hp media center pc

Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition user's guide



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Introduction

Getting Started with Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition

Welcome to the exciting new HP Media Center PC experience! With this computer, you can play all kinds of audio, video, and picture media on your computer by using a specially designed remote control.

When using the remote control and the Media Center program, you can:

- Watch, record, and play back television programs.
- Pause, rewind, and fast forward TV programs by using the Media Center time shifting feature.
- Watch an instant replay.
- Play back your digital videos.
- View your digital pictures or play them as a slide show with music.
- Browse, select, and play music CDs and DVD movies.
- Resume playing your DVDs where you left off.
- Navigate the Media Center program by using either the remote control or the mouse and keyboard.



- Watch TV or a DVD movie while doing other tasks on your computer.
- Record your TV shows automatically while you are doing something else.
- Quickly open specific windows in Media Center by using the shortcut buttons on the remote control or on the front of your computer.
- Easily update the Television Program Guide from the Internet.

Getting Help

The Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition User's Guide can help you get started using the Media Center program with your remote control. Other sources of help are:

Setup poster

Information about assembling your computer system

 HP Media Center PC Hardware User's Guide

Information about connecting your PC to the Internet, to your TV and stereo, and connecting any gaming controllers such as a joystick

 HP DVD Writer Guide Information about using your DVD Writer drive and the DVD writing software

- Media Center Help Help files about using and troubleshooting the Media Center program
- Windows Media Player Help Help files about using and troubleshooting the Windows Media Player program
- Media Center introduction video Instructional overview of the Media Center program
- HP Web site http://www.hp.com Technical support

Getting the Most out of Media Center

It is best to have the following items completed before trying to use Media Center; otherwise, many of the program features won't be available to you. Before using Media Center, make sure:

- HP Media Center PC is set up correctly. For setup information, refer to the setup poster and to the HP Media Center PC Hardware User's Guide.
- Remote control has two AA alkaline batteries installed.
- Remote sensor is properly plugged into a USB connector on your PC and is placed where you can point the remote control at it.
- Remote sensor control cable is securely plugged into the remote sensor and attached to your cable or satellite set-top box, if present.
- PC has a properly configured and working Internet connection.
- PC is properly connected to your TV signal source.



Connections to the Internet and to a TV signal source are optional, but they are recommended to get the most out of Media Center.

Media Center Overview

You can control the Media Center functions and navigate Media Center windows by using the remote control, the keyboard, or the mouse. You can easily switch back and forth between them by moving the mouse or by pressing a button on the remote control or the keyboard.

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To open Media Center, simply point the remote control at the remote sensor and press the **Start** button. Media Center opens in full screen mode. Make sure the remote control is in the correct range of the remote sensor.

You can run Media Center side by side with other Windows software programs. It's possible to browse through your pictures, watch videos, play music, and even record TV while using other Windows programs.



Introduction

Opening Media Center

To open Media Center by using the keyboard and the mouse, click the Start button on the taskbar of your

🛃 start

desktop and then select Media Center on the Start menu.

When you open Media Center, you'll see the Media Center Start menu. Use the arrow buttons on the remote control or the keyboard, or use the mouse to navigate and select menu options. You may need to use the scroll buttons to view all items in some Media Center menus. To enter a selection, press **OK** on the remote control, press the Enter key on the keyboard, or click the mouse.



Navigating Media Center

In the Media Center windows, a selected item such as a folder, file, or menu item is outlined with a green border.

To select items in Media Center, use the arrow buttons on the remote control, and then use the OK button to enter your selection.

If you have media playing, such as music or television, it appears in an inset window in the lower left corner. To switch from watching your media in the inset window to watching it in full screen mode, use the arrows on the remote control to select it and then press OK. See diagram on the next page.



Media Center Start Menu

Log off to end your Media Cente session or to switch users	r		$\dot{\nabla}$
— Media Center Start menu		Close window —	You can use the Minimize and
Go Back		Resize window —	Resize buttons to run Media Center side by side with another program
Media Center H	Help	Minimize window —	from your desktop.
Administrator 1			
Tuesday, August 06 4:45 PM	My TV		Watch, record, and play back live TV programs
	My Music		Play music files or music CDs
	My Pictures	4	View digital pictures or play a slide show
	My Videos		Watch your home videos
	Play DVD		Watch DVD movies
	Settings		Change Media Center program settings
	Jettings		
←			
└── Media playback control		et window that shows edia currently playing	

Introduction



Media Center Setup

The first time you open Media Center, a setup wizard opens. Use the setup wizard to test your remote control and to configure your Internet connection, TV signal, and Television Program Guide. This may take approximately 10 to 40 minutes to complete.

To complete the setup wizard you need to:

Be logged on as the administrator. For more information, go to Microsoft Help.

Help

- Have an Internet connection to download your television service provider's program guide.
- Provide your ZIP Code.
- Provide the name of your television service provider, if you subscribe to either cable or satellite TV.
- Provide the brand of your set-top box, if you use one.

You can click the **Help** button

any time while completing the setup wizard.



Using the Media Center Setup Wizard

It is best to complete each step in the Media Center setup wizard to be able to use all the features in Media Center. You can select to bypass these steps and complete them later in the Settings window in Media Center.

Press the **Start** button *Importantian Start* button on the remote control. The Media Center setup wizard opens. Follow onscreen instructions to complete the following four steps:



Check Your Remote Control This step is an interactive test to make sure the remote control is working with the remote sensor. Before performing this test:

- Make sure the remote control has two AA alkaline batteries installed.
- Make sure you point the remote control at the remote sensor.
- Make sure the LED on the remote control blinks when a button is pressed.











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2 Set up an Internet Connection This step creates or tests your Internet connection so that Media Center can update your Television Program Guide from the Internet. An Internet connection is also needed to get information about your music CDs and other media. Even if you already have an Internet connection, you will need to provide Internet Service Provider (ISP) information.

Select from the onscreen choices, and then follow onscreen instructions:

- A broadband or LAN connection (continuous connection using a digital cable provider or LAN)
- None, I will connect manually (manual connection using a dial-up ISP provider)

To set this up later, select **Settings** from the Media Center Start menu, select **General**, and then select **Internet Connection**.

3 Set up Television Signal This step makes sure your computer receives the correct TV signal and the correct Television Program Guide information. If you have a set-top box, the setup wizard programs your remote control to work with your set-top box so that you can view premium channels. Make sure the TV signal source is properly connected to your PC and the correct TV provider is selected.

To set this up later, select **Settings** from the Media Center Start menu, select **TV/DVD**, and then select **TV signal**.

4 Set up Television Program Guide An Internet connection is needed to complete this step. If your computer isn't connected to the Internet or if Media Center hasn't configured your ISP information in step 2, you will see *No data available* in the Television Program Guide.

To set this up later, select **Settings** from the Media Center Start menu, select **TV/DVD**, and then select **Guide setup**, and then **Change lineup**.

Introduction

Watching the Introducing Windows Media Center Video

Before using the Media Center program, you can watch an introduction video to become familiar with many Media Center features. You can click a link at the end of the Media Center setup wizard to open the introduction video.

My TV

My Music

My Pictures

My Videos

Play DVD

Settings

To play this video in Media Center using the remote control:

- Press **Start** button *I* on your remote control.
- 2 On the Media Center Start menu, use the arrow buttons to select **My Videos** and then press **OK**.
- **3** Select **Shared Video** and then press **OK**.
- 4 Select the **Sample Video** folder and then press **OK**.
- 5 Select the Introducing Windows Media Center video and press OK to begin watching it.
- O Use the media playback buttons to control the video.
- To play this video in Windows Media Player using the mouse:
- Click Start start on the taskbar and then click My Computer.
- 2 Double-click the Shared Documents folder.
- **3** Double-click the **Sample Video** folder.
- 4 Double-click the **mcintro** file to begin the Media Center introduction video.
- 5 Use the Windows Media Player buttons to control the video.







Switching to the Windows Desktop

You can switch to the desktop at any time without closing Media Center.

To display the desktop, select the **Minimize** icon by using the arrow buttons on the remote control or by using the mouse.

To return to Media Center, use the mouse to click the **Media Center** icon on the taskbar.

Displaying Media Center Toolbars

When you move the mouse, the Media Center toolbars appear. When you use the remote control, they disappear.



Channel up and down

Setting Media Center as the Default

When you insert a CD and Media Center is active, your CD plays automatically after a few seconds. If you are not in Media Center, Windows asks you what you want to do with the CD. To avoid this message, you can select Media Center as the primary program to play CDs.

To select Media Center as the primary CD playing program:

- Close Media Center.
- **2** Insert a CD into the drive. A message appears asking you what you want Windows to do.
- **3** Select **Play Audio CD using Windows Media Center**.
- 4 Check the Always do the selected action check box, and then click OK.





