

Linux – Ripping DVD's To AVI's At The Command Line

You can backup your DVD's to AVI files for archival purposes in Linux by using mencoder at the command line. Mencoder is installed on most Linux distributions when you install mplayer. The command is:

This will produce an AVI file around 600-700 MB in size using English for the language option. It will also perform volume normalization, and strip the subtitles from being displayed. The audio will also be sampled at a constant bit rate of 128kbit/s. If you wanted to increase the video quality at the expense of filesize you could bump up the vbitrate=900 option until you are satisfied.

This command could be inserted into a simple bash script so that it can be reused easily.