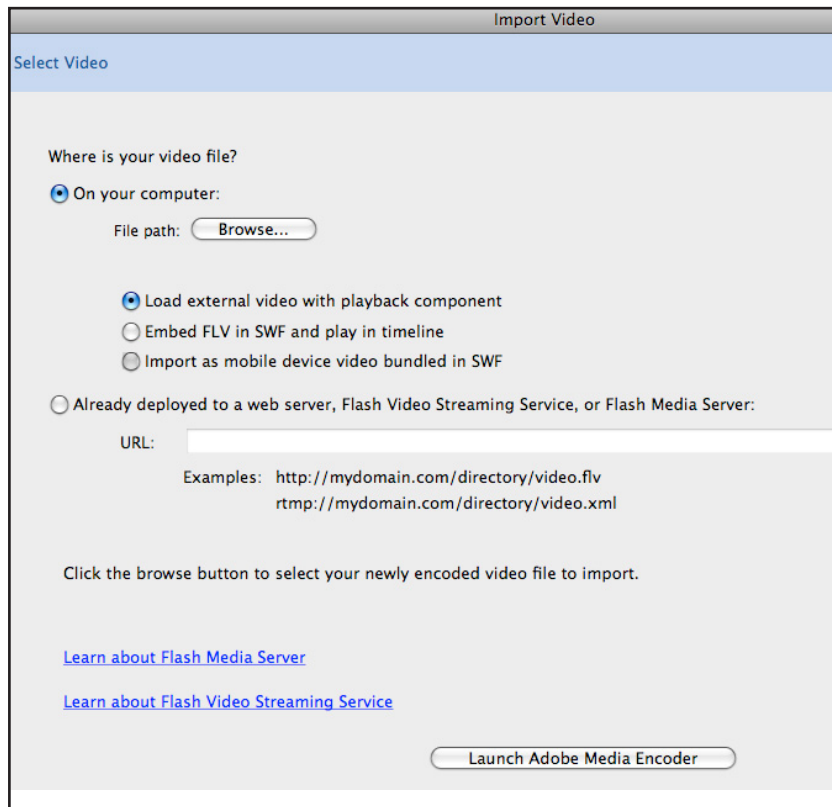


Video and Flash and the web

How to encode a Flash Video File (.flv)

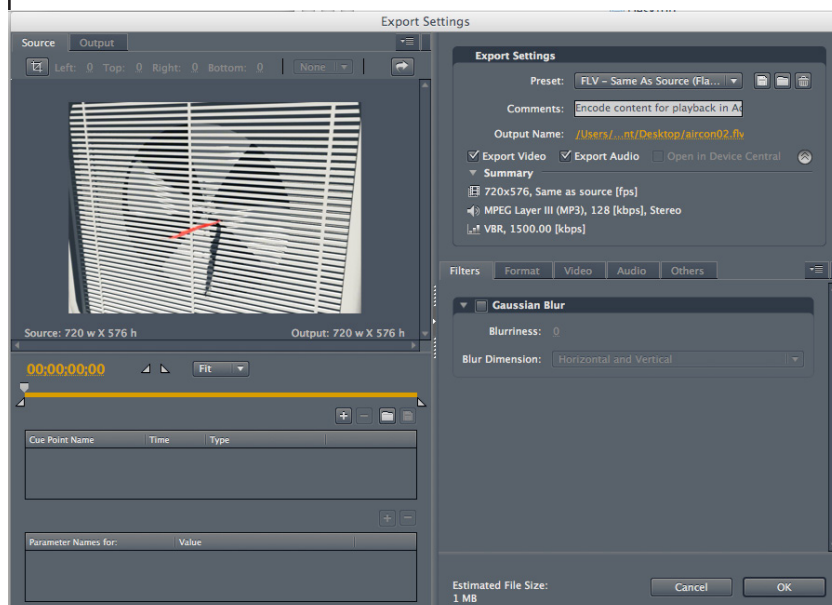
FLV files are a codec to save video that allows playback and streaming in Flash and third party applications. Basically it is a good way to save videos for the web, because it can combine high quality with low file size. FLV is supported and used by many big names, including youTube - when a user uploads a file to youTube the youTube server encodes that video into an .flv file. When you watch youTube you watch the flv video in a flash authored player. So it is worth learning.



Encode and Embed Video File > import > import video

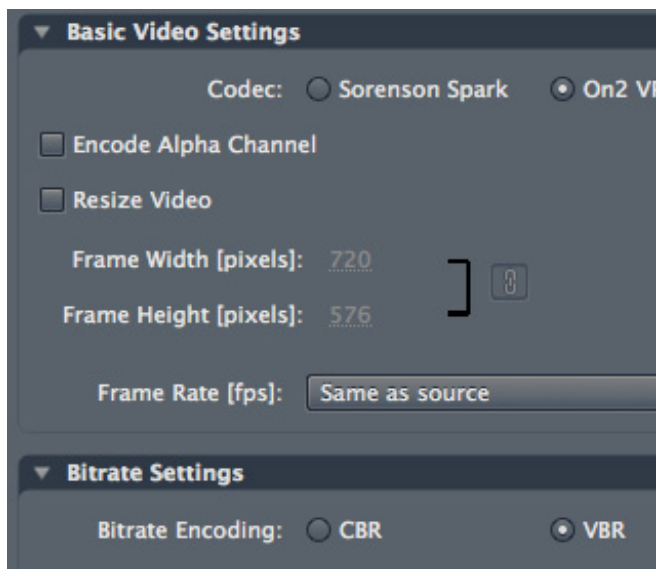
In the import window (left) browse to the video file. If your files needs encoding it will tell you to launch the Adobe Media Encoder which you can open with the button at the bottom of the window.

To Embed the video into the timeline select the 'embed' option and Flash will import the video onto the timeline for you.



Media Encoder

The adobe media encoder is a 'one stop shop' for all your encoding needs. You can access it through flash, Premiere and After Effects or you can use the app on it's own. There are quite a few presets for encoding files and most of the time these will be suitable for your needs, but sometimes you will need custom settings which give you greater control.



Main settings to configure

Video dimensions: you can resize video.

Frame rate: you can change the frame rate.

Bitrate settings: **CBR** or constant bit rate keeps the amount of data that is saved over time the same, good for keeping constant quality. **VBR** or variable bit rate will vary the amount of data being saved over time by saving less when there is not much change happening to the video.

The Bit Rate: The bitrate is the amount of data to save per second. This will greatly affect image quality. Over 850 should be ok for most video.

Controlling flash video with Actionscript

Below is the code for embedding video into flash, You just need to copy the code below and put it in the actions window on the first frame of the flash timeline. You then add a FlashPlayback widget to the stage and name it "player".

```
import fl.video.FLVPlayback;
import fl.video.VideoEvent;

var videoPath:String = "aircon02.flv";
player.source = videoPath;
player.addEventListener(VideoEvent.COMPLETE, next);

function next(evt:VideoEvent):void{
    var videoPath:String = "aircon02.flv";
    player.source = videoPath;
    player.play();
}
```

The code above gives simply plays a video called aircon02.flv and loops it. Actionscript gives you a lot of control by adding a couple of lines to the above code you could create a long playlist for videos on your site by creating a list in flash naming the videos and when one finishes another would play.

Embedding Video into Flash timeline

flash allows you to import video into the flash timeline. This then allows you to use the video for animation. The video sits in a layer in the timeline and allows you to draw over the top of it and also to move and tween the position/ rotation/ skew and colour of the video. Animators use this technique often for rotoscoping.

<http://www.voidix.com/Rotoscope.html>

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dKKnMgDF_ks