



About Us



Contact Us



News

[Home](#) • [Products](#) • [Demo](#) • [Download](#) • [Purchase](#) • [Support](#) • [Resources](#)

MacVCD X FAQ

MacVCD X for Mac OS X

- [Overview](#)
- [Key Features](#)
- [Specifications](#)
- [System Requirements](#)
- [Screen Shot](#)
- [MacVCD X Tutorial](#)
- [FAQ](#)
- [Read the Documentation \(pdf\)](#)
- [Upgrade Info](#)

MacVCD X Tutorial

Quick Start

- [How to install MacVCD X](#)
- [How to upgrade MacVCD X](#)

Playback

- [How to play VCD, XVCD](#)
- [How to play SVCD, XSVCD](#)
- [How to play MPEG, DV, Quicktime Movie](#)
- [How to play AVI, DivX, XviD](#)
- [How to play a Photo VCD](#)
- [How to play a multi language soundtrack](#)
- [How to play a Karaoke VCD](#)

X MacVCD X VCD / Video Player

Mac OS X 10.2.8+
Quicktime 5+

[Try It](#) **Download Free Trial**
[Buy It](#) **\$29.95 (CD-ROM)**
[Buy It](#) **\$19.95 (Download)**
[More Info](#)

Mireth Multimedia Software

- [iVCD VCD Converter/Burner](#)
- [MacVCD X](#)

1. [What are the System Requirements for running MacVCD X?](#)
2. [Why do I need MacVCD X if I have Quicktime Player? Don't they do the same thing?](#)
3. [Is there an OS 9 version of MacVCD X?](#)

Registration and Installation

4. [How do I install / uninstall the program?](#)
5. [When I run the program, it displays the "Registration" dialog. What's wrong?](#)
6. [When I try to register, the "Invalid Registration Information" message is displayed. What's wrong?](#)
7. [I can't find a place to put the Registration Information. What's wrong?](#)
8. [How do I know if I've successfully registered the product?](#)

Sound

9. [Why do I hear more than one soundtrack at the same time?](#)
10. [I've tried more than one VCD. MacVCD won't play the sound on any VCD. Why?](#)
11. [MacVCD plays the sound on other disks, but will not play this one disk. Why?](#)

Playback

12. [Will MacVCD X Play AVI, DivX and other video formats?](#)
13. [Why can't I get MacVCD X to play this one VCD?](#)
14. [Why can't I get MacVCD X to play any VCD?](#)
15. [Why can't I play a DVD on my Macintosh using MacVCD X?](#)
16. [I tried to run MacVCD X under OS X 10.0 and now I can't get the VCD out of the drive. What do I do?](#)
17. [MacVCD X skips frames in full screen mode. The playback is choppy. Why?](#)
18. [MacVCD X skips frames in fast motion mode. The playback is choppy. Why?](#)
19. [I can't get "hands free" to work. Why?](#)
20. [When I try to play an AVI, DivX, SVCD on Mac Intel, my Mac can't find the component. What's wrong?](#)

Saving and Editing

21. [What is the difference between saving a Quicktime movie and a Self-Contained Quicktime movie?](#)
22. [How do I select the segment of the movie I want to copy or clear?](#)
23. [How do I remove commercials?](#)
24. [How do I make a favorite scenes movie?](#)
25. [Can I edit saved movies using iMovie or Final Cut?](#)
26. [Your FAQ doesn't answer my question/I need further help. What do I do?](#)

1. What are the System Requirements for running MacVCD X?

To run MacVCD X you must have:

- Macintosh™ PowerPC G3 or later
- Mac OS X ® 10.1 or later
- QuickTime® 5 or later

To run MacVCD X, for optimum performance, we recommend:

- Macintosh™ PowerPC G3 or later
- Mac OS X ® 10.1.5 or later
- QuickTime® 6 or later

To play a movie in full screen, you need:

- Macintosh™ PowerPC 400 mhz or faster
- For some Macintoshes, Mac OS X 10.1.5 or later

To play a movie in fast motion, you need:

