



# iDVD Quick Guide

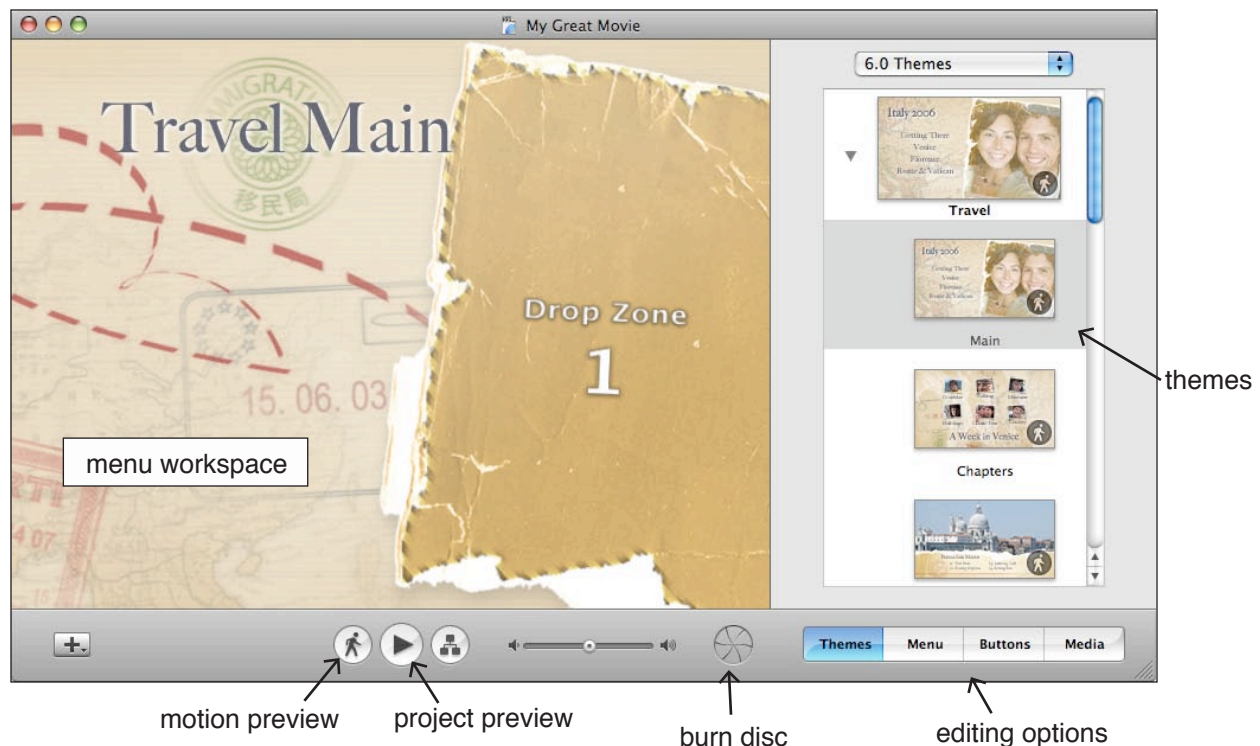
iDVD allows you to burn playable DVDs of your finished digital stories. You can customize the DVD menus with your own photos, video, and text, as well as create a DVD featuring more than one digital story.

## Step 1 — Open Program

When you open iDVD, a window comes up with several options. Choose Create a New Project. Next you will be prompted to give your project a name and choose a location to save it. Navigate to your folder on the desktop and name your project before clicking Save. (We recommend calling it your first and last nameDVD.)

When the program opens, you will see a window with two main sections and buttons along the bottom. On the left is the workspace where you will build your DVD menus. When you open iDVD, this space may be blank or may show a default theme. On the right is a section that will show you different options for building your menu. When you open the program, a list of available menu themes is shown.

Here's a map of what the iDVD workspace looks like. The main tools you will be using to make your story are labeled.



## Step 2 — Choosing a Theme

The theme that you choose will set the basic look of your DVD menu. iDVD has a variety of themes to choose from. Some are simple and would work well with any project, while others are designed with a more specific look, like the Travel example shown above. The other thing to keep in mind when choosing a theme is that some themes include motion effects or background music, which may or may not fit the feeling of your story. When you click on the icon for a theme, it will then appear in the main workspace and you can see how it will look. Click the Motion Preview button to preview any motion effects.

### **Step 3 — Fill Drop Zones and Add Movies**

All themes have at least one area designated as a drop zone. This drop zone can either be filled with a photo or a video. To add a photo or video to the drop zone, use the Finder to locate the file, then drag and drop it into the drop zone.

In most themes, the drop zones are only decorative parts of the menu. You can choose to place your movie in a drop zone, if you want the first few seconds of your movie to play while the menu is on screen.

To add your movie to the menu and make it a clickable button, use the Finder to locate the file, then drag and drop it onto any part of the menu space that is not a drop zone. Make sure you are using the full-frame, uncompressed DV version of your story. The name of the file will appear as text. This text now becomes a clickable button, and when clicked, your movie will play. You can add several different movies to the menu in this way.

### **Step 4 — Editing Text and Button Appearance**

You can edit both the plain text titles and the clickable buttons that appear on your menu. To change the text that appears either on a title or a button, click once on the text to highlight it, then type the words you want.

To change the color, font, or size of a title, select it, then click the Menu button on the bottom right. Then use the controls that appear to modify the text.

To change the appearance of buttons, select the buttons you want to change, then click on the Button tab in the bottom right. Use the controls that appear to modify the button.

### **Step 5 — Preview Your Project**

Once you've designed the menu to look the way you want, you can preview your project to see the way it would look on a DVD player. Click the Preview button and your project will open in a new window. You will then see the way the menu will look on the final DVD. Click on the buttons for each of your movies to make sure they load correctly and that the DVD functions the way you want it to.

### **Step 6 — Burn a DVD**

Once you've previewed your project, you are ready to burn it to DVD. To burn a DVD, click the round Burn button at the bottom of the screen. A window will appear prompting you to insert a blank DVD. Once you've inserted the disc, iDVD will begin processing your project. Depending on how complex your project is, it may take a long time to process and burn. Even a 3-5 minute digital story can take an hour to burn to DVD.