FFMPEG BATCH AV CONVERTER QUICK GUIDE

FFmpeg Batch AV Converter for Windows is an ffmpeg graphical user interface that allows to use all the potential and speed of ffmpeg command line to batch encode any number of files in a few clicks, adding many useful features like progress information, remaining time, output size estimation. It also makes it easy to manipulate files streams and multiplex them, as well as adding subtitle tracks and batch process m3u8 and YouTube urls. Some additional wizards allow more complex features like two-pass encoding, image extraction, silence detection, file splitting.

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MAIN SCREEN



- Clear list: Clears all files and tracks lists.
- Add files: Selects files in a specific folder.
- **Subfolders**: Adds all files in the selected folder and all its subfolders if the check is on.
 - o Thousands of files or folders can be added. Every file will be checked and if duration can't be obtained by the OS it will be parsed using ffprobe.
 - o Files for which duration can't be obtained can be processed but no progress information is displayed.
- Wizard: Opens the ffmpeg preset wizard.
- **Settings**: Opens the settings panel.
- Help: Opens this quick guide.
- **Exit**: Gracefully closes application and checks for unsaved settings.



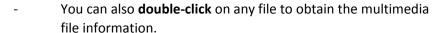
FFmpeg version is displayed, and clicking on it allows to backup and replace current ffmpeg.exe with a different version.



Check for updates.

FILE LIST RIGHT-CLICK MENU

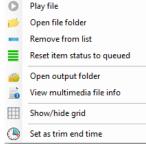
You can right-click on file list to show this menu



File list can be sorted by any column (name, duration, size).

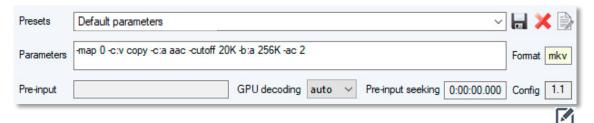
Open file folder Remove from list Reset item status to queued Open output folder View multimedia file info Show/hide grid Set as trim end time

- Remove invalid (no A/V items) from list.
- Reset items status to "Queued".
- Refresh file list.
- Move up/down items with status 'queued'.





FFMPEG SETTINGS



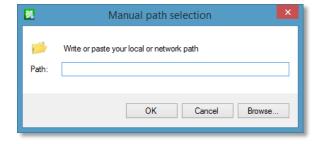
- **Presets**: It consists of a preset description, a set of ffmpeg parameters and format extension.
 - o **Parameters**: Write here the ffmpeg command line parameters of your choice.
 - Dynamic parameters: The following variables can be used on parameters field:
 - %1: Source file including full path.
 - %2: Source file including full path without extension.
 - %fp: File full path.
 - %fn: File name without extension.
 - %fd: Directory name.
- **Format**: The output format extension. If you leave this filed blank, the source file extension will be used as output format.
- **Save button**: Saves your own parameters/format combination. Any preset will be overwritten with the new parameters unless preset name is modified.
- Remove button: Removes any existing preset. Default saved parameters cannot be removed.
- Edit presets: Opens the ffmpeg presets editor.
- **Pre-input**: Write here any required ffmpeg parameters used before input file.
 - o Pre-input parameters are not saved in the preset.
- **Pre-input seeking:** A convenient way to set the -ss pre-input parameter for fast seeking to start processing on the selected time.
- Configuration version: It allows to specify a version number for current settings.



- Reload settings: Loads the previously saved settings.
- Save settings: Saves to configuration file (ff batch.ini) the following settings:
 - o All current presets, and whether open or not output path after tasks completion.
 - Recreate or not files source path on output folder (to avoid overwriting when adding multiple folders).
 - o Rename or not output files automatically.
 - Add subfolders.
 - o Show/hide grid.
 - Settings file version.
- **Try preset**: Runs a test with the selected input file and the current parameters and output format. It will show the result in a new window with any ffmpeg error information included.
- **Try on FFmpeg console:** opens ffmpeg in command line. You can choose in settings panel to pass current parameters and filename to the ffmpeg console, or just show ffmpeg console version.
- **View last log:** Every sequential or multi file processing will save the console output in a text file that can be reviewed/saved here. Only the last log is kept. You can disable logging at settings panel.
- Save queue: Saves current queue state, including items status, runtime settings and output path.

Manual add path dialog

Right-click to display this menu, so you can paste or manually write source files path. Path auto-completion is enabled.



AUDIO

- Audio waveform: Generate a graphical wave form in a new window of the selected file.
- **Volume**: Increase audio volume the selected dBs.
 - Remember that audio stream copy can't be used in this case.
- Shift: move audio track to synchronize with video.



