

Using Handbrake to Reformat DVD Clips

While copying or ripping DVDs has negative connotations, academics engaged in the critique of media often “reformat” portions of DVD video to an easily editable format – they then use this footage to highlight and support their arguments. As long as you follow the guidelines of reformatting (that is, changing the format so that you can edit the media for academic critique) you are operating legally. The minute you rip or copy a video file to share with others outside the purpose of academic critique, you are possibly breaking the law. Keep this in mind as you proceed.

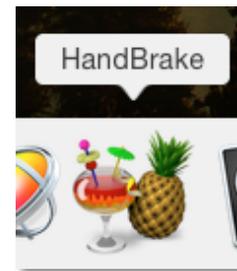
Let's Get Started

Insert the DVD you need to reformat.

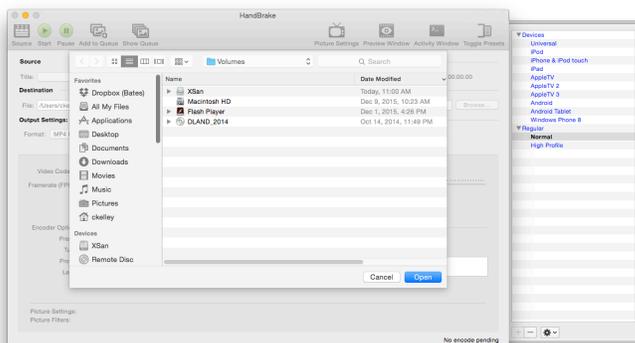


Whenever you insert a DVD the Apple DVD player application will automatically start. **IMPORTANT: Quit DVD player before moving on.** If DVD player is running at the same time as Handbrake, you will have problems.

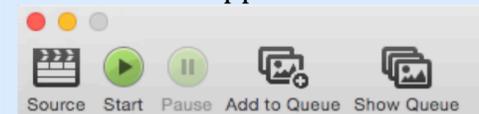
With the DVD disc in, and the DVD application closed – **open Handbrake.**



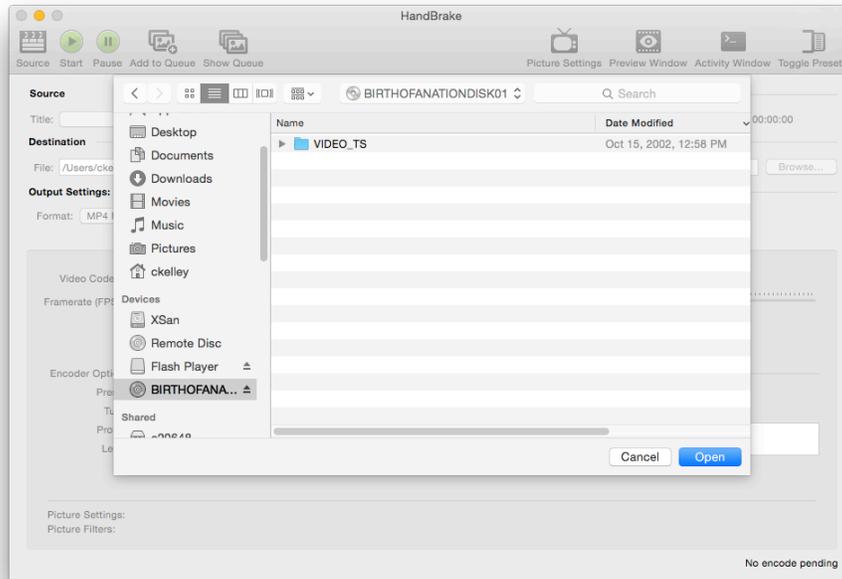
When you first open Handbrake, it will automatically ask you for your “Source”.



You can always choose your source later, using the Handbrake interface. Simply click the “Source” button on the top left corner on the application.



Your source is the DVD you wish to reformat. **Select the DVD from the task bar on the right.** DO NOT select any folders inside the disc.



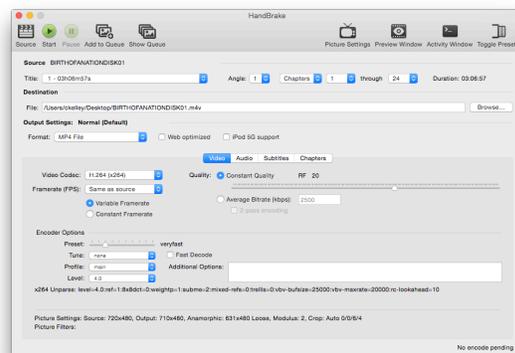
Once you've selected your DVD, click "Open".

Handbrake will now begin the process of "scanning" your disc. *This can take some time.*

After scanning the disc, the Handbrake interface will open.

DVD content is commonly broken up into titles (e.g. The main "feature" might be Title 1 and a bonus feature might be title 2 and so on.) Titles are then commonly broken into chapters.

