

# **How to Make Digital Picture Videos Using Windows Movie Maker**

## **Presented By Kimberly Grandal, CTRS, ACC/EDU**



*Note: These instructions are primarily for Windows Movie Maker XP, but many of the features are similar to those of Vista. For specific instructions on using the Vista WMM program, please visit [windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Getting-started-with-Windows-Movie-Maker](http://windows.microsoft.com/en-US/windows-vista/Getting-started-with-Windows-Movie-Maker)*

### **Program Objectives: Participants will....**

- Have a basic understanding of the various components of Windows Movie Maker including creating, saving and converting to video.
- Be able to discuss and utilize recommended Windows Movie Maker tips and strategies for use.
- Be able to insert pictures, audio/music, text and special effects video into their Windows Movie Maker video.

### **Why Make Digital Picture Movies?**

- One of the major topics discussed at the State of the Activity Profession Call for Action Meeting was marketing and advocacy for activities. Utilizing movies and promoting on social network sites such as YouTube is a great marketing strategy for the profession as a whole.
- Digital movies are also great for in-services, presentations, and promotion of activities within the facility.
- In addition, you can use Windows Movie Maker to make movies for the residents such as family movies, resident activities, special events, video autobiographies, leisure education, etc.

Precaution: Be sure that you have permission to use all pictures and music in your video, **especially** if you are planning on uploading the video to YouTube or any other public forum.

### **Windows Movie Maker Overview**

Windows Movie Maker (WMM) is a video creating/editing software application, included in Microsoft Windows Me, XP, and Vista. It contains features such as effects, transitions, titles/credits, audio track, timeline narration, and *Auto Movie*. WMM also has a basic audio track editing program which includes a fade in/out option. The audio tracks can also be clipped to various lengths and even exported in the form of a sound file instead of a video file.

The design is straight forward and pretty easy to use, although tedious at times. The layout consists of a *storyboard view* and a *timeline view*, an area in which you gather music, pictures, and video clips, and the preview pane where you can view your video. Windows XP and Vista have various effects, although Vista has a greater variety. A drag and drop application is utilized. Titles and credits can be added to your movie in a variety of ways and there are several title animations, fonts, colors and styles to choose from. Depending on what version of WMM you have and what other type of software you have on your computer, you can save movies to computer, CD, DVD, send in an email, etc.

**For creating digital movies, you will need the following:** Microsoft Windows XP or Vista, Windows Movie Maker 2 or later (part of Windows XP Service Pack 2 upgrade), digital photos located in your My Pictures folder, digital music located in your My Music folder and some creativity, time and patience.

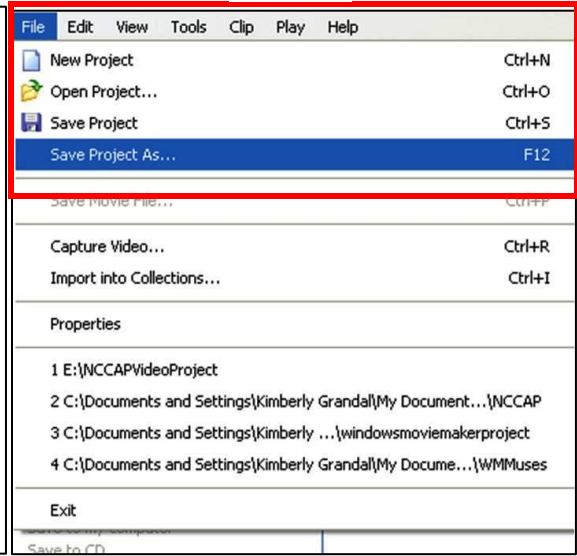
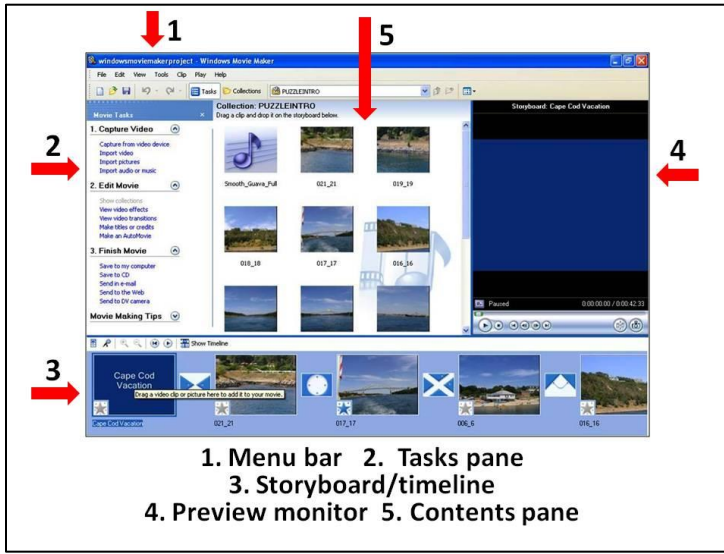
# Instructions for Making a Digital Movie

