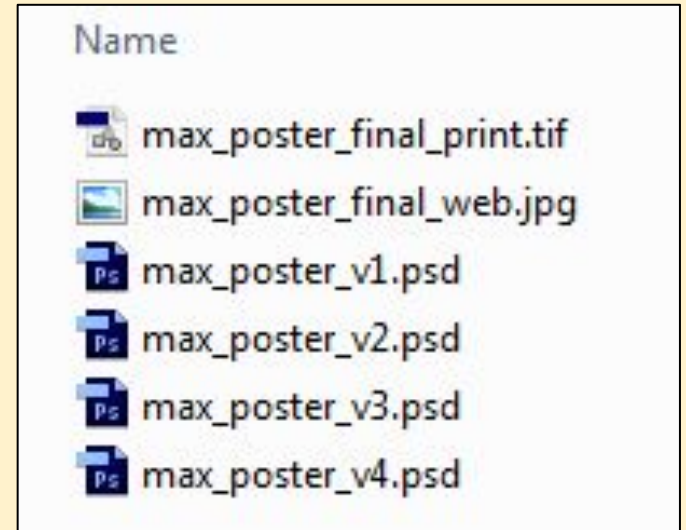


Video and Audio File Formats

File formats are the type of file you save work as.

Using the right format is important.



Using the right format for the right job is important

There are exam questions on this and it also gets you marks in every portfolio unit.

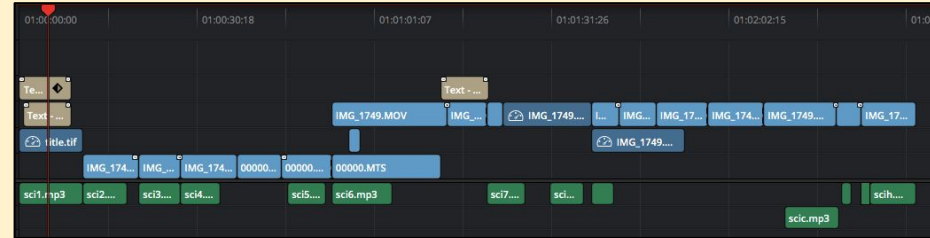
Video and Audio File Formats

Video Formats:

Video files can be very large.

Editing video is complex and can involve using lots of different resources.

The final video needs to be playable for the end user:



Each block is a different image, video, text or sound file in this 2 minute video.

File type	Features	Uses
AVI	High quality, but larger file size	Good for video running from a DVD or hard drive where quality matters
MP4	Lower quality, but smaller file size Works almost everywhere	Best for online streaming where low file size matters Quality may be lower

Video files can be used for finished animation pieces as well.




Video and Audio File Formats

Audio Formats:

Audio files just include sound.

High quality audio means large files.

Sometimes the quality of the audio is really important, sometimes it isn't.

Name	Size	Kind
 01-Bad Bo...606775.wav	34.8 MB	Wavef...m audio
 02 y lleisiau.mp3	6.9 MB	MP3 audio
 03 I'm a Cu...s Mix).m4a	8.2 MB	Apple...4 audio

Each of these files is a different audio format. All three tracks are about the same length.

File type	Features	Uses
WAV	Very high quality, but much larger file size	Good for audio on a CD or DVD
MP3	Lower quality, but smaller file size Works almost everywhere	Good for online streaming or playing on low quality audio devices such as phones.
m4a	High quality but difficult to use or edit	Used by iTunes to protect files so that they can't be copied. Can only be used on iTunes.

Video and Audio File Formats

Summary:

You need to be able to name a suitable format:

- AVI for high quality video
- MP4 for lower quality streaming video
- WAV for high quality audio
- MP3 for lower quality streaming audio

You just need to know the different file types in case an exam question comes up. This will only ever be worth a mark or two, but if you know them you'll get the mark.