How to Upload a Video
to YouTube

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You have been asked to create a video for a course project and upload it to YouTube.

There are three ways that you can do this:

1. **Use a webcam** attached to your computer. You can record video and then upload your video to YouTube via the YouTube web site.

2. **Use a smartphone** (such as an Android or iPhone device) to record your video. Depending on your device, you may be able to directly upload your video to YouTube from your phone.

3. **Use a camcorder or other type of video camera.** You can record and transfer the video file to your computer. As with the webcam recording, you would then upload your video to YouTube via the YouTube website.

Whichever option you choose, review the documentation that came with your device for recording and transferring video. The information in this manual will supplement the directions that came with your device.

**Where to find the topics you need in this manual**

This manual will discuss the following topics:

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1 Supported video formats

You will want to save your video in a format that YouTube supports. Here are some well-known formats supported by YouTube:

- WebM files
- .MPEG4, 3GPP and MOV files
- .AVI
- .MPEGPS
- .WMV
- .FLV

You can find more information about supported formats at:

http://www.google.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?answer=55744

By default, there is a 15 minute limit on videos that can be uploaded to YouTube. However, you can increase your limit by clicking the Increase your limit link on the YouTube upload page (see image below). You will need to provide a mobile phone number for verification purposes.

Accessing the YouTube upload page is covered in chapter 4 below.

In most cases, you will not want to prepare your videos for the web by compressing them. YouTube will do this for you during the upload process.
2 Using a Webcam

You can use a webcam to record and publish videos to YouTube. The YouTube folks have made this a very easy process.

First, you will need to create a YouTube account online (if you have not done so already). In your web browser, navigate to the YouTube homepage at:

http://www.youtube.com

Create an account by clicking the Create Account button (see image below).

If you have already created a YouTube account, click the Sign In button (see image below). This will open the Sign in to YouTube page.
The *Sign in to YouTube* page is pictured below. On this page, (1) enter your email address (the one you registered with YouTube when you created your account) and (2) your password. Finally, click the *Sign in* button to access your account.

![Sign in to YouTube](image)

Your account page will look like the page pictured below. Click the *Upload* option in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

![Your account page](image)

This will open the *Upload* page (pictured below). Click the *Record from webcam* option when you are ready to begin recording.

![Upload page](image)
This will open a video window that auto-detects your webcam. Notice in the image below that you will need to click the Allow button to permit the video window to access your webcam and your microphone.

Notice that the video window contains two drop-down menus. These menus allow you to choose the camera and microphone attached (or built into) your system.
When you are ready to record, click the *Ready to Record* option in the center of the video window.

The video window will proceed to connect. Once connection is made, record your video.

When you have finished recording, *preview* your video (see image below). If the video is not satisfactory, you can choose to *re-record* it. Otherwise, click the *publish* option.
After the video uploads, you will be redirected to a form page (see image below). Notice the following:

1. YouTube supplies a title and description. Most likely you will want to modify these.
2. YouTube provides tags, which you can modify. Tags make it easier for viewers to search for and find your video.
3. A drop-down list allows you to select a category for your video.
4. The video thumbnail is the still image that appears when your video is displayed in a list of selectable videos on the YouTube page. You can choose a thumbnail or let YouTube use the default.
Scroll down the page to *Privacy* section (see image below). There are three options to choose from:

1. The *Public* option allows anyone to search for and view your video.
2. The *Unlisted* option will not list the video for searching. However, you can provide your friends and co-workers the link to the video.
3. The *Private* option allows you to choose who can view the video. IMPORTANT: You can only choose persons that have an existing YouTube account.

You can choose among the remaining options on the page or let YouTube use the default options.

Scroll back to the top of the page and click the *Save Changes* button:

Now navigate to the Uploads page by clicking the *My Videos* link. It is located in the area under the *Save Changes* button (see image below).
On the Uploads page, click the link to your video after the video is finished processing.

On the video display page, click the *Share* button (located under the video window – see image below). This will display the URL (web link) for your video. Copy and share this link with others so that they can navigate to your video on YouTube.
3 Using a Smartphone

Holding the smartphone while shooting
When using some smartphones (such as the Apple iPhone), how you hold the phone may affect the orientation of the video. For example, holding an iPhone horizontally results in a wide-shot:

Holding the iPhone vertically, results in a narrow, vertical orientation:

In most cases, the wide-shot orientation is the favorable one.
**Uploading from Mobile Devices**
Many mobile devices allow you to shoot and upload videos to YouTube.