ENCODING CHOICES



- **Sequential encoding:** Start processing all queued files one at a time using the selected parameters and output format. This is the choice for video encoding.
 - FFmpeg parameters are tried using the first file before real encoding starts and any error (wrong parameters, format, etc.) will pop up and queue processing will be aborted. This trying can be disabled at settings panel to start encoding immediatly.
 - Every task will show progress (%), average bitrate and estimated output size.
 - o Queued files can be added or removed on the fly once encoding starts.
- Multi-file encoding: Start processing multiple files simultaneously, limiting maximum number of
 files value below. The maximum number is the number of CPU threads. It is recommended for
 audio since it can simulate multi-threading feature that is usually missing in audio libraries. For
 video encoding its not always recommended, since video libraries are already multi-thread
 compatible, but for some scenarios it can speed overall encoding by using all system resources.
- **Multiple presets**: Allows to sequentially encode files using up to three different presets in just one step. Progress information will vary depending on every preset parameters.
- Skip current: When in sequential processing, abort current file encoding and continue.
- Multimedia info: Show either a summary or a full report of multimedia file info.
- Stop item encoding: You can right-click on any item during queue processing to stop it.



OTHER ENCODING FEATURES



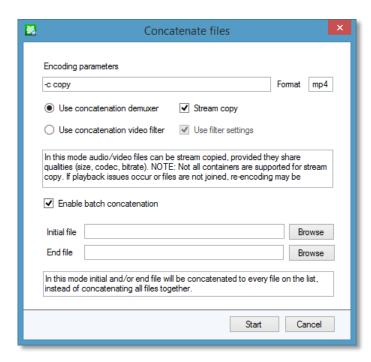
• **RECORD SCREEN**: It uses gdigrab function to capture screen. Once clicked a popup will show available audio capture devices. You can record video only by selecting "No audio".



NOTE: Audio is only recorded from capture devices. If you want to capture audio playing on the computer, search for "Stereo-mix", and in case it is not available, you can download a virtual audio playback capturer here:

https://github.com/rdp/screen-capture-recorder-to-video-windows-free/releases/tag/v0.12.11

• **JOIN FILES**: Use the concatenate function to join all files in queue using the selected preset. Useful for stream copy or re-encoding concatenation. You can select two ways for joining files.



- o **Concatenate demuxer**: It allows to **stream copy** and concatenate any type of files, but if file formats are not exactly the same it can lead to compatibility issues or errors playing encoded files. Not all containers support stream copy joining, sometimes **re-encoding** is required.
- o Concatenate video filter: Only for video files, it fixes compatibility video playback issues but it requires to re-encode source files. It automatically selects the best encoding configuration depending on source format, so parameters field can be left blank on this mode.

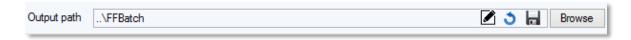
Enable batch concatenation: Instead of joining all files on main file list, enabling this setting allows to batch join an initial and/or end file to every file on the list, applying the concatenation settings and limitations above. Containers like mkv, mp4, mp3, support stream copy concatenation. If the results are not successful, maybe re-encoding files is required.

• **TRIM FILES:** Trim file using the initial and final time on the right boxes.

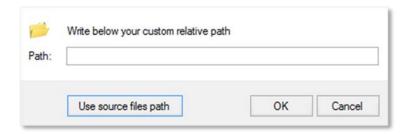


- Start/End checkbox is **enabled**: The initial and end time fields are the amount of time trimmed at the beginning or end of file.
- Start/End checkbox is **disabled**: The initial and end time fields are used as the markers to start and finish file trimming.
- For example: If checked, file is trimmed form the beginning and the end using the duration specified. For example, you can trim 10 seconds from the beginning and 5 from the end by checking this mark and selecting 00:00:10:000 / 00:00:05:000. If it is unchecked, start and end time are used as time marks for trimming.
- **Keyframes** button shows a report of the video keyframe intervals.

OUTPUT PATH: This is the destination folder for encoded files. The default path is the input file path subfolder 'FFBatch'.

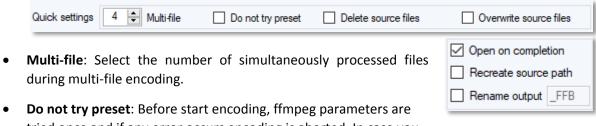


• The **browse** button allows to select a different absolute path, which can be saved as default, or be reset to ..\\FFbatch with the reset button.



- The **edit path** button allows to set a different relative path based on input file path. Just write a folder name, with no dots or '\' characters at the beginning. You can chain the relative path using a structure like 'relative1\relative2'.
- You don't have to write .\ or any character, just the folder name, which automatically used as a relative path from input source files.
- You can select "user source files path" so output folder always matches source path.

QUICK SETTINGS



- tried once and if any error occurs encoding is aborted. In case you experience random errors encoding with specific parameters, check this mark so encoding starts without parsing parameters. In this case, if parameters are wrong they will be applied to all queued files, unless processing is aborted.
- **Delete source**: Send input files to recycle bin once encoding is successfully completed. Files are not sent if any encoding error occurs.
- Overwrite source files: If source filename and destination are the same, source will be overwritten. Output path needs to be set as ".\" (source path) for it to work.