Remote control



You can use the remote control shortcut buttons to open windows in Media Center. Refer to the Remote Control chapter for more information about the shortcut buttons on the remote control.

TV GUIDE MUSIC PICTURES VIDEOS

Front of computer

You can use the shortcut buttons on the front of the PC to open Media Center when the computer is already turned on.

Keyboard

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eccessesses — •••• •cc

The keyboard shortcut buttons do not open any programs in Media Center. Refer to the *HP Media Center PC Hardware User's Guide* for more information about your keyboard shortcut keys.

Remote Control

What Can I Do with the Media Center Remote Control?

Your remote control is designed to work with Media Center. You can use your remote control with Media Center to play CDs, DVDs, and videos, to view pictures, and to watch and record television programs.

This remote control helps you navigate the Media Center windows on your computer just as a cable TV remote control navigates cable TV options or controls the playback of a movie in a VCR or DVD player.

Remote control can:

- Navigate and control all Media Center windows.
- Control the video or live TV display.
- Place the computer in and out of standby mode.

Remote control cannot:

- Navigate the Windows desktop or control other computer programs outside of Media Center.
- Be used as a VCR, DVD player, or stereo remote control.
- Turn the computer on or off (shut down PC).
- Turn a TV that is connected to your computer on or off.





Remote Control

Your remote control can send a strong signal to the remote sensor from within a range of about 26 feet.

Make sure there is nothing blocking the pathway between your remote control and the remote sensor.

Remote Control Buttons Overview

- (1) Standby puts the PC into a power reduced state called standby. An LED located under the Standby button blinks when the remote control is transmitting a signal to the remote sensor. You must press Standby for 1−2 seconds.
- (2) This button has no function.
- (3) **Music** opens My Music window.
- (4) Recorded TV opens Recorded TV window.
- (5) **Record** records selected television program and stores it on the hard disk.
- 6 **REW (Rewind)** moves the media backward at 2 speeds.
- ⑦ Replay moves media backward, for example, 7 seconds in videos and live TV, one music track or one DVD chapter at a time.
- (8) Pause pauses audio or video track, or pauses live or recorded TV programs.
- (9) Back returns PC to the previous window within Media Center.
- (1) **Arrow** buttons move cursor to navigate within all Media Center windows.
- Live TV is a shortcut to the full screen view of live TV. It also moves to the current point in live TV program after pausing live TV.
- (2) Details displays available information about selected media file.
- (3) Volume increases (+) and decreases (-) sound.
- (4) **Clear** deletes selection and works as the backspace button does on a keyboard.



- (15) **TV** opens My TV window.
- (6) Pictures opens My Pictures window.
- (17) Video opens My Videos window.
- (18) Play plays selected media.
- (19) Stop stops media currently playing.
- (2) FWD (Fast forward) moves media forward at 3 speeds.
- (2) Skip moves media forward, for example, 30 seconds in videos and live TV, one music track or one DVD chapter.
- ② Guide opens Television Program Guide to display available TV channels and programs to watch and record.
- OK selects desired action or window option. It acts as the Enter key. If watching TV in full screen mode, pressing OK switches back to the previous channel watched. Press again to toggle back. It acts the same way as a Jump button on some TV remote controls.
- DVD Menu opens main menu on a DVD movie, if available.
- (25) Start opens Media Center to the main Start menu.
- (b) Channel/Page up (+) and down (-) changes TV channel or moves page up and down, depending on available options.
- (7) Mute turns computer sound off.
- (28) O to 9 changes channels or enters text into Media Center search or text box.
- (29) Enter selects desired action or window option.

Remote Control Button Groups

Use your remote control to navigate all the Media Center windows. Your remote control includes four major groups of controls listed below.

Standby and direct access

The Standby button places the computer in and out of standby (reduced power) mode.

The direct access buttons open specific windows within Media Center.

Media playback

The media playback buttons control the playback of music, DVD movies, videos, recorded and live TV programs, and picture slide shows within Media Center.

Navigation and other direct access

The navigation buttons move the cursor around Media Center windows and select desired actions as a mouse does.

The other direct access buttons open specific windows within Media Center, such as the Television Program Guide, a DVD main menu, and live TV in full screen mode.

Audio and Video

The audio and video buttons control sound and channel selection, display details, and enter text.





Using the Media Center Remote Control

To begin using your remote control:

- Point the remote control at the remote sensor. The remote sensor should be located near your monitor or in a convenient place. Make sure there is nothing blocking the pathway between your remote control and the remote sensor.
- 2 Press the **Start** button 🚧 to start Media Center and to open the Media Center Start menu.
- **3** If this is your first time using the remote control, the Media Center setup wizard opens. Follow onscreen instructions to complete the remote control setup steps.





If you have completed the Media Center setup wizard, the Media Center Start menu opens. Use the arrow keys on the remote control to select an item, and then press **OK** to select an option and to begin using Media Center.

Direct access buttons

The direct access buttons open the main Media Center windows.

- TV opens the My TV window where you can watch and record TV and access other My TV features.
- Recorded TV opens the Recorded TV window where all your recorded TV programs are stored. From this window, you can search for and play back a recorded show.
- Music opens the My Music window where you can play music CDs and your music files.
- Pictures opens the My Pictures window where you can search for, sort, and view pictures and slide shows that are stored in the My Pictures or the Shared Pictures folder in Windows Explorer.
- Video opens the My Videos window where you can search for, sort, and play back your recorded video files that are stored in the My Videos or the Shared Videos folder in Windows Explorer.

Standby button

The Standby button puts the computer into a power reduced state, called standby, which runs the computer with minimal power until you give it a command. To take the computer out of standby, press the **Standby** button for at least one to two seconds on the remote control.

Recording in standby mode

Media Center can record TV programs when the computer is in standby mode because Media Center takes the PC out of standby mode when a scheduled show begins recording. The PC returns to standby mode when recording is complete.

Media Center begins recording with the monitor and sound turned on unless you manually turn them off before the scheduled recording.

Media Center cannot record TV programs if the computer is turned off.

Remote control LED and the remote sensor LED

Under the Standby button is an LED (lightemitting diode) that blinks when the remote control is sending a signal to the remote sensor.

The remote sensor displays a red LED when you press a button on the remote control. Some kinds of lighting may cause the remote sensor to blink without you pressing the remote control.

- Standby button



Remote Control



Make sure you turn off the monitor and turn down or mute the volume if you, for example, have a scheduled recording in the middle of the night and don't want to be disturbed.

The PC will not automatically go into standby mode if Media Center is open. It is best to close Media Center before you place the PC in standby mode.

If you turn off (shut down) your PC, Media Center will not record a scheduled TV program. Your PC must be turned on or in standby mode to record TV programs.





These buttons allow you to play back picture slide shows, music files, playlists, music CDs, DVD movies, home videos, and live TV, from within the Media Center program.

Use **Pause** to pause selected media. Press **Pause** and then **FWD** repeatedly to play media frame by frame in slow motion. To continue slow motion, you must press the **FWD** button more than once.

Use **Play** to play selected media.

Use **FWD** to move selected video or picture media forward. Press **FWD** up to three times to increase the fast fowarding speed.

Pressing the FWD button:

- Moves pictures forward to the next picture.
- Moves a video forward.
- Moves a TV program (that has been paused or stopped) forward to the current moment in live TV, and then begins playing.

Use **REW** to rewind selected video or picture media. Press **REW** again to increase the rewinding speed.

Pressing the REW button:

- Moves the picture slide show backward to the previous picture.
- Moves the video backward.
- Moves live TV program to the beginning of the 30-minute pause buffer.

Use **Record** to record TV programs. The Record button works only when My TV is used to play a TV show. It is inactive when other media is playing.

- While watching live TV or in the Guide, you can press the **Record** button once to record a TV show.
- In the Guide, you can press it twice to record a TV series.
- In the Guide, press it three times to cancel recording.

Pause button an

Press the Pause button and then press the FWD button repeatedly to watch media frame by frame in slow motion.

Press the REW or the Replay button and then the Play button to watch an instant replay.

Not all video files can be fast forwarded or rewound.

Use **Stop** to stop selected media from playing. When this is pressed while you are watching TV, the Media Center pause buffer continues to record in the background.

Use **Skip** to move forward in the selected audio or video file.

- For music, Skip moves to the next track.
- For DVDs, Skip moves to the next chapter.
- For videos and live TV and videos, Skip moves ahead 30 seconds.

Navigation and other direct access buttons

These buttons allow you to move the cursor and to select actions within the Media Center windows.

Use the **Start** button **W** to open the Media Center Start menu if you are in Media Center or if you are at the desktop.

Use **Arrows** to move between menus, windows, or activities.

Use **OK** to select a desired action. The OK button works as an Enter button. If you are watching live TV, press **OK** to go to the previous channel. Press **OK** again to toggle back to the original channel you were watching.

