Subject: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by Fannie on Sun, 29 Sep 2013 20:08:49 GMT
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I have several video cassette recordings, home movies etc., that I would like to transfer to DVD. What type of equipment would I need to do this?

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by audioaudio90 on Mon, 30 Sep 2013 12:28:45 GMT
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You have a couple options. You can use a service and pay someone to do it for you. If you want to do it yourself, you can use a capture card and your computer but you will need to have a lot of space on your hard drive.

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by Georgiana on Wed, 02 Oct 2013 19:52:57 GMT
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Audioaudio90, how does the capture card work? I am assuming you connect the VCR and the computer somehow. Is the capture card installed through a media drive or inside the processor?

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by gofar99 on Thu, 03 Oct 2013 02:48:02 GMT
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Hi Some capture cards are available as external USB connected devices. You feed the video and audio into the device and software supplied with the device will make a digital copy. Some programs will allow you to make DVDs of the files. Be aware though that the copy process takes place in real time and the copy process can be lengthy as well. There are some standalone devices that have a VCR and DVD recorder in one case. They were quite common a few years ago and would allow you to put in a non-copy protected video tape and make a DVD of it all in one process. I seem to recall they were by Magnavox and Panasonic and were in the $200 range. Personally I would rather put the video on a hard drive first and then edit it if needed and then send it to a disk. The external video cards were about $60-100 and made by several companies. I would probably go that route. Be aware though that you need to verify that your PC has a good enough processor, ram and large enough drive. Video eats up drive space at an enormous rate.

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by Chase on Wed, 09 Oct 2013 14:21:08 GMT
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It's really a lot more affordable to take you cassette into Walgreens or Walmart. They will transfer the tape for you. It usually has to be sent out and takes about a week. Video stores like Blockbuster or Family Video can also transfer them for you.

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by Nymeria on Thu, 10 Oct 2013 15:26:45 GMT
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Chase wrote on Wed, 09 October 2013 09:21It's really a lot more affordable to take you cassette into Walgreens or Walmart. They will transfer the tape for you. It usually has to be sent out and takes about a week. Video stores like Blockbuster or Family Video can also transfer them for you.

I didn't know Walgreens and Walmart did VHS to DVD transfers. That is pretty neat. I haven't seen a Blockbuster or Family Video around in a few years now.

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by RustyC on Tue, 28 Jan 2014 00:09:03 GMT
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Just let me chime in here with one warning. Do not do not do not buy one of those all in one units that allegedly let you play either VHS or DVD and allegedly will convert one to the other for you. I've owned two now. They were both mediocre at even playing either the VHS or the DVD. They were complicated to hook up and to use. And the transfer quality was abysmal. I think it must just be asking too much to put both those technologies in one moderate-sized box and do them well at a consumer-level price.

I agree with turning them over to a professional. Both my sister and I have had things converted (8mm movies, VHS and old photos) into nice DVDs. We used some mail order company, but I've heard that Walgreens will do it fine.

Subject: Re: Transferring VCR To DVD
Posted by Samuel on Wed, 29 Jan 2014 10:49:54 GMT
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My local pharmacy used to offer transfer services-VHS, audio cassette and so on. I'm not sure if they still do, but we used them and were pleased. The cost of buying the equipment for a one off use just didn't make sense.