



Basic Video Inputs

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A simple guide to the 4 main video inputs



DV

I'm sure by now everyone knows what DV is so here is a quick overview.

Digital Video (DV) provides two major advantages over conventional Analogue cameras, as shown below.

1. Image quality: by storing the video in a digital format instead of analogue, it is possible to attain excellent image quality on moderately priced gear. Furthermore, as a digital signal, it does not degrade with time, or suffer generation loss.

Video capture: The video is digitised as it's being filmed, and is stored as files on a tape in the camera. Video "capture" simply involves transferring those files to the computer. There is no additional digitising to be done.

DV is used in two primary ways:

1. For storing original footage, and transferring it to the computer
2. For editing and storing final edited footage, for playback to a television or through a variety of different mediums i.e. DVD, VCD or back to DV.



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Composite Single RCA connector (usually yellow connector) that combines the black-and-white and colour portions of the video signal. The comb filter in your video display will then separate these signals before displaying the image. The audio is connected via one or two phono connectors (again usually red and white)



S-Video Round multi-pin connector. The video signal is transmitted in Y/C form. The Y being the black and white information and C being the two colour difference