

Super User is a question and answer site for computer enthusiasts and power users. Join them; it only takes a minute:

[Join](#)

Here's how it works:

Anybody can ask a question

Anybody can answer

The best answers are voted up
and rise to the top



How to find all video type files in windows 8.1

[Ask Question](#)

- ▲ 8 ▼
- How can I find all my video files in windows 8.1? I go into the windows 8.1 start screen and start typing "*.avi". It finds a small number of videos on my C drive. Search appears to only look on the system drive. It does not bother to search D or E where the files are actually located. Also, I don't know what file extensions I have on my machine....avi, .mov, .mp4, I can't name all the file extensions that exist for videos

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Cookie Policy](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Terms of Service](#).

1. The ability to exclude directories from the search
2. Find all videos of all types without specifying each file extension
 - I'm thinking common known file extensions. Not looking at binary data or anything like that.
3. Search all drives

windows-8.1

file-search

edited Apr 11 '14 at 19:51

asked Apr 11 '14 at 19:42



P.Brian.Mackey

1,060 5 18 34

Have you added D and E to the search index? – [TECHIE007](#) Apr 11 '14 at 19:44

@techie007 - No. I was not aware such a thing existed. Please note I want to search all files in all places on my machine. I don't think that's a good fit for index searches where I specify specific locations. –

[P.Brian.Mackey](#) Apr 11 '14 at 19:45

usually indexes are required for 'contents' searches, not simple filename/type. indexing speeds them up, but isn;t required.

@P.Brian.Mackey, in Windows Explorer, select the "Computer" node in the treeview on the left, and then put in your search query. it will search all objects under "Computer". as for your type dilemma, this may help:

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_file_formats#Video – [Frank Thomas](#) Apr 11 '14 at 19:52

I'm not sure I follow -- You [add the drives to the index once](#), they get indexed from there on in, you can search them. As you say, video files could have just about any extension they want, so having something that can recognize all possible "video" types (past, present and future) is

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our

, and our

avi OR mov OR mkv OR ... etc. theoretically permission should work, but having trouble replicating it on win7. more info here:

vistax64.com/tutorials/158288-advanced-searches.html?ltr=A –

Frank Thomas Apr 11 '14 at 20:26 ✎

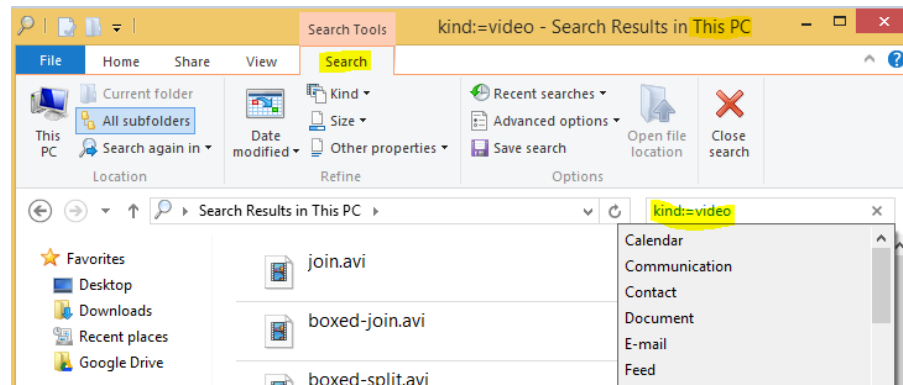
1 Answer



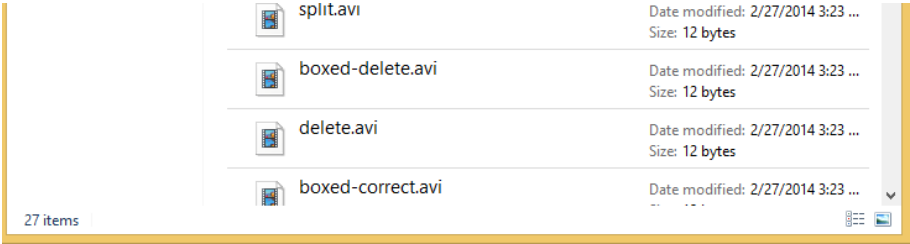
23



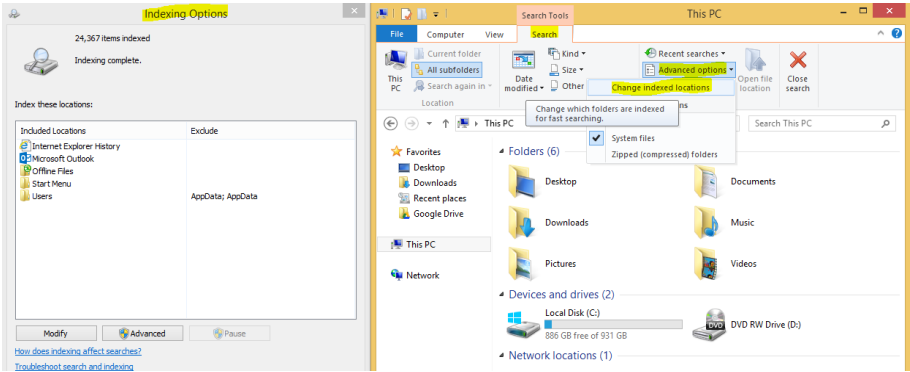
Open up File Explorer and make sure your current directory is on This PC. Copy `kind:=video` in the search bar. This should bring up all the video formats. This should also search your entire PC including all drives, files and folders.



By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our , , and our .




You can also see which folders are indexed, by click Advanced options > Changed indexed locations.



edited Sep 19 '16 at 18:56

answered Apr 11 '14 at 21:24

 10100111001
1,539 9 11

Sure wish type:video worked as well, since it's the first thing I tried that failed to work. kind:video (and kind:=video) work on Windows 10 as well.
– Timothy Lee Russell Dec 5 '18 at 6:55

quality or spam answers that had to be removed, posting an answer now requires 10 [reputation](#) on this site (the [association bonus does not count](#)).

Would you like to answer one of these [unanswered questions](#) instead?

By using our site, you acknowledge that you have read and understand our [Terms of Service](#), [Privacy Policy](#), and our [Cookie Policy](#).