- Macintosh™ PowerPC 500 mhz or faster

To play a Super VCD movie, you need:

- Mac OS X ® 10.1 or later

**VCD/Video Player
for Mac OS X**

- [MacVCD](#)
VCD/Video Player
for Mac OS 9 (& OS 8)
- [Mac SVCD Bundle](#)
SVCD Converter/
Burner/Player Software
- [Music Man](#)
MP3/WAV/Ogg Ripper/
Converter/Burner/Player

-
- QuickTime® 6 or later
- Apple's Quicktime MPEG2 Playback Component, available for purchase from apple. For more information, see our links http://www.mireth.com/links/lmx_dv.html

To use the "hands free" feature, you need:

- Macintosh™ PowerPC 400 mhz or faster
- USB stereo Headset (headphones and microphone)

we used the [Plantronics](#) DSP-300 Headset

Resources

[top](#)

- [All about VCD, SVCD](#)
- [MacVCD X Tutorial](#)
- [Links](#)

2. Why do I need MacVCD X if I have Quicktime Player? Don't they do the same thing?

Both MacVCD X and Apple's Quicktime Player are movie players. Some of the differences are:

- Quicktime Player will only play VCDs on OS X 10.4 or later. MacVCD X will play VCDs on Mac OS X 10.0 or later
- Quicktime Player will not play Super VCDs under OS X. MacVCD X will (with purchase of Apple's Quicktime MPEG2 Component)
- Quicktime Player Pro supports full screen playback, but the free version, Quicktime Player does not. MacVCD X supports full screen playback
- Quicktime Player Pro has keyboard control when in full screen playback. MacVCD X has an optional menu bar and movie controller, as well as keyboard control and speech activated control when in full screen playback
- MacVCD X features floating window playback so you can watch a movie while you work on other other applications

[top](#)

3. Is there an OS 9 version of MacVCD X?

Yes there is. Refer to our site at <http://www.mireth.com/pub/mvme.html>

[top](#)

4. How do I install/uninstall the program?

For complete instructions on how to install or uninstall, please see the Read Me file included in the software's documentation.

[top](#)

5. When I run the program, it displays the "Registration" dialog. What's wrong?

You are trying to run the program without entering valid Registration Information.

- If you want to quit, click the "Quit" Button
- If you are trying to run the demo, click the "Run Demo" Button. For further information, refer to the Read Me in the documentation folder.
- If you want to purchase the product now, click "Buy Now".
- If you want to register the program, enter the Registration Information and click the "Register" Button. If you purchased online, the Registration Information is in the email we sent you. If you purchased from a retail outlet, the Registration Information is printed on the CD and packaging. For further information about registering, refer to the Read Me in the documentation folder.
- If you have already bought a Registration key/Serial Number, have entered it and are getting this message, there is an error in the registration information you have entered. For further information, see the ["When I try to register, the "Invalid Registration Information" message is displayed"](#) question in this faq.

[top](#)

6. When I try to register, the "Invalid Registration Information" message is displayed. What's wrong?

There is an error in the registration information you entered. Please follow these steps:

1. Verify that you entered the correct License Type. If you purchased online, check that the License Type you entered matches the one in the email you received from us. If you purchased from a retail outlet, use the License Type "Individual"

2. Verify that you entered the correct Purchaser's ID. If you purchased online, enter the Email address used when the product was purchased. If you purchased from a retail outlet, use the Purchaser's ID that came with the product.
3. Verify that you entered the Serial Number correctly. Check for the following common problems:
 - typing the letter O or I instead of the number 0 or 1
 - transposing 2 digits
 - adding extra spaces before or after the Purchaser's ID or Serial Number
 - entering the registration information more than once (click in the field and scroll with the arrow keys to see this)
 - entering the registration information for the wrong product.
4. If that didn't solve the problem, delete your preferences file and configure again. The preferences file's location is: "\$HOME/Library/Preferences/com.mireth.macvcdx.plist"
5. If that didn't solve the problem, send a copy of your preferences file to Product Support (support@mireth.com) so we can determine the nature of the problem. The preferences file's location is: "\$HOME/Library/Preferences/com.mireth.macvcdx.plist"

