

Flip Mino Tutorial:

The Flip Mino camera is a nice, point-and-shoot video camera. One thing that sets it apart is the pre-loaded software which enables management, editing, and sharing of the videos that are shot. The camera connects to the computer via USB. Although it does not come with a USB extension cable, we have provided one for convenience.

There are a few things to note about how the Flip Mino manages and accesses its files, and an additional note on sharing videos.

1. When using the Flip Software, the area on the left hand side is called *Your Library* and is the file management and navigation system. The item *Camcorder Videos*



Videos contains the videos currently saved *on the camera*. Further down, in the same window, is a place for albums. If you have not created any albums to store videos in yet, this area will be blank. The first time that you try to save a video, it will ask which album you would like to save it in, and this will be your opportunity to create a new album. These albums are created as folders on your computer in your *My Flip Video Library* folder, which I will talk about later. Any videos saved to an album with the Flip Software can be accessed and edited even though the file has been removed from the camera itself.

2. The Flip Camera is essentially a camera attached to a flash drive, meaning other files and programs can be stored to the camera's hard drive. Some people have installed portable versions of OpenOffice (for productivity), Audacity (for audio editing), and other portable applications that may be needed at a computer other than their normal working computer. These other programs and files may not be accessed from the camera itself, but are accessible from the computer the Flip Camera is connected to.
3. The videos that have been shot can be accessed without the use of the FLIP software. There is a folder on the camera's hard drive named DCIM, and inside this folder is another folder named 100Video. This is where the raw video files are located. You *can* manually move files from your camera to wherever you would like to save them on your computer. However, Flip recommends that you do not try to move files manually from the camera directly into the My Flip Video Library Albums, because it can cause the software to get confused (because it didn't move those files there) and data loss may occur. They recommend that if you are going to manually move files from the camera, that you organize them

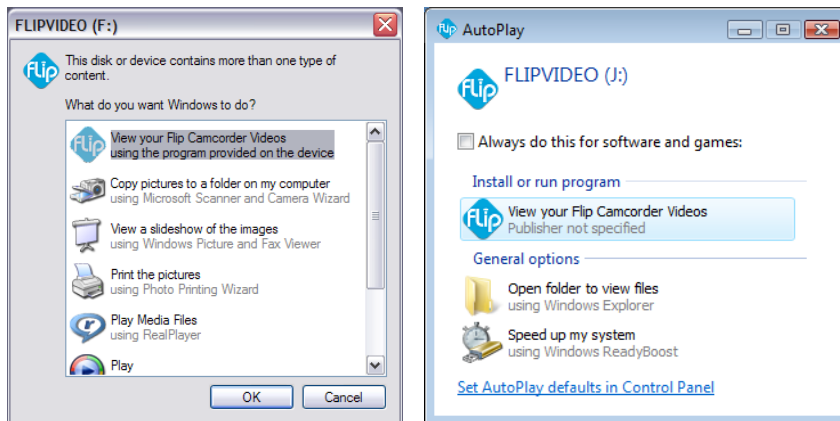
and manage them on your own, separate from the Flip software and Folder/Album system. I would actually suggest *copying* the files, that way the original files are still intact on the camera.

4. Do not try to share the AVI files that the camera creates, without having the Flip Software convert it to an alternate format. The AVI file uses a special codec that other computers do not have, and they will not be able to watch the video. Follow the process for *Save for Email* to get a compatible video to share with others.

Installing the Flip Software:

Windows:

1. Plug the camera into the computer.
2. Depending on how the computer is configured, there are a couple of ways the installation may proceed.
 - a. It may try to open the FLIPVIDEO drive immediately, and you will see a window like this



You can click on *View your Flip Camcorder Videos using the program provided on this device* (Win XP) and choose OK, or click on *View your Flip Camcorder Videos* (Vista).

- b. If there are no prompts, you can open *My Computer* (Win XP) or *Computer* (Vista) and you should see a drive or removable storage named FLIPVIDEO. Double-click on FLIPVIDEO. When it opens the drive, double-click on *Flip Video for PC*.
3. Agree to the Software Agreement. Now it will install the Muvee software and the 3ivx Video Compatibility software. After it has completed this step, it should try to read the videos on your camcorder, and the software setup is complete.

