



Best Practices for Video

Introduction

Videos can be incorporated as a part of your Brainshark presentation. Videos uploaded to Brainshark via the *Things you can do* menu > **Upload Video**, or the **Add Slide** > **Add Video Slide** feature, play in the slide area as a part of your presentation. This document will assist both those creating the video for use in Brainshark and those who will be adding the video to a Brainshark presentation.

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Adding a Video Slide to Brainshark

To create a new video presentation, select **Upload Video** from the *Things you can do* menu.

Or follow these easy steps to add a video or web slide to an existing presentation.

1	Find the appropriate presentation and click Edit .
2	On the <i>Things you can do</i> menu, click Add Slides .
3	Click Add Video Slide .
4	Browse for and select the video file.
5	Enter a Title . You can change it later if you need to.
6	Click Save . The video slide will be added to the end of the presentation; drag and drop it to the desired slide position.

Video Tips for the Brainshark Author

Here are a few Video Tips for the Brainshark Author:

- We recommend that, whenever possible, you always supply a video in its original format. The fewer changes and re-encoding of a video, the better the resulting quality will be. Each re-encoding may degrade the quality of your video.
 - The single file upload limit is 500MB; i.e. no video file exceeding 500MB can be uploaded to Brainshark.
 - The optimal ratio of the video is 4:3 or 16:9.
 - Test the video file in Brainshark to be sure it plays as expected. Playback of the video outside of Brainshark is NOT representative of how it will play inside of the Brainshark Viewing Console.
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FAQs

What video files play in Brainshark?

There are over 100 types of video that can be uploaded into Brainshark and will be converted into our player. These include types like .mp4 .flv, .avi, .mov, .wmv, .rm, and many more.

Note: *We do not support Microsoft Live Meeting™ or Citrix GoToMeeting™ codecs; in other words, if you record a live meeting using these tools and then download the video recording, it cannot be uploaded to Brainshark.*

What bitrate should I use when creating my video files?

Videos should be optimized based on resolution (horizontal and vertical pixel size), frame rate, audio quality, and compression settings rather than bit rate alone.

How can I make my video files play better in Brainshark?

Here are a few tips to make your video files play better in Brainshark:

- Lower the Resolution (horizontal and vertical pixel size) of the video.
- Lower the audio sampling rate and convert the audio to mono. This will create acceptable audio while maintaining minimum file size. Try a sampling rate of 22050 Hz, 16 bit, mono and a bit rate of 96 kbps for most video files.
- Lower the video frame rate.
- Lower the video bit-rate.

How can I make my uploaded .mp3 audio files play better in Brainshark?

Lower the audio sampling rate and convert the audio to mono. Try a sampling rate of 22050 Hz, 16 bit, mono and a bit rate of 64 kbps for voice recordings. This will create acceptable audio while maintaining minimum file size.

What is the maximum allowable size for an audio or video file uploaded to Brainshark?

The maximum size for an audio or video file is 500MB, but we recommend that files be kept as small as possible to insure optimum playback results.



Are there any special considerations when creating videos for use in Brainshark?

Since the default Brainshark player has an aspect ratio (the ratio of the width to the height) of 4:3, videos designed for that player should be created with an aspect ratio of 4:3 to ensure the best viewing experience. However, there is an alternate 16:9 Brainshark player available that will accommodate videos captured with a 16:9 ratio.

Please contact your Company Administrator or Brainshark Support for more information on enabling this feature on your site.

Why doesn't my video start playing right away?

A small amount of the video needs to download before the player begins to display the video. This pause can be momentary, or as much as several seconds, depending on the viewer's internet connection.

How can I make my smaller video play at its original size in Brainshark?

Ensure the "Preserve original width and height of the video" checkbox is selected in the "Edit Attachment" tab in Brainshark.

Why does my video look choppy when I view it in Brainshark?

Like all content on the internet, video needs to travel over your internet connection for you to view it. If the video file is too large or encoded with quality settings that are too high for the internet connection to handle, the video could look 'choppy'. First, try lowering the resolution (horizontal and vertical pixel size) of the video, then lowering the frame rate of the video, and lowering the sampling rate of the audio and converting the audio to mono. Next, try lowering the quality or compression settings when the video is encoded.

Brainshark Support

Brainshark Support can assist if you have additional technical questions regarding video.
