

Watching and Recording TV



HP TOUCHSMART



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Table of Contents

Setting Up Your HP TouchSmart PC to Watch TV in Windows Media Center.....	1
Setting Up the TV Signal.....	1
Changing Settings for Digital TV Antenna Signal Strength.....	2
Configuring the Display on Your HP TouchSmart PC	2
Setting Your TV Audio Preferences	3
Setting Your Closed Captioning Preferences	3
Using the Windows Media Center Remote Control	5
Remote Control Buttons Overview	6
Using the remote control with Windows Media Center	8
Setting up the HP TouchSmart PC with a Set-top Box	9
Troubleshooting the Remote Control	10
Watching and Recording TV Programs	11
Navigating TV + Movies	11
Watching TV	13
Watching live TV.....	13
Controlling TV playback	14
Using the remote control in TV + Movies.....	15
Using the Television Program Guide	16
Using Windows Media Center without the guide.....	16
Television Program Guide errors.....	17
Viewing the Television Program Guide	18
Setting up how Windows Media Center downloads the guide	19
Adding a postal code to receive the correct guide	20
Adding missing channels to the guide	20
Editing and removing channels in the guide.....	21
Searching for TV Programs	21
Searching for TV programs by using categories.....	22

Recording TV Programs	23
Recording TV by using the guide	24
Recording programs manually without using the guide	24
Recording quality and hard disk drive storage space	25
Watching TV programs stored on the HP Media Drive	26
About recording TV to the HP Media Drive	27
Recording TV programs to the HP Media Drive.....	27
Changing the TV recording path to the HP Media Drive	28
Changing the TV recording path to the local hard disk drive	28
Add TV recording folder for Windows Media Center to find	29
Changing disk space for recording TV programs	29
Updating recorded TV list after removing the HP Media Drive	29
System requirements to view recorded TV programs on other computers.....	30
Copying recorded TV programs to DVD or CD.....	30
Media copy protection	31
Playing Recorded TV Programs.....	32
Playing DVDs in Windows Media Center	32
Index.....	33

Setting Up Your HP TouchSmart PC to Watch TV in Windows Media Center



For information on connecting the TV signal, refer to the setup instructions that came with your computer.

Once you have a TV signal, Microsoft Windows Media Center enables you to watch live TV and record TV programs on your computer. Windows Media Center is optimized for widescreen and high-definition displays.



With Windows Media Center, you can:

- Watch, record, and play back television programs.
- Pause, rewind, and fast-forward TV programs.
- Watch an instant replay.
- Record your TV shows automatically while you are doing something else.

Setting Up the TV Signal



- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then **All Programs**.
- 2 Click **Windows Media Center** .
- 3 Locate the Tasks menu, and click **settings**. If "settings" is not in the selection box under Tasks when you first click it, click **settings** again when it appears in that box.
- 4 Click **TV**, and then **Set Up TV Signal**.
- 5 Click **Yes**, and then **Next**.
- 6 Select a region, and click **Next**.

Changing Settings for Digital TV Antenna Signal Strength

- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then **All Programs**.
- 2 Click **Windows Media Center** .
- 3 Locate the Tasks menu, and click **settings**. If “settings” is not in the selection box under Tasks when you first click it, click **settings** again when it appears in that box.
- 4 Click **TV**, and then **Digital TV Antenna Signal Strength**.
- 5 Click **Yes** to change the settings, and then **Next**.

Configuring the Display on Your HP TouchSmart PC

Use the Display Configuration wizard to change the way Windows Media Center looks on your display. Adjustments are based on your display type and your aesthetic preferences.

- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then **All Programs**.
- 2 Click **Windows Media Center** .
- 3 Locate the Tasks menu, and click **settings**. If “settings” is not in the selection box under Tasks when you first click it, click **settings** again when it appears in that box.
- 4 Click **TV, Configure Your TV or Monitor**, and then **Next**.
- 5 Select **Built-in Display**, and then click **Next**.
- 6 Select **Widescreen (16:9)**, and then click **Next**.
- 7 Click **Yes** to keep the current resolution, click **Next**, and then click **Finish**.

Or

- Click **No** to change the resolution.
- Select your preferred solution, and then click **Next**.
- Select **Keep my current settings and continue**, click **Next**, and then **Finish**.

Or

- Select **Preview automatic adjustments**, and then click **Next**.
- Select a new display resolution, and then click **Next**.
- Select **Keep my current settings and continue**, click **Next**, and then click **Finish**.

Or

- Select **Preview automatic adjustments**, and then click **Next**.
- Select **Yes** to accept the new settings, and then click **Next**.



Or

- Click **No**, and then **Next**.
- 8 If you selected **Yes** to accept the new settings, you can:
- Select **Finish this wizard**, click **Next**, and then **Finish**.



Or

- Click **Next** to view a list of controls you set to your preferences: **Onscreen Centering and Sizing**, **Aspect Ratio (Shape)**, **Brightness (Black & Shadow)**, **Contrast (White)**, and **RGB Color Balance**.
- Adjust the settings to your preferences, click **Next**, and then **Finish**.

Setting Your TV Audio Preferences

- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then **All Programs**.
- 2 Click **Windows Media Center** .
- 3 Locate the Tasks menu, and click **settings**. If “settings” is not in the selection box under Tasks when you first click it, click **settings** again when it appears in that box.
- 4 Click **TV**, and then **Audio**.
- 5 Select the appropriate audio format, and then click **Save**.

Setting Your Closed Captioning Preferences

- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then **All Programs**.
 - 2 Click **Windows Media Center** .
 - 3 Locate the Tasks menu, and click **settings**. If “settings” is not in the selection box under Tasks when you first click it, click **settings** again when it appears in that box.
 - 4 Click **TV**, and then **Closed Captioning**.
 - 5 Use the plus (+) and minus (-) signs to set your preferences.
 - 6 Click **Save**.
 - 7 Click **Advanced** to take advantage of advanced Closed Captioning options.
 - 8 Select **Use Settings in Broadcast**, and then click **Save**.
- Or
- Select **Use Custom Settings Below**, and use the plus (+) and minus (-) signs to set your preferences.
- 9 Click **Save**, and then **Save** again.

Using the Windows Media Center Remote Control

The remote control is designed to work with Windows Media Center. You can use the remote control with Windows Media Center to play CDs and DVDs, view pictures, and much more.