 If encoding is successful and source is overwritten, the item status will be "Replaced". "If not, a warning will be displayed.
- Open on completion: Once all files are processed the destination folder will be opened.
- Recreate source path: The input path structure will be kept on the destination folder.
- **Rename output:** Add a text suffix to the output file name.

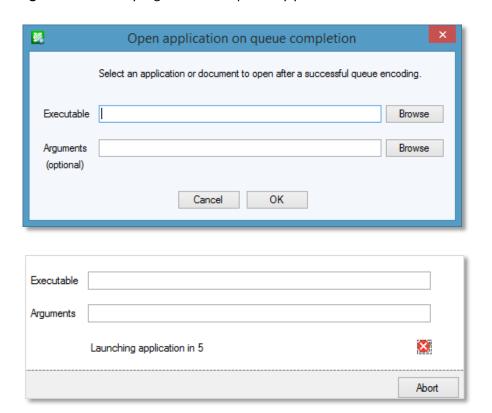


• Fade in/out Video/audio: This feature allows to add a fade in/out effect for both audio and video, adding the corresponding filters. While fade in effects can be chained with other -vf or -af filters, fade out cannot Is not compatible with multiple filters since it is based on audio/video file duration.

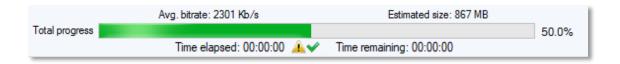
RUNTIME SETTINGS



- Automatic shutdown: Once completed any processing operation the application will either power off, hibernate or suspend the computer in 60 seconds, unless cancelled.
- Run command on completion / on each file: It is possible to run any application or document after queue is successfully completed, or to each successfully encoded file.
 - o **Executable**: Browse for the executable, script or document of your choice.
 - o **Arguments**: Add any arguments if required by your executable.



- **Prevent sleep**: If selected, application will prevent computer from going to sleep mode. Screen will still go to sleep depending on user power settings.
- **Process priority**: The priority of ffmpeg threads can be adjusted, and save a default value.
- Pause encoding: Queue processing is halted, and It can be resumed or aborted.
- **Abort encoding**: Abort current task(s) and stop queue encoding.

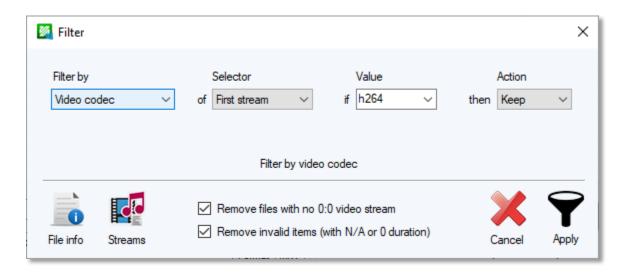


This is the progress information and time elapsed/remaining to finish the current file queue. For sequential processing, average bitrate and the estimated output size is also displayed.

Once queue is complete, a check icon will be displayed stating that no errors occurred, or a warning icon in case any file encoding reported an error.

FILE LIST MANAGEMENT

FILE LIST FILTERING

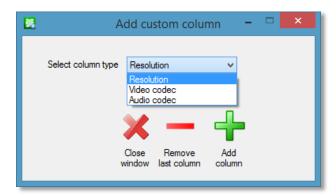


You can filter file list using the following criteria, and then select to keep or remove the files matching selected filter:

- Status: Queue status (Success, failed, queued)
- File extension.
- File size (greater or equal than value in MB).
- File bitrate (overall bitrate).
- Video codec:
 - Selector allows to choose first (usually the video stream), second or any stream to search for value.
 - o You can select a value from the list or write your own.
- Video bitrate (greater or equal than value in Kbps).
- Audio codec:
 - Selector allows to choose first (usually the stream for audio files), second (usually audio the stream for video files) or any stream to search for value.
 - For multitrack files, the any stream will be the choice.
 - o You can select a value from the list or write your own.
- Frame rate: Video frame rate (exact match). You can write a custom value.
- Frame size: Video frame size (exact match). You can write a custom value.
- Custom string (FF): Search for a string in all the streams output information.
- Custom string (FF): Search for a string in all media info output information.
- Metadata: Search for media info selected metadata fields.
- When searching for video information, files that do not have a first video string are discarded.
- Files with 0 or N/A duration are discarded.
- Filter result can be reverted with the undo/redo button.



ADD CUSTOM COLUMN



Add up to three custom columns to file list: Video resolution, video codec and audio codec.

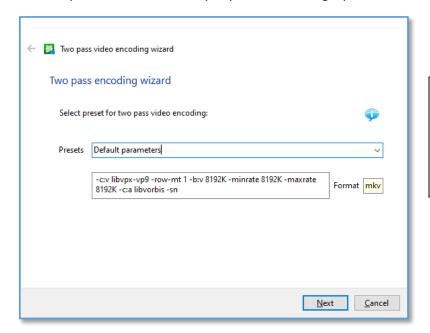
NOTE: Custom columns slow down file adding and refreshing list procedures.