Mac:

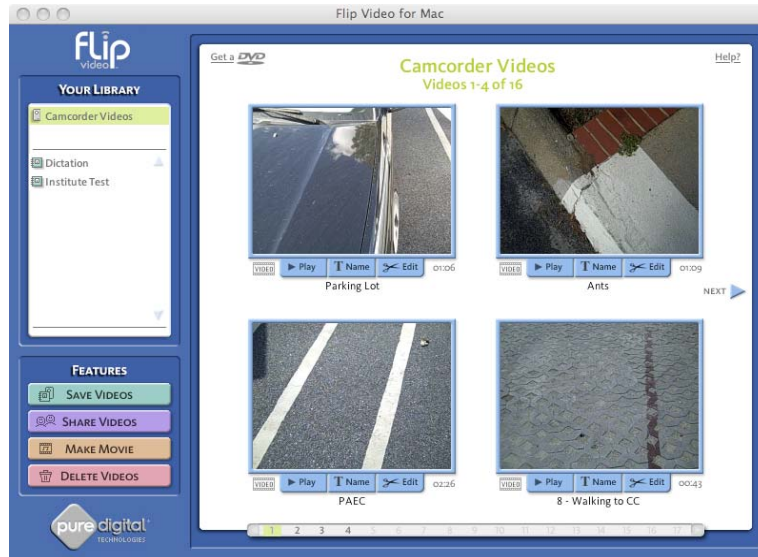
1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Double-click on FLIPVIDEO on the desktop
3. Double-click on *Flip Video for Mac*.
4. Agree to the Software Agreement. It should ask you to close the current Flip Video for Mac window, and run the 3ivx installer that it has opened for you.



- Click close, and run the installer, following the default prompts.
5. Now the software setup is complete.

Opening the Flip Software

1. Plug in the Camera
2. Open the Flip Software.
 - a. **(Windows)** Open *My Computer* (Win XP) or *Computer* (Vista), and double-click on FLIPVIDEO. Now, double-click on *Flip Video for PC*.
 - b. **(Mac)** Open the FLIPVIDEO icon on your desktop. Now, double-click on *Flip Video for Mac*. If you have your computer configured to hide the available drives on your desktop, click the Finder icon in the dock, and it should launch a window, and you will see the available drives in the pane to your left. Click on FLIPVIDEO, and then double-click on the Flip Video for Mac application.
3. After it has loaded the initial splash screen and read the videos from the camera, you should see a screen that looks similar to this.



Saving Video - If you would like to save a video to your computer (or a video from an album on your computer to the camera) without doing any editing:

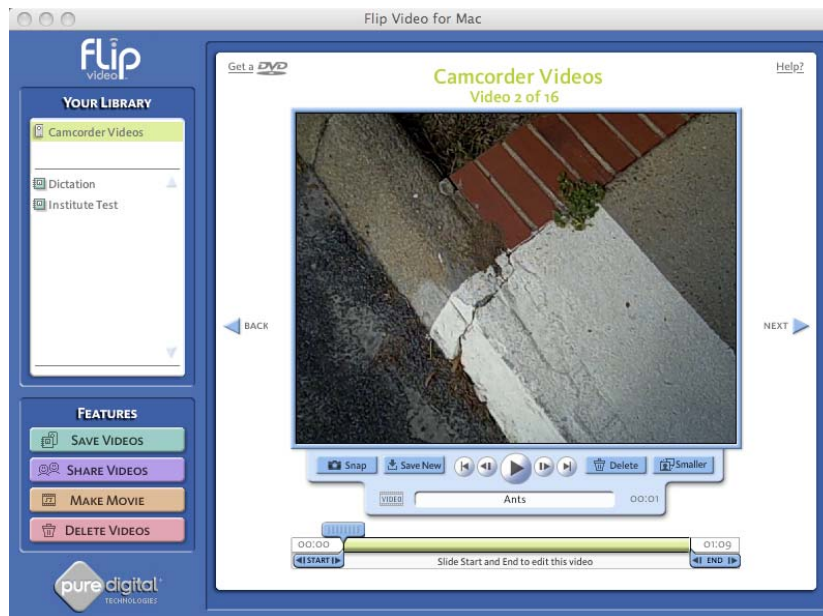
1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Open the Flip Software.
3. Click the Save Video button.
4. You can now choose what you would like to do: Save to Computer, Save to Camcorder, or Save for Email.
 - a. Save to Computer will save the AVI files from the camera to your computer.
 - b. Save to Camcorder will allow you to save files from the computer to your camera. Choose an album from your library to see the files that can be saved to the camera.
 - c. Save for Email will convert the file into a more compact file size and format. For Windows computers, this is a WMV file, and for Mac computers, it is a Quicktime video (MOV file). It is then stored in a folder on your desktop called *Flip Videos for Emailing*. A folder is created for the date, and inside each dated folder is the video.