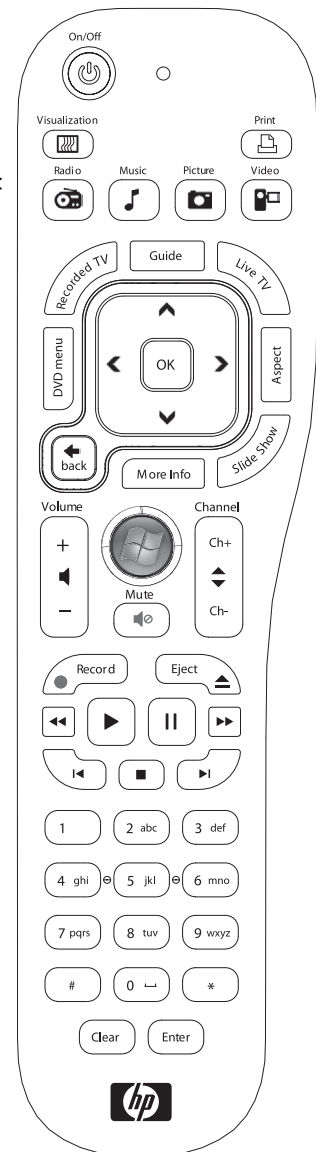
This remote control helps you navigate the Windows Media Center windows on the computer just as a TV remote control helps you navigate cable TV options or control the playback of a movie in a VCR or DVD player.

The remote control can:

- Navigate and control all Windows Media Center windows.
- Control the video display.
- Place the computer in and out of sleep mode.
- Shut down or restart the computer.
- Close Windows Media Center or switch users.

The remote control cannot:

- Navigate the Windows desktop or control other computer programs outside of Windows Media Center.
- Be used as a VCR, DVD player, or stereo remote control.
- Turn on the computer.



Remote Control Buttons Overview

- 1 **On/Off** — Puts the computer into and out of a power-reduced Sleep mode. It does not turn the computer off.

- 2 **Visualization** — Displays visual imagery that is synchronized to the sound of the music tracks.

- 3 **Music** — Opens the Music Library window in Windows Media Center.

- 4 **Radio** — Opens the FM Radio window in Windows Media Center.

- 5 **Guide** — Opens the Television Program Guide.

- 6 **Recorded TV** — Opens the recorded tv window where recorded TV programs are listed.

- 7 **Arrows** — Moves the cursor to navigate and select actions within all Windows Media Center windows.

- 8 **DVD Menu** — Opens the Play DVD window in Windows Media Center or opens the main menu of a DVD movie, if available.

- 9 **Back** — Returns to the previous window within Windows Media Center.

- 10 **More Info** — Displays available information about a selected media file and displays other menus.

- 11 **Start** — Opens the Windows Media Center main menu.

- 12 **Volume** — Increases (+) and decreases (–) volume.

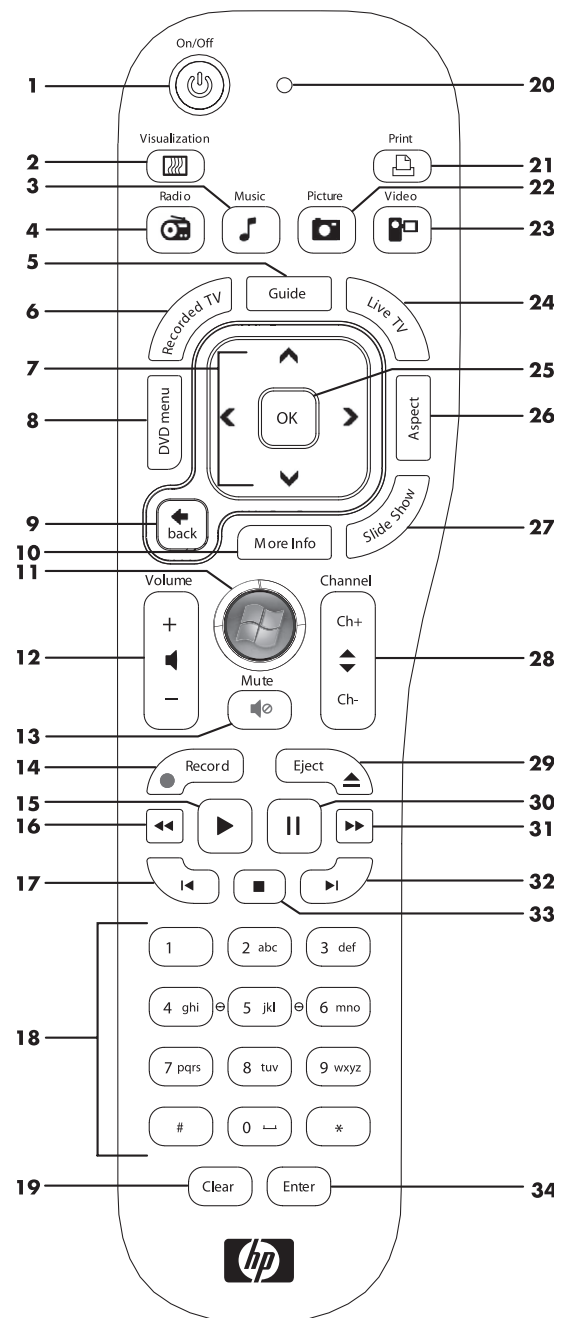
- 13 **Mute** — Turns computer sound off. The word *Mute* is displayed when Mute is turned on.

- 14 **Record** — Records a selected television program and stores it on the hard disk drive.

- 15 **Play** — Plays the selected media.

- 16 **Rewind** — Moves the media backward at three speeds.

- 17 **Skip Backward** — Moves media backward 7 seconds or to the beginning of a music track or a DVD chapter.