TWO PASS VIDEO WIZARD

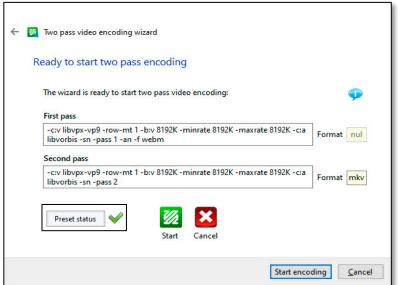
Two pass video encoding wizard batch processes queue files using the two pass feature implemented in several encoders, like libx264, libx265, libvpx-vp9. File list cannot be empty.

First you need a base preset, which will be used to generate pass 1 and pass 2 parameters. A compatible video encoder and video bitrate parameter (-b:v or -vb) is required.

- o Progress information is only partial during vp9 first pass.
- o NVIDIA encoders (h264_nvenc, hevc_nvenc) should not be used in this wizard, since two pass encoded is already implemented using "-preset slow".

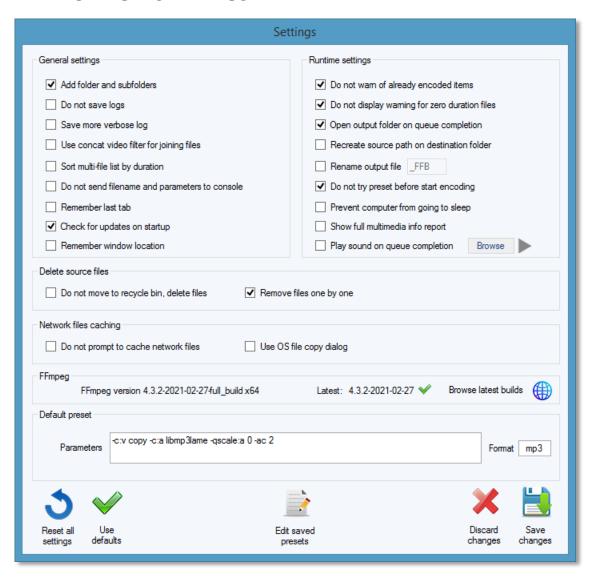


NOTE: Always review parameters. They could be considered valid, but actually not fulfill its purpose, since -pass 1 or -pass 2 parameters can be ignored by some codecs if improperly used.



On the second screen you can review and tweak the first/second pass parameters. Both are tested before actual encoding starts, and if validation fails, error information is displayed and preset status changes accordingly.

APPLICATION SETTINGS



- Add folder and subfolders: If selected, application will prevent computer from going to sleep mode. Screen will still go to sleep depending on user power settings.
- **Do not save logs**: Disable log saving during sequential processing.
- **Verbose logs**: Save more verbose ffmpeg log information during encoding.
- Use concat video filter for joining files: If switches to concatenation video filter for better compatibility, at expense of re-encoding source material. If unchecked, then files are joined using demuxer filter.
- **Sort multi-file list by duration:** If multi-file is started, items are sorted by descending duration, so longer files are started first.
- **Do not send filename and parameters to console:** When using the try on console button, be default selected item and parameters are used to try the command to a temporary folder. If checked, only a standard terminal will be displayed.

- Check for update on startup: Disable automatic search for updates on startup.
- Remember last tab: Tab selected before closing application will be opened again.

RUNTIME SETTINGS

- **Do not warn of already encoded items:** If the file lists contains items with status "Success" or "Replaced", the user is by default warned that those items were already successfully processes. If this setting is checked, all items are automatically reset to "Queued" and processed.
- **Do not display warning for zero duration files:** Added files are parsed to obtain its duration. If parsing results in zero or not available durations, a warning is displayed, unless this option is enabled.
- Check for update on startup: Disable automatic search for updates on startup.
- **Open output folder on queue completion:** Once queue processing is complete, the destination path is open. If there are multiple source file paths, the first file destination path is displayed.
- Recreate source path on destination folder: If multiple files from different folders are added to
 the file list and then an absolute output folder is selected, files may be overwritten if they have
 the same name but come from different folders. This settings preserves the source path
 structure on destination folder to avoid this risk.
- Rename output file: If checked, output files are renaming adding the text suffix on the right.
- **Disable try preset before start encoding:** Before queue processing starts, the first file on the list is tested using the selected preset, so in case the parameters or format are wrong, encoding is aborted so a bad preset is used. In some rare parameters combinations, the trying process can fail, preventing real encoding from starting. Check this if you encounter problems starting encoding with certain parameters.
- Prevent computer from going to sleep: If computer enters sleep mode during encoding, the
 process will fail. This setting prevents that scenario so user doesn't have to disable sleep timer
 on his computer.
- Show full multimedia report: Instead of an information summary.
- **Default preset:** These are the ffmpeg parameters and file extension loaded on startup.