[top](#)

7. I can't find a place to put the Registration Information. What's wrong?

The Registration Dialog Box will be displayed when you start the program, only if it is not registered. If the Dialog Box is not displayed, your copy is already registered. This may happen if:

- You are already a registered user and you have downloaded a free upgrade. Your old registration information is retained. You don't need to re-register.
- You used the "Buy Now" button when you purchased the product. The "Buy Now" button not only allows you to buy the software, it registers the software for you as well. Keep the Registration Information email we send you for your records, in case you ever have to re-install.

[top](#)

8. How do I know if I've successfully registered the product?

To verify whether the product is already registered, start it up. If the product is unregistered, the "Register" dialog will be displayed. If the product is registered, the "Register" dialog will not be displayed.

[top](#)

9. Why do I hear more than one soundtrack at the same time?

VCDs support multi-language soundtracks by recording one language on the mono left soundtrack and the other on the mono right soundtrack. If you play a multi-language soundtrack in stereo, you will hear both languages at the same time. To hear only one language, use the Sound Menu to select Mono Left or Mono Right, depending on which track has the language you select.

[top](#)

10. I've tried more than one VCD. MacVCD won't play the sound on any VCD. Why?

If you are using OS X make sure you are running MacOS X 10.1.5 or later and have installed Quicktime 6. Here are some possible causes:

1. The system volume level is set too low. In order to hear sound, both the system volume level and the MacVCD volume level must be set sufficiently high. To determine whether the system volume is set too low, see whether you get sound playing something else.

Go to <http://www.apple.com/trailers> and play one of the movie trailers featured there. If you get sound, then the problem is not with your system volume.

2. The MacVCD volume is set too low. In order to hear sound, both the MacVCD volume level must be set sufficiently high. To determine whether the MacVCD volume is set too low, turn the volume up. For further information, please refer to the MacVCD X Read me.

[top](#)

11. MacVCD plays the sound on other disks, but will not play this one disk. Why?

If you are using OS X make sure you are running MacOS X 10.1.5 or later and have installed

Quicktime 6. Here are some possible causes:

1. The VCD has no sound track or no sound in the first minute of play for the MacVCD demo. To determine whether the VCD has a sound track, play it using QuickTime or on another machine, (a stand-alone VCD or DVD player, a Windows or Unix computer).
2. The disk is dirty. Clean it and try again.
3. The disk is corrupted or scratched.
4. The disk is not a VCD. There are many formats available and MacVCD only support Video CD (VCD) and Super VCD (sVCD). Ensure that the disk is not some other format, such as
 - HQ-VCD, DVD, Compact Disc Interactive (CD-i), CD-i Bridge, Video Compact disk (CD-V or LD), China Video Disc (CVD), DVCD, Compact Disc Graphics (CD+G)

[top](#)

12. Will MacVCD X Play AVI, DivX and other video formats?

Yes. MacVCD X is based on Quicktime technology and so it will play any supported Quicktime media. In addition you can install Quicktime components to easily increase the media types that MacVCD X will play.

Here is a short list, by no means exhaustive, of movies you can watch with MacVCDX:

MPEG Player:

- MPEG1 - VCD, MP3, XVCD
- MPEG2 - SVCD*, XSVCD*
- MPEG4

Digital Video Player:

- AVI*, DivX*, XviD*, Quicktime Movie (.mov), DV, DVC, DV Pal, Photo VCD, Karaoke VCD, Apple Video, Component video, Sorenson Video 2 & 3, Microsoft OLE & Video 1

Quicktime Movie (.mov) Player:

- Quicktime Movie (.mov)

Other:

- most other video, animation, image and audio format

And the list goes on. By choosing a Quicktime based movie player your options are limitless. And you get all the great features, full screen, floating window, automatic TV sensing, with all of these media types.

* Requires third party component. See [System Requirements](#)

[top](#)

13. Why can't I get MacVCD X to play this one VCD?

Is the problem with the disk?

