

How to Get Started with YouTube

What is YouTube?

YouTube is a video hosting website where users can upload, view, share and comment on videos. Uploaded videos can be shared across the Internet through other websites, or via e-mail.

How to Get Started

First, sign up for a free YouTube membership to upload videos. Make sure your username is easy to remember for both yourself and your viewers.

To create videos, you will need a digital video camera, for example a FlipVideo, and some sort of video editing software, such as QuickTime Pro or iMovie (Mac), Windows Movie Maker (Windows), etc. There is a 10 minute limit for videos on YouTube. Many video formats are acceptable (.AVI, .MOV, .WMV and .MPEG file formats are the easiest to use, but other formats are also possible- see the YouTube Help for more information).

To upload a video:

1. Create a YouTube account and log in. Click the "Upload" button in the upper right-hand corner of any YouTube page.
2. Enter the information about your video and choose whether you want your video set to Public or Private. Click the "Upload a Video..." button and continue to follow the instructions on the screen. Once your video has been uploaded, YouTube will automatically convert for use in the YouTube player. This usually takes just a few minutes. Your video should be live shortly thereafter.
3. Be sure to check the feedback on your videos often so you can reply to genuine comments. YouTube viewers can sometimes be harsh, and you also have the ability to delete any inappropriate comments.

YouTube Channels

Everyone who joins YouTube can have a profile page, which is called a "Channel". It is a centralized location where other users can see your public videos.

Go to your account and click on "My Channel." You can customize your channel to your organization's color scheme, put up a logo, etc. Make any changes you want and then click the "Update Channel" button to see your changes take effect.