DELETE SOURCE FILES

When Delete source files is enabled on main screen, this settings apply:

- **Do not send to recycle bin:** Files will be completely deleted, instead of being moved to the recycle bin.
- **Delete cone by one:** Files are either recycled/deleted at the end of the queue encoding. Enabling this will attempt to delete them just after encoding finishes successfully.

NETWORKING CACHING SETTINGS

- Do not prompt to cache network files: You will not be prompted to cache network files.
- Use OS File copy dialog: The current file copy dialog will be used for file caching. While it is a faster option, if pops up a copy dialog every time a new file is cached.

FFMPEG INFO

- **Current ffmpeg binaries version** is displayed here.
- Latest ffmpeg release available is also displayed, and whether you are using the latest version.
- Browse for ffmpg binaries browses for new Windows releases on gyan.dev website.

SETTINGS BUTTONS

- Reset all settings: It resets application to factory default settings. It is useful if application
 becomes unstable, however custom presets are lost. We can preserve them using Edit saved
 presets, copying the file contents.
- Use defaults: It selects the default choice for all settings.
- **Edit saved presets:** This feature allows import, edit and save the application presets saved in the text configuration file ff_presets.ini, so presets can be quickly added and reordered. It is recommended to backup this configuration before proceeding, though an automatic backup is created after saving the file or during upgrades.
- Discard changes: All changes are discarded.
- Save changes: All modified settings are saved and panel is closed.

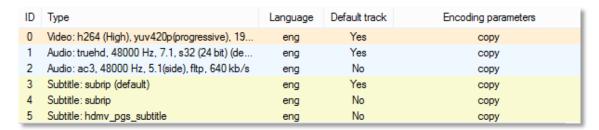
PRESETS EDITOR



Presets are saved on %appdata%\FFBatch\ff_presets.ini. This editor allows to quickly edit and save them, import/export. An automatic backup (ff_presets_bck.ini) is created every time presets are saved.

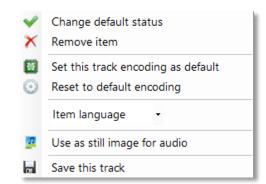
STREAM MULTIPLEX

In this tab file streams are automatically displayed and can be added to the tracks file list. There they can be manipulated, saved or multiplexed. Every stream type has a different color.



You can right-click on a track to show this menu:

- Change default status: So the stream is played by default.
- Set this track encoding as default: You can change the default encoding (copy) and set those parameters as default.
- Reset to default encoding: Returns to the default (copy stream).



• Use as still image for audio: You can easily create a video clip, either from an image file or from a video frame. By default the video frame is at 00:00:00. You can select a different time using the main tab pre-input seeking.



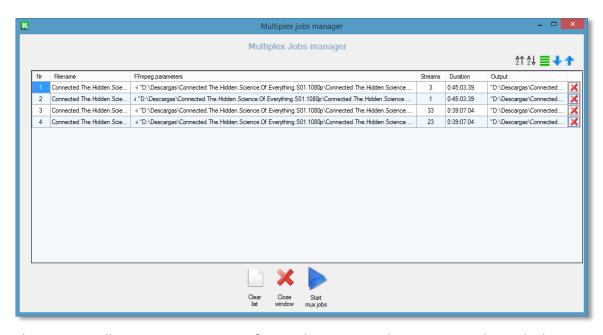
Clear tracks: Clear tracks list.

- Add file tracks: Add available file streams to the tracks list. When the file list has only one file streams are added automatically.
- Remove track: Remove selected track on list.
- **Default track:** Set a default played stream.
- Add as mux job: Add current tracks and parameters information as new job.
- View mux jobs: Display jobs manager to check added jobs.
- Save track: Save the selected track as a new file using the extension on the right.
- Mux all: Multiplex current selected tracks as a new file.



- Format: output extension for Mux button.
 NOTE: Some containers can be incompatible with selected tracks. Only mkv ensures virtually any audio/video codec compatibility.
- Items language: It changes all items language to the selected here.
- **Encoding parameters**: By default tracks are in stream copy mode. You can selected a different encoding writing the parameters of your choice.
 - o **NOTE:** Depending on the track type, -c:v. -c:a or -c:s are assumed, so if you write them they will be rejected.
- Set as default: Saves the encoding parameters as the default for that track type.
- Reset: Reverts to the default 'copy' mode.

STREAM MULTIPLEX BATCH JOBS



This manager allows to remove or reconfigure jobs output, and start muxing jobs on the list.

BATCH SUBTITLES

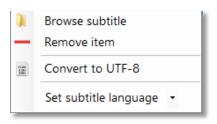


In this tab you can mux subtitles in either SRT, ASS, or Vobsub formats. SRT and ASS can be detected automatically if they are available in the same folder and with the same source filename. If the name is the same but in a different folder, you can use the 'Subtitles custom path'.

