

How to Put YouTube Videos into PowerPoint

By Steve Mack

There are some really cool videos out there on YouTube and you may want to use some of them in your presentations. But how? Here are the steps to take a video from the popular web site (or almost any other web video) and incorporate it into PowerPoint.

For the highest resolution video clip (i.e., best quality) contact the person who posted of the video and ask them directly for a copy on DVD or in AVI or MPEG format. Click on the poster's name to send them a message (located just to the right of the YouTube video screen – see Screen Shot #1).

If you are in a time crunch or can't get the video from the poster, just follow the steps below. The downside of this process is that the resulting video will be slightly lower resolution than the original YouTube video. The video will look ok if watched in a small window but distorted when watched on a big overhead projector screen.



Screen Shot #1

The steps to download and convert YouTube files for PPT use are pretty basic. You will need to:

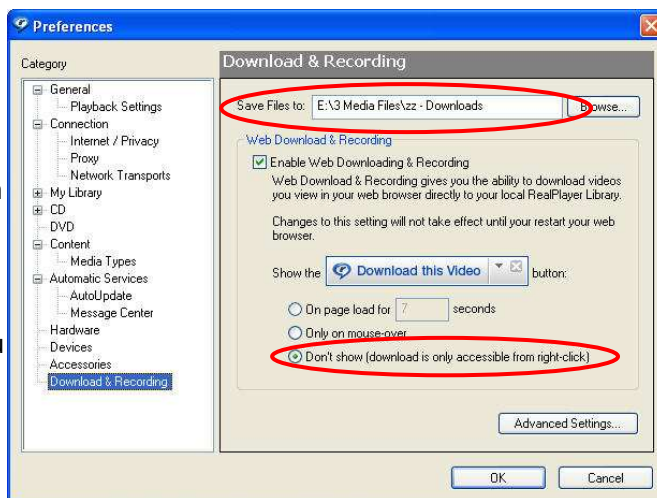
- 1 - Download two software programs (RealPlayer and SUPER)
- 2 - Download the YouTube video (it downloads as a Flash file)
- 3 - Convert the YouTube Flash file to MPEG (to play in PPT)

That's it. Then you have the video file to insert into PPT. Now let's walk through these steps in detail. I've included lots of Screen Shots to make this easy.

Step 1 - Download Two Software Programs

1.A. - RealPlayer (www.realplayer.com)

After you've downloaded RealPlayer, set up the program for right click download. From the main menu go to Tools / Preferences, then go to the "Downloading & Recording" section see Screen Shot #2). Pick the option for "Don't show (download is only accessible from right-click)". Also pick a location on your computer where you want the files saved, as you will need to reference these files later.



Screen Shot #2

1.B. – The second software program is called “SUPER” (www.erightsoft.com/SUPER.html). It will convert the Flash Video files from YouTube to an MPEG video file type that PPT will play.

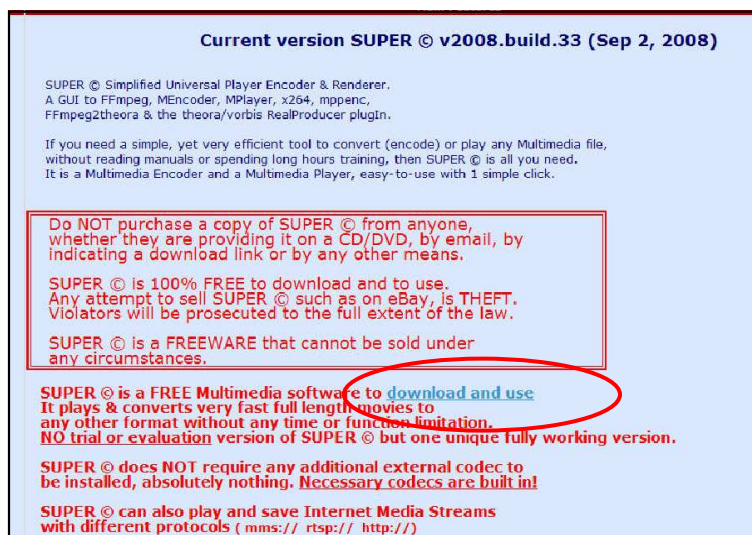
1.B.1. – Go to www.erightsoft.com/SUPER.html and scroll all the way to the bottom of the page to get to the download page, and click on “Start Downloading SUPER” (see Screen Shot #3).



Screen Shot #3

1.B.2. - Then click on “download and use” (see Screen Shot #4).

1.B.3. – Scroll all the way to the bottom of the page the click on “Download SUPER setup file” (see Screen Shot #5).



Screen Shot #4



Screen Shot #5

Step 2 - Download the YouTube Video

Once you have both software programs installed you are ready to download a video from YouTube. Find one that you want to use then right click on the video and choose "Download This Video to RealPlayer" (see Screen Shot #6).



