

Documentation:A Quick Guide to VLC

From VideoLAN Wiki

Introduction

Thank you for visiting this page to find out what VLC is all about. **Please Note:** this page is *Under Construction* and might change in the near future.

VLC media player (or VLC for short) is a FREE and Open Source Software Media Player. Features that make VLC the preferred media player for a lot of people is its excellent support for various Audio and Video CODECs, the fact that it's cross platform and the open way of development.

This page will describe the steps to perform the basic steps of using VLC

Understanding the VLC interface (1.0.5)

Taskbar Icon

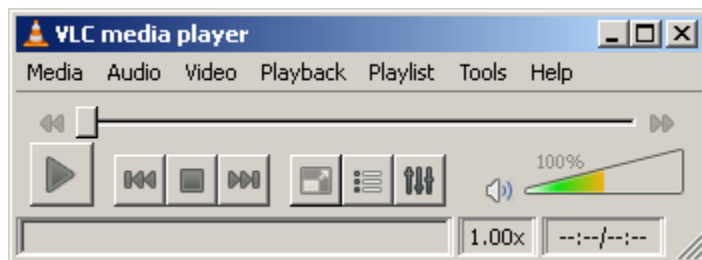
When you start the VLC media player, the application appears on the screen and a small icon



appears in your taskbar [Found next to your system clock on Windows]. Clicking once on the icon in the taskbar will hide the VLC media player, and clicking on it again will show it again. Hiding the icon does not close the application which continues to run in the background.

Note: These screenshots are taken from the MS Windows XP version. On other systems, they might appear slightly different.

The main interface of VLC media player looks as shown in the following figure.



If you close the main interface by using the close button in the window, you will be able to open the VLC media player again by using the icon in the taskbar.

By simply right clicking on this icon brings up a list of things to do:

Features like *stopping* or *pausing playback* or *change track*.

Starting VLC media player

To start VLC media player:

1. Select Programs from the Start menu.
2. Select VideoLAN and select VLC media player.

Stopping VLC media player

To quit the application, right click on the icon in the tray and select **Quit**.

Or

Click the **Close** button in the main interface of the application.

The main interface contains a couple of sections:

Menu bar

The menu bar at the top contains all the options.

Track slider

The track slider is below the menu bar. It shows the progress of playing of the media file. You can drag the track slider left to rewind or right to forward the track being played. When a video file is played, the video appears between the menu bar and track slider.

Note: When a media file is streamed, the track slider will not move because you are streaming at real time. Unlike a track which will end in a predetermined time.

Control buttons

The buttons below the slider help in controlling the play. Firstly, the Play Button, followed by Previous Media in the Playlist, stop playback, Next Media in the playlist.

The next 3 buttons are: Toggle the Video in fullscreen, show playlist and Show Extended Settings.

Volume control

To the right of the control buttons is the volume control. The small speaker icon is a button to quickly mute or un-mute all sound. The slider to the right of it allows you to modify the volume to louder or softer. The percentage gives the amount of amplification.

Data field

In the bottom of the window, some additional information, like track name and length of the track will be displayed for convenience.

