iDVD '08: Creating an autoplay DVD

Summary
You can create a movie or slideshow that begins to play as soon as a viewer inserts your DVD into a DVD player or computer, before the main menu appears. When the autoplay item finishes playing, the main menu of the DVD appears. You can also set the autoplay item to loop, eliminating the need for menus in your project.

Products Affected
iDVD '08 (7.x)

Follow these steps to make an autoplay DVD:

1. Open iDVD.
2. Click the Map button at the bottom of the iDVD window.
3. Click the Media button at the lower-right of the iDVD window.

Your project map appears in the DVD window.
Now click the Photos or Movies tab to access your photos and movies. In this example, the Movie tab is selected.

4. The project icon is the first icon in the DVD map. Drag a movie, photo album, or even a single image from the Media pane to the project icon. In this example, the movie “Game Room” is dragged to the project icon.

Note: You can also drag images or movies stored elsewhere on your computer, or from a different disk or network volume.

5. To turn on looping for your autoplay movie or slideshow, select the project icon. If your project only consists of a looped autoplay item, you can ignore the yellow triangle alert indicating that your project has no buttons. The DVD theme and menu are not used for looped autoplay DVDs.

From the Advanced menu, select Loop Movie or Loop Slideshow.
6. Click the Preview button to see your autoplay movie (or slideshow). This opens the iDVD remote control. Because the autoplay movie begins to play immediately, you don't need to click any buttons on the remote control.

When you're finished, click the remote control exit button in the upper-right corner to return to the iDVD window.

7. When you're ready to burn your autoplay movie, click the Burn button. This message appears:

The message does not apply to an autoplay DVD. Click "Continue burning" to burn your DVD.

Once you've burned the DVD, insert the DVD into a DVD player or computer and it will automatically begin to play.
Additional Information

- If you added a movie that includes audio, the audio of the movie is retained so the viewer hears it during autoplay.

- If you added a movie with chapter markers (from Final Cut Pro or Final Cut Express), these chapter markers can be used for navigation. The viewer can click the Next or Previous buttons on the remote control to advance or return to a chapter.

- If you added a slideshow or a single image, you can double-click the project icon to open the slideshow editor. There you can add a single audio file or a playlist as a soundtrack, rearrange images, and set other slideshow features, such as slide duration.

- If you don’t set your autoplay movie or slideshow to loop, after the autoplay item has played, the main menu of the DVD appears.

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Still need help? Speak to an Apple Expert

Arrange a phone call with one of our Apple Experts who specializes in your exact question. Talk to us now or later at your convenience. We'll even call you.

Get started

*NOTE: Callbacks are currently only available for U.S. and Canada phone numbers.*