You can double-click on the subtitle list item to browse for it.

In the right-click menu:

- Browse subtitle: To locate the item subtitle file.
- Convert to UTF-8: For non-english languages, wrong charactes can be found unless you ensure the subtitle file is UTF-8 compliant.



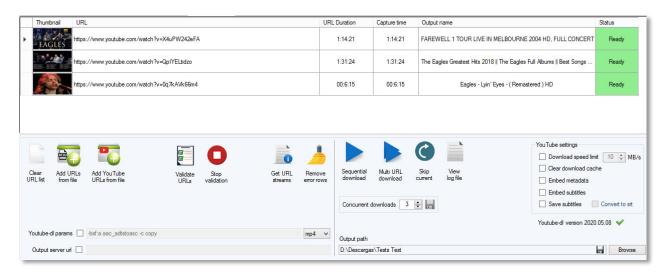
BURNING SUBTITLES

By default, subtitles are muxed as an additional file stream, but it is also possible to hard-code (burn) them in the video. Enabling this option requires to encode the video again. Stream copy (-c:v copy) can't be used and will provoke an error.



BATCH URLs

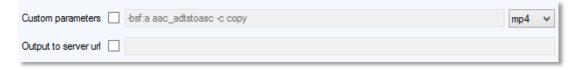
In this tab you can batch capture m3u8, YouTube links, playlists, as well as other direct download urls.



You can right-click to paste either a list m3u8 or YouTube links, or you can add them using a text file. Every url is parsed to ensure it is alive. The best reported quality is downloaded by default.

For m3u8 links, you can edit the capture time, to save only part of the url stream. You can also change the output file name, which is generated automatically depending on the url metadata.

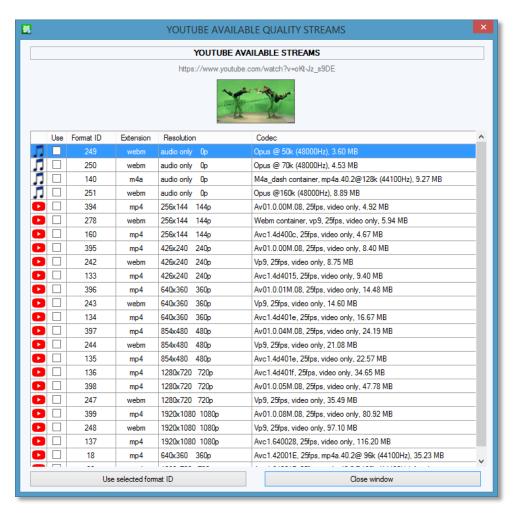
- Sequential download: Captures streams sequentially one at a time, showing average bitrate and estimated file output size.
- Multi URL download: It will launch the number of concurrent downloads configured below.



If enabled, this field serves for M3u8 or Youtube-dl custom parameters.

- For M3u8, only http/https links are supported. Some streams will only work with either mp4 or mkv format.
- For YouTube links the following scenarios are available:
 - o Paste one or more video links, so they are downloaded using the best quality found.
 - Paste a playlist link: Its contents will be obtained and added as individual video download items.
 - Add a bunch of video links.
 - o Add a bunch of playlists: All their videos will be added and downloaded.
 - o Add a live streaming link to the list: It will be recorded until user aborts or stops it.
- On YouTube links, the stream labeled as best is downloaded by default.
 NOTE: Sometimes the labeled "best" stream is not the one with higher resolution.

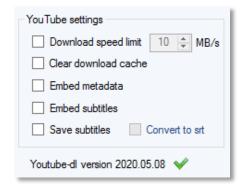
SHOW URL STREAMS



This dialog shows the selected URL streams information. For YouTube links, it is possible to select up to two streams so they are used as download parameters. (The stream labeled as "best" is always downloaded by default if no selection is made).

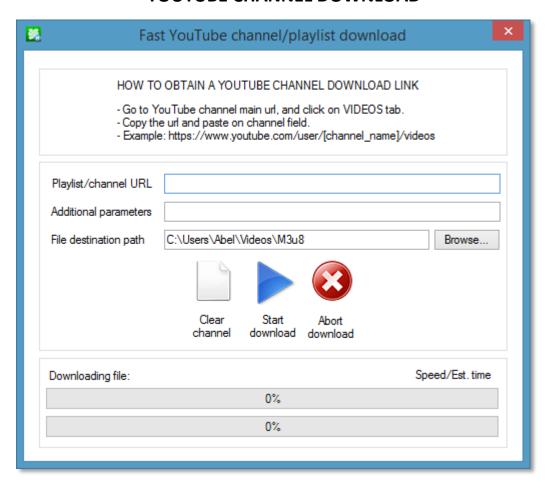
YOUTUBE SETTINGS

- Download speed limit: Maximum transfer rate for sequential or multi-url download.
- Clear download cache: It can help avoid some download errors, especially when resuming downloads.
- Embed metadata: Source metadata is written to destination file.
- Embed subtitles: If available, all source subtitles are embedded to destination file (requires mkv container).
- Save subtitles: It saves subtitles as file, using original or subrip (srt) format.