Before you upload your video, you will need to create a YouTube account online (if you have not done so already). In your web browser, navigate to the YouTube homepage at:

http://www.youtube.com

Create an account by clicking the *Create Account* button (see image below).

Every smartphone is different, so we suggest that you follow the links below and read the directions for your particular device:

- If you have an **Android device**, see instructions here:
  
  http://www.google.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?hl=en&answer=168606

- The YouTube help site has instructions for **other mobile devices** here:
  
  http://www.google.com/support/youtube/bin/topic.py?topic=16553

- **iPhone users** can find directions on p. 123 of the *iPhone User Guide (For iOS 4.2 and 4.3 Software)* here:
  

To give you a general idea of how this works, here are the directions for doing this with an iPhone 4. Once you have shot your video, click the video’s Send icon (see image below).
Choose the *Send to YouTube* option.
If this is the first time you are using this feature, a screen will open asking you to log into your YouTube account. Once you have logged into your account, the Publish Video screen will appear.

Provide a title and a description of your video.
Choose either the *Standard Definition* or the *HD (High Definition)* option. Notice in the image below that the *HD* option generates a much larger file. The *HD* option will result in a better resolution but may not stream well on all bandwidths. There may be a lot of stuttering (pausing while the video buffers). The *standard definition* option will result in lower resolution but should stream well on most high-speed bandwidths. In the image below, the *standard definition* has been chosen.

Next, add one or more tags. Tags make it easier for web surfers to find your video if they do not have a direct link. In the image below, the word *Zoo* has been chosen as a tag.

![Publish Video interface](image)

Now choose a category. Clicking the *Category* area will open a spin wheel with several category options. In the image below, the category *Pets & Animals* was chosen.
Finally, choose how you would like your video published. There are three options to choose from:

4. The *Public* option allows anyone to search for and view your video.
5. The *Unlisted* option will not list the video for searching. However, you can provide your friends and co-workers the link to the video.
6. The *Private* option allows you to choose who can view the video. IMPORTANT: You can only choose persons that have an existing YouTube account.
Your video will be prepared for streaming and then published to YouTube.

A quick way to obtain the link to the video is to choose the *Tell a Friend* option. This option appears after the video is uploaded.
This gives you the opportunity to email the link to yourself and to your friends.
4 Uploading Video Files from a Computer

This is the best option if you create your video with a camcorder or other device that requires saving the video file to your computer. Once you have saved the video to your computer, the process for uploading the video via the YouTube website is straightforward.

First, you will need to create a YouTube account online (if you have not done so already). In your web browser, navigate to the YouTube homepage at:

http://www.youtube.com

Create an account by clicking the Create Account button (see image below).

If you have already created a YouTube account, click the Sign In button (see image below). This will open the Sign in to YouTube page.
The *Sign in to YouTube* page is pictured below. On this page, (1) enter your email address (the one you registered with YouTube when you created your account) and (2) your password. Finally, click the *Sign in* button to access your account.

Your account page will look like the page pictured below. Click the *Upload* option in the upper right-hand corner of the page.

This will open the *Upload* page (pictured below). This page provides two ways to upload individual video files: (1) You can drag a video file onto the YouTube web page to begin the upload process or (2) you can click the *Select files from your computer* button to find and choose a particular file.
YouTube supports a wide variety of video formats. For more information, see chapter 1 of this manual. You can find more information about supported formats at:

http://www.google.com/support/youtube/bin/answer.py?answer=55744

Notice that you can increase your 15 minute video limit by clicking the *Increase your limit* link (see image below). You will need to provide a mobile phone number for verification purposes.

YouTube will upload and begin processing the video. This may take several minutes.
You can provide information about your video while the video processes. For example, you can provide a title, description, and tags (tags help users find your video via searches). Notice in the image below that there are three *privacy* options:

1. The *Public* option allows anyone to search for and view your video.
2. The *Unlisted* option will not list the video for searching. However, you can provide your friends and co-workers the link to the video.
3. The *Private* option allows you to choose who can view the video. IMPORTANT: You can only choose persons that have an existing YouTube account.

You can choose a category for your video from a drop-down list (see image below). The information that you select/enter on this page is automatically saved by YouTube.
Notice that the link to your video is displayed in the blue bar:

You can share this link in emails or online.