Video File Renamer

Rename groups of video files easily with this plugin for Movienizer

What is this?

Video File Renamer is an additional module for Movienizer that can rename video files using information from your Movienizer database. Thus your complete collection of video files can be renamed automatically, using a pattern of your choice. The plugin also updates links to files in your Movienizer database, which gives you yet another advantage: if you rename your files manually, you will need to update links in your database manually, too.

Main Features

- Rename selected video files using information from Movienizer
- Create folders
- Move files to a certain folder (within the same drive)
- Create hard links
- Apply filters to select files for renaming
- Replace spaces, dots and underline symbols as necessary
- Update file links in Movienizer automatically
- Move articles (a, the) to the end of the title
- Various options if a certain field is empty
- Preview and undo for safe renaming

Variables

Variables are shortcuts for field names. For example, %T will be replaced with the movie title, %O is for original title, %Y – year etc. The complete list of available variables is shown in the "Variables" area of the plugin.

Renaming Patterns

You can enter a pattern into the field in the left upper corner of the plugin. All selected movies will be renamed according to the pattern. For example, if you enter a format like

%T - %Dmin

your files will be renamed using the corresponding data from the database, like

Avatar – 171min.avi

Creating Folders

You can create folders using the backslash character "\". For example:

%Y\%FL\%T - %Dmin

will create two subfolders and put the file inside under the new name

Hard Links

A hard link looks like a copy of the file. However, it does not occupy any additional space, as it refers to the same data. Thus you can have the same file in several locations. Later you can remove the original link or any new ones without losing the file (it will be available as long as there is at least one link). Hard links cannot be created for folders (DVD, Blu-Ray), such folders will be renamed.

Filters

If you need to rename files only from a certain folder, for example, from "MoviesToRename", enter "MoviesToRename" into the filter field and click the "Filter" button. This will remove the rest of files from the list, making it easier to select the ones you need to rename. Several filters can be applied, one after another. To cancel all filters, click "Clear".

Conditional Renaming

Consider the following renaming pattern:

%T - %CO

It should rename your files to something like:

Avatar – divx.avi

However, what happens if there is no information about codecs in your database for a particular movie? The resulting filename will be:

Avatar - .avi

This does not look nice, and you'd probably like to use Avatar.avi instead. However, manually selecting all movies that have empty fields could be time consuming.

Solution 1. You can use "<" and ">" in your pattern. The following pattern

%T< - %CO>

will produce

Avatar – divx.avi

if codec information is available, and

Avatar.avi

if there is no codec information.

Thus information inside "<" and ">" will be disregarded if the corresponding field is empty.

Only the first variable inside "<" and ">" is evaluated. If it is empty, the complete expression is dismissed. For example:

%T< - %CO - %G>

This should rename our file to something like

Avatar – divx – SF.avi

However, if there is no information about codecs, genre will be disregarded, too. Consider the opposite:

%T< - %G - %CO>

Now genre comes first. If there is no information about codecs, we will get:

Avatar – SF - .avi

Solution 2. This is more powerful and flexible. You can use conditional expressions in your renaming pattern. Take a look at this:

<%O?%O:%T>

Does it look scary? No, its meaning is pretty simple: if the original title field is not empty, use original title, else use title.

For example:

%T<%D? - %Dmin:>

This produces

Avatar – 171min.avi

if duration is not 0, and

Avatar.avi

otherwise.

You can easily notice that various expressions can be used, as well as an empty string. We could change the above pattern to

%T<%D? - %Dmin:%G>

which would rename our files to

Avatar – SF.avi

if duration would be 0 (well, it's a purely hypothetical situation; if there is a playable video file, it will surely have some duration).

%T<%MS? - %NS - %MS: - not a movie series>

If the movie belongs to a movie series, its number in the series and the series title will be saved into the filename, otherwise the filename will look like

Avatar – not a movie series.avi

Clicking the "Preview" button does not change anything, allowing you to preview what your filenames will look like, so feel free to experiment.