Use **Back** to return to a previous window.

Use **Guide** to open the Television Program Guide.

Use **Replay** to move backward 7 seconds in the selected audio or video file.

- For music, Replay moves to the previous track.
- For DVDs, Replay moves to the previous chapter.
- For videos and live TV and videos, Replay moves back 7 seconds.



Remote Control

Use **DVD Menu** to open the DVD main menu.

Use **Live TV** to view live TV in full screen mode.

The Live TV button:

- Moves a TV program forward to the end of the pause buffer and resumes playing live TV. When you pause a TV program, you can use the Live TV button to move forward to live TV.
- Opens Media Center and then begins playing live TV in full screen mode.





CHANNEL/ VOLUME PAGE DETAILS ÷ ÷ MUTE DEF ABC 3 2 1 MNO 5 4 6 WXYZ 7 8 9 CLEAR 0 ENTER LIII)

Audio and Video buttons

The audio and video buttons change channels, adjust volume, and show details of selected media.

Use **Volume** (+ and -) to increase or decrease computer volume.

Use **Mute** to turn off the sound. Mute appears in the window when it is turned on.

Use **Details** to display media information, if available. This button displays details such as TV program summary or music artist. You may need to be connected to the Internet to receive TV programming or CD artist information.

Use **Channel/Page** (+ and -) to change channels up and down or to move the cursor to the next or previous page of options. Changes channels for live TV or changes camera angle when DVD movies are playing. Use the numeric buttons **0 to 9** to change channels and enter text.

- Change channels when live TV is playing.
- Enter text in the Media Center search feature. Each time you press a number key, a different character appears. When you find the character you want, press the Enter button.

Use **Clear** to delete the last character entered. Clear works the same way as a backspace command on a keyboard.

Use **Enter** to select a desired action, menu, or window. Enter works the same way as the OK button.

My TV

What Can I Do in My TV?

The My TV window in Media Center works with the Media Center remote control so you can watch and record TV at your own convenience and pace.

In My TV you can:

- Watch your favorite television programs in full screen mode or in an inset window.
- Pause, stop, rewind, and fast forward live TV, similar to the way you would control a DVD from a DVD player.
- Record a single TV show or an entire series. My TV will manage the recordings for you and give advanced warning if there are any recording conflicts.
- Create a recorded TV library.
- Search for TV shows to watch or record using the Television Program Guide.
- Quickly check which TV shows you have scheduled to record.
- Browse for TV shows in Search by title, keyword, or category.
- Simultaneously watch a recorded show and record a live show.



Watching TV

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You can change the channel by

window is selected.

remote control.

You can go to live TV from anywhere in Windows Media Center by pressing Live TV on the

using the remote control while in full screen mode or when the inset Before you can watch TV by using Media Center, make sure:

- Your computer is set up correctly for your TV signal source. Refer to the setup poster and the *HP Media Center PC Hardware User's Guide* for more information.
- You have completed the Media Center setup wizard.



To watch a television program

- Press the **TV** button on the remote control. The last channel selected or the first channel available begins playing next to the My TV menu.
- 2 Select a channel by using the Channel/Page (+ or -) buttons or by using the numeric buttons on the remote control. The channel number displays in the window.
- 3 Using the arrow buttons, select the TV viewing window, and then press **OK** to maximize the TV window to full screen mode. You can also press the **Live TV** button to watch TV in full screen mode.
- 4 Press **Back** on the remote control to exit full screen mode and return to the previous window.

Using Remote Control in My TV

To control the playback of live or recorded shows, you can use the media playback buttons on the remote control to do the following in Media Center:

Action	Remote control butt	on to press
Press Pause to freeze the live TV image. While continues to record a pause buffer for up to 30 Play to resume watching TV where you left off.	e paused, My TV 🛛 👘	II
Press Live TV to maximize the TV viewing wind mode. Also, you can press Live TV to advance pause buffer and resume watching the actual po program.	to the end of the	IVE TV
Press Stop once to stop live TV or a recorded p Play to resume watching the program.		
Press Fast Forward (FWD) to move forward program that has been paused, or in a recorder watching live TV, FWD can advance only to the he broadcast. Press FWD two or three times to ast forwarding. Press Play to resume watching	d program. If live moment in speed up the	FWD
Press Skip once to advance in live TV or in a r by 30 seconds. You can repeatedly skip forwar o the end of the pause buffer or the recorded s	d but only	SKIP
Press Rewind (REW) to move backward in live recorded program. Press REW two times to spe Press Play to resume watching the program.		REW
Press Replay to move backward in live TV by s You can repeatedly rewind with the instant repla only to the beginning of the pause buffer or reco Press Play to resume watching the program.	ay option but	EPLAY



My TV



The 30-minute pause buffer applies only when pausing, rewinding, and fast forwarding live TV. Media Center allows you to record a program for longer than 30 minutes.

Watching Live TV Using Time Shifting

When you open the My TV window and begin watching live TV, Media Center begins recording the selected program in the background for up to 30 minutes.

This allows you to use your remote control to stop, pause, rewind, and fast forward live TV programs within a 30-minute time range. Recording continues in the background, with a slight delay. When you pause a live TV program, the time shifting window appears.

You can always move to the actual point in the live broadcast by pressing the Live TV button on the remote control.

When you change the channel, Media Center deletes the previously recorded portion and begins recording again after a short delay.



You cannot use time shifting when recording a TV program. For example, you can't pause a live TV program and then rewind and begin recording. You can record a TV program only

Using the Television Program Guide

In the Guide, you can scroll through a list of the current television programs and channels available from your television service provider. The Guide displays the channel and network, as well as the show title and scheduled time block. The number of days displayed depends on your television service provider. By selecting a program title, a detailed description of the program appears at the bottom of the window.

- You can have Media Center automatically connect to the Internet and update your Guide. Not all Internet Service Providers support this feature.
- You can manually update the Guide in the Media Center Settings window at any time even if you have automatic updates set up. Refer to the Settings chapter for more information.
- If the Guide has not been downloaded from the Internet because there is no Internet connection, you will see No data available next to each channel.
- The number of channels and calendar days of TV listings depends on your television service provider.
- The Guide does not display past TV listings.





The Guide is a shared programing schedule that is visible to all users. A message appears if someone tries to schedule a recording during a time period already scheduled.

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If the Guide is not updated, the number of days displayed decreases each day until the Guide is updated again.



Your Internet Service Provider:

May not support automatic Guide updates. You may need to manually update your Guide in the Settings window.

May not disconnect automatically from the Internet when the Guide update is completed. You may need to manually disconnect from the Internet.

My TV

Searching for Programs in My TV

You can search the Guide to find a TV program by entering a title, keyword, or by selecting a category using your remote control.



Use the numeric keypad on your

Use the Chan +/- button to change to a different mode.

remote to enter letters for

searching.

To search for a TV show

Press the **Start** button **W** on the remote control, select **My TV**, and then select **Search**.

2 Select **Title**. Use the numeric buttons on your remote control to enter a program title word, and then press **OK** on the remote control.

Or

Select **Keyword**. Use the numeric buttons on your remote control to enter a descriptive word that would appear in a program title or program description, and then press **OK** on the remote control.

- 3 Use the arrow buttons to scroll through search results, select a show, and then press **OK**. If multiple times for the show are displayed, select a time and press **OK**.
- 4 Select Play in the window, and then press OK on the remote control to begin watching the program in full screen mode. If the show is not currently playing, select Record show or Record Series, and then press OK.



Search tips:

■ Using Categories to search can help you find, for example, all football games. A title or keyword search displays every show that has "football" in the title or description.

The TV search results do not include previously recorded TV shows.

SEARCH: keyword Cooking oking Cooking & Entertaining More Cooking and Dining With Blue Wil Cooking Live! **Cooking Show** моге PORS TUV WXYZ **Cooking Thin** More Dutch Oven & Camp Cooking More Emeril Live More. From Martha's Kitchen More Good Eats More

SEARCH: keyword

PORS TUY WXYZ

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Searching for programs using categories

You can search the Guide to find a TV program by selecting a category using your remote control.

To search for a TV show

Press the **Start** button *on* the remote control, select **My TV**, and then select **Search**.

- 2 Select **Categories**. Select a category of program types such as Movies or Sports, and then press **OK** on the remote control. All items that match the category are displayed in the search results. You can sort them by date or by name.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons to scroll through search results and to select a show. Then press **OK**.
- 4 Select Play in the window, and then press OK on the remote control to begin watching the program in full screen mode. If the show is not currently playing, you can select Record show or Record Series, and then press OK.



Recording TV tips

■ If you are watching live TV during a scheduled recording time, you can watch only the show being recorded. If you change channels, recording stops.

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■ If you go to another area in Media Center, the TV channel you last selected will be displayed in the inset window at the bottom of the window.

