

KNOLOGY®



Explorer® 8300™ and 8300HD™ DVR

Digital Video Recorder/DVR with HDTV

User's Guide



Record your favorite programs when you're busy

Record one program and watch another

Record two live programs while watching a third program you recorded earlier

Record and store up to 50 hours of standard-definition programs on the 8300 DVR, or up to 20 hours of high-definition programs on the 8300HD DVR

Pause live TV for up to 1 hour without missing a minute

Use instant replay any time you want

Watch two programs at the same time with the Picture-in-Picture feature on any TV you have

Welcome!

With the Explorer® 8300™ Digital Video Recorder (DVR), you can easily record your favorite programs and then play them back anytime. The DVR and Picture-In-Picture (PIP) features give you complete control, convenience, and choice when watching TV. Use your DVR to control the following features...



Control live TV

The telephone is ringing and you do not want to miss any scenes of your favorite live TV program. DVR lets you **PAUSE** the live program, or **REWIND** and **PLAY** a portion of it again, or **FAST-FORWARD** it to catch up to live TV.

Sports fans can enjoy complete control by using **INSTANT REPLAY**, **SLOW MOTION**, and **FRAME ADVANCE AND REWIND** to watch their favorite play again.

Record TV programs without a VCR

RECORD and save your favorite TV programs to the DVR to watch later.

When two of your favorite TV programs are scheduled at the same time, **RECORD** one program to the built-in recorder while watching the other!

Never miss your favorite programs that are scheduled at the same time. Simply **RECORD** both programs at the same time. While recording both programs, you can play back a third program you have already recorded.

RECORD a single episode or all episodes of your favorite TV programs.

RECORD one of your favorite TV programs and at the same time, access any advanced application, such as video-on-demand (VOD).

Not sure if you have room to **RECORD** new programs? You can check your available recording space any time.

Watch two TV programs at the same time

PIP is built into the Explorer 8300 DVR, so you can watch two live programs at the same time on any make or model TV that is connected to your DVR.

When something exciting occurs in the PIP program, you can easily swap the PIP into the Main screen. Once that program is in the Main screen, you can pause, rewind, or record it.

When the PIP screen position is covering a "must see" moment on the Main screen, simply **MOVE** the PIP screen to a different corner of your TV screen.

Let's Get Started!

Using Your Remote Control

The **SETUP** Key is used to program remote for TV, VCR,DVD, etc.

Press **CBL, TV, VCR, DVD** or **AUD** to select which device you want to control.

Press **GUIDE** to display all the programs available to view.

Press **SETTINGS** to access your digital receiver options.

Press the **Cursor** keys to move the cursor in the program guide and menu screens.

Use **VOL +/-** keys to raise or lower the Volume of the selected Device. Press **MUTE** to mute the volume completely.

Press **CH +/-** to change the channel on the selected device.

Use the Macro keys for one touch access to premium channels or interactive services.

Press the **↶, List and Live** keys to perform the following functions:

↶ - Replays the previous few seconds of a program

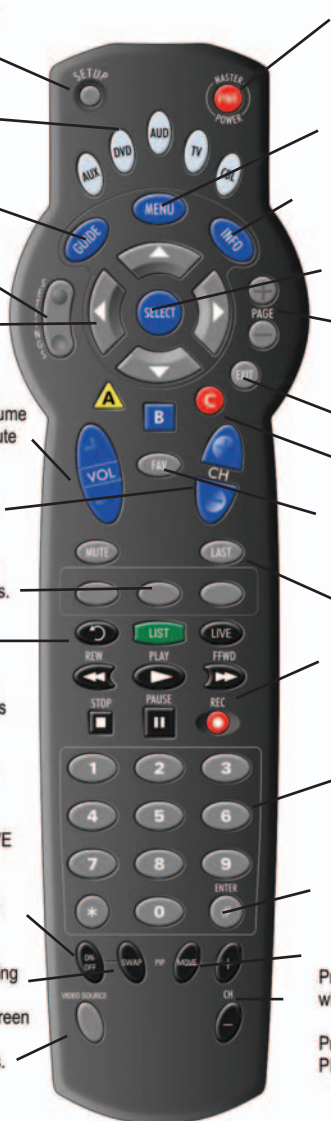
LIST - Displays a listing of programs that have been recorded

LIVE - Returns viewer to watching LIVE TV

Press **PIP ON/OFF** to open and close PIP Window

Press **SWAP** to switch the content being viewed in the PIP window with the program being viewed on the Main screen

Press **Video Source** to change inputs.



