

Basic guide to using DVD Shrink 3.2.0.15

DVD Shrink is a free program available for download from the internet. It is a handy tool for making backup copies of your own personal DVD movies. It utilizes components of your installed DVD burning program such as NERO to operate. There is no guarantee that this program will work on all computers as there are too many variables involved.

> Please note that it is illegal to use this program to duplicate copyrighted movies<

Before you run the DVD Shrink program.

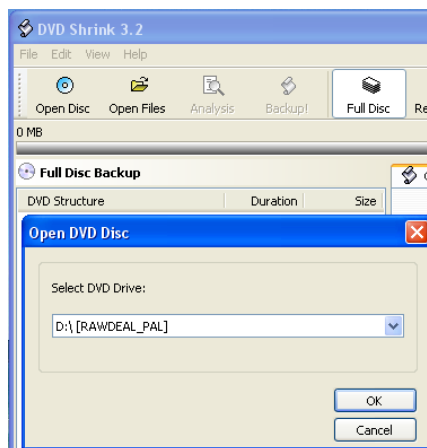
Disconnect your internet connection, turn off your Antivirus programs, turn off your screen saver, and close all programs running in the background. Copying a DVD will require all of your computer's resources and many background tasks may interrupt the process and/or ruin the final results.

Insert the DVD movie into your DVD-RW Drive. Allow it to start, to make sure your player is working okay. After the movie starts playing, stop the movie and close the DVD movie player software that you are using. Leave the movie DVD in the drive.

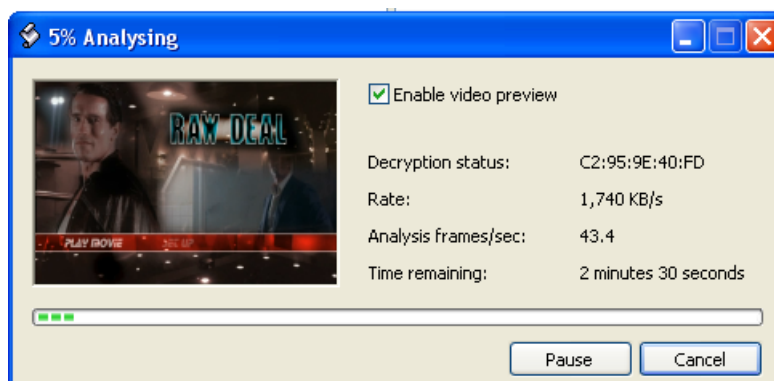
Step 1. Start DVD Shrink by double clicking it's icon on the desktop.
(Assuming you have it installed)



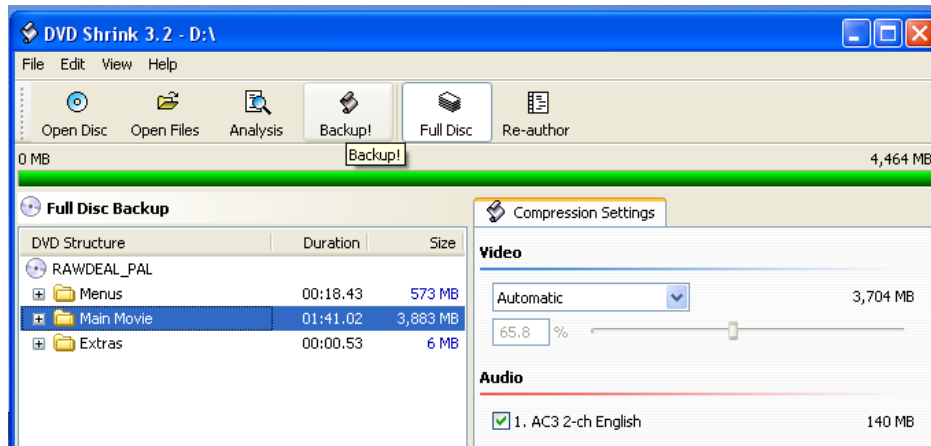
Step 2. Select the 'Full Disc' icon on the top menu. The program will read the DVD Device/s. Ensure you can see the movie DVD selected as shown below. Then press the 'OK' button.