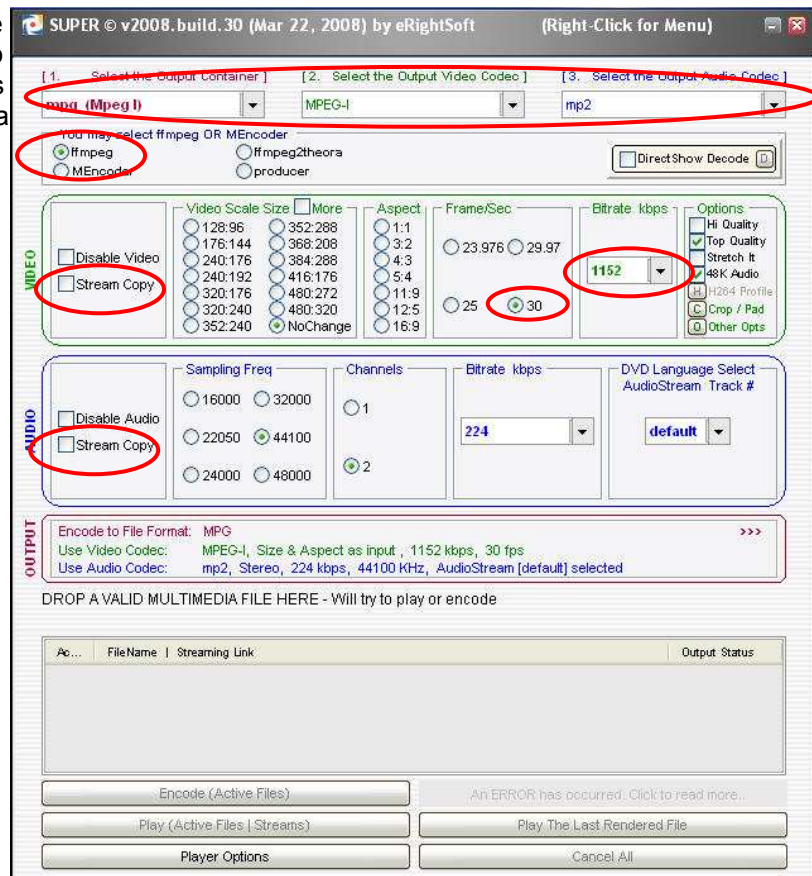
Screen Shot #6

Step 3 - Convert the YouTube Flash File to MPEG

It is necessary to convert the flash file to MPEG, using SUPER, so the video can play in PPT. From your Windows Main Menu click on SUPER (it takes a minute or two to load).

Next set up the correct settings in SUPER. This software program may not look user friendly, but it works very well. Here are the settings that I use (I've circled each of them in the Screen Shot #7):

- Choose "Mpeg 1", "MPEG-1", and "mp2" on the top row of drop down boxes
- Click on "ffmpeg"
- Make sure "Stream Copy" is unchecked in both the "Video" and "Audio" sections
- Set the Frames/Sec to "30"
- Set the Bitrate to "1152"



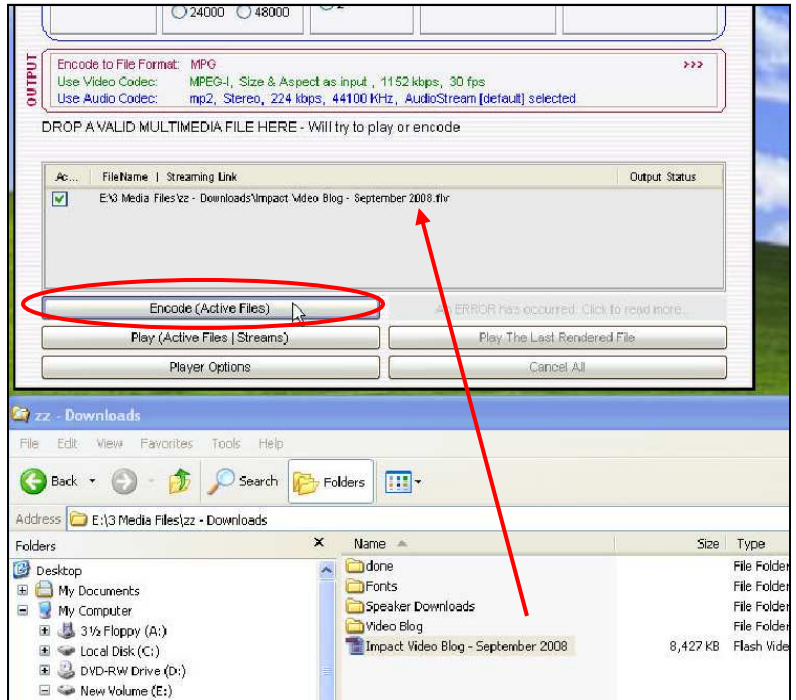
Screen Shot #7

Next drag and drop the video flash file into SUPER box. Then click on "Encode Active Files" (Screen Shot #8).