Editing Video:

Note: If you are planning on making a movie/movie mix with videos you edited, keep this in mind. When a video is edited, and stored in an album, it is organized in the order that it was saved. If you try to create a movie mix, and the files in the album are out of sequence, then your video will be mixed out of sequence. I suggest editing and saving the video in the order that you would like it to appear.



1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Open the Flip Software.

3. You should see a group of thumbnails in the window to the right. These thumbnails represent the videos on the camera (or in a particular album if an album is highlighted). On each thumbnail there is a tabbed button that says Edit. Click on Edit.
4. The video should expand and take up the majority of the window. All your editing will be done with the sliders at the bottom of the screen.



Simply drag the Start slider to the position where you would like the edited video to begin, and drag the End slider where you would like to finish the video, and then choose *Save New* to save the edited video. You still have your original if you would like to create another edited video using the same file.

Tips:

- a. For incremental movements forward or backward (either in the video player above or on the Start and End sliders below), there are triangles with a bar behind them –  or . If they are pushed, they will move the video forward or backward, depending on the direction, in very small increments. This allows for more precise editing.
- b. There is also a button labeled *Smaller*. This will bring you back to the default thumbnail view of your videos if pressed.

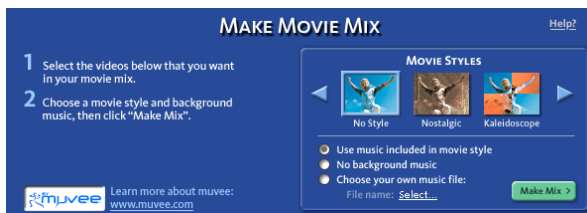
5. It will now ask you to choose an album to store the video in. If you have not already created an album on the computer, or you would like to create a new album to store it in, choose *Create an Album*. If you have created an album already, and would like to store the video in it, click on the album, and choose *Save*.

Your files will be stored in a folder called *My Flip Video Library* that is located in your *My Documents* folder (**Win XP**) or *Documents* folder (**Vista** and **Mac**). Inside the *My Flip Video Library* folder, you should see a list of your albums and a folder called *Movie Mixes*.

Saving a Snapshot still from a video:

1. Follow the instructions for editing a video, and get to the point where you have the editing tools in front of you. There is a *Snap* button.
2. Click the *Snap* button and you should receive a dialog box to save the still as a JPEG.
3. Save the file to your desired location.

Making a Movie Mix (Windows):



Note: Mac Users have a Make Movie button as well, but it only strings the selected movies together with no extra options like adding a music track or choosing one of the video templates. You also cannot save the file that it creates. To create a customized movie, you will need to use iMovie or a video editor of your choice. There are instructions for importing videos into iMovie a little later in the guide.

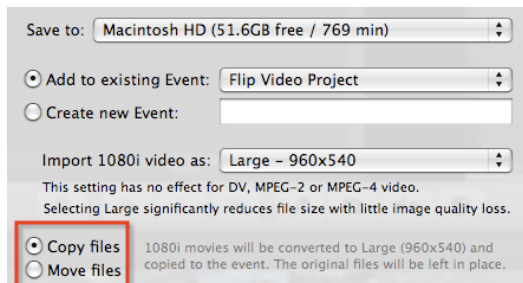
1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Open the Flip Software
3. Choose the Make Movie button.
4. Choose movies from either the *Camcorder Videos* or an album that you have created below. You do not have to hold CTRL (or the Apple Command key) to select multiple videos. Just click on the videos you want to include, and you should notice the blue box around the videos you selected. Note, these movies will be put together in sequential order as you see them on the screen, not in the order that you selected them.
5. Choose one of the six Movie Styles from the list above. You will initially only see three. Use the arrow buttons to cycle through the list.
6. Choose whether you would like to use the music included in the movie style, use no background music, or choose your own music file.
 - a. If you choose your own music file, you will have to navigate somewhere that you have music (or possibly a narration) stored on the computer.

Select that file and choose open.

7. Click the *Make Mix* button. It will now process your movie mix with whichever style you chose.
8. View the file, and if you like it, choose to save the file, and it will be saved to your *Movie Mixes* folder in the *My Flip Video Library* (as well as the *Movie Mixes* album in the Flip Software).

Importing Videos into iMovie '08:

1. Open iMovie.
2. Click *File* from the Menu Bar.
3. Choose *Import Movies*.
4. If you would like to Import Videos directly from the Camera:
 - a. Click on the drive labeled FLIPVIDEO from the pane on the left.
 - b. Inside the drive, there is a folder labeled DCIM. Click on it.
 - c. Inside the DCIM folder there is a folder labeled 100Video. This is where your files are stored.
 - d. Choose the files that you would like to work with, and choose *Import*.
(Note: To keep from losing your originals, make sure that the Copy Files option at the bottom of the Import Window is chosen, rather than Move Files.)