## 1. Let's Begin

Click the **Start** button, point to **All Programs**, and then click **Windows Movie Maker**. Once WMM is open, Get to know the **Panes**. (Menu bar, Tasks pane, Storyboard/timeline, Preview monitor, Contents pane). The **collections file** is where you store your content for a specific project so that you can return to it another time for further editing. Figure 1a below shows the various panes. Be sure to **SAVE Project As** and name your movie.

Figure 1a

Figure 1b



## 2. Importing Pictures

In the Movie Tasks pane, under **Capture Video**, click **Import pictures**, (figure 2) and select the photos you want to use from your my Pictures folder (figure 3). If you are using photos from multiple folders within My Pictures, repeat this step until you have imported all of the pictures you plan to use for your movie. I highly recommend that you name the pictures, rather than use the 001,002, etc. numbers provided. It's not necessary but if you are creating a lengthy video it is much easier to keep track of the pictures you are utilizing. You also have the option of importing video clips but we will not be covering that in this session.

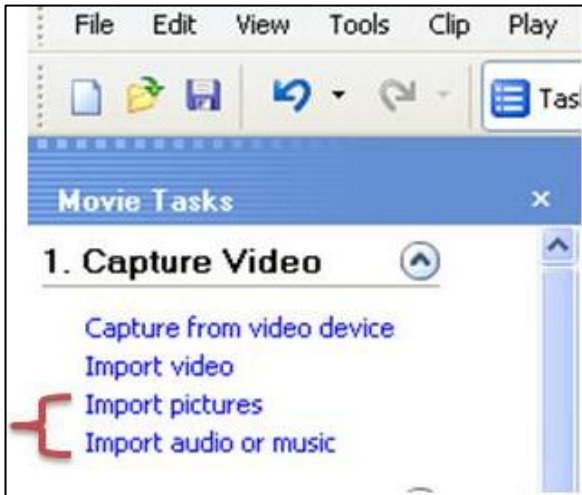


Figure 2

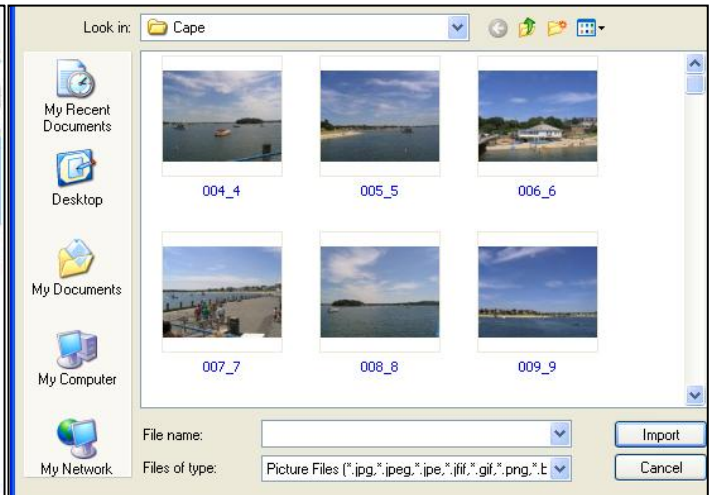


Figure 3



## 6. Making Titles

**Title at the Beginning:** In the Movie Tasks pane, under **Edit Movie**, click **Make titles or credits** (figure 10) to add a title to your movie, and then click **Add title at the beginning of the movie**. Type your title, (figure 11) and then click **Done, add title to movie**. You can also add titles to “title before the selected clip”, “title on the selected clip”, “title after the selected clip” or “credits at the end”.