-
- 18 0 to 9, #, *** — Enters text and numbers into a Windows Media Center search or text box. Each time you press a number button, a different character appears. Press the Enter button to select a character.
-
- 19 Clear** — Deletes the last character entered.
-
- 20 LED** — Activity indicator light. The LED tells you that the remote control is emitting a signal when you press a button.
-
- 21 Print** — Prints an item in Windows Media Center.
-
- 22 Picture** — Opens the Pictures Library window in Windows Media Center.
-
- 23 Video** — Opens the Videos Library window in Windows Media Center.
-
- 24 Live TV** — Displays the full-screen view of live TV. Moves a TV program forward to the end of the pause buffer and resumes playing live TV.
-
- 25 OK** — Selects the desired action or window option and acts as the Enter key.
-
- 26 Aspect** — Changes the aspect ratio of the display. Zooms in on the picture three times, and then returns to the full-screen aspect ratio.
-
- 27 Slide Show** — Plays a slide show of all the pictures on the hard disk drive.
-
- 28 Ch+ and Ch-** — Changes the TV channels or moves pages up and down, depending on available options. Moves to the next DVD chapter.
-
- 29 Eject** — Ejects CD or DVD drive.
-
- 30 Pause** — Pauses audio and video tracks and live or recorded TV programs.
-
- 31 Fast Forward** — Moves the media forward at three speeds.
-
- 32 Skip Forward** — Moves the media forward 30 seconds in videos and live TV, one music track, or one DVD chapter.
-
- 33 Stop** — Stops the media currently playing.
-
- 34 Enter** — Selects the desired action, menu, or window option.
-

NOTE: Make sure the computer goes into sleep mode and turn down or mute the volume if you have, for example, a scheduled recording in the middle of the night and do not want to be disturbed. The computer does not automatically go into sleep mode if Windows Media Center is open. It is recommended that you close Windows Media Center before you manually place the computer in sleep mode.

Using the remote control with Windows Media Center

You can use the remote control within Windows Media Center to view photos, play music, watch TV programs, and perform many other activities. Use the arrow keys to select a shortcut, and then press the OK key to activate the selected shortcut.

To navigate within the Windows Media Center program, point the remote control at the remote control sensor at the front of the HP TouchSmart PC, and then press a button on the remote control.

To turn on the HP TouchSmart PC or put it into Sleep mode, press the On/Sleep button on the remote control.



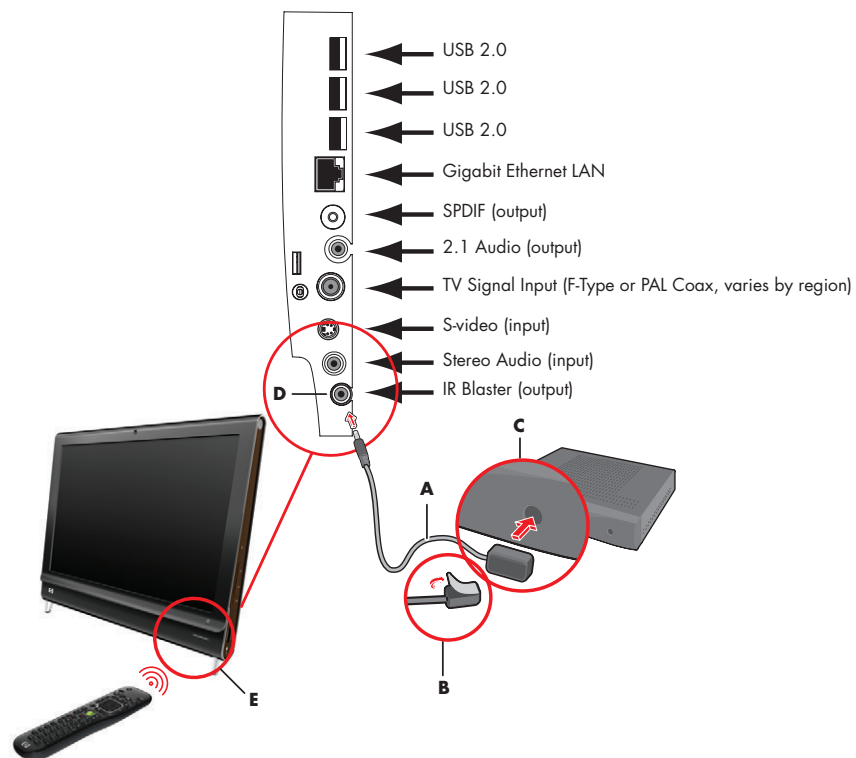
Setting up the HP TouchSmart PC with a Set-top Box

If your TV signal for Windows Media Center requires a cable TV set-top box, a satellite set-top box, or another set-top box, you must connect the infrared (IR) emitter cable to the computer and your set-top box in order to use the remote control properly.

The IR emitter cable is a remote control sensing device that connects to the computer and covers the remote sensor on a set-top box. It enables the remote control that came with your HP TouchSmart PC to operate your set-top box when you use the Windows Media Center program to select TV channels.

To use a set-top box with Windows Media Center:

- 1 Connect the IR emitter cable (**A**) to the IR Out connector (**D**) on the back of the PC.
- 2 Remove the paper from the backing tape on the end of the cable (**B**), and then press the end of the cable over the remote infrared (IR) sensor (receiver) window on the set-top box (**C**). To locate the remote infrared sensor window, shine a flashlight through the plastic on the front of the set-top box.
- 3 When you use the remote control, point it at the front of the HP TouchSmart PC (**E**), not at the set-top box.



WARNING: Please read "Additional Safety Information" in the *Limited Warranty and Support Guide* before you install your HP TouchSmart PC and connect it to the electrical power system.

Troubleshooting the Remote Control

If the remote control doesn't work:

- Make sure that the batteries for the remote control are charged and installed correctly.
- Make sure the front of the remote sensor (IR receiver) is not blocked.
- If a pressed key repeats itself or sticks, try altering the lighting conditions in the room if this continues.
- Press the Enter button on the remote control after changing a channel.
- Point the remote control toward the remote sensor, and press a button. A faint red light should appear on the remote sensor. If the light appears, then the problem is probably in the Windows Media Center software. Close Windows Media Center, restart the computer, and then open Windows Media Center again.


If the remote control works in Windows Media Center but not when changing channels, you need to reconfigure the Windows Media Center software settings for the cable set-top box or satellite receiver.

