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Pinnacle Video Transfer

Pinnacle's multi-talented Video Transfer is a tool for recording video (television or home-made DVDs, for example) to a computer's hard disk.

It also provides a simple way to get home videos onto the PC. The first step is to plug in the audio and video cables from a device such as a video camera into one end and a USB memory key or external hard disk into the other (or it can transfer straight to a Video iPod or other portable video player). Then press Play on the playback device and Record on the Video Transfer unit and the files will appear on the disk in MPEG-4 format.

What makes the Video Transfer special is its ability to do all this without going near a PC. Plenty of devices work with a computer to digitise video, but few are this small and work independently of the PC, allowing you to grab video and encode it to the storage device of your choice anywhere there's a mains outlet.

We were sceptical about Pinnacle's claim that the process was as simple as 'Press and Go', but it really was very easy.

Details £85 • Pinnacle 01753 655 999 www.pinnaclesys.com