

For many people the task of transferring their home movies, videos, photos, and slides to DVD can bring up many questions.

We hope to provide
Answers to Common Questions
in regards to the archival of family histories.

Q-1 I have a large family collection of film, video, photos and slides. What should I have transferred first?

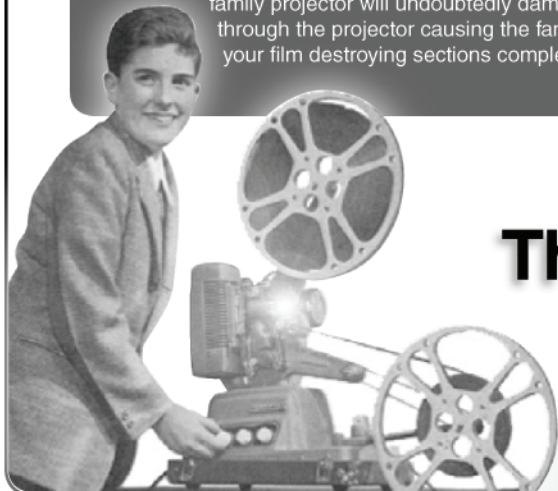
A-1 Videotapes are the most delicate format and should be transferred to DVD as soon as possible. Lately we have seen many VHS tapes that are either damaged or sadly completely unviewable. Next I would focus on your film (8mm, Super 8), as it is most likely forty plus years old. Inspect your film, look for mold, dried out, or cracked film and check for any "vinegar smell". All of these are bad signs. For large film collections where cost is a concern you may consider breaking up your project by DVD. Each DVD can hold approximately 2000 feet of film. Start with the oldest first

Q-2 How do I know how much film I have and what film is older?

A-2 To figure out how much film you have, count the number of reels and their sizes. A 3" reel = 50', a 5" reel = 200', and a 7" reel = 400'. To figure out the age of your film look for any dates written on the box or can, also look for the date on the postage. 8mm is older than Super 8. Black & White film is very old.

Q-3 I don't know the content of my film, is there a way to preview it?

A-3 Prior to capturing the film to digital files there is no practical way to preview the film. Viewing it on the old family projector will undoubtedly damage it, small particles of dust can scratch the film as it goes through the projector causing the familiar vertical scratches or worse, the old machine may "eat" your film destroying sections completely. Typically the amount of unviewable footage is very small.



We welcome any questions and
offer FREE CONSULTATION
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