Press the **POWER** key to turn ON/OFF the selected device. This key is also programmable to turn ON/OFF all of your devices simultaneously with a single key press.

Press **MENU** to access various program options (if available).

Press **INFO** to display additional information about the program you selected.

Press **SELECT** to choose options from the **MENU** or programs for the **GUIDE**.

Use **PAGE UP/DOWN** keys to page up or down while in the **GUIDE**.

Press **EXIT** to return to watching a program when using the **GUIDE** or **MENU**.

Press **A,B,C** keys to access additional options while using the **GUIDE** or **MENU**.

Press **FAV** to cycle through the favorite channels you stored in the digital receiver.

Press **LAST** to tune the last channel.

Press **REW, PLAY, FFWD, REC, STOP** and **PAUSE** keys to control the DVR or selected VOD event. (these keys are also used to control a DVD or VCR)

Press the digit keys (**0-9**) to manually select a channel to watch. These keys are also used for programming the remote control.

Press the **#** key to change the aspect ratio if the cable box supports high definition TV.

Press **MOVE** to change the location of the PIP window.

Press **PIP CH +/-** to change the channel in the PIP window.

Preparing the Explorer 8300HD DVR to Work With Your High-Definition TV

First make sure that your DVR is properly connected to your HDTV television and other electronic devices. Use the component (PrPbY) or HDMI™ ports to connect the DVR to your HDTV.

For more information, refer to the connectivity guide for your DVR model:

- *Connecting the Explorer® 8300™ Digital Video Recorder* - page 19
- *Connecting the Explorer® 8300HD™ Digital Video Recorder* - page 23




Note: The composite ports (red, yellow, white) and the component ports (PrPbY) on the back of the 8300HD are both active simultaneously.

Selecting HDTV Picture Formats With the HDTV Setup Wizard

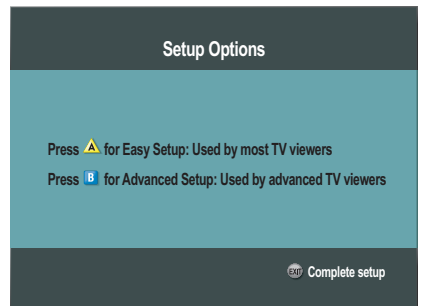
The following section provides instructions for using the HDTV Setup Wizard to select HDTV picture formats using the Easy and Advanced Setup modes.

Start the HDTV Setup Wizard

To start the HDTV Setup Wizard, follow these steps.

1. Make sure that the DVR is powered **OFF**, but still plugged into an active power outlet, and connected to the HDTV using the proper connectors (HDMI or Component for an HDTV; Composite, RF, or S-Video for a SDTV).
2. Turn the TV **ON**.
3. With the DVR powered **OFF**, press **Guide** and **Info** at the same time. The **HDTV Setup Wizard** screen appears.
4. Press  to start the set up.
5. Choose one of the following options:
 - To choose the Easy Setup option press ; then, go to the **Easy Setup Instructions** on page 5.
Note: Choosing the Easy Setup mode limits your HDTV picture formats to 480i and 1080i, depending on the TV type you select.
 - To choose the Advanced Setup option press ; then, go to the **Advanced Setup Instructions** on page 5.
Note: Choosing the Advanced Setup mode allows you to save all the HDTV picture formats, so that you can toggle between them easily while watching TV.