5. If you would like to pick files from a particular album:
 - a. Click on the *Documents* icon from the pane on the left.
 - b. Inside the *Documents* folder, there is a folder called *My Flip Video Library*. Click on it.
 - c. You should see your albums listed now. Click on the album that contains the videos that you want to work with.
 - d. Click the files that you would like to work with, and choose Import. (Note: To keep from losing your originals, I would make sure that the Copy Files option at the bottom of the Import Window is chosen, rather than Move Files.)

Sharing Videos:



1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Open the Flip Software.
3. Choose the Share Videos button.
4. You can choose videos directly from the camera (*Camcorder Videos* folder in your Library) or choose videos from albums in your library.
5. Now choose which sharing task you would like to perform: Private Email Sharing, Share Greeting, or Public Online Sharing
 - a. Private Email Sharing sends a private link to the recipient to view the video you chose.
 - b. Share Greeting adds your video to one of the card templates, creating a video greeting card, and sends the link to the recipient.
 - c. Public Online Sharing allows you to share the video with others multiple ways. You can upload the video to AOL Video, YouTube, or MySpace. The Upload to MySpace and Upload to Other Websites option will convert the file into a more compact file size and format. For Windows computers, this is a WMV file, and for Mac computers, it is a Quicktime video (MOV file).

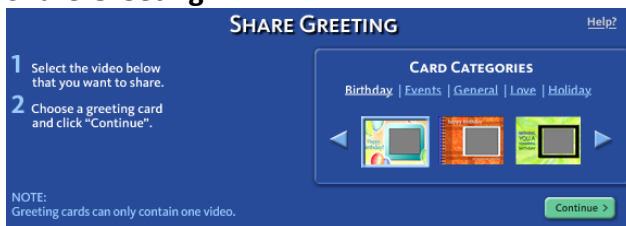
Private Email Sharing:



1. Plug in the Camera.
2. Open the Flip Software
3. Choose the Share Videos button.
4. Select the video (or multiple videos) you would like to send. You do not have to hold CTRL (or the Apple Command key) to select multiple videos. Just click on the videos you want to send, and you should notice the blue box around the videos you selected.
5. Choose Continue under the Private Email Sharing option.

6. Type in the email address of the recipient of the video that you are sending. For multiple email addresses, just hit Enter or Return to drop down a line, and add the next email address.
7. Fill in a Subject and add a personal message if you would like, then click Continue.
8. It will now ask for your Name and Email Address. Fill in the requested information, and click Send.
9. It will now convert the video, and send the video to the recipient(s).

Share Greeting:



1. Plug in the Camera
2. Open the Flip Software.
3. Choose the Share Videos button.
4. Select the video you would like to send. (Only a single video can be used with the Share Greeting feature.)
5. Choose Continue under the Share Greeting option.
6. Select a template from the Card Categories, and click Continue.
7. A preview of the greeting card will show down below.

Public Online Sharing:



1. Plug in the Camera
2. Open the Flip Software
3. Choose the Share Videos button.
4. Select the video (or multiple videos) you would like to send. You do not have to hold CTRL (or the Apple Command key) to select multiple videos. Just click on the videos you want to send, and you should notice the blue box around the

- videos you selected.
5. Choose Continue under the Public Online Sharing option.
 6. To upload to AOL video or YouTube, you must have an account, and it will ask you to log in, and whether you would like the video to be Public or Private.
 7. If you choose Upload to MySpace, the software will convert the file(s) into a more compact file size and format. For Windows computers, this is a WMV file, and for Mac users, it is a Quicktime video (MOV file). It is then stored in a folder on your desktop called *Flip Videos for Uploading*. A folder is created for the date, and inside each dated folder will be an additional folder called *Videos prepared for MySpace*
 8. If you choose Upload to Other Websites, the software will convert the file into a more compact file size and format. For Windows computers, this is a WMV file, and for Mac users, it is a Quicktime video (MOV file). They are then stored in a folder on your desktop called *Flip Videos for Uploading*. A folder is created for the date, and inside each dated folder will be an additional folder called *Videos prepared for any website*.

Resources:

1. Motionbox: a free/commercial online service for uploading, storing, sharing, and editing videos. <http://www.motionbox.com/>
2. stashSpace: a free/commercial online service for uploading, storing, sharing, and editing videos. <http://stashspace.com/index.stm>

For additional resources, visit the Institute wiki: <http://institute2008.wikispaces.com> and click on the link for Video Tools.