Kinoma Player

Version 1.1

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Introduction

Kinoma Player is a high performance digital media player for Palm handhelds. It supports playback of video, animation, and still images together with digital audio.

Kinoma Player provides support for the full range of unique features provided by Palm handheld manufacturers.

For the sample content, answers to frequently asked questions, and the latest version of Kinoma Player please visit http://www.kinoma.com.

Devices Supported

Kinoma Player is designed to operate on all Palm handhelds running Palm OS version 3.1 or better. It has been successfully tested on Palm handhelds manufactured by HandEra, Handspring, IBM, Kyocera, Palm, Samsung, Sony, and TRG.

Video Support

Kinoma Player supports the many different display modes of these devices. Video intended for viewing on a gray scale device can also be displayed on a color device. Video intended for viewing on a color device will be displayed in grayscale on devices that do not support color.

Kinoma Player provides support for playback of hi-resolution content on handhelds with hi-resolution displays. At the time of writing, these devices are only available from Sony. Content must be encoded specifically for hi-resolution playback to use this capability.

Audio Support

Support for audio on Palm handhelds has been uneven. While nearly every device supports audio in some form, there are many different kinds of audio supported. The Kinoma Player supports many different kinds of audio for Palm handhelds including:

- Uncompressed and ADPCM audio using the capabilities provided by the device's Dragonball processor
- Yamaha ADPCM audio using an audio co-processor built into some Sony handhelds and available as a Springboard module for Handspring devices
- ATRAC3 audio on Sony handhelds which contain a specialized audio co-processor or peripheral

External Storage Support

Because digital media files can be quite large, Kinoma Player supports the playback of digital media from external storage. This support includes Compact Flash, Memory Stick, and SD Memory. Details on using external storage are provided below.

Jog Dial Support

Kinoma Player provides full support for the jog dial control and back button found on Palm handhelds from Sony. This support enables single handed operation of the Kinoma Player. The details of how to use the jog dial control are provided below.

Content Compatibility

Kinoma Player supports the playback of content stored in the Kinoma format. For playback on Palm handhelds, all content must be stored in a Palm Database (PDB) file. To create content in the Kinoma format, use the Kinoma Producer application available at on-line at http://www.kinoma.com.

Kinoma Player is also able to play content stored in the gMovie format. Kinoma Player supports content encoded for gMovie Player versions up to 2.0.

Installing Kinoma Player

Kinoma Player is a standard Palm OS application. If you have ever installed an application on your Palm handheld, simply install Kinoma Player in the same way.

If you haven't installed an application on your Palm handheld before, it is very easy to do. Here are instructions for both Macintosh and Windows users:

Windows

1. Launch the "Install Tool" program in the Palm Desktop or Sony Handheld folder in your Start Menu.
2. Click the "Add" button, navigate to the directory where you stored the Kinoma Player, and select the Kinoma Player. The file should be named "Kinoma.prc" or "KinomaJ.prc". Alternatively, you can drag the Kinoma Player file directly into the list of files to install.
3. Click the "Done" button
4. HotSync your Palm handheld following the handheld's manufacturer instructions.
5. Kinoma Player is now installed on your Palm handheld.

Macintosh

1. Launch the "Palm Desktop" application.
2. Select "Install Handheld Files…" from the HotSync menu
3. Drag the Kinoma Player application into the list of items to install (Kinoma Player will be called "Kinoma.prc" or "KinomaJ.prc"). Alternatively, you can click the "Add Item" button and select the Kinoma Player application from the file selection dialog.
4. HotSync your Palm handheld following the handheld's manufacturer instructions.
5. Kinoma Player is now installed on your Palm handheld.

Uninstalling Kinoma Player

Uninstalling the Kinoma Player follows the same steps as uninstalling any other application on your Palm handheld.

> **Note:** When you delete the Kinoma Player application, Palm OS will automatically also remove any Kinoma Player documents that are stored in your Palm handheld's internal memory. Any Kinoma Player documents on an external storage device will not be deleted.

1. Tap the "home" icon on your Palm handheld to return to the Application Launcher.
2. Tap the "menu" icon to display the Application Launcher menus.
3. Tap "Delete…" from the "App" menu.
4. When the delete dialog appears, select the Kinoma Player application.