*Press the **Guide** and **Info** keys at the same time*



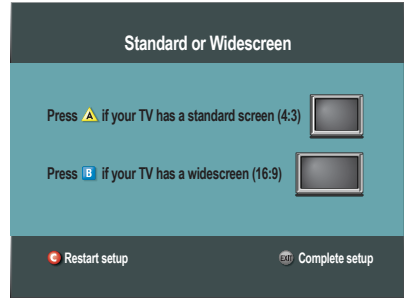
Easy Setup Instructions

1. Press **A** or **B** to select the type of TV screen you have. The setup is complete.
2. Press **Power** to begin watching TV.

Notes:

- If you pressed **A** for the standard screen (4:3) TV setting, the TV is set to receive programming in 480i format on non-HD channels and 1080i format on HD channels.
- If you pressed **B** for the widescreen (16:9) TV setting, the TV is set to only receive programming in 1080i format (even on non-HD channels).

Tip: After you complete the setup, you can use **#** to stretch or zoom the picture.



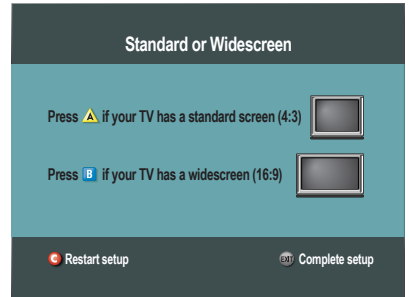
Advanced Setup Instructions

1. Press **A** or **B** to select the type of TV screen you have.
2. Follow the on-screen instructions to select your picture formats.
3. Press **SELECT** to toggle between the Save and Remove options, or press **B** to see how the next format looks on your TV screen.

Note: If you see a black screen *do not* press **SELECT**. Press **B** again to view the next screen format.

4. After saving the picture formats, press **EXIT**. The setup is complete.
5. Press **POWER** to begin watching TV.








Tip: After you complete the setup, you can use **#** to stretch or zoom the picture.



Select Picture Mode for Normal Viewing

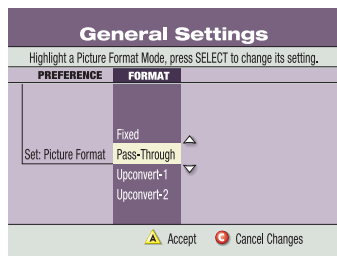
After you use the HDTV Setup Wizard to select all the HDTV picture formats you want to use, you need to choose a General Settings picture mode for normal viewing. If you do not have your HDTV connected to the HDMI connector on the back of the 8300HD DVR, then Pass-Through mode is recommended for normal viewing. Pass-Through mode allows non-HD channels to be displayed using their native picture formats, which can improve picture quality on non-HD channels.

To select Pass-Through mode for normal viewing, follow these steps.

1. Press **Settings**  twice. The **General Settings** menu appears.
2. Press **Move Up**  or **Move Down**  to highlight **Set: Picture Format**.
3. Press **Move Right**  to highlight the picture format setting.
4. Press **Move Up**  to select **Pass-Through**.
5. Press **Accept**  to use this option for the 8300HD. The DVR front panel displays **AUTO**, plus the scan rate you are viewing (for example, 1080i).
6. Press **Exit**  to return to normal viewing.

Note: When the HDMI connector is connected to the HDTV, the **General Settings - Set: Picture Format** screen displays the AutoDVI/HDMI option instead of the Pass-Through option.

Important: Do not connect the HDMI (DVI) output to a HDTV that does not support High-Definition Copy Protection (HDCP). If you connect the HDMI (DVI) output cable to a HDTV that does not support HDCP, you will not be able to see any video output. A message will be displayed instructing you to disconnect the HDMI connection and watch video output through the PrPbY component connectors.



Important Note Regarding the HDMI Interface

The High-Definition Multimedia Interface (HDMI) is an all-digital audio and video interface. HDMI provides a digital interface between any audio and video source. HDMI supports standard, enhanced, or high-definition video, plus digital audio.

