Digitize your video tapes with...
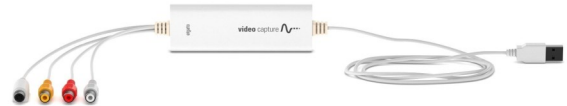
Elgato Video Capture

Use our Elgato video capture device to make digital video recordings.

You will use the Elgato video capture device to connect your video player (VCR or camcorder) to your computer via USB. You will need to download free software produced by Elgato, and will record your video in real time.

In the Surrey Libraries Video Capture kit:
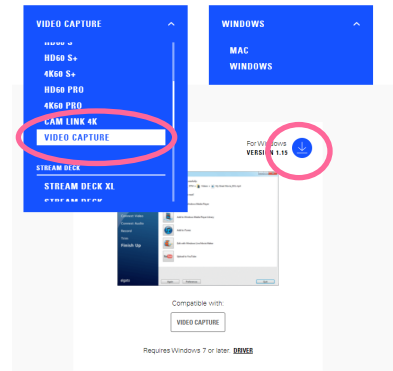
- Elgato video capture device
- RCA cable

You will need to provide:

- Video player (VCR or camcorder)
- Computer with a USB port and an Internet connection (to download recording software)
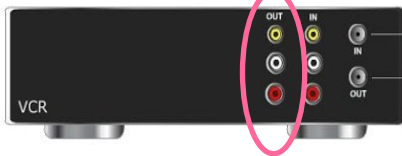
STEP 1: Install Elgato Video Capture Software

1. On your computer go to this website: https://www.elgato.com/en/gaming/downloads

2. Select **Video Capture** from the list of software

3. Choose between Windows or Mac

4. Download & follow the prompts on your computer to complete the installation*

   Requires Windows 7 or later, or OS X El Capitan 10.11 or later
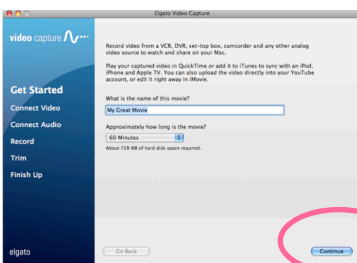
STEP 2: Connect your VCR/Camcorder

1. Connect the Elgato device to your computer using the USB cable
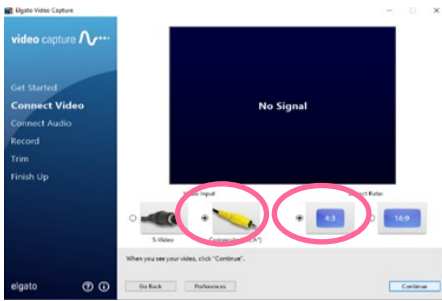
2. Find the **OUT** (or "Output") ports on your VCR/camcorder

3. Plug in the RCA cables to the set of OUT ports, being sure to match up the colours (especially the yellow cable since that transmits the video signal)
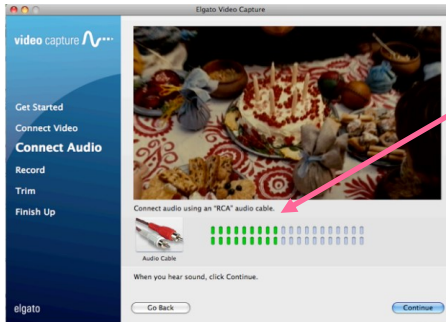
STEP 3: Get Ready to Record

Open the *Elgato Video Capture* software and follow a series of prompts to make sure your audio and video signals are working.

1. Name your video file and select **Continue**

2. Put your tape in your VCR/camcorder & press PLAY (to test your video signal)

4. Select **Composite "RCA"**

5. Select **4:3**

6. Select **Continue**

7. With your tape playing, make sure that the audio signal is transmitting (look for green audio signals). You should, at this point, be able to hear the audio come through your computer speakers
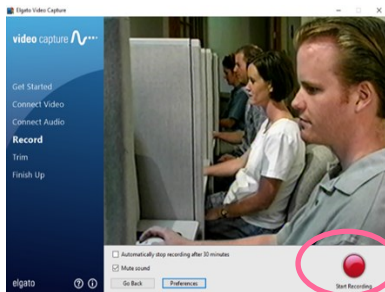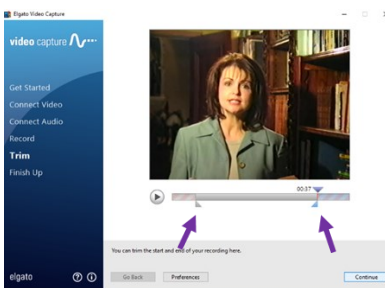
8. Select **Continue**

You're now ready to record!

STEP 4: Recording

At this point you can rewind your tape to cue it and start recording. You will be given the chance to refine your recording before your file is made (you will be able to trim off excess video if you accidentally record too much at the beginning or the end).
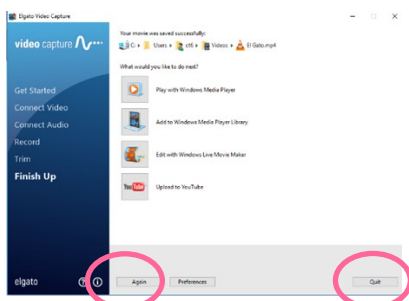
Note: 1 minute of recording = 20MB (1 hour=1.2GB)

1. Click on **Start Recording**

2. Press **PLAY** on your VCR/camcorder

3. Sit and wait :)

4. Click on **Stop Recording** (same button) to end your recording

5. **Stop the tape** on your player (so the next part of the video will be cued up)

6. Drag the triangles to trim your final recording before you save the file (if you recorded too much at the beginning or end)

7. **Continue** (save the file)

*Note: Your video file gets automatically saved to the **Videos** folder on your computer.*

TIP: *Try to record with a "SHORT & SWEET" mindset*

If you have a long tape with different recordings on it (ex. a birthday party, vacation, holiday dinner), consider making individual recordings of separate events rather than making one long recording. Benefits to this recording method:

- *You can name your files according to the individual event, making it easier to organize and find later*

- *You'll be able to share short videos of specific events with friends and family more easily if they're not too long and the video files are smaller for uploading or emailing*

8.. Record video **Again**, or **Quit** if you're done

Happy watching & sharing!

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