Watching and Recording TV Programs

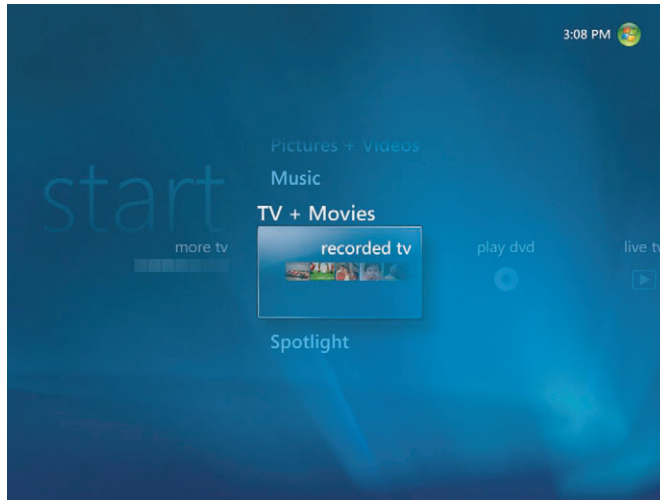
Windows Media Center is where you can watch live TV or record your favorite programs for later playback with a few clicks of the remote control. You can use the Television Program Guide to find the program that you want to watch or record. You can also record a program while watching another prerecorded program.

Navigating TV + Movies

From the TV + Movies menu, you can search for and play your favorite TV programs. Use the following menu items to help you locate what you want to do:

- **live tv:** Watch, pause, fast-forward, or rewind your favorite TV programs. You can watch recorded TV programs while recording another program. Use the *i* (More information) button on the remote control to display TV program information, record the program, zoom, and access TV settings. 
- **recorded tv:** View a list of recorded programs by date recorded or title, view a list of programs scheduled to be recorded, find information about a recorded program, play a recorded program, or add a TV recording.
- **search:** Quickly find a TV program or a series to watch or record by entering a descriptive word, program title, program category, movie actor, or movie director.
- **guide:** (Not available in all countries/regions.) Scroll through the Television Program Guide (Internet service required) to find programs to watch and record. You can record specific TV programs or a whole series to the hard disk drive or an HP Media Drive (purchased separately).

- **movies guide:** Go online to find movies to watch either now or later. Get the latest information about movies on TV: read reviews, see cast lists, find other times at which the movie is broadcast, view the DVD cover, browse for related movies, and find other movies that have the same cast members.
- **play dvd:** Play DVD movies.

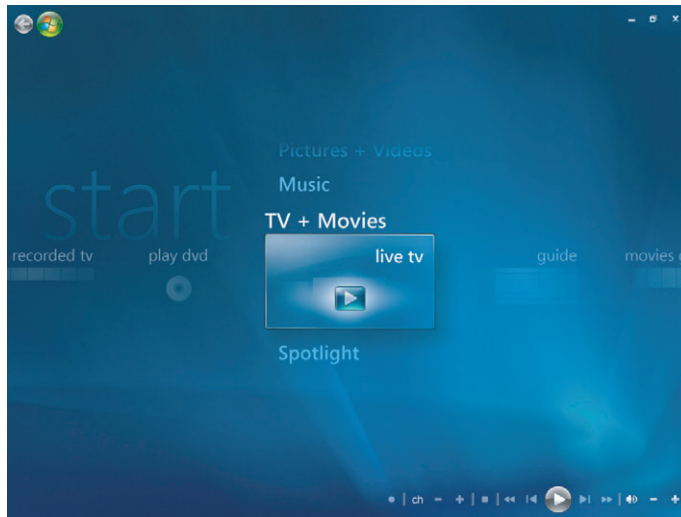


NOTE: The Movies online information feature is available for some countries/regions.

Watching TV

Before you can watch TV by using Windows Media Center, make sure:

- The computer is set up correctly for your TV signal source. Refer to the setup instructions that came with your computer for more information.
- You have completed the Windows Media Center setup wizard.



NOTE: You can change the channel by using the remote control while in full-screen mode or when the inset window is selected.

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

While in the Television Program Guide, you can select a channel to see upcoming programs for that channel by pressing the arrow buttons on the remote control.

Watching live TV

- 1 Press the Live TV button on the remote control or click **TV + Movies** from the main Start menu. Use the arrow buttons on the remote control to select **live tv**, and then press OK. The last channel selected or the first channel available begins playing.
- 2 Select a channel by using the **Ch+** or **Ch-** button or the numeric keypad on the remote control. The channel number and program information display in the window.

- 3 Press the **More Info** button to open another menu that features the following options and information: i
 - Program information, such as channel number and station, title and time period of program, actual time, and a brief summary of the program and TV rating, if available.
 - Record a program.
 - Record a program series.
 - Access to the Windows Media Center Settings windows.
- 4 Press the media buttons on the remote control, such as Pause, Stop, and Fast-forward to control the playback of live TV.
- 5 To exit full-screen mode and return to the previous window, press the Back button on the remote control.

Controlling TV playback

The digital video recording functionality lets you record a single program or capture an entire series for later viewing.

When you open the live TV window and begin watching live TV, Windows Media Center automatically begins recording and playing back the selected program in the background. This allows you to pause or review a live TV program for up to 60 minutes. To replay a program longer than the allotted 60 minutes, you must select to record the program.

You can return to the live broadcast by pressing the **Live TV** button on the remote control.











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





NOTE: The 60-minute pause buffer applies only when pausing, rewinding, and fast-forwarding live TV. Windows Media Center allows you to record a program for longer than 60 minutes when you select to record the program.

NOTE: You cannot pause a live TV program, then rewind to the beginning of the pause buffer, and then begin recording. You can only begin recording a TV program from real-time live TV as soon as you switch to a channel.

Using the remote control in TV + Movies

Button	Action
	To freeze the live TV image, press Pause. While paused, Windows Media Center continues to record a pause buffer for up to 60 minutes. To resume watching TV where you left off, press Play.
	To stop live TV or a recorded program, press Stop. To resume watching the program, press Play.
	To move forward in a live TV program that has been paused, or in a recorded program, press Fast-forward (Fwd). To speed up the fast-forwarding, press Fast-forward two or three times. Fast-forward allows you to skip 3 hours in the Television Program Guide.
	To play a recorded TV program or to resume watching a program after pressing the Pause, Fast-forward, Rewind, Replay, or Skip buttons, press Play.
	To advance in live TV or in a recorded program by 30 seconds, press Skip once. You can repeatedly skip forward, but only to the end of the pause buffer or the recorded program. Skip allows you to advance 12 hours in the guide.
	To move backward in live TV or a recorded program, press Rewind (Rew). To speed up rewinding, press Rewind three times. To resume watching the program, press Play. Rewind allows you to move back 3 hours in the guide.
	To move backward in live TV by 7 seconds, press Replay. You can repeatedly rewind with the instant replay option, but only to the beginning of the pause buffer or recorded program. Replay allows you to move back 12 hours in the guide.
Live TV (TV) 	To maximize the TV viewing window to full-screen mode, press Live TV. Also, to advance to the end of the pause buffer and resume watching the live TV broadcast, press Live TV.
Recorded TV 	To open the recorded tv window, press the Recorded TV button. From this window, you can search for recorded TV programs by title or the date recorded, and then play them.
More Info 	To see the channel number, station identifier, title of program, time slot, and category of program, press the More Info button while in full-screen mode. If you select a recorded program and then press the More Info button, you can access more information about a program and access TV settings.