Some HDTVs do not contain circuitry to decode Dolby® Digital formatted content. If you connect your DVR to an HDTV that cannot support Dolby Digital audio, the HDMI interface instructs the DVR to switch its audio outputs to 2-channel PCM audio (to be compatible with the HDTV). In this case, all digital audio outputs on the DVR are formatted as 2-channel PCM. As a result, you will not be able to receive Dolby Digital or DTS audio on your home theater system when connected to either the optical or coax (RCA Connector) S/PDIF ports. You can avoid this by overriding the automatic configuration through the General Settings menu and switching the audio output to Dolby Digital.

Important: If your HDTV cannot decode Dolby Digital formatted content and you have configured the DVR to output in the Dolby Digital format, you will *not* be able to listen to audio through the TV. Instead, you must use your home theater or your Dolby Digital decoding device in order to hear audio. Alternatively, you can reconfigure the DVR to output 2-channel PCM any time you want to use the TV to produce the audio portion of the content by selecting HDMI in the General Settings - Audio Output screen. Depending upon your equipment capabilities to select alternate audio sources for input, other configurations may be possible. Refer to your equipment user's guides for more information.

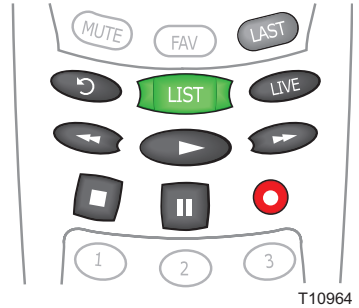
Controlling Live TV

Control a Live Program You Are Watching

Use the following remote control keys to control the live program in the Main screen:

The **Pause**, **Rewind**, **Fast-Forward**, **Play**, **Instant Replay**, and **Live** keys on the remote control are used to control the live program in the Main screen.

For example, when you are watching your favorite live TV program and the telephone rings, press **Pause** to pause the program for up to 1 hour. From **Pause** mode, press **Pause** or **Play** to resume the normal play mode.



While in normal play mode, press **Rewind** or **Fast-Forward** to cycle through three different speeds of rewind or fast-forward.

To reverse or advance one frame at a time, press **Pause** and then repeatedly press **Rewind** or **Fast-Forward**. For example, to advance three frames, press **Pause** and then press **Fast-Forward** three times.

To see the action in slow motion, press **Play** from normal play mode. Press **Play** again to resume normal play mode.

To replay the last 8 seconds of a live or recorded program, press **Instant Replay**.

If you have rewound or paused a live program, press **Live** at anytime to catch up to the live TV program.

Note: You can use these same dedicated DVR keys to control the reduced screen (also known as the quarter screen) in the Program Guide and in all DVR screens.

Pause a Live Program




The paused status bar appears when you press **Pause**.

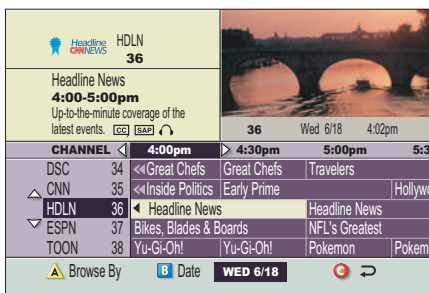


Note: All of the features for controlling live TV (such as Pause, Fast-Forward, Rewind) are also available when playing back recorded programs.






Using the Program Guide

Find a Program to Watch






1. Press **Guide** . The Program Guide appears and lists the next 7 days of programs.
2. Press the **directional keys**  to move through the program listings and highlight the program you want to watch.
3. Press **Select** . If the program is currently on, the Program Guide closes and the program you selected appears in full-screen TV. If the program is on in the future, a future program option screen appears.



Search for a Program by Channel, Title, or Theme




1. Press **Guide** . The Program Guide appears and lists the next 7 days of programs.
2. Press **Browse By** . The Browse By area of the Program Guide displays the options Title, Channel, and Theme.
3. Press **Move Up**  or **Move Down**  to highlight one of the following options:
 - **Channel**, which lists programs numerically by channel number
 - **Title**, which lists programs alphabetically by program title
 - **Theme**, which lists programs by theme, such as adventure, comedy, sports, or news
4. Press **Select** . The Browse By area of the Program Guide displays the programs according to the option you selected.