Step 3. The DVD Shrink program then analyses the DVD

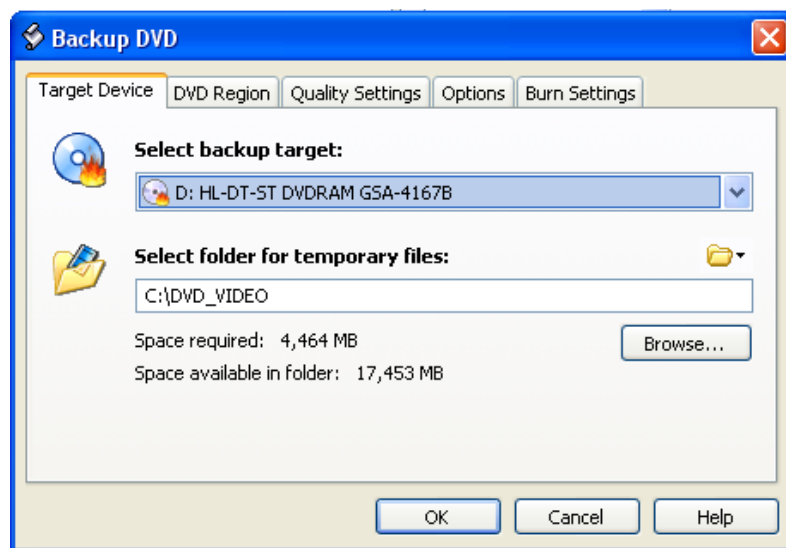


Step 4. After the analysis stage is complete, the main program screen appears as shown below. There are many options available here that you can experiment with to your heart's content, however this is a 'Basic' guide so I am going to ignore all options and suggest you simply press the 'Backup' button.

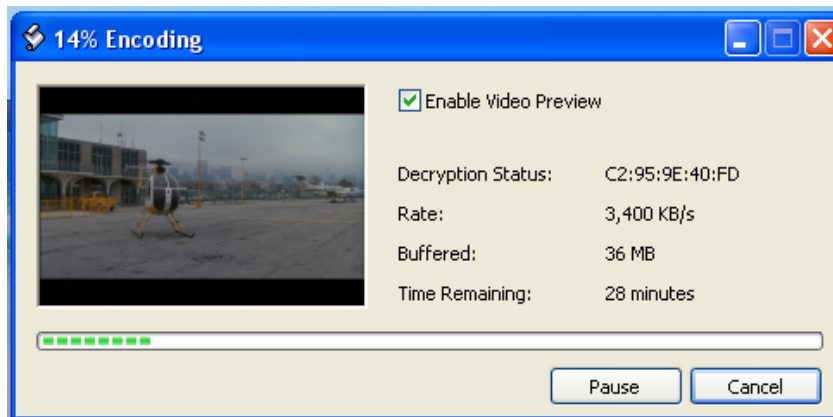


Step 5. On the following screen, ensure that your DVD-RW is correctly selected as the target drive. Note that the program is going to store a copy of the DVD in the folder C:\DVD_VIDEO. It is important to realise that if you don't delete this folder after the copy is completed, you will very quickly fill your hard disk drive. The program does not automatically delete this data.

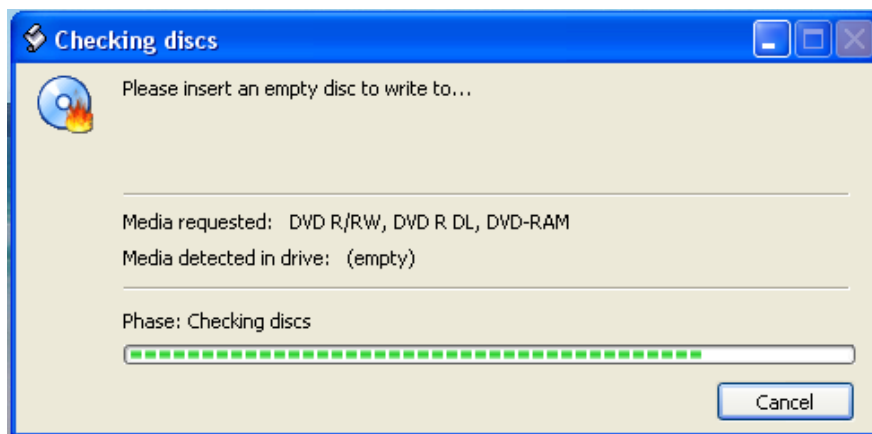
Press the 'OK' button when you are ready.