Button	Action (continued)
<p>Ch</p> 	To move to the next channel or page in the guide, press the Ch+ or Ch- button.
<p>Guide</p> 	To open the Television Program Guide, press the Guide button. While in the guide window, press the More Info button, and then select Category to view a program categories menu. To filter the guide to display only programs in a category, you can select a category, such as Movies , Sports , or News .

Using the Television Program Guide

The Television Program Guide (Internet service required) is a free service from Microsoft that provides TV listings information, such as channel, network, program title, program summary, and scheduled broadcast times. This service is currently not available in some countries/regions. You can go to <http://www.microsoft.com> to find out if the guide is available in your country/region, and for the terms and conditions of the Television Program Guide service.

In countries/regions in which the guide is not available, refer to “Using Windows Media Center without the guide” and see “Recording programs manually without using the guide” for more information about recording TV programs.

By using the guide, you can scroll through a list of the current and upcoming television programs and channels that are available from your television service provider. The guide displays the channel and network, as well as the program title, scheduled time block, and a brief description of the program. The number of days that are displayed depends on your television service provider; most providers display up to 14 days. By selecting a program title, a detailed description of the program appears at the bottom of the window.



NOTE: The computer requires a connection to the Internet to access the guide.

Using Windows Media Center without the guide

Before using Windows Media Center, it is important that you complete the Windows Media Center setup wizard. This wizard takes you through steps to identify your TV signal source and scan for channels that you are able to receive from your TV service provider. By scanning for channels, you can manually select TV programs to watch and record, even if your country/region is unable to download the guide.

The Television Program Guide data might not be available in your country/region. You can still record TV programs without a guide; see “Recording programs manually without using the guide.”

If you have already completed the setup wizard, but want to change the settings or scan for TV channels again:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, General, Windows Media Center Setup,** and then **Run Setup Again**.
- 3 Follow the onscreen instructions to scan for your channels.

Television Program Guide errors

If there is no guide data available when you try to download or search for guide information, the following messages might appear:

- *Download incomplete. We were unable to locate any Television Program Guide information for the following reason: Guide data is not available for the country/region setting that you selected in the Control Panel Settings.*
- *Search is unavailable, because there is no guide information.*
- *The current lineup and/or location selected for the guide is not supported.*
- *The guide information is either missing or corrupt.*
- *No data available.*
- *Channel information is currently not available.*

If you receive any of these messages, the guide data is not available in your country/region, and you cannot use Television Program Guide features. Check back periodically to see if guide data has been provided.



WARNING: Make sure the computer is connected to the Internet and Windows Media Center is properly set up before you try to change the guide settings.

NOTE: The Television Program Guide (Internet service required) is not available in all countries/regions.

Viewing the Television Program Guide

1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.

2 Press the Guide button on the remote control. 


Or

From the TV + Movies menu, click **Guide**.

3 Use the arrow buttons to select a channel, and then use the arrow buttons to scroll through up to 2 weeks of programming for that channel.



NOTE: When you select a channel and then press OK on the remote control, you can view up to 2 weeks of programming information. Use the scroll arrows at the bottom of the window.

4 Select a program, and then press OK to watch it. Press the Record button on the remote control to record the program.

NOTE: If you press the *i* (More information) button on the remote control while you are already in the guide, you can select one of the guide filter categories, such as Movies, to search for a specific program. 

Setting up how Windows Media Center downloads the guide

The computer must have a connection to the Internet, and you must select a TV listings provider in the Windows Media Center setup wizard before you can use and download the guide information. You can set up Windows Media Center to download the guide information when you connect to the Internet, or you can select to download the guide manually.

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, General, Automatic Download Options**, and then:
 - **Download when connected:** Connect to the Internet, and Windows Media Center automatically downloads the guide.

NOTE: If the computer has a digital subscriber line (DSL) connection, the computer is always connected. The guide is downloaded at a specified time every few days. The download interval varies, depending on the Internet service provider.



Or

- **Manual download:** Connect to the Internet, and then manually download the guide in Windows Media Center TV Settings menu.
- 3 Click **Download Now**, and then click **OK**.
 - 4 When the message, *Guide listings were downloaded successfully*, appears, click **OK**.

NOTE: When the Television Program Guide starts downloading from the Internet, it can take between 1 and 30 minutes, depending on the amount of data to download and the speed of the Internet connection.



NOTE: The message, *No data available*, appears next to each channel if the guide has not been downloaded. This can occur if the computer does not have an Internet connection or if there is no service available in your country/region.

Adding a postal code to receive the correct guide

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Guide**, and then click **Set Up Guide Listings**.
- 3 Click **Next**.
- 4 Click **Yes, use this region to configure TV services**, and then click **Next**.
- 5 Click **Yes**, and then click **Next**. Microsoft downloads current updates.
- 6 Click **Yes**, and then click **Next**.
- 7 Click **I agree**, and then click **Next**.
- 8 Select **Download when connected** or **Manual download**, and then click **Next**.
- 9 Enter the postal code, and then click **Next** for Windows Media Center to determine which TV/program guide listings are available for your country/region. Microsoft downloads the program guide.
- 10 Click **Finish**.



Adding missing channels to the guide

If some program channels do not appear in the guide, you can add them. To add the names and numbers of the channels that are missing, or to change the association between channel numbers and lineups:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Guide**, and then **Add Missing Channels** to add the call letters and numbers of the channels that you are missing.
- 3 Click **Add Channel**.
- 4 Use the numeric keypad on the remote control or the keyboard to enter the name of the missing channel, and then click **Next**.
- 5 Enter the correct channel number, and then click **Add**.
- 6 Click **Assign channel** to assign a new channel number.
Or
Click **Share channel** to share the channel number with another channel.
- 7 Repeat steps 3 through 6 to add additional channels.
- 8 Click **Done** when you have added all the channels.