Figure 10

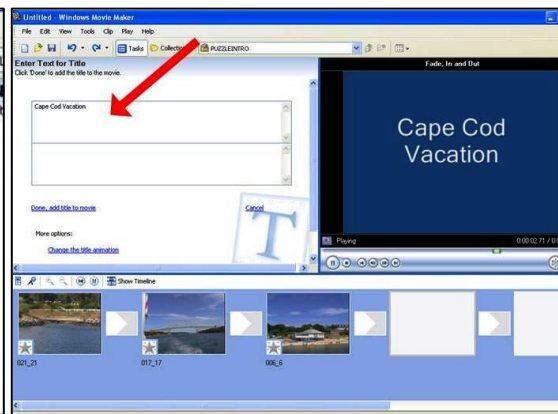


Figure 11

The title you created appears in the first position of the storyboard. There are quite a few animations you can add to your movie title (figure 12). Simply click on various animations to see if it suits your movie. To change the title font or color, click on **Change text font and color** (Figure 12), select your desired color, font, size and position and click **Done, add title to movie** (Figure 13). If you decide you want to change the animation of the title or text, font, colors, the text, etc. after you have already added the title, you will need to go to the **Timeline pane** and double click the title you'd like to alter. This will bring up the title options.

Figure 12

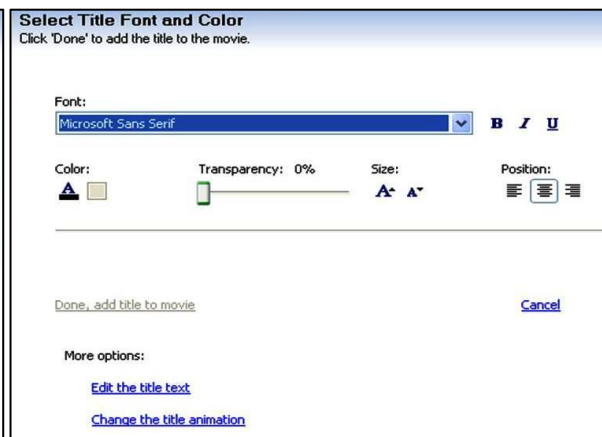


Figure 13

### Title on Selected Clip

To add a title to a selected clip, simply click **Add title on selected clip** (Figure 14) You can do the same for **Add title after selected clip**. The process is the same as adding a title at the beginning except that you are adding the title in different locations of the movie. The arrow in Figure 14 points to the title overlay which shows you where the title is placed within the movie.

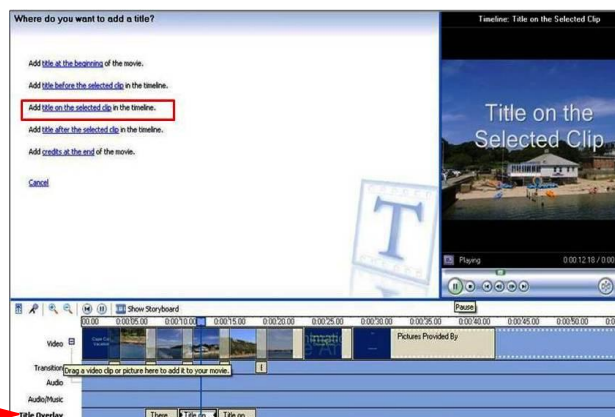


Figure 14

## 7. Timeline View

In the toolbar located above the storyboard, click **Show Timeline** (Figure 15) to change the view of your workspace to a timeline. The timeline view is where you can change the duration of a pictures, trim music, change titles and basically see how your whole movie looks according to a timeline. To go back to the storyboard, click on **Show Storyboard** (Figure 16).