Youtube-dl version is checked on startup, and can be easily updated to the latest version.

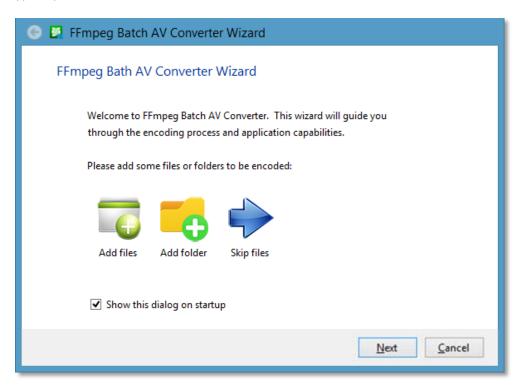
YOUTUBE CHANNEL DOWNLOAD

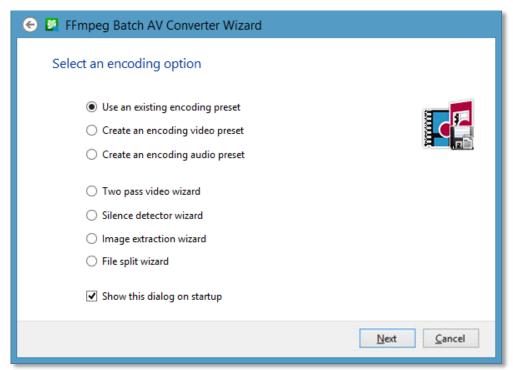


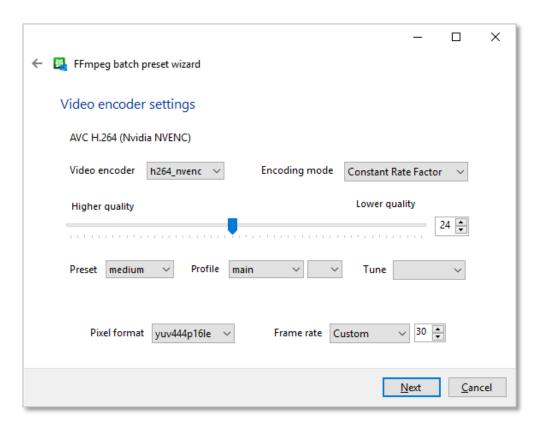
- o This feature attempts to download all of a YouTube channel or playlist videos.
- o It is useful to download long playlists, as it does not verify every single video availability, so downloading can start immediately.
- Total video count is compared to the contents of destination folder, so it is recommended to always download to an empty folder.
- o Total channel video count may differ from total download count, since unavailable or removed videos appear on total count. Channel live streams are not downloaded.

FFMPEG BATCH AV CONVERTER WIZARD

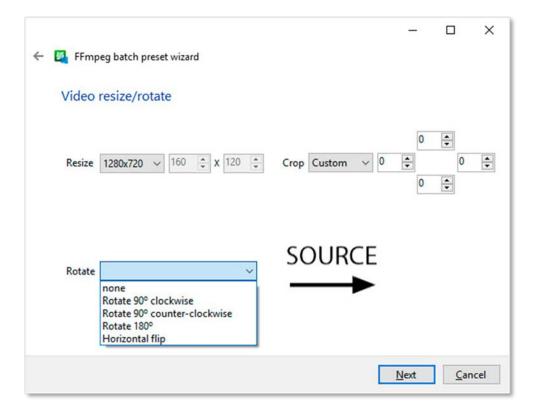
This wizard helps you quickly create basic ffmpeg encoding projects, which you can tweak or save later on at main screen. You can create video or audio presets, with most used ffmpeg encoders and the most typical parameters for each choice.



