCE machines. The kids can then just pick to play a DVD from the selections. The original movies are safe in bookshelves in our home theater/entertainment room.

The only problem that I have now is getting all three kids to pick the **same** movie!

PS: I am using Windows Server 2003 and a domain within my home so that I can also control access to the computers. No more sneaking a movie when they are supposed to be doing homework!

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-Pete

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