Editing and removing channels in the guide

Some program channels might not appear correctly in the guide information. To edit the channel numbers that are incorrect for your TV service provider information:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Guide**, and then **Edit Channels** to edit the channel numbers that are currently assigned by Windows Media Center.
- 3 Click **Edit Numbers**.
- 4 To remove a channel, select the check next to a channel that you want to remove, and then press the OK button on the remote control or the Enter key on the keyboard to remove the channel from the lineup.
Click **Assign channel** to assign a new channel number.
Or
Click **Share channel** to share the channel number with another channel.
- 5 To edit a channel, use the numeric keypad on the remote control or keyboard to enter the number of the correct channel, and then press OK on the remote control or the Enter key on the keyboard.
 - Click **Assign channel** to assign a new channel number.Or
 - Click **Share channel** to share the channel number with another channel.
- 6 Click **Save** when you have edited all the channels.
- 7 If you need to go back to the channel numbers automatically assigned by Windows Media Center, click **Restore Default** from the Edit Channels window, and then click **Yes**.

Searching for TV Programs

To find a TV program, you can enter a title or keyword or select a category in the guide by using the remote control or the keyboard and mouse.

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 From the TV + Movies menu, click **search** twice.

NOTE: Using categories to search can help you find, for example, all football games. A title or keyword search displays every program that has “football” in the title or description.

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

- 3 Click **Title**. Use the numeric keypad on the remote control or the keyboard to enter a program title word, and then press OK on the remote control or press the Enter key on the keyboard.

Or



- Click **Keyword**. Use the numeric keypad on the remote control or the keyboard to enter a descriptive word that would appear in a title or program description, and then press OK on the remote control or the Enter key on the keyboard.

NOTE: To delete letters, you can use the Clear button on the remote control, the Clear button on the screen, or the Backspace key on the keyboard.

- 4 To scroll through search results, use the arrow buttons to select a program, and then press OK. If multiple times for the program display, select a time, and then press OK on the remote control.
- 5 To begin watching the program in full-screen mode, select the program, and then press OK on the remote control. If the program is not currently playing, select **Record** or **Record Series**, and then press OK on the remote control.

Searching for TV programs by using categories

You can search the guide to find a TV program by selecting a category. Some categories are not available in all countries/regions.

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 From the TV + Movies menu, click **search** twice.
- 3 Click **Categories**.
- 4 Select a category of program types, such as **Movies**.
- 5 Select a category type, such as **Drama**.
- 6 Select a sorting option, such as **Sort by Date** or **Sort by Name**.
- 7 Use the arrow buttons onscreen to scroll through search results and to find a program. Then, press OK on the remote control or the Enter key on the keyboard to select the program.
- 8 Select an option to find out more about the program, watch the program, schedule a recording, or view other showings of the program.

Recording TV Programs

Windows Media Center allows you to record TV programs, so that you can watch them when it is convenient. You can record the program that you are watching, or you can record a future program or series from the Television Program Guide, the search, or the recorded tv window in the TV + Movies menu. You can record two programs at the same time, if the computer has two TV tuners that have the same type of TV signal input (select models only).






WARNING: If you turn off the computer, Windows Media Center will not record a scheduled program. The computer must be turned on or be in sleep mode to record a TV program. The computer will not automatically go into sleep mode if Windows Media Center is open.

Make sure that you put the computer in sleep mode and turn down or mute the volume if, for example, you have a scheduled recording in the middle of the night and do not want to be disturbed.

If a recording error occurs, the program will not be recorded unless the error is corrected. If you try to schedule a recording and another is already scheduled for the same time, a conflict window appears and gives you the option to record the new program or record the previously scheduled program.

To make sure that a program is being recorded, click **TV + Movies, recorded tv**, and then **View scheduled**. The Record icon also appears next to the program in the guide while you are recording. The Record icon disappears when the recording is complete.



Recording icons	Description
	The Record icon appears in the Television Program Guide next to the program that is scheduled to be recorded.
	The Record Series icon appears in the Television Program Guide next to each occurrence of a program in a series that is scheduled to be recorded.
	The Record Conflict/Error icon appears in the Television Program Guide and the taskbar if another program is scheduled to be recorded at the same time.

To record a series means that you select to record each episode of that program from one channel. Windows Media Center will not record duplicate episodes. Windows Media Center also looks for alternative times to record an episode, if a recording conflict arises.

NOTE: For more information about recording to the HP Personal Media Drive (purchased separately), see "About recording TV to the HP Media Drive."


Recording TV by using the guide


To record a current or future program or series by using the Television Program Guide:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 Click **TV + Movies**, and then click **guide** twice.
- 3 To find the program that you want to record, use the arrow buttons on the remote control, and then select the program. You can also use the numeric keypad on the remote control or the keyboard to enter a channel number. Press the right arrow button in the guide to select a program broadcasted in the future.
- 4 Click the program to select it, and then click **Record** or **Record Series**.

Or

Press the Record button on the remote control.

The Record icon  appears next to the program in the guide. Press Record twice to record a series.

The Record Series icon  displays to indicate a series. Press Record again to cancel the recording.

- 5 To return to the previous window, press the Back button on the remote control or the Backspace key on the keyboard.
- 6 If there is a recording conflict, Windows Media Center opens a message and allows you to select which program that you want to record.

Recording programs manually without using the guide


You do not need to use the Television Program Guide to record TV. You can record a TV program by pressing the Record button on the remote control while watching live TV, or you can select a specific date, channel, and recording time period in Windows Media Center.

For some programs, you might want to begin recording before the scheduled beginning and after the scheduled ending of the program.

NOTE: Recorded TV programs that have been copied to a DVD can be played on the computer and on some DVD players.

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

To record a program manually:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, press the Live TV button, and then press the Record button to begin recording the program.

Or

Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**, or press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, click **TV + Movies, recorded tv**, and then click **add recording**.

- 2 Click **Channel and Time**.



- 3 Select the channel number box, and enter the channel number by using the numeric keypad on the remote control or the keyboard.
- 4 Select the (+) or (-) buttons, and then press the Enter key on the keyboard or the OK button on the remote control to scroll through choices and to enter the recording frequency, date, start and stop times, and storage and quality options.
- 5 To set the recording and return to the recorded tv window, click **Record** in the window, and then press the OK button on the remote control or the Enter key on the keyboard.
- 6 To return to the previous window, press the Back button on the remote control or the Backspace key on the keyboard.