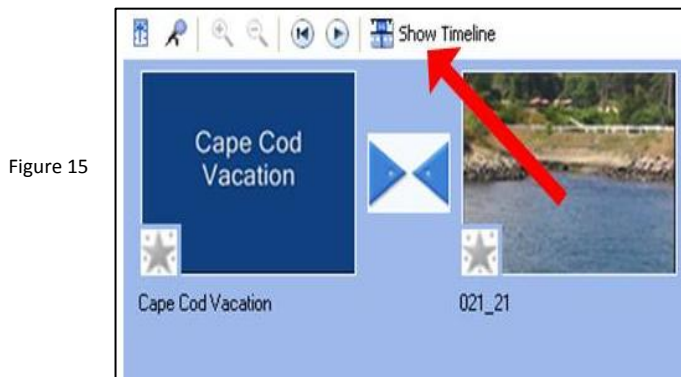


Figure 15

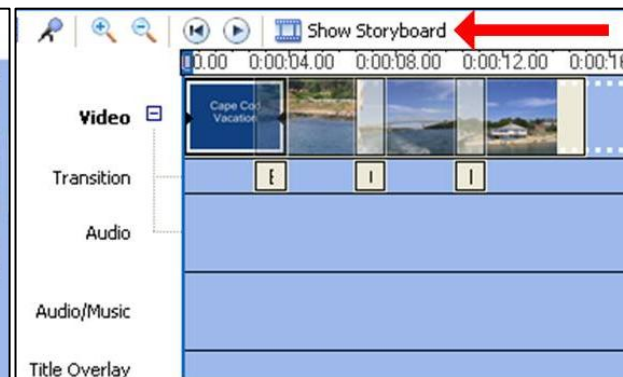


Figure 16

**Change duration of picture.** In the timeline view, click the end of the pictures that you would like to have it play longer or shorter. Drag the line to the right for the pictures to play longer or to the left to decrease its play time (Figure 17).

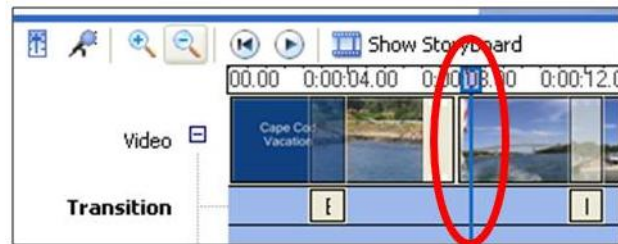


Figure 17

## 9. Adding Music or Sound

To add music to the project, click and drag your music file from the Contents pane to the **Audio/Music** track in the timeline. Be sure the music file is positioned all the way to the left end of the **Audio/Music** track. With the music file in position, you can adjust the music to end where your pictures end and add a fade-out effect to the music (if you like). Click the end of your music file, and drag it to align with the end of your last photo (Figure 18). Next, right-click the music file, and click **Fade In** or **Fade Out**, if desired (Figure 19). You can also add audio, such as a narration or live singing/music, by using the microphone feature.

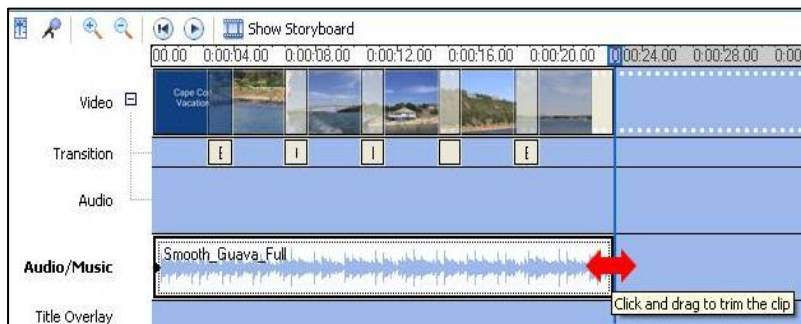


Figure 18

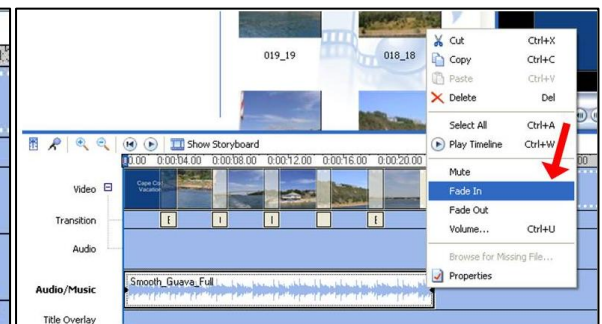


Figure 19

**Tip of the Day:** To trim a song down to a few seconds, e.g. for a PowerPoint presentation, trim the music clip to desired length and hit **Ctrl and P** on your keyboard, at the same time. This will save the music clip as an audio file for you to use in other programs, such as PowerPoint! Be sure to select a name for the clip, such as "Eye of the Tiger Clip" and where you want the file to be placed so you can find it when you need it!

