

Recommended input formats

Basic abbreviations:

- **Format** – often referring to the container format of the video file. The container format acts as a wrapper format of the video, audio and metadata content.
- **Codec** – the software algorithm that compresses and/or decompresses the video and audio file
- **Distribution protocols** – the way that the content is distributed, the available distribution protocol often depends on the source file container format and codec. Examples of protocols are RTMP, HTTP, HLS, HDS, HSS or RTSP.

Input formats

The standard SD and HD encoding profiles available at Arkena are all optimized for progressive source material at 25 fps. For best result please use the resolutions 576p or 720p as stated below in Recommended Input Formats.

Important:

- source files must contain an audio track. Video only files are not supported.
- 32-bit audio is not supported.
- Encoding usually takes the same time as the length of the video, but can in special cases take up to 3-5 times the length of the video
- source file scan should be progressive, not interlaced. The standard encoding profiles are optimized for progressive input.

Recommended input formats

We recommend the following input formats for best online video experience:

SD (Standard Definition) video specifications

| Format | MP4 | MPEG2 | Windows Media |
|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|
| Video Codec | H.264 | MPEG 2 | WMV 9 |
| Audio Codec | AAC | MPEG 1 layer 2 | VMA 9 |
| Birate | 3 Mbps | 5 Mbps | 3 Mbps |
| Frame rate (constant) | 25 fps | 25 fps | 25 fps |
| Resolution | 720 x 576 pxl | 720 x 576 pxl | 720 x 576 pxl |
| Key frames | Natural | Natural | Natural |

HD (High Definition) video specifications

| Format | MP4 | MPEG2 | Windows Media |
|-----------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| Video Codec | H.264 | MPEG 2 | WMV 9 |
| Audio Codec | AAC | MPEG 1 layer 2 | VMA 9 |
| Birate | 5 Mbps | 8 Mbps | 5 Mbps |
| Frame rate (constant) | 25 fps | 25 fps | 25 fps |
| Resolution | 1280 x 720 pxl | 1280 x 720 pxl | 1280 x 720 pxl |
| Key frames | Natural | Natural | Natural |

Trusted input formats

Arkena's encoding service supports various kinds of input formats and codecs. The following formats are supported and have been tested thoroughly.

NOTE: If the encoding job fails please contact support with information regarding the source format and codecs used.

| Format | Description |
|--------|-----------------------------------|
| MPG | <i>MPEG-2 Video and Audio</i> |
| MP3 | <i>MPEG audio layer 3</i> |
| MP4 | <i>MPEG 4</i> |
| WMV | <i>Windows Media Video Format</i> |

Below is a list of untrusted formats, this means that some codecs may not be supported. To be sure your encoding reaches the best result the recommended input formats are preferred.

Untrusted input formats

NOTE: All formats in this list have not been fully tested and may not support all codecs, if the encoding job fails please contact support with information regarding the format and codecs used.

| Format | Description |
|-----------------|--|
| Apple ProRes | Apple ProRes 422, Apple ProRes (LT), Apple ProRes (Proxy) and Apple ProRes 422 (HQ) are supported. |
| AVI | AVI Format |
| DV | DV Video Format |
| Image sequences | - |
| MPEG 1 | MPEG 1 |

| Format | Description |
|---------------|---|
| QuickTime/MOV | Quicktime formats |
| RealVideo | RealVideo formats |
| VC1 | Raw vc1 |
| WAV | Wav Format (Audio only format) |
| 3GP | Quicktime/MPEG-4 |
| FLV | flv format |
| AIFF/AIF | Audio Interchange File Format (Audio only format) |

Unsupported input formats & codecs

Below is a list of known unsupported formats and codecs:

| Type | Video Codec | Audio Codec | Other |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------|--------------|
| F4V | * | * | |
| SWF | * | * | |
| Audio bit depth | | | 32-bit Audio |