Recording quality and hard disk drive storage space

The space that is available for recording TV programs depends on the size of the hard disk drive, the percentage of hard disk drive space that is 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.

To change these settings:

- 1 Open Windows Media Center.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recorder Storage**.
- 3 Under Recording quality and Maximum TV limit (storage for TV recordings), select the settings by clicking the (+) or (-) next to the item that you want to change.
- 4 Click **Save**.
- 5 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recording Defaults**.
- 6 Select the settings by clicking the (+) or (-) next to the item that you want to change.
- 7 Click **Save**.

Quality of recording	Approximate hard disk drive space used*
Best	2.7 GB/hour
Better	2.1 GB/hour
Good	1.4 GB/hour
Fair	1.2 GB/hour

*This table shows approximate sizes of recorded TV program files. Some files might be smaller or larger. 1 GB = 1 billion bytes when referring to hard disk drive capacity. Actual formatted capacity is smaller.

Watching TV programs stored on the HP Media Drive

An HP Media Drive can be purchased separately.

To play recorded TV files that are stored on the HP Media Drive, you must:

- 1 Connect the HP Media Drive to the computer with the power turned off.
- 2 Turn on the computer, and then open Windows Media Center.
- 3 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recorder Storage**.
- 4 Under Record on drive, select the **HP Media Drive**, and then click **Save**. A Recorded TV folder is created and placed in the HP Media Drive. Recorded TV programs must be placed in this folder for you to access them by using Windows Media Center.

NOTE: You must close Windows Media Center before removing or connecting the HP Media Drive for the stored TV files to update properly.

- 5 Under Record on drive, select the local hard disk drive, and then click **Save**.
- 6 Move or copy your recorded TV programs to the Recorded TV folder on the HP Media Drive. Now, you can view your stored TV programs in Windows Media Center, or you can double-click the file and view the program in Windows Media Player.

7 Close Windows Media Center before disconnecting the drive.

When you connect the drive, stored TV files appear a few seconds after you open Windows Media Center.

About recording TV to the HP Media Drive

The computer is set up to record TV programs to the local hard disk drive when you use Windows Media Center. It is possible to change the recording path to an HP Media Drive (purchased separately), but several errors can occur if the drive is unexpectedly or improperly removed.

It is recommended that you record TV programs to the local hard disk drive and then copy the files over to an HP Media Drive.

If you decide to change the recording path to the HP Media Drive, consider the following:

- The TV recording path does not revert to the local hard disk drive after the HP Media Drive is disconnected. This means that scheduled recordings might not be recorded. If the recording message *Low Disk Space* appears, the program will not be recorded. See “Changing disk space for recording TV programs” for more information about changing the hard disk space settings.
- When the drive is disconnected, the disk allocation for recorded TV programs reverts to 10%, and your recorded programs can be lost if you have selected the **Keep until space is needed** setting. See “Changing disk space for recording TV programs” for more information about changing the allocation.
- If you disconnect the drive while live TV is active, a video error can occur.
- Recorded TV programs are not updated in Windows Media Center when the drive is removed.
- The drive might be assigned a different drive letter, which prevents Windows Media Center from recognizing the recording path or the stored recorded TV files.

When you set the TV recording path to the HP Media Drive, Windows Media Center stores the recording buffer data for pausing live TV on the drive. This means that if live TV is playing, you won't be able to remove the drive safely.

To avoid this scenario, change the recording path back to the local hard disk drive, and then restart the computer before disconnecting the HP Media Drive.

Recording TV programs to the HP Media Drive

- 1 Change the recording path to the HP Media Drive (purchased separately). See “Changing the TV recording path to the HP Media Drive.”
- 2 Open Windows Media Center.
- 3 Record TV programs. The programs are recorded to the HP Media Drive.

- 4 Before disconnecting the drive:
 - Make sure that there are no scheduled recordings or recordings in progress, to avoid losing data.
 - Change the recording path back to the local hard disk drive. See “Changing the TV recording path to the local hard disk drive.”
- 5 Disconnect the HP Media Drive safely.

Changing the TV recording path to the HP Media Drive

If you decide to change the recording path to record directly to the HP Media Drive (purchased separately), Windows Media Center creates a Recorded TV folder on the drive:

- 1 Assign a drive letter to the HP Media Drive.
- 2 Open Windows Media Center.
- 3 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recorder Storage**.
- 4 Under Record on Drive, select (+) to select the **HP Media Drive**. You can also set the disk allocation and recording quality settings in this window.

NOTE: HP recommends that you:

- Record TV programs directly to the local hard disk drive and then transfer your recorded programs to the HP Media Drive, if you so desire.
 - Know the drive letter assigned to and the storage amount of the HP Media Drive.
-

- 5 Click **Save**.

To change the TV recording path back to the local hard disk drive, follow this procedure and select the hard disk drive in step 4 of the previous procedure.

Changing the TV recording path to the local hard disk drive

To change the Windows Media Center TV recording path to the local hard disk drive:

- 1 Open Windows Media Center.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recorder Storage**. You can also set the disk allocation and recording quality settings in this window.
- 3 Select the local hard disk drive (**C:**).
- 4 Click **Save**.

Add TV recording folder for Windows Media Center to find

- 1 Open Windows Media Center.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **More TV Locations**.
- 3 Select **Add folder to watch**, and then click **Next**.
- 4 Select folder by clicking the **(+)** by the drive or folder, and then click **Next**.
- 5 Click **Finish**.

Changing disk space for recording TV programs

If you get a *Low Disk Space* message, and you want to change the disk allocation to a higher percentage for the HP Media Drive:

- 1 Open Windows Media Center.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recorder Storage**.
- 3 Under Maximum TV limit, change the amount of space that is used to store recorded TV programs by selecting the **(+)** or **(-)** button.
- 4 In the Tasks menu, click **settings, TV, Recorder**, and then **Recording Defaults**.
- 5 Select the settings by clicking the **(+)** or **(-)** next to the item that you want to change.
- 6 Click **Save**.


Updating recorded TV list after removing the HP Media Drive

If you want to update the recorded TV list after removing the drive:

- 1 Close Windows Media Center.
- 2 Open Windows Media Center.
- 3 If this does not update the files, restart the computer.