## 10. Adding Video Effects (Special Effects)

Add some flair to your movie by using the **Video Effects** feature. In the Movie task pane, click on **View video effects** to view the selection of effects to choose from (Figure 20). Click on the effect you like and drag it to the picture on the storyboard, you would like to add it to. A shaded blue star will indicate you have added an effect to a particular picture (Figure 21). You can add more than one effect to a picture. To change the effect(s), change the order of the effects or delete it from the picture, **right click** on the **blue star** located in the bottom right of the picture (in the storyboard view). Click on **delete effect** if you want to delete the effect, or click **Video Effects** to add or remove effects (Figures 22/23).

Figure 20



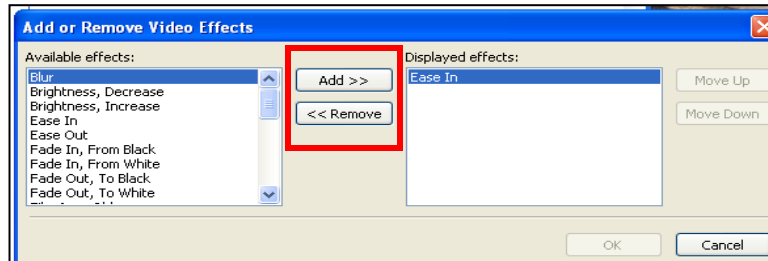
Figure 21



Figure 22



Figure 23



## 11. Adding Credits at the End of the Movie

The final step to create your movie is adding the credits to the end, just like a real movie. Credits are created in the same way as titles, except they are added to the end of the timeline. In the Movie Tasks pane, under **Edit Movie**, click **Make titles or credits** to add a credit to your movie (Figure 24), and then click **Add credits at the end of the movie**. Type your credits (Figure 25), and then click **Done, add credits to movie**. The credits you created will appear in the last position of the storyboard.

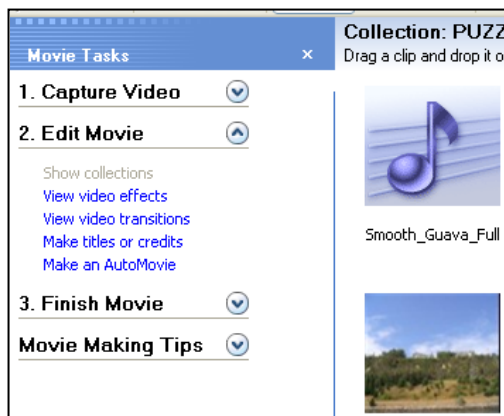


Figure 24

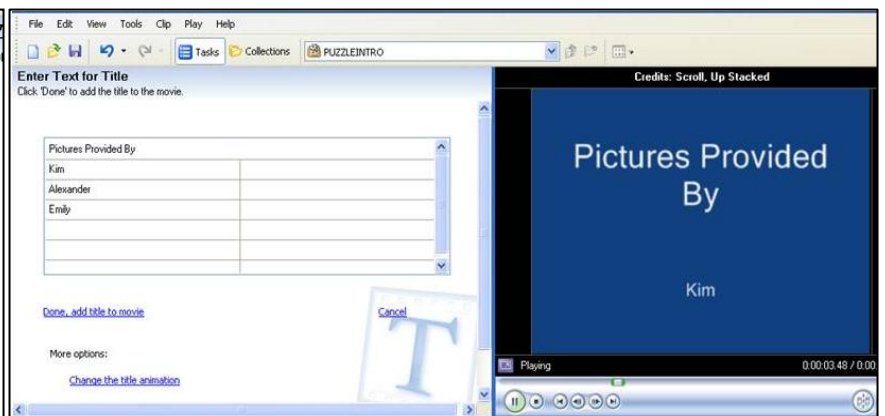


Figure 25

## 12. Preview and Save

Before you save your movie, you can preview it by using the controls in the preview monitor (Figure 26). The controls are similar to any video viewing screen. Once you're satisfied with your movie, save your project file by clicking **Save Project** on the **File** menu (Figure 27).

