

Recording from VHS to Mini-DV—Panasonic PV-DV601 (Green with Silver Stripes)

To digitize video from a regular VHS video tape to mini-DV tape (so that it can be easily piped into an iBook for editing), you will need the following items:

1. Panasonic PV-DV601 camera.
2. AV cable (included with camera & made for this camera).
3. Power supply for the camera (included in camera bag).
4. JVC/Panasonic VCR/TV cart from CMC (this is the one that has a separate Panasonic TV & JVC VCR).
5. Video tape you wish to use as a source.
6. Mini-DV tape onto which you want to record (destination).

To record from a VHS (“regular videotape”), please follow the following instructions:

1. Connect the AV cable to the yellow AV port under the plastic door on the side of the camera, just under the hand strap.
2. Connect the other end of the AV cable (which has three plugs—one yellow for video, one red for right audio channel, and one white for left audio channel) to the back of the JVC VCR. The VCR is NOT a stereo VCR, so only connect the yellow and white plugs. (The connections are color-coded on the VCR.)
3. Plug the Panasonic power supply (refer to the diagram in the bag if you don’t know what this is) into the back of the camera. The port for this plug is on the right edge, inside the indentation where the battery usually goes.
4. Connect the cord that goes from the power supply (the big plastic chunky part) to the wall into the power supply, and the other end into a wall outlet.
5. Turn on the VCR and camera, and place a tape into each (the camera should be switched to ‘VCR’). Also turn on the TV, which should be set to channel 3.
6. Locate the portion of video on the VHS tape that you’d like to digitize, and stop the tape a few seconds before the beginning of the clip.
7. If there’s anything on the Mini-DV tape you need to keep, stop the tape a few seconds AFTER the portion that you want to save. (Otherwise, just rewind it.)
8. Press Play on the VCR, and then press the REC and Play buttons on the camera, just above the LCD screen on the side. The video from the VHS tape should be displayed on the TV and the camera’s screen. The camera should now say ‘REC’ in the upper right of the screen.
9. When the video has all been recorded, just press stop on the camera and VCR, turn all devices off, and return all cables and accessories to the camera bag.

Recording from VHS to Mini-DV—Newer Panasonic Cameras (Models PV-DV801 and 851)

To digitize video from a regular VHS video tape to mini-DV tape (so that it can be easily piped into an iBook for editing), you will need the following items:

1. Panasonic PV-DV801 or PV-DV851 camera.
2. AV cable (included with camera & made for this camera).
3. Power supply for the camera (included in camera bag).
4. JVC/Panasonic VCR/TV cart from CMC (this is the one that has a separate Panasonic TV & JVC VCR).
5. Video tape you wish to use as a source.
6. Mini-DV tape onto which you want to record (destination).

To record from a VHS (“regular videotape”), please follow the following instructions:

1. Connect the AV cable to the AV port under the plastic door on the side of the camera, just under the hand strap. (It’s labeled ‘AV IN/OUT Phones’.)
2. Connect the other end of the AV cable (which has three plugs—one yellow for video, one red for right audio channel, and one white for left audio channel) to the back of the JVC VCR. The VCR is NOT a stereo VCR, so only connect the yellow and white plugs. (The connections are color-coded on the VCR.)
3. Slide the Panasonic “dummy” battery (looks like a battery, but has a cable sticking out of it) into the camera where the battery usually goes.
4. Connect the free end of the cable coming out of the dummy battery into the power supply (the big plastic chunky thing that’s used to recharge the batteries).
5. Connect the cord that goes from the power supply (the big plastic chunky part) to the wall into the power supply, and the other end into a wall outlet.
6. Turn on the VCR and camera, and place a tape into each (the camera should be switched to ‘VCR’ by pushing the switch upward toward the word “mode” until the VCR light on the side of the camera lights up). Also turn on the TV, which should be set to channel 3.
7. Locate the portion of video on the VHS tape that you’d like to digitize, and stop the tape a few seconds before the beginning of the clip.
8. If there’s anything on the Mini-DV tape you need to keep, stop the tape a few seconds AFTER the portion that you want to save. (Otherwise, just rewind it.)
9. Press Play on the VCR, and then press the REC and Play buttons on the camera’s remote. The video from the VHS tape should be displayed on the TV and the camera’s screen. The camera should now say ‘REC’ in the upper right of the screen.
10. When the video has all been recorded, just press stop on the camera and VCR, turn all devices off, and return all cables and accessories to the camera bag.