

Miraizon

Cinematize [2.03]

DVD extraction software

Miraizon Cinematize 2 offers audio and visual editors improved access to files from DVDs—and is now available, for the first time, on both the Mac and PC.



When we first saw Cinematize, we were impressed with its ability to navigate and extract material from complex multiple angled un-encrypted DVDs. Miraizon has further developed this tool by introducing some simple yet important changes—making it easier to use, and offering increased flexibility.

Fully independent from QuickTime

Now with its own QuickTime codec, Cinematize 2 works fully independent of Apple's QuickTime 6 Mpeg-2 playback component.

This means Cinematize can create QuickTime movies and preview DVD sections without having to purchase or maintain additional software. Overall, the in-built codec integrates a lot better with Cinematize than Apple's QuickTime component, and allows Cinematize to actively synchronise audio and video according to the time information provided on the DVD.

Select segments from navigated tracks

Cinematize lets you determine a start and end point for exporting a selected segment—with the help of the now

immediately available preview screen. These points can be placed in any chapter within the navigated track; dragged by eye according to the preview; and nudged by half second increments, relative to the displayed track time. While this proved to be excellent for locating sections of video—we missed the presence of an audio preview.

Improved accessibility to features

While it was never really difficult to use, we found the advanced features much easier to harness compared with the previous version of Cinematize. The output settings for video, audio and subtitles—once hidden within menus—are now within toggle reach from the main screen, and previews no longer need to be launched.

Export for all environments

Cinematize will now let you choose an alternative frame rate for easier integration with other material created for film, progressive film mode and video. According to the Miraizon FAQ files, you may encounter synchronisation issues when exporting to a different frame



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Mac OS X and Windows 2000/XP* versions of Cinematize 2 are available from the Miraizon website, and can be downloaded for US\$59.95. A boxed version for Mac OS X can also be purchased for US\$69.95 plus postage. Upgrade pricing available.

*Requires free QuickTime player

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rate—however during testing we didn't encounter any of these issues. Audio and video export file options have been expanded to include DV stream and AVI files. Alternative aspect ratios can be selected on export; and multiple chapters from the one track are able to be exported together as a single file, or as multiple files at the one time.

Final word

All in all, the latest version of Cinematize is a great improvement compared with the previous version we reviewed. The QuickTime codec is a welcome feature, as is the improved navigation. In the future we'd like to see previewing available for audio in the same way as video.