Try playing it on another machine, (a stand-alone VCD or DVD player, a Windows or Unix computer). If it does not play, the problem is with the disk. Here are some possible solutions:

1. Some VCDs don't play due to poor mastering. Try making a copy of the VCD since the copy may play. This is the most common problem with VCDs that play on Windows but not on the Macintosh.
2. The disk is dirty. Clean it and try again.
3. The disk is corrupted or scratched.
4. The disk is not in a format playable by the machine. There are many formats available. Ensure that the disk in question is a Video CD (VCD) and not some other format.

Is the problem with the Macintosh computer?

Try playing the disk on a non-Macintosh machine. If it plays, then the problem is either with the Macintosh computer, or with MacVCD X. Here are some possible solutions:

1. The disk is not a VCD. There are many formats available and MacVCD X only support Video CD (VCD) and Super VCD (sVCD). Ensure that the disk is not some other format, such as: HQ-VCD, DVD, Compact Disc Interactive (CD-i), CD-i Bridge, Video Compact disk (CD-V or LD), China Video Disc (CVD), DVCD, Compact Disc Graphics (CD+G)

[top](#)

14. Why can't I get MacVCD X to play any VCD?

Make sure you are running Mac OS X 10.1.5 or later and have installed Quicktime 6. Here are some other possible causes:

1. The machine does not meet the system requirements. For further information, see the "[What are the System Requirements for running MacVCD X](#)" question in this faq.

To verify that this is not the problem, go to the finder and select the "About this Mac" from the Apple Menu

If this does not solve the problem, try the solutions presented in the "[Why can't I get MacVCD X to play this one VCD](#)" question in this faq.

[top](#)

15. Why can't I play a DVD on my Macintosh using MacVCD X?

MacVCD X is a Video CD (VCD) player, not a Digital Versatile Disc (DVD) player. There are two types of drives found in Macintosh computers,

- CD-ROM drives which can read CDs and VCDs, and
- DVD-ROM drives which can read DVDs, CDs and VCDs

There is no software that will allow you to play a DVD in a CD-ROM drive. To play DVD movies on your Macintosh, you need a DVD-ROM drive, so if you don't have one, you may want to consider upgrading your hardware.

However, DVDs are not the only way to play movies on your computer. You can also use your Macintosh to play VCD movies. To play VCD movies on your Macintosh, you need either a CD-ROM drive or a DVD-ROM, and a software Video CD Player, like MacVCD X.

[top](#)

16. I tried to run MacVCD X under OS X 10.0 and now I can't get the VCD out of the drive. What do I do?

This is a known problem with OS X 10.0. Since this version did not support VCDs, the disks gets stuck in the CD drive, since it does not appear on the desktop. There are two ways to get it out:

- Reboot while holding down the mouse button. This may demount the CD
- Reboot your computer using OS 9. The VCD will appear on the desktop and you can then eject it.

If neither of these work, please contact Apple.

This problem has been fixed in OS X 10.1

[top](#)

17. MacVCD X skips frames in full screen mode. The playback is choppy. Why?

This is a known issue with Pioneer 104 Superdrives and SuperVCDs. It has been reported to Apple. All other optical drives are known to work.

Your Macintosh is not fast enough to play VCDs in full screen mode from a CD drive. A 400 mhz machine is required to support full screen playback. To solve the problem, try the following:

- Make sure you are running Mac OS X 10.1.5 or later and Quicktime 6.
- Play the movie in a resizable window (Edit>Toggle Full Screen). You can configure the preferences (Edit>Preferences) to not use full screen by unchecking the Present Movie on Full Screen checkbox.
- Set your display to thousands of colors instead of millions of colors. On slow machines this improves overall performance.
- Set your display to a lower resolution. On slow machines this improves overall performance.

[top](#)

18. MacVCD X skips frames in fast motion mode. The playback is choppy. Why?

Your Macintosh is not fast enough to play VCDs in fast motion mode. A 500 mhz machine is required to support fast motion playback.

[top](#)

19. I can't get "hands free" to work.

Your Macintosh is not fast enough to support "hands free" mode. A 300 mhz machine is required.