A DVD can have up to 99 Titles. A title can have an almost unlimited number of chapters. When ripping content from a DVD, it is important to know both the title and chapters you need BEFORE opening up Handbrake.

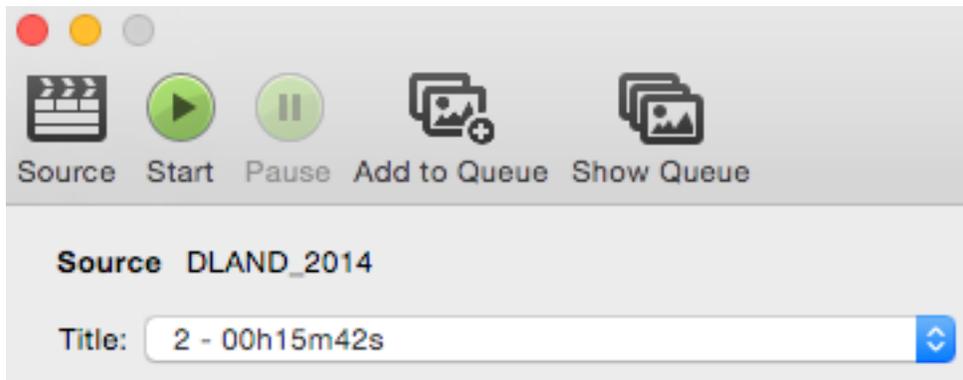


Using Handbrake

Just under Source you'll notice a menu labeled "Title".

First: **Select the appropriate title.**

In this example, I wanted to rip video from Title 2, so I've selected Title 2 from the drop down menu.



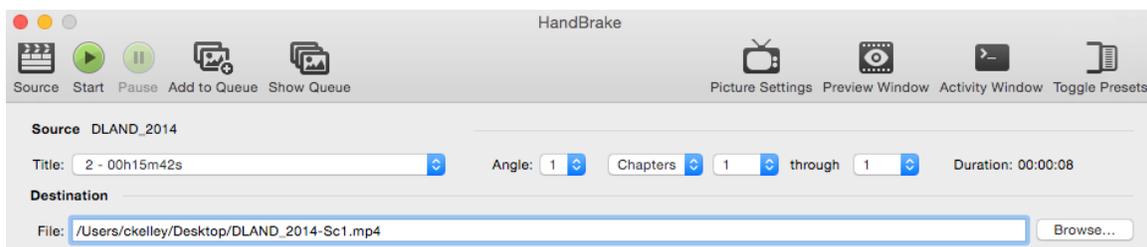
Next: **Select the chapters you need to reformat.**

For example, here I wanted to rip the first chapter from Title 2, so I've selected Title 2 and Chapter 1 through 1.

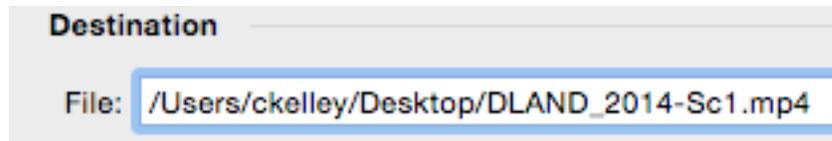


We're almost done!

Next, select the Destination for your reformatted media.



You'll want this destination to be somewhere you can find easily. If you're ripping multiple segments from the same disc, this is also a good time to rename your file.



In this example, I've named my file DLAND_2014-SC1 – adding the suffix SC1 because it is the first scene I am ripping. Subsequent ripped scenes from this disc will be SC2, SC3, etc.

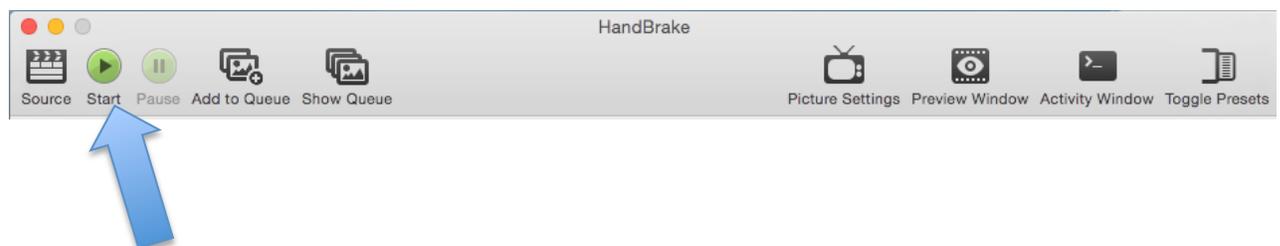
For our final step before ripping, we look at the output settings.



So long as it says **Output Settings: Normal (Default)** – you're good to go.