■ When scheduling a recording in the Guide, you can press the Record button once to record a show, twice to record a series, or three times to cancel a scheduled recording you just selected.

When you press the Record button to record a show you are watching, the recording automatically stops at the end of the show's regularly scheduled end time.

■ Some channels can be shared by two or more networks, depending on the time of day. The Guide may display only one network's programming. This may cause recording options to be unavailable. You may need to manually update the Guide before scheduling a recording.







Record icon in taskbar



If you turn off (shut down) your PC, Media Center will not record a scheduled program. Your PC must be turned on or in standby mode to record a TV program. The PC will not automatically go into standby mode if Media Center is open.

Make sure you turn off the monitor and turn down or mute the volume if you, for example, have a scheduled recording in the middle of the night and don't want to be disturbed.

Recording TV

Media Center allows you to record TV programs so that you can watch them when it is convenient. You can record the show you are watching, or you can record another or future show or series from the Guide, the Search, or the Settings window in My TV. After you have scheduled the recording of several shows or series, you can change the priority order in the My TV Settings window.

Recording a TV show

To record a TV show you are currently watching, just press the **Record** button on the remote control once. The Record icon appears in the Guide next to the program being recorded or the program to be recorded.

If a show is currently being recorded, the Record icon also appears in the taskbar on the desktop. If you move your mouse over the icon, Media Center displays which show is currently being recorded. You can right-click the icon to open Media Center and stop recording.

Media Center automatically records until the show is scheduled to be over as listed in the Guide. To make sure your show is being recorded, you can select **Guide**. The Record icon should appear next to the show in the Guide while you are recording. The Record icon disappears when the recording is complete.

If there is a recording conflict or error, the Record Conflict icon appears next to the show in the Guide. This means the show will not be recorded unless the conflict is resolved.

Recording from the Guide

To record a current or future show or series from the Guide:

Press the **Start** button *III* on the remote control, select **My TV**, and then select **Guide**.

2 Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to find the show you want to record, select the show, and then press OK.

You can also press the numeric buttons on the remote control to go directly to a channel. Press the right arrow button in the Guide to select a show that will be broadcast in the future.

3 Select **Record** in the window and press **OK** on the remote control to record the show. The Record icon **appears** next to the show in Guide.

Fri, Jun 14	2:00 PM 2:30 PM	3:00 PM
054 TOONP	Tom & Jerry 🧶	A Pup Named Sco
055 DISNP	Rip Girls	Doug
056 CNN	Wolf Blitzer Reports	Lou Dobbs Mon
057 CNNH	Headline News	Headline News
058 CNBC	Business Center	
059 FNC	The Big Story With John Gibson	Special Report
060 MSNBC	MSNBC Live Coverage: America at V	The Abrams Re
		20

changed to other formats. Recorded TV programs that have

been copied to a DVD can be played only from your PC by double-clicking the file. Media Center must be closed to play recorded TV programs from a DVD.

Recorded TV programs cannot be

Recorded TV programs can be backed up as part of a full system backup and restored to the same PC, but not to other PCs.

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Record Series means that you select to record each available episode of that program from all channels that are showing it. Media Center won't record duplicate episodes. Media Center also looks for alternative times to record an episode if a recording conflict happens.

Or

Select **Record Series** and press **OK** on the remote control to record the entire series. The Record Series icon **()** is displayed to indicate a series.

Or

Select **Advanced Record** to select recording options like recording start and stop times and to select the quality of recording. Press **Back** on the remote control to select **Record** (show) or **Record Series** options.

4 Press **Back** on the remote control to return to the previous window.

If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displays a message and allows you to select which show you want to record.

Recording from Search

To record a current or future show or series using Search:

- Press the Start button on the remote control, select My TV, and then select Search.
 Select Title, Keyword, or Categories. For Title and Keyword searches, enter your descriptive search words. Media Center starts searching from the first letter you type into the text box. For a Categories search, select the category you want and press OK.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons to scroll through the search results to select the show you want to record, select the show, and then press **OK**.
- 4 Select **Record** or **Record Series** in the window, and then press **OK**. The recording icon for a single program is or the recording icon for a series is appears next to the show in the Guide.
- 5 Press **Back** on the remote control to return to the previous window.

If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displays a message and allows you to select which show you want to record.





Keyword search

Category search

Recording manually

Recording a program manually allows you to select a specific date, channel, and recording time period. For some programs, you may want to begin recording before the scheduled beginning and after the scheduled ending of the program.

To manually record a show or series:

Press the **Start** button on the remote control, and then select **Settings**. You may need to select the scroll arrows on the bottom of the window to view the Settings button.

2 Select TV/DVD.

- 3 Select Manual Record.
- 4 Enter the channel number using the numeric buttons on the remote control.
- 5 Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select the + or buttons in the window. Press OK on the remote control to scroll through choices and enter the recording frequency, date, start and stop times, storage, and quality options.
- Select **Record** in the window, and then press **OK** on the remote control to set the recording and return to the Settings window.
- **7** Press **Back** on the remote control to return to the Start menu.

	Channel	3				
Record	Frequency	Record o	once			+
Don't Record	Date	Wed, Ju	l 17			+
	Start time	12 :	00	PM	-	
	Stop time	1 :	00	PM	-	
	Keep until	Until spa	ice neec	led		+
	Quality	Best			-	

My TV



My TV Settings

In the My TV Settings window, you can change several settings that control how Media Center plays and records TV programs, as well as how it plays DVDs. For more information about My TV settings, refer to the Settings chapter.

For more information about advanced recording features, refer to Microsoft Media Center Help.

Changing recording priorities

To enable Media Center to resolve recording conflicts, you can set up how program recordings are handled. The first time you try to record a show or series and there is another scheduled at the same time, Media Center asks you which program you want to record.

To resolve a recording conflict:

- Press the **Start** button 🚧 on the remote control, select **My TV**, and then select **Settings**.
- 2 Select **Recorder**, and then select **Scheduled** to display a list of programs that you have scheduled to record.
- **3** Select the program for which you want to change recording settings, and press **OK** on the remote control.
- 4 Select **Record** in the window and then press **OK** on the remote control to record the program. You can also select one of the following options:
 - Select Don't Record to cancel the scheduled recording.
 - Select Cancel Series to cancel all the scheduled recordings in that program series.
 - Select **Record Settings** to select the recording start and stop times and other recording priority settings.
- 5 Press **Back** on the remote control to return to the previous window.



To optimize storage space on your hard drive, you can change recording settings by selecting Defaults from the Recorder page. Use the arrow buttons to select recording options. Press OK to change the setting.
Recorded TV

Recorded TV is the storage place for all your recorded programs. In the Recorded TV window, you can sort your shows by name, date, or category. You can also delete a recorded program or series of programs and check for any recording errors.

Playing a recorded program

To find and play a recorded program:

Press the **Start** button **1** on the remote control, select My TV, and then select Recorded TV

2 In the Recorded TV window you can:

- Select Sort by date, Sort by category, or Sort by name to organize all of your previously recorded programs.
- Select Scheduled to view a list of all programs scheduled to be recorded. You can also resolve any recording conflicts in this window. Use the arrow buttons to move through the list, select a program, and then press **OK** on the remote control. Select the option to change, and then press **OK** again.
- Select **Recording errors** to see which shows weren't recorded and determine why they weren't recorded. The show may have been in conflict with another and then canceled by Media Center, or it may have been a duplicate episode in a series.
- **3** Using the arrow buttons, select the recorded program you want to watch, and then press the **OK** button on the remote control to begin watching the program.

					displays a list of shows scheduled to record in the future, beginning		
Guide					with the current date	. Each s	show
Recorded	TV				is listed individually e part of a series.	even if	it is a
Search	Sort by	date •					
Settings	Sort by	category					
	Sort by	name	-	2002			
	Schedu	led	D TV	2002	MTV MOVIE AWARDS PRE-	SHOW	
	Record	ing errors		THU,	JUN 06		
		Sort by date		2002	2 MTV Movie Awards Pre-S	how	6/6
		Sort by categor	у	2002	2 MTV Movie Awards	<u></u>	6/6
		Sort by name		2002	2 MTV Movie Awards		6/6
				2002	2 MTV Movie Awards		6/6
				Musi	c Videos		6/6
				The	Planet's Funniest Animals		6/6
	_			2002	2 MTV Movie Awards	9	6/6
				FRI, J	UN 07		
		topped play to continue)		A Sh	ot in the Dark		6/7

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Recorded TV's Schedules window

My TV

About Recording Errors

A recording error means that a program scheduled to record was not recorded. This can occur for several reasons. If your PC was turned off and not in standby mode during the time the show was scheduled to record, or if there was a recording conflict with another scheduled program, a recording error occurs. If you were watching live TV when the show was scheduled to record and declined the prompt to change channels, a recording error occurs.

