What's All This h.264/h.265 Stuff, Anyhow?

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Congratulations on having your legacy family memories duplicated to digital with the finest precision known to man! But you may have noticed that your package includes both h.264 digital video and h.265 digital video files. So, what's the diff, anyhow?

NEW TECHNOLOGY IS THE DIFF:

The root difference is merely that one (h.265) is later technology than the other (h.264). Another name for h.265 is HVEC.

WHICH ONE IS BETTER?:

To answer which one is better it is first necessary to ask what is the intended application. In theory, the visual quality of h.265 is better than h.264 but most people won't notice the difference. While both are uploadable to smart phones and various mobile devices, the new h.265 format streams faster and better. This is owing to its reduced file size relative to the image resolution. Given identical resolution, the h.265 format file size is considerably reduced relative to h.264.

Because h.265 is much newer than h.264, the h.265 CODEC is not universally distributed on computers. In order to use it you may have to purchase the h.265 CODEC which (at the time of this writing) is $0.99. A better solution, however, is to download and install the free VLC video player application. This includes the h.265 CODEC.

WHY ARE YOU GETTING BOTH FROM W. CARDONE PRODUCTIONS:

Because the h.264 CODEC has been with us since about the year 2000, virtually all PCs and Macs have the CODEC installed. H.264 digital video files are universally playable. You can be relatively certain that your smart phone or computer will instantly play the h.264 digital video files you receive with your project. But because h.265 digital video files are the way of the future we are including those together with h.264 files. A time will come when virtually all PCs and Macs play h.265 digital video files without a CODEC download required.

HERS'S WHAT YOU SHOULD DO:

If the h.265 files work for you, use them. If they don't then use the h.264 files but keep the h.265 files. But keep in mind that all your computer or device needs is to have the h.265 or HVEC CODEC installed.