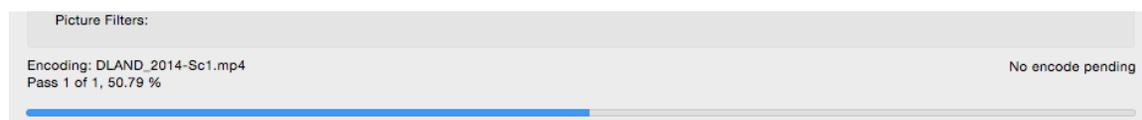
Note that sometimes Handbrake will rip your file as a m4v (instead of MP4). This is absolutely fine – m4v is simply the extension Macs use for MP4s – but the file will still play fine on Mac or PC.

Now, you're ready to rip. Up at the top, click the **Start** button.



After clicking the start button, you should hear the whirl of the DVD drive as it begins the ripping process.

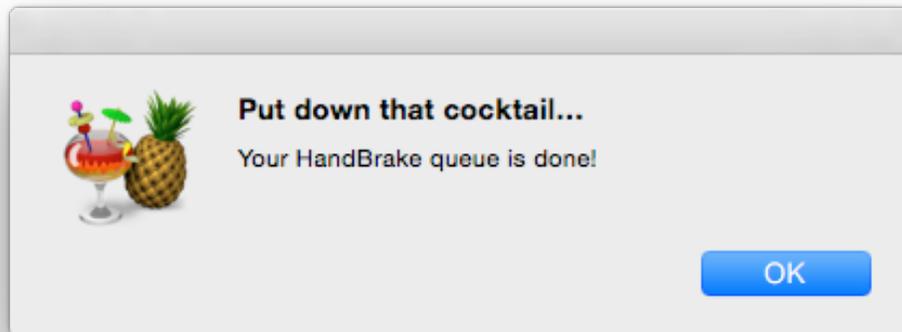
Handbrake will “scan” your video and load some previews (not important) and then a progress bar like the one below will show up.



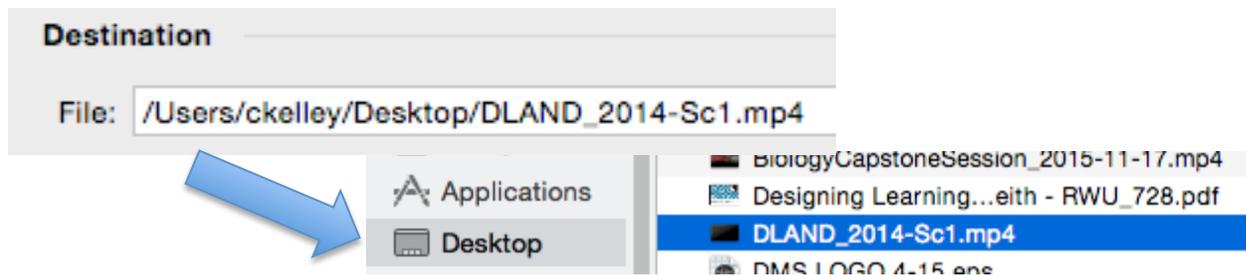
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Helpsheet

When it's done, you'll see the following message.



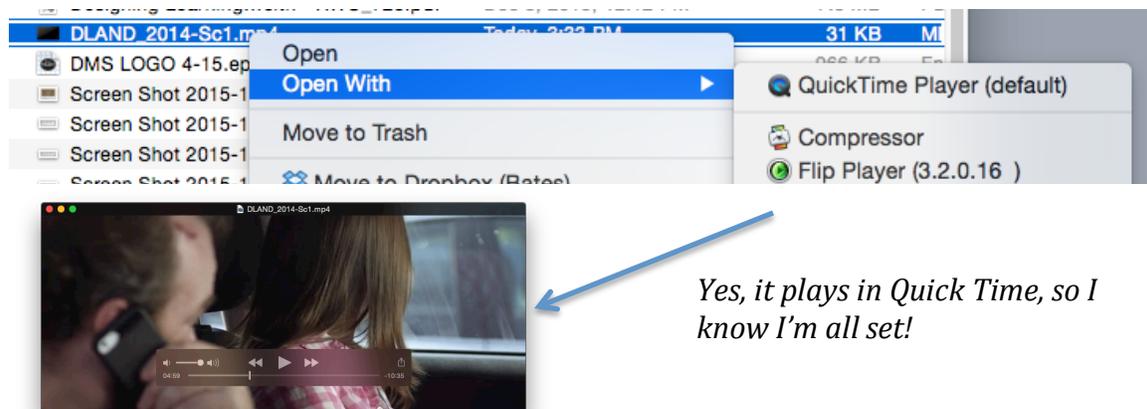
Now, double check that your clip has arrived in the appropriate destination and...



Hurray! I told it to rip the clip to the Desktop and it did.

Finally, check that the clip plays back correctly.

Right click, select **Open With > QuickTime Player**



Now - repeat until you have enough clips!