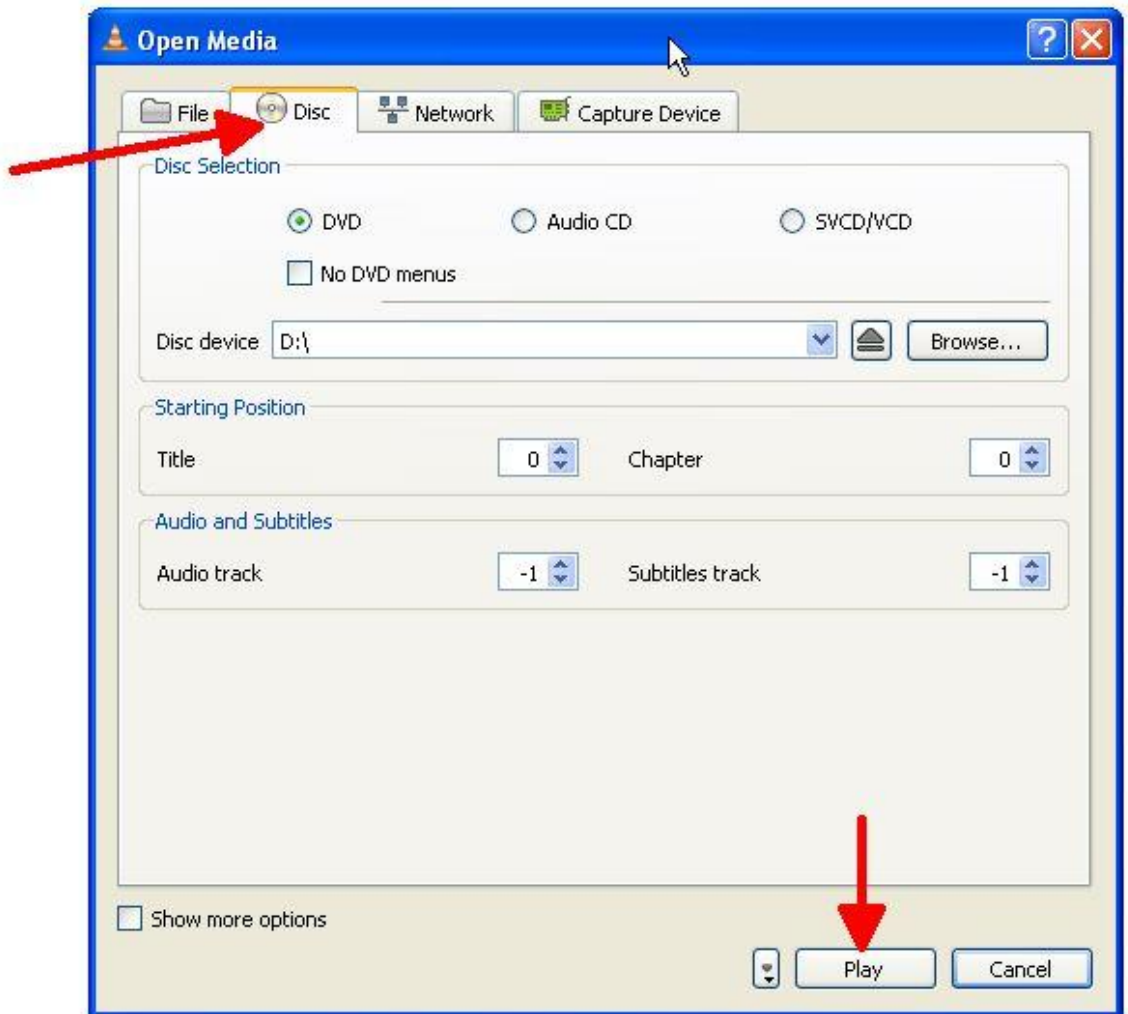
Playing a media file

The basic steps to play media are very simple.

First, place a DVD into the DVD drive. Then open VLC media player. Next, click on the play button on the left side of the screen as show below:



This will open the Open Media window. Choose the Disc tab, which is the tab second from the left and then choose the Play button at the bottom of the window as shown below:



The DVD will now be playing. The buttons on the player screen work just like DVD player with pause, fast forward, stop and rewind options.

QtHotkeys

From VideoLAN Wiki

This page is just a reminder of what the keyboard hotkeys are in the Qt4 Interface.

- + faster
- - slower
- Ctrl + D - Open disc
- Ctrl + E - Extended settings
- Ctrl + F - Open Folder/Directory
- Ctrl + H - hide/show menus (a.k.a Minimal view; like in Acrobat Reader)
- Ctrl + I - Media Information
- Ctrl + J - Codecs Information
- Ctrl + L - Hide/Show playlist
- Ctrl + M - Messages
- Ctrl + N - Open network stream
- Ctrl + O - Open File
- Ctrl + Q - Quit
- Ctrl + R - Convert/Save
- Ctrl + S - Streaming
- Ctrl + V - Paste Location/Paste MRL
- Ctrl + W - VLM configurator
- ESC - leave fullscreen/close dialogue
- space - play/pause
- Enter - select menu entry (dvd)
- Arrows - navigate menus (dvd)
- A - cycle aspect ratio
- B - cycle audio track
- C - cycle cropping ratio
- D - cycle deinterlace filters
- E - next frame (1.0 and over)
- F - toggle fullscreen
- G - subdelay down
- H - subdelay up
- I - interface show
- J - audiodelay down
- K - audiodelay up OR next subtitle-track
- L - loop
- M - mute on/mute off
- N - next track
- O - original video size (adding the black borders to the video)
- P - previous track
- S - stop
- T - position/time
- V - subtitle track cycle
- W - wallpaper (does only work with video output DirectX)
- Z - cycle zoom

- Shift + A - cycle audio device
- Shift + B - title next
- Shift + G - history back
- Shift + H - history forward
- Shift + N - chapter next
- Shift + O - title prev
- Shift + P - chapter prev
- Shift + M - disc menu
- Alt + A - audio menu (English translation)
- Alt + C - crop / (+shift) uncrop bottom
- Alt + D - crop / (+shift) uncrop left
- Alt + F - crop / (+shift) uncrop right
- Alt + H - help menu (English translation)
- Alt + L - playback menu (English translation)
- Alt + M - media menu (English translation)
- Alt + R - crop / (+shift) uncrop top
- Alt + T - tools menu (English translation)
- Alt + V - video menu (English translation)
- Alt + Left Arrow - jump 10 sec. back
- Alt + Right Arrow - jump 10 sec. forward
- Control + Left Arrow - jump 1 minute back
- Control + Right Arrow - jump 1 minute forward
- Control + Alt + Left Arrow - jump 5 minutes back
- Control + Alt + Right Arrow - jump 5 minutes forward
- Shift + Left Arrow - jump 5 seconds back
- Shift + Right Arrow - jump 5 seconds forward