

## TiVo's SDK for advanced hacks

TiVo's Software Developer's Kit ([www.tivo.com/developer/](http://www.tivo.com/developer/)) not only offers tricks for programmers, but hope for the future. It ensures more programs will take advantage of TiVo's window into your entertainment center.

In particular, look for *plug-ins* written specifically to enhance TiVo Publisher. For instance, one plug-in brings Windows Media Player 9

support to TiVo, letting you view files on your TiVo just as they appear in Media Player: sorted by artist, album, or genre. The plug-in also lets you play Media Player's playlists that are created automatically based on when and how often you play certain files. You'll find the plug-in at <http://jemfiles.home.comcast.net/TiVoPlugin/>.

Whereas some programs toss in support for TiVo as an afterthought, the programmers of JavaHMO built the program *specifically* to address TiVo's HMO shortcomings, adding and fine-tuning features as they continue to work. Even as it stands, though, JavaHMO already outdoes the commercial offerings in scope.

- ✓ JavaHMO displays photos in BMP, GIF, FlashPix, JPEG, PNG, PNM, TIF, and WBMP format. It also plays MP3 files and Shoutcast Internet radio stations, playlists in M3U and PLS formats, images from the Internet, and other goodies.
- ✓ The JavaHMO programmers hope to add support for more games (it already supports Tic-Tac-Toe), as well as e-mail, Internet searches, weather alert information, daily comic strips, horoscopes, stock charts, and other information. Through the use of clever programming tricks, JavaHMO can pluck virtually any image or data from the Internet and display it through TiVo.

## Adobe Photoshop Album 2.0 and Picasa

MoodLogic works only with music; J. River Media Center and JavaHMO can handle both music and photos. Adobe Photoshop Album 2.0 ([www.adobe.com](http://www.adobe.com)) and Picasa ([www.picasa.net](http://www.picasa.net)) work only with photos. Both programs let you organize your digital photos into categories and publish photo collections to TiVo. After you create a slideshow, for instance, pushing a Publish to TiVo button sends the pictures to your TiVo as well as your computer monitor.

Photoshop Album lets you retrieve photos by the date you snapped them (provided you set the clock on your digital camera). Once you've found your proper vacation photos, publish them on your TiVo for the enjoyment of your impatient relatives. (Plying them with eggnog often helps ease the short delay.)