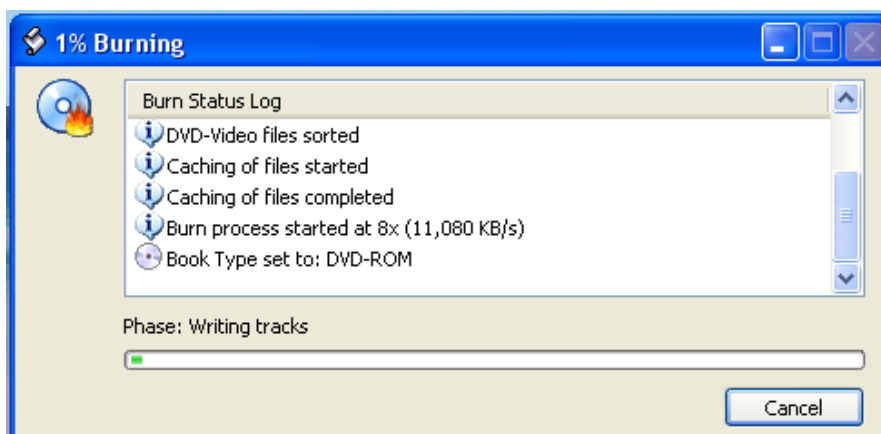
Step 6. The 'Encoding' stage begins. This will take from 30 minutes to an hour depending on the size of the movie & the performance of your computer.



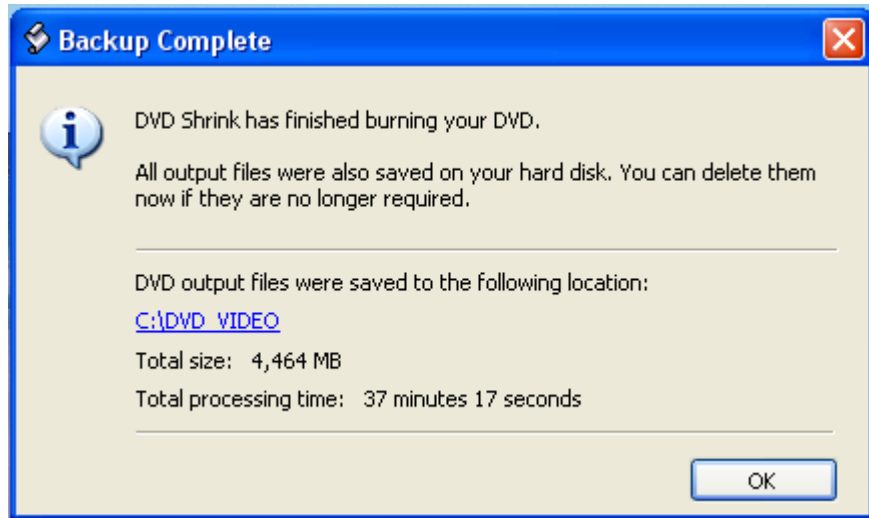
Step 7. When the encoding stage is completed, the program will prompt you to insert a suitable DVD blank disc to burn the copy onto. [Eject and remove the original DVD and insert a blank DVD.](#)



Step 8. After the program detects a suitable blank DVD has been inserted, The burning stage begins. This may take from 20 to 60mins.



Step 9. Once the burning stage is completed the program again reminds you to manually delete the copy of the movie files left on the hard drive if you no longer need them. When you are ready click the 'OK' button remove the DVD and close the program.



Step 10. Obviously it would be wise to test the DVD to see if it plays correctly. When you are happy with the result you can now delete the files left on the hard drive. To do this, double click the 'My Computer' or 'Computer' icon if using Microsoft Vista. Locate the 'C:' drive and double click the icon. Locate the folder named 'DVD_VIDEO', Single LEFT click on the folder to highlight it, and then press the 'Delete' key on your keyboard.

Your system should tell you that the folder is too big to fit in the recycle bin and ask if you are sure you wish to delete it. Click yes, of course. If your system does place the data in the recycle bin, don't forget to empty it later.

Technical note:

DVD movies that contain data larger than 4.7GB will be compressed to fit onto a blank 4.7GB disc (hence the name of the program, DVD Shrink).

The visual quality of the copy will vary depending on the size of the original movie which can be seen in the program's interface at step 4 in this guide.. Using the program's advanced features such as removing alternate languages, previews and the 'Re Author' options will yield a better quality end result. These options are too varied to include in this 'Basic' guide.

It is possible to use 'Dual Layer' blank DVD discs which store 8.5GB of data but I have not investigated DVD Shrinks ability to use them directly.