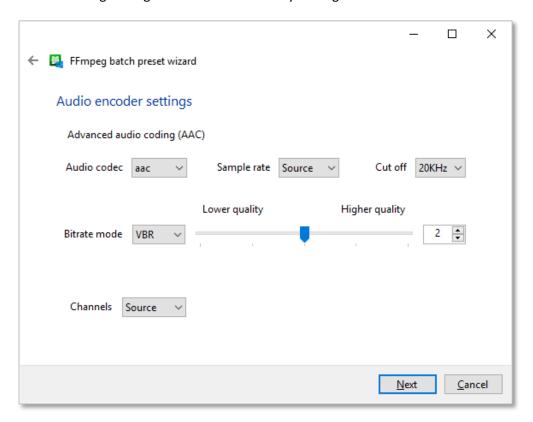




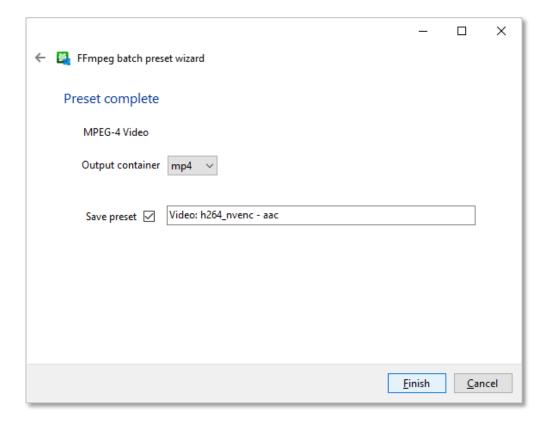
You can also include resizing, cropping or rotating in your preset. These filters can be used combined, by separating them by comma, and putting all of them in brackets.



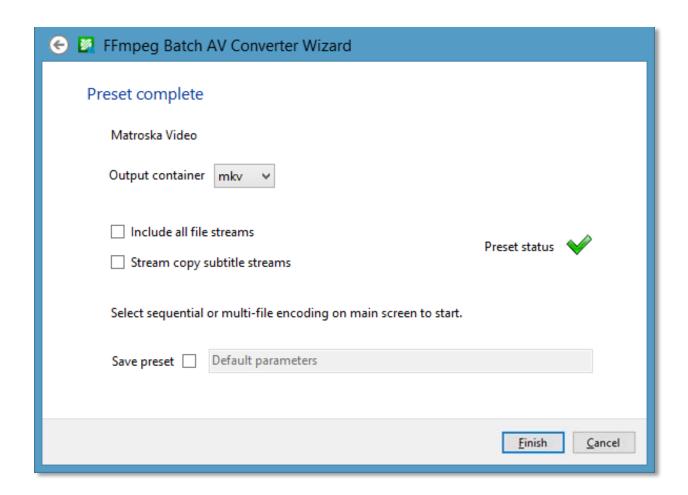
Audio encoding settings are available with easy settings selectors.



Finally you can select the container (mkv is default for video), and save your preset.



NOTE: Not all video/audio codec combinations lead to a valid ffmpeg preset, given the great number of file encoding and format combinations. Although you will get some warnings, the wizard flexibility can lead to wrong configurations, like incompatible pixel formats, unsupported audio codec for selected container, etc. For that reason preset is validated at the final screen, and preset status shows the result.



SILENCE DETECTOR WIZARD

This wizard allows to use the detect silence filter to find silence intervals in audio streams.

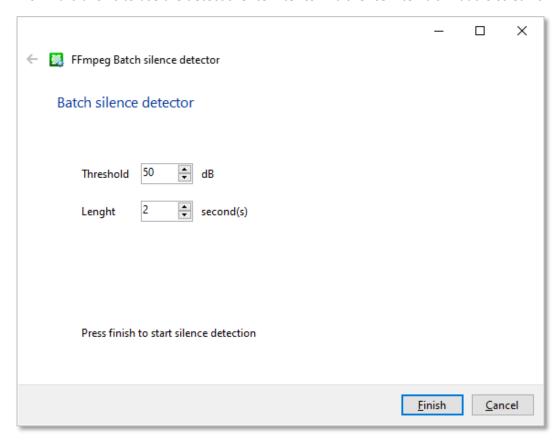
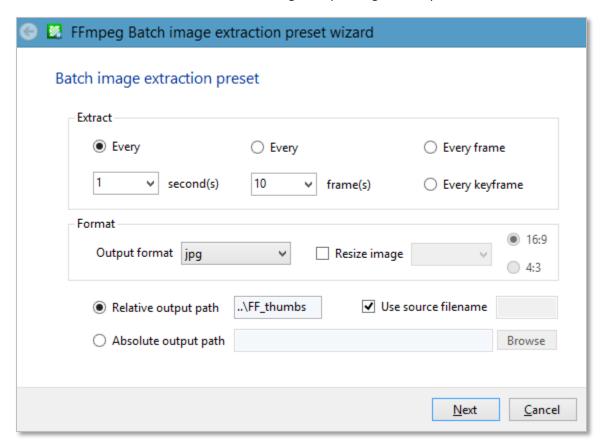


IMAGE EXTRACTION WIZARD

This wizard allows to save video frames as images, depending on user preferences.



Available choices are:

- Extract every n seconds.
- Extract every n frames.
- Extract all video frames.
- Extract all video keyframes.

Available output formats are:

- JPG (default good quality).
- JGP (Very high quality).
- JPG (Low quality).
- PNG (Standard compression).
- PNG (Higher compression).
- BMP.

Naming uses by default the input filename adding a sequence number.

Be default, images are stored on a subfolder of input files. Absolute paths can be selected, but if naming is fixed, overwriting can occur.

A/V SPLIT WIZARD

This wizard allows to split any a/v file into fixed duration pieces.