Common recording errors

Description of error	Recording error
Program already exists in Recorded TV library	Redundant
PC was turned off during scheduled recording time	Missed
Another show was scheduled to record at the same time	Conflict
You selected not to record the program	Canceled
In Advanced Record, you selected <i>First Run</i> only for a series recording so any programs in a series that are not first run are not recorded	Repeat
Unknown technical error: Media Center failed to start the recorder TV signal was lost	Error
Hard disk is full	Not enough space

Important information about recorded TV programs

When you replace the hard disk drive, you lose any files or software that you created, saved, or installed on the PC. You also lose a special code that Microsoft includes in the files of the recorded TV programs. Without the code, Media Center will not play the TV programs previously recorded to disk or copied to DVD or to other media.



When you replace the hard disk drive, you can no longer play previously recorded TV programs.

Resolving Recording Conflicts

Media Center can record only one TV show at a time. If you schedule two recordings for the same time, a message appears telling you to resolve the conflict. If you don't resolve the conflict, Media Center automatically makes the selection just before the program begins recording. Before the program records, a conflict icon (a red circle with an exclamation point) is listed next to the program in the Guide. You can view and resolve the conflict by opening My TV window, selecting **Settings**, **Recorder**, and then **Scheduled**.

Media Center selects which show to record based on the following priority rules:

- A scheduled program that is not a rerun
- 2 The program that was scheduled first
- 3 Manual recordings

Often, Media Center is able to find an alternative date and time for recording one of the programs so that both shows can be recorded. If one recording partially overlaps another, Media Center records to the end of the first and then begins recording the second.

After you resolve a recording conflict, the conflict icon continues to appear for the program that is not scheduled to record so you can return to the conflict and reverse it, if needed.

If you are watching TV while recording a show, you can watch only the channel being recorded. If you attempt to change the channel, a message appears telling you that changing the channel stops the recording. If a recording is scheduled to begin and you are watching a different channel, a message appears giving you the choice to change the channel to begin the recording. If no choice is made, the channel changes automatically. For more information about troubleshooting the recording conflicts, refer to Media Center Help.

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Deleting a Scheduled Show or Series

To prevent recording conflicts, you may need to delete a program or series that is scheduled to be recorded.

- Press the Start button 🥢 on the remote control, select My TV, and then select Settings.
- 2 Select **Recorder**, and then select **Scheduled**. A list of programs that you have scheduled to record displays, starting with the current date.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons to select the program title you don't want to record and press **OK**.
- 4 Select **Don't Record** in the window and press **OK** on the remote control to remove a single show.

Or

Select Cancel Series and press OK to remove the entire series from the recording schedule.

Deleting a Recorded Show or Series

To free up hard disk space, you may need to delete a program or series that has been recorded.



- Press the **Start** button **7** on the remote control, select **My TV**, and then select **Recorded TV**. All the programs you have recorded appear.
- 2 Use the arrow buttons to select the program title you want to delete, and then press **OK**.
- **3** Select **Delete** in the window and press **OK** on the remote control to remove that program from the hard disk.

My Music

What Can I Do in My Music?

The My Music window in Media Center works with Windows Media Player to find and play your music files and CDs. You can use Windows Media Player to create your music library and then use Media Center to find and play your music using your remote control.

Settings

In My Music, you can:

- Play music CDs. Skip, shuffle, or repeat songs or albums.
- Play digital music files from a music library you create and organize using Windows Media Player.
- Search for music files by categories: album, artist, playlist, song, or genre.
- View music CD details such as artist name, song title, length of song, and album cover art.
- Play a music playlist with a slide show.

MY MUSIC	Recent Music			
Albums Artists Playlists View Songs Genres Search	Media Library. copy and man Library. You	ntly no music information in the Use Windows Media Player to age the music in the Media must restart Media Center after s Media Player for the appear.	in the folder you n Windo for Ma	an store My Mu s on yo eed to d ows Me edia Cer nd play
My TV				
My Musi	С			
My Pictı	ires			PC must et to vie
My Vide	os			
Play DVI	D			



You can store your music files in the My Music folder or in other folders on your hard drive, but you need to add those files to the Windows Media Player Library for Media Center to be able to find and play them.



Your PC must be connected to the Internet to view music CD details.

My Music



What Can I Do in Windows Media Player?

Windows Media Player allows you to copy digital music files and organize a music library that you can access by using the My Music window in Media Center. You can:



- Create playlists of your favorite songs.
- Create a music library by copying CDs or adding music files from the Internet.
- Organize digital music files by album, artist, playlist, or genre.
- Edit information about music files, such as the song title, music type, or artist name.
- Share music files with others.
- Delete files from your music library.

Using Supported File Types for My Music

You can play the following types of digital audio files in Media Center. You can also select Media Center as the default player for any of the listed file types. Refer to Windows Media Player Help for more information about supported file types.

File extension	File type
.cda .wav .MP3, .M3u .asf, .asx, .wax, .wm, .wma, .wmd, .wmv, .wvx, .wmp, .wmx	CD audio Windows audio file Audio files Windows Media audio files



For more information about music file formats, use Windows Media Player Help and Media Center Help.

Only supported audio file types are displayed in the My Music window. Unsupported files won't play.



Using Remote Control in My Music

Action	Remote control button to press
Play selected song	PLAY
Go to the next song in an album or playlist	SKIP
Go to the previous song in an album or playlist	REPLAY
Pause song/press pause again to resume song	PAUSE
Stop playing song	STOP
Move around the menu items	
Enter selected menu item	ОК
Turn off sound	MUTE
Adjust volume	VOLUME

Creating Your Music Library Using Windows Media Player

To add music files

Click Start start on the taskbar, and then click Windows Media Player.

- 2 Click the **Media Library** tab on the side of the window. The first time you select Media Library, a message tells you that Windows Media Player needs to search your computer for your music files.
- Click Yes. Windows Media Player searches for all available audio media and places them in the Media Library.
- 4 To add files from a CD to your Media Library, insert the CD, select Copy from CD, and then select Copy Music in the toolbar. You can select to copy your music files as MP3 files or as Windows Media Audio files (.wma).
- 5 Click the **Media Library** tab to see where your new audio files have been placed. You can rename files by selecting the file and typing a new name or genre over the old one. The way you label your music files determines the category in which they are placed.





Each time you add music files outside of Windows Media Player, you must use the Tools menu to add music files to your Windows Media Player Library for Media Center to find them.



Your added music files can now be found and played back using My Music in Media Center. You may need to close and open Media Center for the added music files to appear in My Music.

For more information about adding music files to the Media Library, use the Windows Media Player Help menu.

Deleting music files

To delete a file from the Windows Media Player Library, select the music file, right-click the mouse, and then select **Delete from Library**.

Adding Music from Your Hard Drive to Windows Media Player Library

You may have already copied and organized your music files on your hard drive. If so, you need to add them to the Windows Media Player Library to access them with the Media Center.

To add music files that are stored in your My Music or Shared Music folder on your hard drive:

Click Start on the taskbar. and then click Windows Media Player.

2 Move the mouse to view the Windows Media Player toolbar and then click **Tools**.

3 Select Search for Media Files.

4 Select Search to search all drives or select Browse to search through a specific drive. Select a drive and then click **OK**. Windows Media Player searches the selected drives for all supported audio files and adds them to the Media Library.

If Windows Media Player does not recognize all of your audio files, try copying the files directly into Windows Media Player. Refer to Windows Media Player Help for more information.

Your music files can now be found and played in My Music window in the Media Center. You may need to close and open Media Center for the added music files to appear in My Music.



Audio

🖃 🔤 Audio 📟 All Audio

🖃 📟 Video

in My Play

🖽 🚉 Deleted

📟 Album

Artist 📟 Genre

All Clips

Author

Radio T Windows Media Player

Now Playing

Media Guide

Copy from CD

Media

Library

Radio Tuner

Copy to CD

or Device

You can place all your music files into the My Music folder or into other folders on your hard drive, but you need to add those files to the Windows Media Player Library for Media Center to be able to find and play them.

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00:00

🗎 Playlist1

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🕲 New playlist 🔞 Add to playlist 🔍 Search 🛛 🕐 Media Details

Title

All Audio Album Artist Genre

This appears to be the first time you have been to the Media Library.



Playing Digital Music Files

When you first open the Media Center and open the My Music window, you may not find any music files listed unless there is a music CD in your CD drive or unless you have already added audio files to your Windows Media Player Library.

If you don't have any music files listed, you need to add music files to the Windows Media Player Library, and then restart Media Center to play your music files in Media Center.

When you copy music files using Windows Media Player and your computer is connected to the Internet, the CD information is copied and displayed in Media Center and in the Windows Media Player Library.

To play a music CD using Media Center

If you insert a CD when Media Center is not open, a message appears asking what you want to do. You can select Windows Media Player as your default audio player. If you have another program set as the default audio player, Windows opens this program and begins playing the CD.

