Using the Sony Digital Video Camera Recorder

Getting to know the camera:

1. **Choose your disc**: There are two types of discs to choose from, the 8 cm DVD-R and the 8 cm DVD-RW. DVD-Rs can be recorded only once and are suitable for long-term records and for making back-up copies. They must be recorded in VIDEO mode. DVD-RWs can be overwritten repeatedly and are suitable for source gathering and temporary recordings. They can be recorded in VIDEO or VR mode.

2. **Play compatibility**: The DVD-R (VIDEO mode) disc is compatible with a DVD player or computer with a DVD drive installed. The DVD-RW (in VIDEO or VR mode) disc is compatible with a DVD player or computer that sustains the appropriate mode format. For further explanation see equipment instructions on page 7 of the instruction manual.

Preparing the camera:

1. **Charging the installed battery**: Make sure the battery pack is installed on the camcorder. Open the DC IN jack cover, and connect the AC adapter to the DC IN jack with the arrow facing up. Connect the power cord to a wall outlet. When charging begins, the Power/CHG lamp lights in orange and turns off when charging is complete. Disconnect after charging. See instruction manual for approximate charging times.

2. **Turning the camera on**: Press POWER button with the green center to turn the camera on. The Power/CHG lamp should be lit green.
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Preparing the camera continued:

3. **Adjusting the LCD display**: Open the LCD screen. Adjust the direction of the LCD screen to the desired position. Before adjusting the angle of the screen, make sure the screen has been opened to a 90 degree position.

   ![Adjusting the LCD display](image)

   Pull LCD display screen out to open position (90 degrees) from camera.

   Gently tilt the display screen until the view is comfortable.

   Multi-selector
   SETUP button

To adjust the brightness of the LCD display, press SETUP on the control panel. A list of selections will appear on the LCD screen. Use the multi-selector to select LCD/VF SET and then LCD BRIGHT. Then use the multi-selector to adjust the brightness: — darker, + brighter.

![Select LCD BRIGHT](image)

**NOTE**: The multi-selector operates much like a joystick. Use the arrows to guide your selections. For example, to scroll down a list, press the arrow down edge of the multi-selector. Press the edge until your choice is highlighted on the LCD screen. When necessary, press the middle of the multi-selector to make your choice.

![Multi-selector](image)

4. **Adjusting the viewfinder**: Pull the viewfinder back to extend it, and then tilt it up to an angle that accommodates your position. Turn the viewfinder lens adjustment dial until your view is clear and in focus. **NOTE**: The LCD screen must be closed to see through the viewfinder.
Preparing a disc for recording:

1. Set the mode dial to Movie or Still. Turn on the power. Slide the disc cover OPEN switch in the direction of the arrow. A melody will ring just before the cover opens. After the cover opens partially, open it completely. With the label facing out, press the disc into position over the center spindle; you should hear it click. Close the disc cover. NOTE: Be sure that the grip belt is pulled away from the disc cover before opening.

2. The camcorder will begin to recognize the inserted disc. You may start recording immediately with a DVD-R; however, you must format a DVD-RW disc. The FORMAT display will appear on the LCD when you insert a DVD-RW disc. Use the multi-selector to select REC FORMAT. Then select the desired recording format; VIDEO is the default setting. Select EXECUTE and then YES. The disc formatting will begin. When it is completed, you are ready to begin recording.

3. Use the grip to hold the camcorder. Do not hold it by the viewfinder, the LCD screen, or the battery pack. The grip is adjustable.

Shooting Movies:

1. Remove the lens cap. Open the LCD screen. Set the mode dial to Movie. NOTE: The mode dial encircles the Power button. Press the Power button if you have not already. Your camera is now in Standby position. To start recording, press one of the START/STOP buttons. One button is next to the Power button, and the other is to the left of the LCD screen. Use the same button to stop recording. When you are recording, the LCD displays various indicators.
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Using various functions:

2. To select the recording mode, press SETUP from the control panel. Use the multi-selector to choose, DISC SET (DISC SET is the fourth icon down in the left column of the display) and then REC MODE. Select your record mode: HQ-High Quality-20 minutes; SP-Standard play-30 minutes, LP-Long play-60 minutes. Times are approximate and refer to a single-sided disc.

