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DVE Navigation Tips

As the DVD Navigation section of the program tells you, disc navigation can be unique in individual discs. The chances for this happening increase as the complexity of the disc goes up. That's the case for *Digital Video Essentials*. DVE has been designed to be highly interactive and as such has an in depth menu system.

When we first scripted DVE we had ideas of how the menu system might look. Images of those menus were created in the 1080p domain and pictured in the program. Once the program was edited we discovered that some of our original ideas could be simplified making the menu system easier to use. As a result the menus you see in the disc don't exactly match the examples we created for the program. You'll see the differences when you go from the real menu to the descriptions of the menu in the program. (If you look at the credits you'll also see the changes in the album cover from the original concept to the final package. It was also finalized long after the program edit was finished.)

In an ideal world we'd put everything you needed to use on the first page of the menu system, almost like some of the pull-down menus on the internet. Pick a basic topic and it exposes all of the sub categories of that topic. Unfortunately there is not enough resolution in the standard definition video image to sustain that much detail in a single image so you find lots of sub-categories for some of the menu items.

In the top level Program Guide Menu, which you can get at by pressing the Title key or top level menu key on the remote control, there are five options listed. Three of the options, Introduction, DVD Navigation, and Playback Options, go directly to their part of the program or in the case of Program Options to a selection of the audio track to be played. The other two, Program Guide and Program Notes, lead you to additional menus.

Most of the menu systems in DVD's don't require you to know much about navigation to get to every point they've listed in the program so we've included some basic instructions on how to get around a more complicated menu system like ours. You may want to read the manual for your DVD player for some additional hints on how to find capabilities in your DVD player.

Some of the choices about functionality in the navigation system were made after the program was assembled so there are some additional hints we'd like to provide. We'll also repeat some of the important instructions found in the disc.

Shortcut #1 The Return key on the remote control.

In going into either Program Guide or Program Notes you'll find that Return is one of the options you can select. Selecting it will take you back up a level in the menu system. You can also go back up a level by pressing the Return key on your remote control without ever highlighting the word Return in the menu.

Shortcut #2 Quickly moving forward to the next menu frame.

Several of the Program Menu items have multiple pages with lots of information in them. The Title index is one example Reference Materials is another. Getting to the next page is as easy as pressing the right arrow key followed by the enter button on the remote. There is no need to scroll through all of the options.

Shortcut #3 Moving among video test patterns.

In going through the video reference test patterns you can advance from one Title to the next just by pressing the skip forward button as you reach the frame of black at the end of most titles. Use the skip back button to go back to prior test patterns.

Shortcut #4 Repeating sequences of test materials.

Individual motion video and audio reference materials have been put in their own chapter. Use the chapter repeat function to make them stay up longer than the time provided in the program. Use the A-B repeat capability if only a small portion of the chapter is to be repeated. In the case of the audio test signals you may want to repeat an entire title.

Shortcut #5 Moving among Program Notes frames.

Use the skip back button to go back among the frames in the program notes. The skip forward as well as the right arrow key will take you forward in the program notes.

Shortcut #6 Finding test patterns in the Reference Material section of the program.

We've provided a list of test materials and their location in the program. The fastest way to get to any one of these patterns is to search for the Title and Chapter in which they are located. Each of the patterns can also be reached through the menu system.

Shortcut #7 Finding the Program Menu system.

Some DVD player remote controls don't provide a Title key or upper menu select key. We've provided an option in the first page of every Chapter menu that will take you to the Program Menu. The disc will also stop on the Program Menu after the introduction to the program.