System requirements to view recorded TV programs on other computers

To play recorded TV files (.dvr-ms files) that were recorded on your HP computer onto another non-Windows Media Center computer, the computer must have the following items installed:

- Windows Vista operating system or Windows XP operating system.
- Windows XP Service Pack 1 (needed only for Windows XP).
- Windows Media Player 9 or later.
- Software to play DVDs.
- The audio and video codec file, which allows Windows Media Player to play recorded TV programs (.dvr-ms files). You can find this file in Windows Update. Click the **Windows Start Button** , click **All Programs**, and then click **Windows Update**. If you want more information about this code file (QB10243), you can go to the Microsoft Web site at: <http://www.microsoft.com>

Copying recorded TV programs to DVD or CD



You can record TV programs to DVD or CD in Windows Media Center to create a backup copy or to save space on the hard disk drive, by using the following procedure. These discs can be played from an HP computer and from some set-top DVD players.

NOTE: TV programs that have been encrypted (protected) by the broadcaster cannot be copied and played on any player other than the HP computer that recorded the program.

The HP computer includes several other recording software programs that you can use to create CDs and DVDs. You can use CyberLink PowerDirector to record the recorded TV program to a format that can be played from an HP computer and from some set-top DVD players.

For more detailed information about recording CDs and DVDs, refer to information on the HP Support Web site at: <http://www.hp.com/support>

To copy a recorded TV program to CD or DVD:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button , on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 In the Tasks menu, click **burn cd/dvd**.
- 3 Insert a blank writable disc that is compatible with the CD or DVD recorder.
- 4 Click **Burn files to disc using Windows**.
- 5 Type a disc title or date, and then click **Next**. Windows may need to format the disc. If so, follow the onscreen instructions.

- 6 Select the disc format, and then click **Next**. Windows opens a message telling you if the disc needs to be erased. If so, click **Erase Disc**.
- 7 Enter a title for the disc by using the numeric buttons on the remote control or the numeric keypad on the keyboard, and then click **Next**.
- 8 Click **Recorded TV** or **Video Library**, and then click **Next**.
- 9 Select the recorded TV programs that you want to copy to CD or DVD. A check mark appears in the corner of the program when it is selected, and then click **Next**.
- 10 Click **Burn DVD**.
- 11 Click **Yes**.
- 12 Click **OK** to do other things while the disc is being burned.
- 13 Follow the onscreen instructions to complete the recording of your TV program to disc.

Media copy protection


Media content, such as DVDs or TV programs, might place restrictions on rights to distribute or copy the content, depending on what is permitted by the copyright owner. Such restrictions protect copyrighted media files from being illegally copied and used. If you try to record a program that contains such restrictions, the following message appears: *Recording Canceled. Manual Recording cannot be recorded.* Restrictions that are set by the broadcaster and/or originator of the content prohibit recording of this program. When you record certain music or video files, they might retain copy-protection restrictions that will prevent copying or distribution, including technology that encrypts media content and/or limits access only to people who have a license to play the content.

Playing Recorded TV Programs



The recorded tv window in Windows Media Center is where you can access all of your recorded programs. In the recorded tv window, you can sort your programs by name, date, or category. You can also delete a recorded program or series of programs, and check for any recording errors.

Your recorded TV programs are automatically stored on the primary hard disk drive in a public folder.

To find and play the recorded TV programs from the hard disk drive:

- 1 Click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Computer**.
- 2 Double-click the local disk.
- 3 Click **Users, Public**, and then double-click **Recorded TV**.
- 4 Right-click the recorded TV program, and then click **Play with Windows Media Center**. Windows Media Center opens and begins playing the program.



To play the recorded TV programs from within Windows Media Center:

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 From the TV + Movies menu, click **recorded tv**.
- 3 To organize all of the previously recorded programs, click **date recorded** or **title**.
- 4 To begin watching the program, select the recorded program that you want to watch, and then click **Play**.

Windows Media Center places recorded TV programs in the Recorded TV folder that is located in the Shared Documents folder on the hard disk drive.

Playing DVDs in Windows Media Center

The TV + Movies window in Windows Media Center is where you can select to play a DVD from the DVD drive.

- 1 Press the Windows Media Center Start button  on the remote control, or, with the mouse, click the **Windows Start Button**  on the taskbar, and then click **Windows Media Center**.
- 2 Insert a DVD into the DVD drive.
- 3 If no other media is playing, the DVD automatically begins playing. If other media is playing, Windows Media Center opens a dialog window with the options to begin playing the DVD.

Index

B

- buttons
 - remote control 6

C

- computer
 - connecting the IR emitter 9

E

- error messages
 - Channel information is currently not available 17
 - common recording errors 32
 - Download Incomplete 17
 - Low Disk Space 27, 29
 - No data available 17
 - Search is unavailable because there is no guide information 17
 - The current lineup and/or location selected for the guide is not supported 17
 - The guide information is either missing or corrupt 17

G

- Guide, see Television Program Guide

I

- IR emitter cable
 - connecting 9

P

- PC
 - connecting the remote sensor 9
- Program Guide, see Television Program Guide

R

- recording

- options 24
- recording icons 23
- recording TV
 - how to stop recording 23
 - making sure a program is being recorded 23
 - manually 24
 - recorded TV 32
 - single program or series, canceling 23
 - TV programs 23
 - using the guide 24
 - when two are scheduled for the same time 24

- remote control
 - buttons 6
 - sensor 8
 - using in TV + Movies 15
 - using with HP TouchSmart 8

S

- searching for programs 21
- set-top box
 - remote emitter cable for 9

T

- Television Program Guide
 - no data available 17
 - recording TV programs 24
 - searching for TV programs 21
 - setting up a download method 19
 - using the More information button 18
 - viewing 18

TV

- adding missing channels to the guide 20
- advanced recording options 24
- editing channels in the guide 21
- manually downloading the guide 19, 20
- playback, time shifting 14

- playing recorded TV programs 32
- recording icons 23
- recording TV from the guide 24
- recording TV manually 24
- removing channels from the guide 21
- searching for TV programs 21
- searching for TV programs by category 22
- sorting programs 32
- Television Program Guide errors 17
- time shifting 14
- using digital video recorder while watching 14
- using the remote control 14
- watching 13
- watching TV programs 13

W

- Windows Media Center
 - what you can do
 - in TV + Movies 11, 12

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