Figure 26

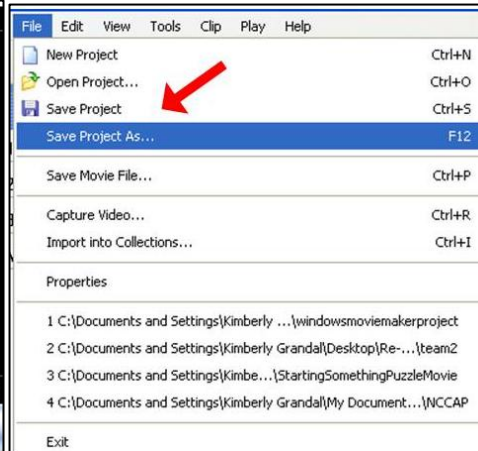


Figure 27

## 13. Saving Your Movie

In the Movie Tasks pane under **Finish Movie**, click **Save to my computer** to start the **Save Movie Wizard** (Figure 28)

Figure 28

Type a name for your movie (Figure 29). By default, Movie Maker saves the movie file to the **My Videos** folder; click **Browse** if you want to change the location. Then, click **Next**. You also have options to save it to a CD, send in email, etc. Depending on what type of software you have you may be able to save it to a DVD for viewing on a DVD player. WMM XP does not have this feature but WMM Vista does.

Figure 29

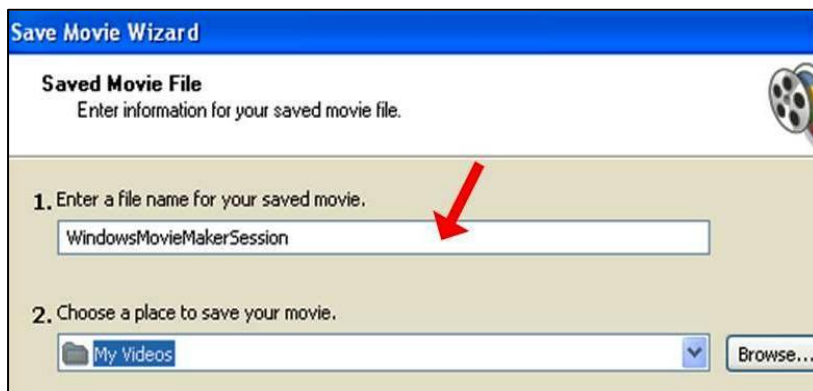
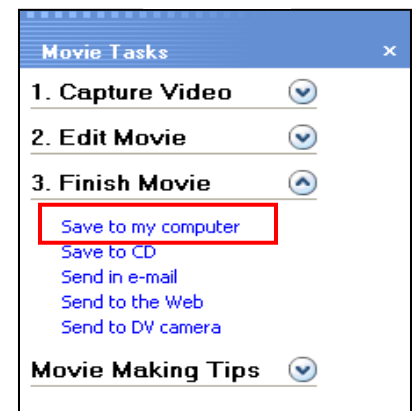


Figure 29b

**WARNING!** Once you have imported pictures and audio into your project, be sure **NOT** to move those pictures or audio files otherwise you will end up with a bunch of **RED X's** as seen in Figure 29b. If this happens, **RIGHT** click on the **RED X** in the storyboard and click on **BROWSE FOR MISSING FILE**. Sometimes you'll be lucky enough to find the file and re-establish connection. You'll have to do it for each picture and trust me when I say it's not fun! Once your movie is saved as a **MOVIE** file, then you can move files.

## 14.Movie Setting/Quality

On the **Movie Setting** page, **Best quality for playback on my computer (recommended)** is selected by default (Figure 30). This setting is also good for burning the movie to a CD. To review and change settings for the way your movie will be created, click **Show more choices** (Figure 30). Then click **other settings** (Figure 31). For example, if you plan to send your movie by e-mail, you can choose **Video for broadband**, **Video for ISDN**, or **Video for dial-up access** to best match the Internet access speed of those you are sending the movie to.