[top](#)

20. When I try to play an AVI, DivX, SVCD on Mac Intel, my Mac can't find the component. What's wrong?

When playing video formats that require a third party component on an Intel Mac, the finder may report that it can't find the component. To correct this, follow these instructions:

- quit from MacVCD X
- do a Get Info on the MacVCD X program (highlight the MacVCD X icon and press the Apple + I keys)
- On the Get Info Dialog, check the "Open using Rosetta"
- Restart MacVCD X

[top](#)

21. What is the difference between saving a Quicktime movie and a Self-Contained Quicktime movie?

The following table summarizes the differences:

(Reference) Quicktime Movie	Self Contained Quicktime Movie
Very small - uses very little hard disk space.	Quite large - can use hundreds of megabytes off hard disk space.
Requires the CD	Does not require the CD
Shorter battery life (because the optical drive is powered).	Longer battery life (because the movie plays off hard disk)
Good performance on the latest machines	Good performance on slower machines.

[top](#)

22. How do I select the segment of the movie I want to copy or clear?

To select hold down the shift key and click in the movie controller. The selected part of the movie will be shown as a dark grey section of the controller. While holding the shift key down use the left and right arrow keys to fine tune the selection.

When ready select Edit->Copy or Edit->Clear. To paste a copied selection, activate the new movie (File->New if you have not already done so) by clicking it, position to where you want to insert the new scene, select Edit->Paste.

When ready select File->Save to save the new movie.

[top](#)

23. How do I remove commercials?

Do the following:

1. Insert a VCD or Open a movie
2. If the movie is playing press the space bar to stop it
3. Edit->Select All
4. File->New
5. Edit->Paste
6. Select a commercial by holding down the Shift key and click and drag in the movie controller
7. Edit->Clear
8. Repeat steps 6-7 for all commercials
9. File->Save

After the movie has been saved you can open it (File->Open) to watch commercial free. If you saved it Self Contained you can watch it using any Quicktime Movie Player. If you saved it as a reference movie you need to insert the VCD, stop playback, open the new movie (File->Open) in MacVCD X.

[top](#)**24. How do I make a favorite scenes movie?**

Do the following:

1. Insert a VCD or Open a movie
2. If the movie is playing press the space bar to stop it
3. File->New
4. Click on the original movie
5. Select a desired scene by holding down the Shift key and click and drag in the movie controller
6. Edit->Copy
7. Click on the new movie
8. Edit->Paste
9. Repeat steps 4-8 for all desired scenes
10. File->Save

After the movie has been saved you can open it (File->Open) to watch favorite scenes. If you saved it Self Contained you can watch it using any Quicktime Movie Player. If you saved it as a reference movie you need to insert the VCD, stop playback, open the new movie (File->Open) in MacVCD X.

NOTE: Self contained movies require all media (this limit is imposed by Quicktime) no matter how many scenes you select. So even if you pick 1 minute you will still need hundreds of megabytes of disk space. The solution is to use reference movies and keep the CD in the optical drive.

[top](#)**25. Can I edit saved movies using iMovie or Final Cut?**

No. Editing in MacVCD X for basics (removing commercials or making a favorite scenes reference movie) is all that this feature is intended to accomplish. Its not designed to let you do general purpose editing of VCD content.

[top](#)**26. Your FAQ doesn't answer my question/I need further help. What do I do?**

If your question is not answered, please contact Product Support at support@mireth.com. Please include the following information:

- Problem description
- If you are having problems with a particular product, please include the following information as well:
 - What product and version you are having problems with.
To find the version number,
Mac: single click the product icon and Get Info
(OS8/9- File:Get Info) (OSX- File:Show Info)
Windows: single click the product icon and show properties (File:Properties:Version tab)
 - What OS version you are running.
To find the version number,
Mac: OS8/9: (Apple Menu>About this Computer)
OS X: (Apple Menu>About this Mac)
Windows: (Start Menu:My Computer:Help>About Windows)
 - Whether you are using the demo version or the registered version of the product

[top](#)