5. Tap the "Delete…" button
6. A confirmation dialog will be displayed. Tap "Yes" to delete the Kinoma Player application.

Installing Content

Digital media content encoded in the Kinoma format can be installed onto your Palm handheld in a number of different ways.
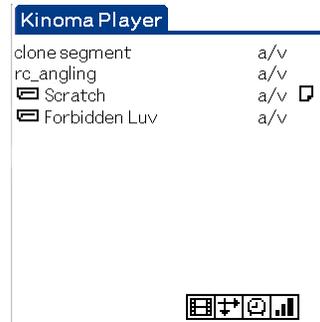
- You can use the standard HotSync "Install Tool" application to install digital media onto your handheld. The procedure for installing content is the same as the procedure for installing applications, which is described in the previous section.
- You can copy the content onto an external storage device. Kinoma Player looks in certain directories for encoded digital media content. The recommended directory to store your content in is "\palm\programs\kinoma\". Kinoma Player also looks for content in "\palm\programs\gmovie\", "\palm\launcher\", and "\palm\programs\msfiles\" to support legacy gMovie content.
- Kinoma Producer is an application for Windows and Macintosh that lets you encode digital media content into the Kinoma format for playback on Palm handhelds. After it is encoded, Kinoma Producer can automatically install it through via HotSync and by loading it directly on external storage devices such as Compact Flash, Memory Stick, and SD Memory.

Using Kinoma Player

Kinoma Player has two main modes of operation. The first mode is browsing and selecting a digital media document to play. The second mode is viewing the selected digital media document.

Browsing and selecting digital media

When you first launch the Kinoma Player it begins in browse mode.

A list of available content is displayed. Content stored on external storage is displayed together with content stored in the internal memory of the Palm handheld. Content stored on external storage is displayed with an icon to the left of the name.

> **Tip**: If your Palm handheld has a Jog Dial, you can use it to scroll through the list of available digital media documents. To play the selected item, press the jog dial button. To return to the launcher application, press the back button.

The four icons below the list control the information displayed in the second column.

Displays the type of each media item such as "audio", "video", or "a/v".

Displays the dimensions of each media item in pixels.

Displays the duration of each media item.

Displays the size of the device in internal memory or on external storage.

Some Kinoma Player documents contain additional details, such as the full name of the clip or a copyright notice. If additional details are present in the document a small document icon is displayed in the far right column. The document icon looks like this:
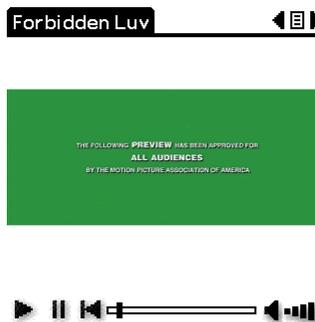
Tap the document icon to display the details about the clip. An example details screen is shown below:

Playing digital media

After choosing a media document to play from the browse screen, it is displayed in the player screen. An example of this screen is shown below.

As soon as the movie is loaded, it immediately begins playing. When the movie reaches the end, it will loop back to the beginning and begin playing again. This behavior can be changed using the Preferences, described below.
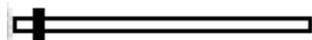
The play back controls are displayed below the movie.

Play button. Tap the play button to start the movie playing. While the movie is playing, the play button is highlighted with a square frame.

Pause button. Tap the pause button to pause playback of the movie.

Rewind button. Rewinds the movie back to the beginning

Time control. The time control indicates the current time of the movie. Tap on the time slider to jump to any time within the movie.

Tip: You can also use the up and down buttons on your Palm handheld to move back and forth in time in the movie.

Tip: If your handheld has a Jog Dial, you can use it to control movie playback. Turn the jog dial up and down to change the current time. Press the jog dial to start or stop movie playback.

Volume control. Tap in the slider area to adjust the volume. Tap the speaker to mute the audio. If there is no audio in the movie, the volume control is not displayed.

Tip: If your handheld has an audio remote controller, you can use it to adjust the volume.

