|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Format** | **File** | **Description** |
| MPEG | .mpg .mpeg | MPEG. Developed by the Moving Pictures Expert Group. The first popular video format on the web. Used to be supported by all browsers, but it is not supported in HTML5 (See MP4). |
| AVI | .avi | AVI (Audio Video Interleave). Developed by Microsoft. Commonly used in video cameras and TV hardware. Plays well on Windows computers, but not in web browsers. |
| WMV | .wmv | WMV (Windows Media Video). Developed by Microsoft. Commonly used in video cameras and TV hardware. Plays well on Windows computers, but not in web browsers. |
| QuickTime | .mov | QuickTime. Developed by Apple. Commonly used in video cameras and TV hardware. Plays well on Apple computers, but not in web browsers. (See MP4) |
| RealVideo | .rm .ram | RealVideo. Developed by Real Media to allow video streaming with low bandwidths. It is still used for online video and Internet TV, but does not play in web browsers. |
| Flash | .swf .flv | Flash. Developed by Macromedia. Often requires an extra component (plug-in) to play in web browsers. |
| Ogg | .ogg | Theora Ogg. Developed by the Xiph.Org Foundation. Supported by HTML5. |
| WebM | .webm | WebM. Developed by the web giants, Mozilla, Opera, Adobe, and Google. Supported by HTML5. |
| MPEG-4 or MP4 | .mp4 | MP4. Developed by the Moving Pictures Expert Group. Based on QuickTime. Commonly used in newer video cameras and TV hardware. Supported by all HTML5 browsers. Recommended by YouTube. |

Only MP4, WebM, and Ogg video are supported by the HTML5 standard.

Audio Formats

MP3 is the newest format for compressed recorded music. The term MP3 has become synonymous with digital music.

If your website is about recorded music, MP3 is the choice.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Format** | **File** | **Description** |
| MIDI | .mid .midi | MIDI (Musical Instrument Digital Interface). Main format for all electronic music devices like synthesizers and PC sound cards. MIDI files do not contain sound, but digital notes that can be played by electronics. Plays well on all computers and music hardware, but not in web browsers. |
| RealAudio | .rm .ram | RealAudio. Developed by Real Media to allow streaming of audio with low bandwidths. Does not play in web browsers. |
| WMA | .wma | WMA (Windows Media Audio). Developed by Microsoft. Commonly used in music players. Plays well on Windows computers, but not in web browsers. |
| AAC | .aac | AAC (Advanced Audio Coding). Developed by Apple as the default format for iTunes. Plays well on Apple computers, but not in web browsers. |
| WAV | .wav | WAV. Developed by IBM and Microsoft. Plays well on Windows, Macintosh, and Linux operating systems. Supported by HTML5. |
| Ogg | .ogg | Ogg. Developed by the Xiph.Org Foundation. Supported by HTML5. |
| MP3 | .mp3 | MP3 files are actually the sound part of MPEG files. MP3 is the most popular format for music players. Combines good compression (small files) with high quality. Supported by all browsers. |
| MP4 | .mp4 | MP4 is a video format, but can also be used for audio. MP4 video is the upcoming video format on the internet. This leads to automatic support for MP4 audio by all browsers. |

Only MP3, WAV, and Ogg audio are supported by the HTML5 standard.

HTML Video - Browser Support

In HTML5, there are 3 supported video formats: MP4, WebM, and Ogg.

The browser support for the different formats is:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Browser** | **MP4** | **WebM** | **Ogg** |
| Internet Explorer | YES | NO | NO |
| Chrome | YES | YES | YES |
| Firefox | YES | YES | YES |
| Safari | YES | NO | NO |
| Opera | YES (from Opera 25) | YES | YES |

HTML Audio - Browser Support

In HTML5, there are 3 supported audio formats: MP3, Wav, and Ogg.

The browser support for the different formats is:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Browser** | **MP3** | **Wav** | **Ogg** |
| Internet Explorer | YES | NO | NO |
| Chrome | YES | YES | YES |
| Firefox | YES | YES | YES |
| Safari | YES | YES | NO |
| Opera | YES | YES | YES |