

Windows Movie Maker

Step 1 - Open "Windows Movie Maker."

Step 2- Click "Add videos and photos" tab (upper left-hand corner)

Step 3-Select photos from picture files on your computer.

Step 4- Click the "Edit" tab. There is a drop-down menu on the "Duration" tab. Choose the length (in seconds) that you want the photo to appear in your video. 10 to 12.5 is a good length. Also, you can make subjects appear to move if you take several frames per second of the same shot and only put each picture up for one second each. When using this technique, don't pan, zoom or use the transitions option for these quick shots.

Step 5- Click "Home." Click "Add Music." Select music from a music file on your computer. Instrumental music is great, but this is totally your preference. Choose a song that goes with the theme of your video.

Step 6- Click "Title." Name your movie. Select an animation for the title frame. Hover over each choice with your cursor to see what each one does. Click to select one.

Step 7- Click the very end of your photos in the movie feed. This will move the pointer to show where you are in your movie. Click the "Credits" tab. It will automatically populate the soundtracks you have added. Manually add any other closing credits you wish.

Step 8- Click each individual picture. While the picture is highlighted, click the "Animations" tab. There is a drop-down menu called "Transitions." Hover your mouse over each choice to determine which (if any) you wish to use. You can change your mind. Just select a

different option. Also select an option from the **"Pan and Zoom"** menu. Pan and zoom to the focal point of your picture. The motion adds interest. Repeat this step for each photo.

Step 9- Preview your movie. You can click and drag the photos around if you want to change the order the photos are in. Tell a story with your pictures.

Step 10- When you are satisfied with your masterpiece, click the **"File"** button on the upper left-hand corner. Then click the **"Save Project As"** tab. The title of your movie should show up. Save it. Also click the **"Save Movie"** tab in the **"File"** menu. It will give you some choices of the file format you want to save the file in. I use the **"Windows Media Video File."** This takes several minutes to save.

Step 11- Open your **"Windows Media Player."** Burn the video to a DVD using this program.

Have fun playing with the photos and the different animations. You can make the videos as long or short as you like. You can add and/or remove photos and music at any time during your project. There are many more features to the program, but these are the basic ones to get you started.