

STREAMING

Past formats required you to download an entire file before playing it. Newer formats allow you to begin playing the file before the entire thing has been downloaded. Many of the sound and video clips found on Web sites today are purposely of lower quality. The sound is scratchy and the movements are jerky so download time is faster. With less information being transferred, you can stream. This means a minute of sound and or images takes no more than a minute to download and you can listen to and/or watch without waiting or storing the data. Increasing bandwidth will eventually make this compromise obsolete.