The controls in the top right corner of the screen provide the ability to navigate to other digital media documents stored on the handheld.

Tap the left pointing arrow to go to the previous movie. Tap the right pointing arrow to go to the next movie. Tap the document icon between the left and right arrows to return to the media browser.

Tip: If your handheld has a Jog Dial, you can use it to navigate movies. Press and turn the jog dial up to go to the previous movie. Press and turn the jog dial down to go to the next movie. Press the back button to return to the media browser.

Kinoma Player can play all the media on your handheld in a continuous loop. To enable this mode, tap and hold (for about one second) on the right pointing arrow in the navigation controls. This will enable "play in sequence" mode. When one movie is finished playing, the player will automatically advance to the next movie. To disable "play in sequence" mode, again tap and hold on the right pointing arrow in the navigation controls.

Tip: To watch a media document play back without the controls or title visible, tap on the video. Tapping on the video will hide the controls. Tap the video again to show the controls.

On some recent model handhelds, the silk screen area at the bottom of the screen is "virtual." That means that it is drawn using software rather than physically being printed on the device. Because it is drawn in software, the Kinoma Player is able to hide the virtual silk screen to provide more space for movie playback. On the player screen on these devices you can reduce the virtual silk screen area to a status bar. To do this, tap the small arrow in the lower left corner of the screen. This area is shown below.

When the virtual silk screen area is hidden, tap the arrow again to reveal it again.

Some Kinoma movie files contain a list of chapters which can be used to quickly jump to any part of the video. These chapters provide a function analogous to chapters on a DVD or laserdisc. If there are chapters in the clip being watched, the chapter control appears in the playback controls, displaying the name of the current chapter, as shown below.
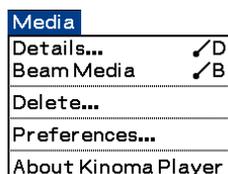

As the movie plays back, the chapter control will update so that it always displays the name of the current chapter. To jump to a particular chapter, tap the chapter control. Tapping the chapter control will pause playback and display a list of all available chapters as shown below.

Tap the name of the desired chapter to resume playback from that point.

Player Menus

Kinoma Player has additional capabilities available through the application menu available on the player screen. To access the menus, tap the menu button on your Palm handheld. The following menu will be displayed:

Details

The "Details" menu item displays additional information about the digital media document currently being displayed. This information may include the full name, duration, data size, or copyright.
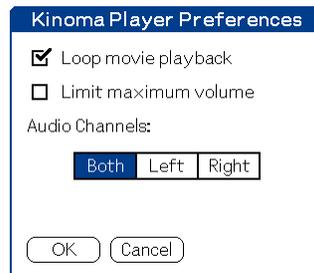
Beam Media

The "Beam Media" menu item allows you to beam the current digital media document to another Palm handheld. Because beaming is done over a low speed infra-red connection, it is only recommended for documents smaller than one megabyte. After selecting "Beam Media" point the infrared port of your Palm handheld towards the infrared port on the other Palm handheld. If the receiver does not have Kinoma Player installed on their Palm handheld, you should beam the application to them first.

Delete

The "Delete" menu item allows you to remove the currently displayed digital media document from your Palm handheld. Before the document is deleted, a confirmation dialog will be displayed. If the document is stored on external storage, such as a Memory Stick, it will be deleted from the external storage device. The delete operation cannot be undone, so use it with caution.

Preferences

Selecting the "Preferences…" menu item brings up the Kinoma Player Preferences dialog.

The "Loop movie playback" check box lets you control whether or not a movie will automatically rewind and continue playing when it reaches the end. If this item is not checked, the movie will stop when it reaches the end.

The "Limit maximum volume" check box lets you limit the maximum playback volume. If this item is checked, the volume control will be limited to about 75% of maximum volume.

The "Audio Channels" buttons allow you to select which audio channels you want to hear for movies with stereo audio. For most movies, you'll want to select "Both" and this is the default. However, some content is encoded with different languages – one in the left channel and the other in the right channel. In these cases, select "Left" or "Right" so only one of the languages is played.

About Kinoma Player

This menu item displays a screen with information about Kinoma Player including the version number of the version of Kinoma Player that you are running.