Figure 30

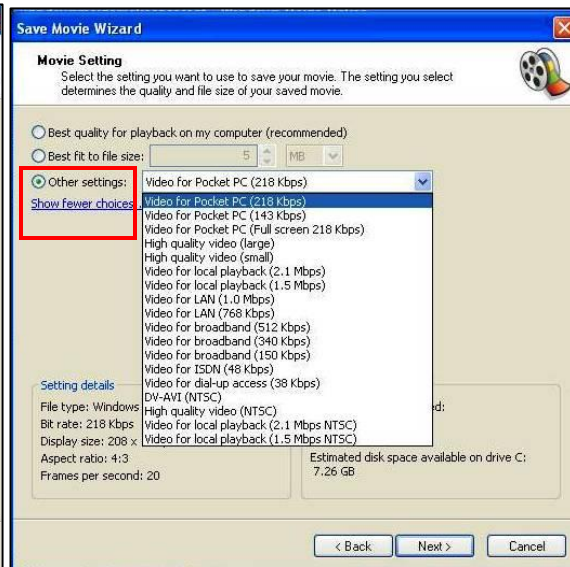


Figure 31

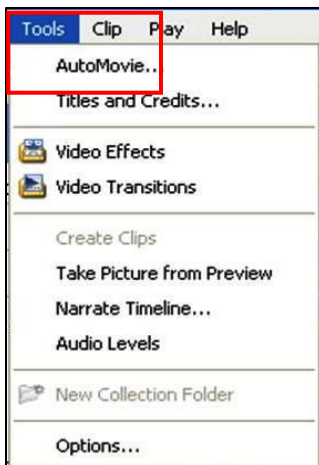
Figure 32

## 15.Finishing Your Movie

When you've made your selection, click **Next**. Movie Maker begins to save your final movie file. When Movie Maker is done, click **Finish**, and you're done (Figure 32).



## 16.AutoMovie



For a really quick movie, you can use the **AutoMovie Wizard**. This wizard will evaluate the pictures and music and put together your movie for you. You have very little editing options this way. Music may be clipped in a strange place or some of your favorite pictures may not be included. But for a simple, quick movie, this is a great option. Click **Tools** and select **AutoMovie** (Figure 33). You will be shown a few options. Make your selection and click **done**.

Figure 33

## References

Saltzman, Mark (June 20, 2005). Make a photo movie with movie maker. Retrieved from <http://www.microsoft.com/windowsxp/using/digitalphotography/learnmore/photomovies.msp>

## Resources for Your Windows Movie Maker Movies

### Music

- [www.televisiontunes.com/index.php](http://www.televisiontunes.com/index.php)
- [www.tvadsongs.com](http://www.tvadsongs.com)
- [www.beemp3.com](http://www.beemp3.com)
- [www.limewire.com](http://www.limewire.com)
- [www.royaltyfreemusic.com](http://www.royaltyfreemusic.com)
- [www.legalsounds.com](http://www.legalsounds.com)

### Pictures/ClipArt


- [www.goggleimages.com](http://www.goggleimages.com)
- [www.freefoto.com](http://www.freefoto.com)
- [www.bigfoto.com](http://www.bigfoto.com)
- [www.freedigitalphotos.net](http://www.freedigitalphotos.net)
- [www.office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx?ver=12&app=winword.exe](http://www.office.microsoft.com/en-us/clipart/default.aspx?ver=12&app=winword.exe)
- [www.publicdomainpictures.net](http://www.publicdomainpictures.net)

### PowerPoint Templates

- [www.office.microsoft.com/en-us/powerpoint/HA102855841033.aspx](http://www.office.microsoft.com/en-us/powerpoint/HA102855841033.aspx)
- [www.brainybetty.com/MENUPowerPoint.htm](http://www.brainybetty.com/MENUPowerPoint.htm)
- [www.pptheaven.mvps.org](http://www.pptheaven.mvps.org)
- [www.indezine.com/powerpoint/backgrounds/freebackgrounds.html](http://www.indezine.com/powerpoint/backgrounds/freebackgrounds.html)
- [www.soniacoleman.com](http://www.soniacoleman.com)

### Video Sharing Sites

- [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com)
- [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)
- [www.vimeo.com](http://www.vimeo.com)
- [www.MySpace.com](http://www.MySpace.com)
- <http://video.yahoo.com>
- <http://www.flickr.com>
- <http://photobucket.com/recent/videos>
- <http://www.youku.com>
- <http://www.hulu.com>
- <http://www.webshots.com>
- <http://www.bigthink.com>



*Be sure to check if photos, clip art, music, etc. is copyrighted, especially before uploading to an online video sharing website*