Subject: Re: AVIs for the Mac
Posted by Rick Towler on Wed, 19 Nov 2008 01:14:06 GMT
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Dan Larson wrote:
> On Nov 18, 9:40 am, "M. Katz" <MKatz...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>> If you post a link to one of your AVI files, then you could ask Mac
>> users to try to view it. Not everyone will have the same codecs
>> installed, and some of us could try an 'out of the box' Mac
>> installation.
>> -M
>
> Thanks Rick, I will try those suggestions. Since you don't mention
> uncompressed AVIs, except for use in Quicktime Pro, I assume the
> Quicktime freeware doesn't like them? i.e. is it always safer to use
> some kind of codec?

Well, I believe that Quicktime can play uncompressed AVI files but I
don't think most people would appreciate downloading the extremely large
files you'll generate. The reason you would generate uncompressed .avi
files is that you don't want to lose image quality when re-encoding the
video in QuickTime (or whatever program you ultimately use).

Your original file was 180 MB. Compressed in Windows Media Encoder
(free) as a 5Mbps "Hi-def" video you end up with a file that is 84 KB.
KILOBYTES! 0.04% of the original videos size. And it looks great. I
also ran it thru the Indeo Video 4.5 and 5 encoders. The output file
was ~280 KB. 0.15% of the original. Still not bad but I couldn't avoid
some ghosting around the red box in the video so it may not be the best
choice. Neither of these codecs are playable in Quicktime but you get
an idea of how much you can compress your animation. I also noticed
that I didn't have Indeo 4.4 on my machine so it may not be available
anymore.

My guess would be that with Quicktime Pro you could get results similar
to the .wmv. If you have $30 to spend I would do that as it is by far
the simplest way. If not, there are opensauce programs that you can
cobble together to encode your uncompressed AVI (check out ffmpeg).

> And, just for kicks, I posted the movie (uncompressed AVI) on an FTP
> site if any mac users want to give it a go :-)

Case in point, it took ~10 minutes to download.

-Rick