

18 Free Online Video Hosts

Contributed by Sheila Ann Manuel Coggins

Are you looking for free hosts for your online videos? Here are some of the more popular ones available. And here's my take on each one -

- YouTube - Undoubtedly the most popular free online video hosting service available. Good for getting eyeballs, of course. And, it's generally quite reliable. Probably will keep growing in this space. I have two accounts there: a personal one and a freshwavetv channel created for myself and my co-blogger on FreshWave.TV.
- MySpace - I don't really use this to upload videos, as I'm not too keen on it. I tried it once but never really kept up with it. I've never really been a MySpace fan, truth be told. But, I'm slowly trying to learn how to make the most out of this.
- Revver - Although the whole process of uploading, waiting for approval, and such can be a bit taxing, the good thing here is that you know they're trying to maintain quality control in their service. Also, the service offers ways for both producers (those who upload original videos) and distributors (those who share/re-post the videos in their own blogs and sites) a chance to make some money. They have different codes and formats available for embedding/sharing - to make life easier for those who wish to re-distribute the videos. Anyway, overall, I really like this service. View my Revver channel.
- Blip.TV - This one's meant to be another service where you can make money from your original videos. But, I'm still unsure about this, as I haven't seen any signs of such a thing happening in my short experience with them. The upload process is a lot easier and quicker than Revver, but I find Revver's video conversions and output nicer. There are some aspects of it I like, though, so I'm willing to keep giving it a go.
- Photobucket - A good service for image hosting but never tried the video hosting. I read some good reviews, though.
- Vimeo - Never used it. Don't know if I will.
- OurMedia - Tried using it when it was first released. You need to have an account with Internet Archive to get this to work. I never liked it. It was too clunky and unreliable when I gave it a go. Admittedly, I haven't tried it again recently. But, I'm not sure if I'd like to.
- Google Video - In terms of views, this one probably got the most views and ratings for my videos. It also has a few nifty features that I like. I just wish there was a way to link directly to an account!
- Yahoo Video - I've never tried this service until today. The first time I tried to upload a video, it crashed my computer. Obviously, this put me off. But, maybe I'll try again another day.
- iFilm - Looks interesting but not sure if I'll give it a go.
- DailyMotion - Nice looking site, but looks quiet. Not sure if it'll be worth trying.
- Grouper - Heard about this free online video hosting service a while back, but never signed up. I might try it one of these days.
- Multiply - I like Multiply as a social networking site. They've added a lot of nice features over the last few months, including free video hosting. You can even import videos from other services like YouTube. I tried that function and it worked well. Just not sure if it's best to upload/import there - or just post embedded links to videos from elsewhere (like Revver or YouTube).
- AOL Uncut Video - Just found out about this. Very uninspiring.
- MSN Soapbox - Even more uninspiring than AOL Uncut. But, it might grow in popularity. I'll just have to watch this.
- Metacafe - Another new discovery for me. And, I like what I see! I'll definitely give this a go when I get the chance. Will report back when I do.
- Motionbox - Again, it looks nice. But, I'm not sure if I'll give it a go.

- Brightcove - Very professional looking service. Lots of professionally-made videos, as they're obviously geared towards the commercial market. There are ways to make money as a producer and/or as a distributor. Not sure how it works yet, though. Or, how easy it is to get in to the action.

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- First published at ShaiCoggins.com - with some changes