

What is hardcoded caption?

When you are viewing a foreign movie at the theater and there is subtitle (another term for video captions), what you are viewing is Hardcode (or Hardcoded) Caption. What this means is the caption is always there and the person cannot turn it on or off. Another example would be when you're watching a movie on your computer and there's caption at the bottom of the screen. When there's no option that allows you to switch the caption on or off, it's known as hardcode caption.

For a person who is disabled (deaf/mute, hearing impaired), Hardcode Caption is the preferred way. Nevertheless, a person who is NOT disabled might not always like hardcode caption because it can be a distraction for some people.

What is closed caption?

Unlike hardcode caption, closed caption gives you the option to turn the caption on or off. Many people, who are not disabled, prefer closed caption because it allows them to switch the caption on and off whenever they want without being distracted with the words jumping up and down.

What is the SubRip Text (SRT) file?

The SubRip Text (SRT) file is a well-recognized subtitle file format most people use around the world. There are other formats available for subtitles but SRT is the easiest format to work with. YouTube allows users to upload many subtitle formats, which I will show you later.

Many video editing programs like Camtasia allow users to create and extract subtitle files that are in SRT format. When you are watching a movie on your computer, especially a foreign movie, many people do provide SRT file for you. You can download and watch the movie with the subtitles in video players like VLC Player and Windows Media Player.