3. Functions in the black section of the control pad are playback options. When you have finished recording, or if you want to check your video, select on the mode dial. The LCD screen will display files of your movies by clip. Use the multi-selector to choose the clip you’d like to view. Then use the functions in black to view your video.

4. To use the Zoom feature, simply move the zoom power lever. Move it toward W for wide angle images. Move it toward T for telephoto. You can control the speed of the zoom with the lever.

Tips:

- When you shoot a subject with the light source behind the subject or a subject with a light background, use the backlight.
- Adjust the exposure manually if you need a fine adjustment or if recording dark pictures. Press EXPOSURE and use the multi-selector to adjust.
- Use Nightshot Plus to shoot video at night. Simply slide the switch on.
- Use Super Nightshot Plus to make images more than sixteen times brighter than those recorded in Nightshot Plus.
- To focus manually, press the FOCUS button and use the multi-selector to adjust.
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NOTE: For additional informational on shooting techniques and special effects, see pages 47 through 54 in the instruction manual.

5. To check the most recent scene, set the mode dial to Movie or Still. Press REVIEW. The playback of the last scene starts. To return to recording, press REVIEW again. If the scene is not necessary or acceptable, you can delete the scene immediately. Press EDIT during the review. A display appears that reads DELETE?. Select EXEC with the multi-selector, and the scene is deleted. This function only works with DVD-RWs. Also, you cannot delete the most recent scene if you have moved the mode dial, turned the power off, or ejected the disc.

6. To play a disc on your camcorder, you can use the function keys on the camera control panel or the remote control. Set the mode dial to Play/Edit. Open the LCD screen and the Visual Index display appears. (If the Visual Index display does not appear, press Visual Index.)

Select the movie tab or the still tab, based on the type of scene you’d like to review. The thumbnail list screen appears. Use the multi-selector to choose the scene you’d like to play. When you select a movie, playback starts and continues until the last scene of the movie. When you select a still image, the image appears on the full screen. To adjust the volume during movie play, press + or — on the VOL button. The sound is muted when the LCD screen is closed. If the playback commands are not clear, see page 58 in the instruction manual for clarification. The Zoom lever also allows you to magnify images during playback.

Playback commands:

- Playback: ➤
- Pause: ■ ■
- Stop: ■
- Next: ➤ ➤

Finalizing the disc

1. To finalize the disc, connect the AC adaptor to the DC IN jack on the camcorder, and connect the power cord to the wall outlet. Turn the Power on. Press the FINALIZE button. The FINALIZE display will appear on the LCD display. Use the multi-selector to select EXECUTE. The confirmation display appears. Use the multi-selector to select YES, and press the button in the middle of the multi-selector to confirm your selection. Finalizing begins. Avoid camera vibration during this process. When COMPLETED appears on the LCD screen, press FINALIZE. If you have still shots mixed with movie shots, see page 65 in the instruction manual. To change the disc title, see page 67 in the Instruction manual.

2. Now, you can play a disc recorded in VIDEO mode on DVD players that can play DVD-Rs or DVD-RWs. Insert the disc into your machine, and use the DVD player controller to select and play movies. To play the movie on your computer, put the disc in the DVD drive and a DVD playback application should start automatically. If it does not start, start the application from the Start menu. Movies are stored in a folder named VIDEO_TS.
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Depending upon the sophistication of your project, you may want to consult the instruction manual for assistance with the following procedures.

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**NOTE:** ImageMixer software has been installed on the computers in the SANS Resource Center.

**Camera precautions:**

Avoid taking the camera from one extreme temperature to another. Condensation will build in the camera and cause malfunction. If moisture condensation does occur, turn off the camcorder and leave it for an hour.

Do not wrap the camera in any material like fabric; heat may build and cause malfunction.

If any solid or liquid gets inside the casing, unplug the camcorder and have it checked by a SONY dealer.

Avoid rough handling, and do not touch the screen of the LCD display.

Keep the power off when the camcorder is not in use.

Do not place the camera:

- In places with extreme heat
- Near a heater
- In locations subject to strong vibrations or magnetic fields
- In locations subject to strong electric or radio waves
- In sandy or dusty places