



PARADISEC

Audiovisual digital format standards

<p>Analogue photographic material</p> <p>Photographs and slides are to be digitised at full-size and at 4,000 dpi in a raw (uncompressed) format such as .tif for highest possible fidelity digital representation of the original image. Jpeg images will be generated from these but only for the purpose of preview (“Access”); they will be greatly reduced in size and quality. The .tif images will constitute the archived material.</p>	<p>Digital photographic material</p> <p>Natively digital photographs, those taken with a digital camera, should be taken using the camera’s raw file format if the camera has such an option. A minimum resolution of 6.1 megapixels is required</p> <p>Only if no ‘raw’ format option exists, then the highest quality, largest size image in a compressed (lossy) format, such as jpg, is acceptable.</p>
<p>Analogue audio material</p> <p>Analogue audio recordings such as reel-to-reel tapes and cassette tapes are digitised at 96 kHz sample rate and 24 bit resolution in an uncompressed format; .wav for windows and .aiff for mac.</p> <p>MP3 files are later generated for the purpose of preview and web-portability (“Access”). The uncompressed file will be converted into a broadcast wave file (BWF), which embeds the wav file in a metadata header, and will be archived</p>	<p>Digital audio material</p> <p>Natively digital audio should never be recorded in a lossy format. Always record using uncompressed wav at the highest practicable quality and avoid mp3-only devices.</p> <p>The minimum standard for native digital is 16 bit resolution and 44.1 kHz (CD quality). Most good recorders encode 16 bit 48 kHz. If a recorder can encode 24 bit resolution and 96 kHz then it is preferable.</p> <p>If only mp3 recordings exist, PARADISEC will consider them for archiving based on the importance of the recording. We strongly advise to never opt for mp3 over wav.</p>
<p>NB: PARADISEC is currently unable to archive video of film footage. However, the same standards would apply. That is, an archive copy would be created at the highest resolution uncompressed format and an access copy would similarly be created, though at significantly reduced quality. Native digital videos also, should be recorded at the highest possible quality, and without compression where possible.</p>	

Summary:

	Archival copy	Access copy
Photographic	4,000 dpi, full size, .tif	425 px longest side, .jpg Level 5
Audio	96 kHz 24 bit .wav	128 kbps 48 kHz .mp3