Press the **Start** button **1** on the remote control.

2 Insert a CD into the CD drive; the CD plays automatically in Media Center.

Or

If you have other media such as live TV already playing when you insert the CD, Media Center asks you if you want to play the CD. Select **Yes** to begin playing the CD.

Media Center cannot be used to record music files. Use Windows Media Player to record music files.

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To display CD information such as song titles and cover art in Media Center or in Windows Media Player, your PC needs to be connected to the Internet. Without an Internet connection, the music files are labeled *unknown* and only track numbers and playing times are displayed.

Finding Music Files in My Music

After you have added and organized files in Windows Media Player Library, you can browse through your music files in the My Music window. You can search for music files by album title, artist, song title, or music genre. You can also use the search feature to quickly find a specific song, album, or artist.

To find a music file

In the My Music window, select **Albums**, **Artists**, **Playlists**, **View Songs**, or **Genres** to display a list of all items in that category. In these windows you will have other options, depending on the category you select.

Or

Albums
Artists
Playlists
View Songs
Genres
Search

Select **Search**. Use the numeric buttons on the remote control to enter a descriptive word, song title, or artist name and display a list of all the titles that match your entry.

2 Use the arrow keys to select a music file, and then press the **Play** button on the remote control to begin playing that music file.

ABC DEF 1 2 3 GHI JKL MNO 4 5 6 PQRS TUV WXYZ 7 8 9 space 0

My Music



Playing a Song

You can play a song from anywhere in My Music. You can select it from the View Song list, or from the Album, Artist, and Genre lists. You can also play a single song from a playlist:

- In the My Music window, select **View Songs**. The list displays all the songs in your media library.
- 2 Use the arrow buttons to select a song, and then press OK or Play on the remote control to play it.

Setting Up an Automatic Disc Jockey

You can select to have Media Center randomly play all the available songs in one genre:

- In the My Music window, select **Genres**. The list displays all the genres available in your Media Library.
- 2 Use the arrow buttons to select a genre, and then press **OK** on the remote control.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons to select Shuffle, and then press **OK** on the remote control. All songs in that genre are randomly played.



Finding and Playing an Album

- In the Media Center Start menu, select **My Music**, and then select **Albums**.
- 2 In the Albums window, select **View by list** or **View by cover** to organize all of the albums available.
- 3 Use the arrow buttons to select an album, and then press **OK** on the remote control. You can also select:
 - **Shuffle** to rearrange the music tracks on the album.
 - Play to play the album selected. The Now Playing window opens, and the album starts playing.
- 4 In the Play window, select a song and press **OK** on the remote control. You can also select:
 - View Song to view cover art and play one track.
 - View Tracks to view a list of all tracks on the album.
 - **Shuffle** to rearrange the play order.
 - **Repeat** to play the album again.
 - Buy Music to connect to the Internet, find CD information, and buy music CDs. To go back to Media Center, press Start on the remote control.

Buy Music

5 Press **Back** on the remote control to return to the previous window.



When you select Buy Music, your Internet browser opens the Microsoft Web site. Here you'll find information about the artist or album you're currently listening to or similar artists. You have the option to purchase CDs.

My Music

Creating a Playlist

A playlist is a customized list of digital music files. Using playlists, you can group various digital music files together and determine the order in which you want the files to play. You can create a playlist that includes several tracks from various CDs or even a playlist that contains background music for a slide show.

Use Windows Media Player to create playlists and then play them back using Media Center.



To create a playlist

Click Start *start* on the taskbar and select Windows Media Player.

2 Select Media Library.

- Click New playlist in the toolbar, type in a name for your playlist, and then click OK. Your new playlist should appear under the My Playlists area of the Media Player window.
- 4 In the Media Library, select the music file that you want to add to your playlist.
- 5 Click Add to playlist in the toolbar, and then select your playlist from the drop-down menu. Repeat this step until all of your files are added.
- Select your playlist to check your added music files.
- 7 Close Media Center, if open, and then press the **Start** button on the remote control. Your playlist won't appear in My Music unless you close and open Media Center.

You can now play your playlist in Media Center.

My Pictures

View small image

What Can I Do in My Pictures?

The My Pictures window in Media Center is a great way to view and share your pictures.

In My Pictures, you can:

- View pictures individually or as a slide show.
- Change transition time and display order of the pictures in your slide show.
- Sort pictures by name or date.
- View and scroll through pictures that are in the My Pictures folder by using your remote control or your keyboard and mouse.



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If the message *Image cannot be displayed* appears, the file may be corrupted or it may be an unsupported file type. You may need to edit your image with a photo editor and resave it in a supported file format.

Using Supported File Types for My Pictures

You can view the following types of image files in Media Center.

File extension	File type
.jpg, .jpeg	Joint Photographic Experts Group
.tif	Tagged Image File Format
.gif	Graphics Interchange Format
.bmp	Bitmap
.wmf	Windows MetaFile
.png	Portable Network Graphics

About viewing pictures in Media Center

- Only supported image file types are displayed in My Pictures. Unsupported files are skipped in a slide show.
- Folder icons appear even if the images inside them cannot be displayed.
- Corrupted and unsupported image file types display a generic image icon but cannot be displayed in Media Center.
- Some file types are supported only if appropriate filters and software are installed.
- Picture file extensions are not displayed.

Using Remote Control in My Pictures

RECORD	PLAY	STOP
REW		FWD
••	PAUSE	
REPLAY		SKIP
	1.11	



Action	Remote control button to press
Plays slide show with selected pictures	PLAY
Moves to the next picture	FWD SKIP
Moves to previous picture	REW REPLAY
Pauses slide show/resume paused slide show	PAUSE
Stops slide show	STOP
Enters selected menu item or shows selected picture	ОК

Organizing Your Pictures

When you save pictures from your digital camera or scanner to your computer, Windows automatically stores them in the My Pictures folder in Windows Explorer.

Before opening Media Center and viewing your pictures, you may want to spend some time organizing your pictures.

You need to place all your pictures in the My Pictures or Shared Pictures folders in Windows Explorer for Media Center to be able to display them.



To organize your pictures

- Locate your picture files that have not been placed in the My Pictures folder.
- 2 Click **Start Start** on the taskbar, and then click **My Pictures** to open the My Pictures folder.

Internet Internet Explorer	My Documents
E-mail Outlook Express	My Recent Document
Media Center	My Pictures My Music
Set Program Access and Defaults	My Computer
MSN Explorer	Control Panel
Internet Access	Printers and Faxes
AOL	Help and Support
Windows Media Player	Search
All Programs 📡	Keep in touch with HP



My Pictures folder that can be opened only by that person. You can share pictures by storing them in the Shared Pictures folder.

■ When you download pictures from the Internet, you can use the browser in Windows Explorer to place your pictures in the My Pictures folder.



3 Move picture files from other places on your computer's hard drive to My Pictures folder. You can add, delete, rename, and organize your picture files into specific folders within My Pictures, such as Vacation or Birthday.

Or

If you want to share your pictures with others, place your pictures in the Shared Pictures folder.

Your pictures can now be displayed in Media Center.

Viewing Your Pictures in Media Center

After you organize your pictures in the My Pictures folder in Windows Explorer, open Media Center to view your pictures:

- Press the **Start** button *on the remote* control to open the Media Center Start menu.
- 2 Select **My Pictures**. The right side of the window shows a small picture image (thumbnail) and, if you've organized your pictures into folders, folder icons. Your pictures are displayed just as you organized them in the My Pictures folder in Windows Explorer.



My Pictures

3 Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to move through your picture files and folder files and select a picture.

4 Press **OK** to select a picture or folder to view. The selected picture opens in full screen mode.



Press the Start button of non-the remote control to open the Media Center Start menu. Select My Pictures. Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select the folder of pictures you want to view as a slide show, and then press OK. Use the left and right arrow buttons on the remote control to go to the next or the previous picture manually. Or Use the arrow buttons to select Play slide show, and then press OK to display your pictures automatically. If you do not select the pictures you want to view as a slide show, Media Center plays all files stored in the My Pictures folder.

To view pictures as a slide show

Play slide showSettingsSort by nameSort by dateMy PicturesShared Pictures

In the My Pictures menu, select Settings to:

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Set slide delay time.

Set the slide show to include folders you have created.

Set the slide show to display your pictures randomly.

To sort pictures

To organize your pictures by date or by name:

- Select **My Pictures** on the Media Center Start menu.
- 2 Select Sort by date or select Sort by name.

Play slide show
Settings
Sort by name •
Sort by date
My Pictures
Shared Pictures •

To view a slide show with music

- Select **My Music** on the Media Center Start menu.
- 2 Use the arrow buttons to select the music you want, and then press **OK** on the remote control. If the music doesn't start automatically, press the **Play** button on the remote control.
- **3** Press **Start** on the remote control to go back to the Media Center Start menu.

