

Using Windows Movie Maker Creating a Music Slide Show or Video

In this assignment you will select a song, a video or images to illustrate the song, import them into Windows Movie Maker, and coordinate the timing of the images with the song.

1. I will make some songs available on my website or on the common drive on the network server. You can also use one of your own, subject to my approval. **Save a copy of your song to your folder** (I suggest creating a new folder with the name of the song. Make sure that you **CREATE THE FOLDER UNDER YOUR NAME**, not under the My Documents folder of the computer you happen to be working at.)
2. It will also be useful to have a copy of the lyrics of the song available (If you are creating the text for an ad or promo, write out the copy first). Go to Google and type in the name of the song and the word “lyrics.” Knowing **the lyrics will give you ideas for images.**
3. In Google, type in a keyword to **locate images that might be good** for illustrating the song you’ve chosen. Click on Images at the top to see images for your search.
4. Click on an image in Google, and click once again where it says “See full size image.” When the complete image appears, **save the image to your folder** by right-clicking on it and selecting “Save As...”
5. Continue until you have **enough images to make a decent slide show** (in my sample for “Where Have All the Flowers Gone,” I have 37 images for a 3 minute song, about one image every 10 seconds).
6. **Launch Windows Movie Maker.**
7. Click on the Collections button in the toolbar (if you can’t see it, click on menu **View → Collections**).
8. In the Collections pane, right-click on Collections and select **New Collection**.
9. Create a New Collection and **give it the name of your song.**
10. Click on the Tasks button in the toolbar (if you can’t see it, click on menu **View → Task Pane**).
11. Click on **Import audio or music**. Locate the song you saved and click on Import.
12. You should now have that song in your collections pane. To make use of that song, click on the song, hold down the mouse button, and **drag it to the Audio/music part of timeline** at the bottom of the window.
13. Before you go too far, you should save your project. Go to menu **File → Save Project As...** and save the project song name in your folder.
14. With the Movie Tasks pane still visible, click on **Import Pictures**. Locate the folder where you saved your pictures and select as many of them as you want. Click Import. All the pictures you select will be brought into the Collection.
15. Click and **drag each picture to the Video portion of the timeline** in the order you want the pictures to be displayed in your slideshow (you can always change the order later).



16. To make a title slide or other text effects, go to menu **Tools → Titles and Credits**.
17. To create transition effects, go to menu **Tools → Video Transitions**.
18. To get the timing just the way you want it, play the slide show in the right viewing pane. The timeline below shows the progress of the song and the placement of the images.
19. Pause the song, and adjust the images by clicking on an image and moving your mouse to the right edge of the image. Your cursor turns into a red double arrow. Click it and drag the image left to shorten the amount of time the image is displayed; drag it to the right to lengthen the amount of time the image is displayed.
20. There are lots of other effects and tricks, just play around and use your imagination.
21. When you are all done, make sure to **save the project file**. This is not the final product.
22. Next, you have to **convert the project file** and all the images, video, audio, and text **into a single movie file** that can be easily saved onto a flash drive, CD, or posted on the web. Go to **File → Save Movie File...**
23. Select the choice **My Computer**. Click **Next**.
24. Give the file a name (keep the same name if you like, and select the folder to save it in). Click **Next**. On the next screen, accept the default choice for the movie setting “Best quality for playback on my computer.” Click “**Next**” again and it will save.