The program will next take a couple minutes to run.

You can tell the program is working by following the "Output" status (Screen Shot #9).

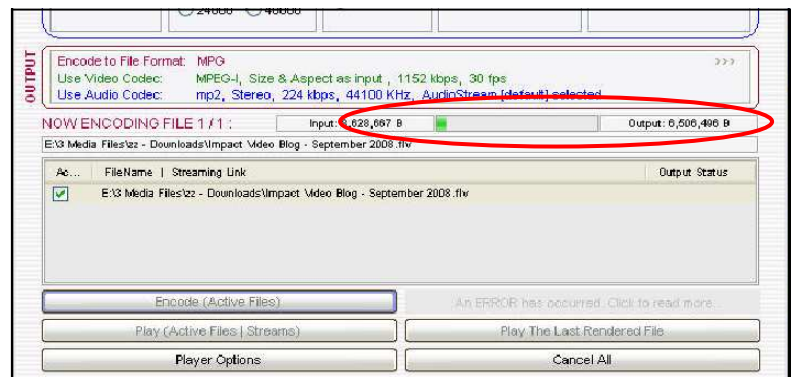
Once completed the program doesn't do a great job telling you that it is done. Check the directory where the original flash file was located and the resulting output MPEG file have the same name as the original Flash file.



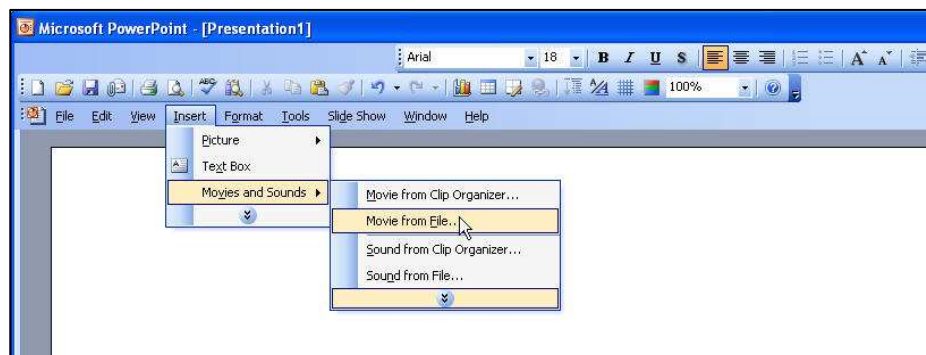
Screen Shot #8

Step 4 - Insert the MPEG Video into PPT

You are now ready to roll. From the main menu in PPT choose Insert / Movies and Sounds / Movie From File (Screen Shot #10).

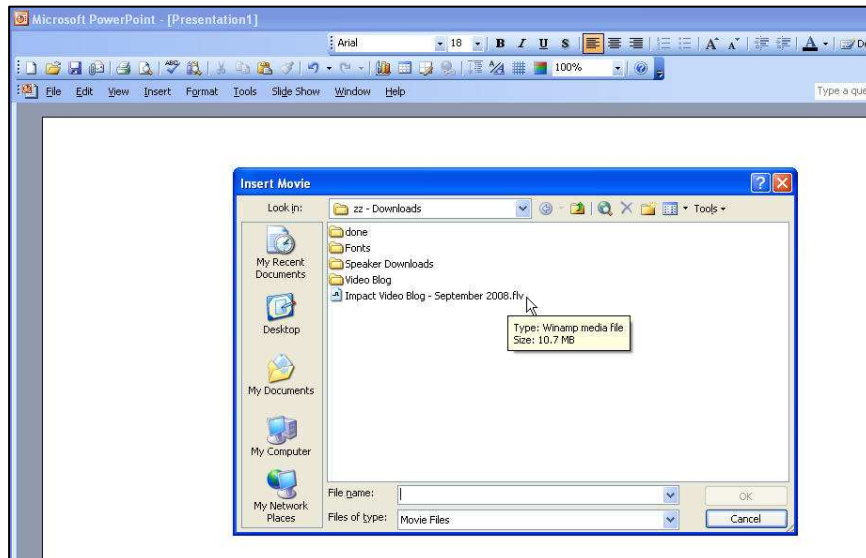


Screen Shot #9



Screen Shot #10

Then choose the new MPEG file (Screen Shot #11).



Screen Shot #11

And that's it!

I do want to make one final note that occasionally I have come across YouTube videos that will not convert to MPEG files, due to the condensed Flash version of the file that was uploaded to YouTube by the user. I have yet to find a solution to easily convert those problem files, but luckily these problem flash files are rare.

Good luck and enjoy the new power you have to captivate audiences with your PowerPoint presentations.

About the author:

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