4 Select My Pictures.

5 Select the folder of pictures, and then press **OK**.

My TV
My Music
My Pictures
My Videos
Play DVD
Settings

My TV My Music My Pictures My Videos Play DVD Settings





My Videos

What Can I Do in My Videos?

The My Videos window in Media Center makes it easy to play home video files you created or video files you downloaded from the Internet.

In My Videos you can:

- Browse through and play back all of your digital video files using the remote control or the keyboard and mouse.
- Sort videos by name or date.
- View your videos in full screen mode or from an inset window in Media Center.

My TV My Music My Pictures My Videos Play DVD Settings



Explorer

only by that person. You can share

videos with others by storing them in the Shared Video folder.





Using Remote Control When Playing a Video





If the video is paused when you press Skip, the video will advance 30 seconds and remain paused. Press Play on the remote control to resume playing the video.

Using Supported File Types for My Videos

You can view the following types of video files in Media Center. Other file types are supported if your PC has the correct audio and video cards installed.

File extension	File type
.avi .mpeg, mpg, .mpe, .mlv, .mp2, .mpv2	Video file Movie file
.wm, .asf .wmv	Windows Media file Windows Media A/V file



Organizing Your Videos

When you attach a digital video camera to your PC, Windows asks you how you want to capture your video. You can choose from various software programs to capture and then edit your video file.



Once you have placed all your videos into the My Videos or Shared Videos folder, you can rename, add, delete, and organize them into folders.

To organize and store your videos, click **Start** on the taskbar, click

folder. To do this, click **Start** on



My Documents, and then double-click the My Videos folder.

If you want to share your videos with others, place them in the Shared Video



the taskbar, click **My Documents**, click the Shared Documents folder under Other Places, and then double-click the Shared Video folder.

You can add, delete, edit, rename, and organize your video files into folders you create in the Shared Video folder.

Your videos can now be played in Media Center.

My Videos

Playing Digital Videos

After you organize your videos in the My Videos or Shared Videos folder in Windows Explorer, open Media Center to watch your videos.

- Press the **Start** button **1** on the remote control to open the Media Center Start menu.
- 2 Select My Videos. The right side of the window shows small images of your video files and folder icons, if you've organized your videos into folders.



 AMY VIDEOS

 Sort by name

 Sort by date

 My Videos

 My Videos

 Shared Videos

Shared Videos folders to be used in Media center.

If you do not have any videos displayed, this message appears.

- **3** Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to move through and select your video or video folder.
- 4 Press the **OK** button on the remote control. The selected video plays in full screen mode, or the folder opens displaying a list of video files. Use the mouse to resize the window if you want to watch your video while doing something else on your desktop.



Use the mouse to select the up and down arrows at the bottom of the window to scroll to other pages of video files and folders.

Inset window

Playing a Video in Full Screen Mode

- On the Media Center Start menu, select **My Videos**.
- 2 On the My Videos menu, select My Videos or Shared Video.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons to select the folder you want, and then press **OK**. Select the video file and press **OK** again. Your video plays in full screen mode.
- 4 Press **Back** on the remote control to exit full screen mode and return to the previous window.





playing in the inset window by using the arrow buttons to select the inset window, and then pressing OK on the remote control.

My Videos

Sorting Videos

To organize your videos by date or by name:

- On the Media Center Start menu, select **My Videos** or **Shared Video**.
- 2 If your videos are organized within other folders, use the arrow buttons to select the folder you want to sort, and then press **OK**. If you don't select a folder, Media Center sorts all the files and folders.
- **3** Select **Sort by date** or **Sort by name**.



Viewing Video Details

To display information about the video in Media Center, select a video file from the My Videos or Shared Videos window, and then press the **Details** button on the remote control.



The details include:

- Video title.
- Video description (if available).
- Date the video file was created.
- Date the video file was modified.
- Time span or size of the video file.

If you press the **Details** button while the video is playing, the title and time span or size of the video is displayed at the bottom of the window.

Play DVD

Playing DVDs in Media Center

Watching DVDs in Media Center allows you to control the playback with your remote control. If you select to play your DVD in another program, the use of some of the remote control buttons is not supported.

To play a DVD movie in Media Center

- Press the **Start** button *on the remote* control.
- 2 Insert the DVD into the drive. If you have other media playing, Media Center asks if you want to play the DVD. Select Yes or No. If you don't select an option, the DVD autoplays in full screen mode after a few seconds.
- 3 If a DVD menu appears, use the remote control or the mouse to select the DVD menu items and control the DVD movie playback.
- 4 Press **Stop** on the remote control to stop playing the DVD.
- 5 To change the window size, move the mouse and click the **Resize** button on the taskbar of the DVD window.





When you open Media Center and then insert a DVD into your drive, there is a delay of a few seconds before the movie begins playing.

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Even though Media Center supports closed captioning, subtitles, and multiple languages, these options appear only if the DVD movie includes them.

If your DVD includes its own playback software, Media Center may not open when you insert the DVD.

To watch your DVD in Media Center, cancel the onscreen messages to use the DVD player software, and then open Media Center.

If you have manually resized the Media Center window, the DVD plays in this same window size.

Play DVD



Using Remote Control When Playing a DVD

RECORDED

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BACK

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CLEAR

GUIDE

Stopping a DVD movie

- Press the **Stop** button on the remote control to stop the movie.
- 2 Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select an item on the Stopped menu, and then press **OK**.
 - Select **Resume** to begin playing the DVD where you left off.
 - Select **Restart** to begin playing the DVD at the beginning.
 - Select **Title Menu** to go to the DVD main menu, if available.
 - Select DVD Languages to change the language for the DVD soundtrack, subtitles, and menu.
 - Select **Eject** to open the disc tray.

Resume Restart Title Menu DVD Languages Eject

D.

Watching DVD in the inset window or in a resized window

While the DVD movie is playing, press the **Start** button on the remote control. This opens the Media Center Start menu with the DVD playing in the inset window.

While the DVD movie is playing, move the mouse for the Resize icon to appear. Select the **Resize** icon, and then you can manually adjust the window size.

Playing a DVD movie already in your drive

If you already have a DVD movie in your drive, but you have been doing other things in Media Center or in other programs from your desktop, you can play the DVD by:

- Press the **Start** button on the remote control.
- **2** Select **Play DVD**. The DVD movie begins playing in full screen mode.

Play DVD
Settings

Changing Media Center Settings

In the Media Center Settings window, you can change settings for watching television, for viewing your pictures and slide shows, and for controlling sound and the display of all the Media Center windows.

Administrator controlled settings

Some settings apply to all Media Center windows for all users and must be set up by the administrator. These settings are:

- Parental Control sets up rating permissions for TV viewing. This setting requires the administrator to use a separate password. This option may not be available with your model.
- Internet Connection sets up Internet connection.
- Guide Setup sets up channel mapping for the Television Program Guide, which enables your computer to download the correct guide from the Internet.
- TV Signal sets up your TV or cable connection.

Data credits, Privacy, and Terms of Use are links to the Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition Web site

User controlled settings

Some settings can be selected by each person using the PC. These settings are:

- UI Sounds, Appearance, and Audio sets sound and display settings.
- DVD sets language and audio settings for playing DVD movies.
- Pictures determines slide transition time and selects which pictures to display in a slide show.







TV/DVD settings menu



Pictures settings menu

Changing General Settings

General settings affect each user's experience in Media Center and can be changed only by the administrator of the computer.

- In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**. You may need to select the scroll arrows in the Start menu to view Settings.
- 2 In the Settings window, select General.
- **3** In the General window, do one of the following:
 - Select About Media Center to find information about your version of Media Center.
 - Select UI sounds to turn the sound on or off. Use the arrow buttons to select an option, and then press OK on the remote control. Select OK in the window, and then press OK again.
 - Select Appearance to turn transition animations or notifications on or off. Use the arrow buttons to select the item to change, and then press OK on the remote control. Select OK in the window, and then press OK again.
 - Select CD/DVD metadata to work offline. This option prevents Media Center from connecting to the Internet to get CD/DVD information. Use the arrow buttons to select Work offline, and then press OK on the remote control. Select OK in the window, and then press OK again.
 - Select Check your remote to make sure your remote control is working with the remote sensor. Follow the onscreen instructions.
 - Select Internet connection to open the Internet Connection wizard. This allows you to set up your connection. Follow the onscreen instructions.
 - Select Media Center Edition Online to connect to the Microsoft Windows XP Media Center Edition Web site.
- 4 Press the **Back** button on the remote control to return to the main Settings window.

About Media Center

UI sounds

Appearance

CD/DVD metadata

Check your remote

Internet connection

Media Center Edition Online

Changing TV Recorder Settings

The TV Recorder settings allow you to control your recording priorities and options in Media Center.

