

Accepted Media and Format Standards

Audio and Video Recordings

The Library of Congress encourages you to submit original, unedited materials, and to use the highest quality equipment available. Materials falling out of the accepted scope will be disposed of or returned to the donor. The only original format we do not accept is microcassettes. Recordings must be at least 30 minutes long.

We will accept the following formats:

VIDEO Formats and Media	
Digital Video (DV)	MiniDV, DVCAM, DVPRO
Betacam	Betacam SP, Digital Betacam, Betacam SX
8mm	Hi8, Digital8, Video8
DVD-Video*#	
MPEG-2*	on CD or DVD Specifications: at least 3Mbps, with a spatial resolution of 702x480 at 30fps; or the highest your set-up allows.
VHS	Super-VHS (S-VHS), Digital-VHS (D-VHS), VHS-Compact (VHS-C) Please note that as of June 2009 , we will no longer accept VHS recordings in any format.

AUDIO Formats and Media	
Audio cassettes†	
CD-Audio*	
WAV*	on CD or DVD Specifications; 44.1 KHz, 16-bit
Digital Audio Tape (DAT)	Please note that as of June 2009 , we will no longer accept DAT recordings.

***Do not copy protect any CD or DVD. Do not add labels to any CD or DVD.**

#VHP prefers video interviews on DVD with minimal indexing, titles, and/or graphics at the highest level your authoring application will allow.

†Use an external microphone.

Please, only one interview per recording.

Contact us if you have any questions.

We encourage you to retain high-quality copies of materials for your own personal use and enjoyment.

NOTE: Contact us regarding donations on behalf of living or deceased veterans.