



Coffee Break

Question on Software or Operating system.

Take Your 8mm Film to Digital.

The Old Projector on the Wall Trick.

Of the several do-it-yourself methods of transferring film to video, the simplest is to project your film on a wall or matte white paper and record it with your video camera.

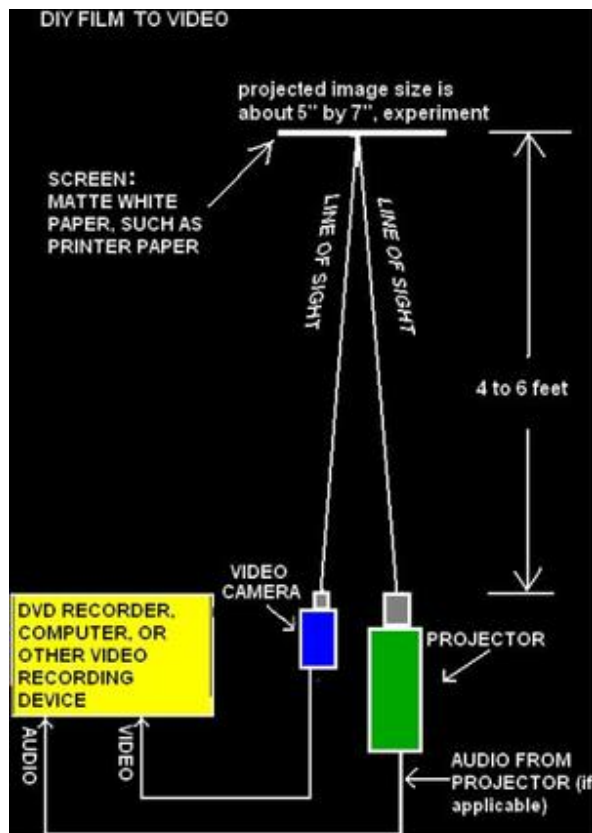
The biggest problem with this projection method is the frame rate difference.

An 8mm movie can have a frame rate anywhere from **14 frames per second to 24 frames per second** -- and this needs to be resolved into Frame Rate: **25 FPS for the PAL system** used in Australia. Unless you have some sophisticated electronics to control film speed, you'll get flicker, which is when you capture half or part of a frame.

To avoid flicker, any projector you use is going to need to be "variable speed" -- the 18 fps rate that 8mm film is shot at won't synch without flicker; however, **20 fps will.**

This faster frame rate is OK for silent film, which most 8mm and Super 8 cameras are silent. If you have sound then the speed of 20 fps will distort the sound.

While projecting your film onto a clean matte white paper, aim your video camera at the projection screen (white paper) and slowly adjust the shutter speed on the projector until the flicker goes away in your camera's monitor.



If a variable speed projector is not available, there is also a plugin called MSU Deflicker for VirtualDub, the open source freeware video editor, which will help reduce flicker by eliminating some frames and doubling up others. Note: The VirtualDub video editing software only saves in AVI files. DVD players don't play AVI video files. You will need other software to convert the AVI file to a DVD format.