- In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**.
- 2 Select TV/DVD.

3 Select **Recorder**.

- Select Scheduled to check a list of scheduled recordings, delete scheduled recordings, resolve recording conflicts, and to change recording priorities for the programs you scheduled to record.
- Select Recording errors to find out if a program wasn't recorded. Media Center keeps a log of the last two weeks. Refer to Media Center Help for more information about recording errors.
- Select Series to view a list of which series have been scheduled to be recorded. You can also cancel a scheduled series recording or change recording settings for a series.
- Select Storage to check the amount of recording space on your hard disk. Also, you can change the settings that affect the recording storage space.
- Select **Defaults** to change the general recording default settings that affect how and when your programs are recorded.



About Recorded TV Storage Space Settings

STORAGE

Record on drive C: (76 GB)

Disk allocation 75%

lecording quality Fair

57 hours 17 minutes

57 hours 16 minutes

The space available for recording TV programs depends on your hard disk allocation, drive size, and default recording quality selections. Your PC requires a certain amount of space to run your Windows XP operating system, run software programs, and store data files. If your hard disk becomes full, it may affect the PC speed and performance. You may need to free up storage space to record more programs or to optimize the PC's performance.



- Delete recorded shows from the Recorded TV window. For more information, refer to the My TV chapter.
- Increase the percentage of hard disk space available for recorded TV shows in Default Settings. Select between 5 and 90 percent. The default is set at 75 percent.
- Record TV programs to the largest drive. Media Center does not support removable drives, network drives, or drives with less than 5 MB of disk space.
- Archive TV programs to a DVD+RW or DVD+R if your PC has a DVD writer drive. You can play archived programs recorded on DVDs only from the PC that you recorded the TV program from.
- In the Recorder Defaults window, select
 Fair as the default recording quality. The better the quality of the recording, the more space the file takes.
- In the Recorder Defaults window, select
 Until I watch as the Keep setting for each recorded show.



If your PC has a dvd writer drive, you can archive your recorded TV programs to DVD+RW or DVD+R media and play them back on your PC in Media Center.



The total space available for recording TV programs varies depending on the amount of space used for the operating system, other software programs, and data files on your hard disk.

Recording quality and hard disk storage space

The space available for recording TV programs depends on your hard disk size, the percentage of hard disk space allocated to recorded TV, and the recording quality setting.

To get the maximum recording time, change the recording quality to Fair instead of the default setting of Best.

80 GB Hard Disk

120 GB Hard Disk





* This table shows approximate sizes of recorded TV program files. Some files may be smaller or larger.



The hard disk space on your PC may differ from the space listed on this page. The Windows XP operating system, large data files, and software programs require disk space.



Archiving Recorded TV Programs to DVD

TV programs recorded in Media Center cannot be reformatted or recompressed in other formats. These recorded TV shows can be played only from the PC they were recorded from.

To copy a TV program to a DVD

- Insert a blank DVD+RW or DVD+R disc.
- 2 Click Start *start* on the taskbar, and then click **My Computer**.
- **3** Right-click the **dvd writer** icon and select **Format**.
- 4 Under Volume Label, type in the title of the disc. Select format type, and then click **Start** to format the disc. Follow onscreen instructions.
- 5 In My Computer, double-click the **Shared Documents** folder and then double-click the **Recorded TV** folder.
- Copy your recorded TV files to the formatted DVD.

Watching TV Programs That Are Archived to DVD

Make sure Media Center is closed, and then insert the DVD.

2 Click Start start on the taskbar, and then click My Computer.

- **3** Double-click the **DVD drive** icon to view the recorded program files.
- 4 Double-click the program file to watch it.



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Recorded TV programs that have been copied to a DVD can be played only from your PC.

Recorded TV programs can be backed up as part of a full system backup and restored to the same PC, but not to other PCs.



Change TV Guide Settings

In the Guide Settings you can select which channels to display and you can manually update your Guide from the Internet.

TV Guide settings are the same for each user and can be changed only by the administrator of the computer.

To change the TV Guide settings

In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**. You may need to select the scroll arrows on the Start menu to view Settings.

2 In the Settings window, select **TV/DVD**.

- 3 In the TV settings menu, select Guide setup.
 - Select Customize to show or hide channels that appear in the Guide.
 To show a channel, place a check mark next to the channel. To hide a channel, clear the check mark by selecting it.
 - Select Change lineup to change the network and Guide information for channels to display correctly.
 - Select Get Guide data to manually update the Television Program Guide from the Internet. Media Center connects to the Internet. This may take a few minutes to update.
 - Select About Guide data to find out general Guide information and the date range of your current Television Program Guide.



- 4 Use the arrow buttons to select an option, and then press **OK** on the remote control.
- 5 Press the **Back** button on the remote control to return to the TV/DVD Settings window.

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Media Center can be set up to automatically connect to the Internet and update the Guide. This option may not be available, depending on your Internet Service Provider. You can also manually update the Guide from the TV/DVD Settings menu.

Changing Parental Controls for TV Viewing

Only the administrator of the computer can change the Parental Control setting. This feature may not be available on your PC.



- In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**. You may need to select the scroll arrows on the Start menu to view Settings.
- 2 In the Settings window, select **TV/DVD**.
- 3 In the TV Settings menu, select Parental control. The first time you select Parental control, Media Center asks you to create a password. Use the numeric keys on the remote control to enter your password.
- 4 Select Movie/DVD Ratings.
- 5 Use the arrow buttons to select **Turn on movie blocking**, and then press **OK**.
- Use the arrow buttons to select **Block unrated movies**, and then press **OK**.
- Use the arrow buttons to select the + or area. Press the OK button on the remote control to scroll through the movie rating levels. When you find the one you want, use the arrow buttons to select OK in the window, and then press OK on the remote control to enter settings and return to the TV/DVD settings window.
- 8 Press the **Back** button on the remote control to return to the main Settings window.

Changing DVD Movie Language

To select DVD language settings for subtitles, closed captioning, and viewing the DVD:

- In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**.
- **2** In the Settings window, select **TV/DVD**.
- 3 In the TV/DVD Settings window, select **DVD** and then select **Language**.
- 4 Use the arrow buttons to select the + or buttons. Press the OK button on the remote control to scroll through the languages available. When you find the one you want, use the arrow buttons to select OK in the window, and then press OK on the remote control.
- **5** Press the **Back** button on the remote control to return to the main Settings window.

SETTING	s DVD LANGU	JAGE	
	SUBTITLE	English	- +
ОК	SOUNDTRACK	English	- +
Cancel	MENU	English	- +/

Selecting Closed Captioning

The audio settings window allows you to select closed captioning. Closed captioning displays the TV's spoken audio in text format for those who are unable to hear the audio.



To select closed captioning

In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**.

2 Select TV/DVD.

3 Select **Audio**.

- 4 Use the arrow buttons to select the + or buttons. Press **OK** on the remote control to scroll through the choices available.
 - Audio: If you select Secondary Audio Program (SAP) instead of stereo, Media Center allows a simultaneous broadcast of a primary and secondary audio program. It could contain and additional voice track such as a voice-over commentary or a foreign language interpretation.
 - Caption Display: You can select to turn Closed Captioning on, off, or on when mute.
- 5 Use the arrow buttons to select **OK** in the window, and then press **OK** on the remote control.
- 6 After you make your changes, press the **Back** button to return to the main Settings menu.

Changing Picture Settings

Each user can set his or her own picture settings.

- In the Media Center Start menu, select **Settings**. You may need to select the scroll arrows on the Start menu to view Settings.
- 2 In the Settings window, select **Pictures**.
- **3** Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select an option.
 - Select the + or button and then press the OK button on the remote control to increase or decrease the transition time. Select OK in the Settings window and then press OK on the remote control to enter the setting and go back to the Settings window.
 - Select the check icon and then press the OK button on the remote control to show pictures within folders or in random order. Select OK in the Settings window and then press OK on the remote control to enter the setting and go back to the Settings window.



Troubleshooting

Using Microsoft Windows Media Center Help

If you need more information about using or troubleshooting Media Center, refer to the Media Center online Help files.

To open Media Center Help

- Press the **Start** button on the remote control.
- 2 Move the mouse to activate the Media Center navigation bar, and then select the **Help** icon from any window in Media Center.

3 When Media Center Help files appear:

- Select the **Contents** tab and then click the + next to the topic to open the available files. Click a file to view the text on the right side of the window.
- Select the Index tab and then scroll down the list of topics, or type a descriptive word and click the Display button. Double-click a topic to view it.
- Select the Search tab and then type a descriptive word. Click the List Topics button. Double-click a topic to view it.
- 4 To return to Media Center, close the Help files by clicking the Close button on the taskbar of the Help window.





When Media Center is open, you can press F1 on the keyboard to open Media Center Help.