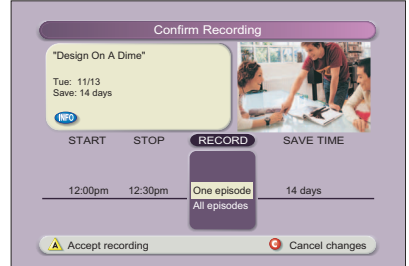
Search for a Program by Date

1. Press **Guide** . The Program Guide appears and lists the next 7 days of programs.
2. Press **Date** . The Browse By area of the Program Guide displays the next 7 dates.
3. Press **Move Up**  or **Move Down**  to highlight a date.
4. Press **Select** . The Program Guide displays the programs that will be broadcast on that date.




Recording TV Programs

Record a TV Program You Are Watching

1. Press **Record** .
2. While in the **Confirm Recording** screen, choose your recording options and press . The **Record Indicator** is lit on the front panel of the DVR.
3. To manually stop recording before the scheduled time, press **Stop**  and then follow the on-screen choices.






Record a TV Program From the Program Guide

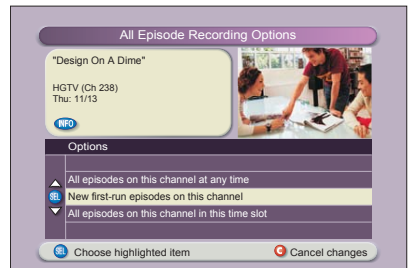
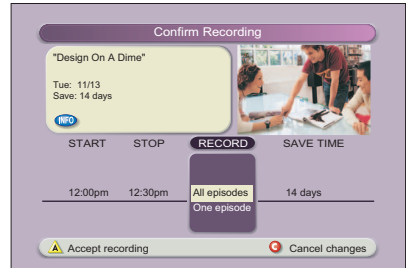
1. Press **Guide** .
2. Press the arrow keys to highlight a TV program, and then press **Record** .
3. In the **Confirm Recording** screen, choose your recording options and press . The recording program is highlighted in red in the Program Guide.



Record Multiple Episodes of a TV Program

If you want to record all the episodes of a program you are watching, follow these steps:

1. Press **Record** .
2. Choose **One Episode** or **All Episodes**. Notice the information in the fourth column changes, based on your selection. Press . If you selected **All Episodes** from the third column, the **All Episode Recording Options** screen appears.
3. Choose one of the options on the screen.
4. Press **Select**  to save your settings.
Note: The “New first-run episodes on this channel” option is subject to availability in your area.



Watching Your Recordings

Access and Play Back Your Recorded Programs Anytime

1. Press **List** **LIST**.
2. Use the arrow keys to choose the program you want to play back.
3. Press **Select** **SELECT** to display your options.



Access and Play Back Your Recorded Programs From the Program Guide

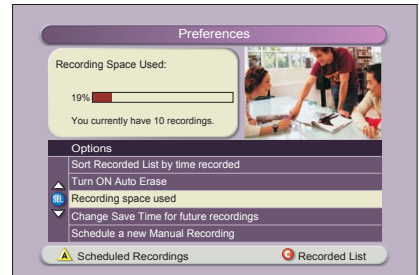
1. Press **Guide** **GUIDE**.
2. Use the arrow keys to choose the **DVR** channel and press **Select** **SELECT**.
Note: The DVR channel is a dedicated channel that allows you to play back your recorded programs.
3. Use the arrow keys to choose the program you want to play back.
4. Press **Select** **SELECT** to play back the program.



Managing Recording Space

How Much Recording Space Do I Have?

1. Press **List** **LIST**.
2. Press **B** to display the Preferences screen, which displays the percentage of space used.



Automatically Erasing Oldest Recordings If Space Is Needed

Turning Auto Erase on will automatically erase your oldest recordings one by one until there is enough space to record your new programs.

Note: Any recordings that have a Save Time of "Until I Erase" will not be automatically erased.

1. Press **List** **LIST**.
2. Press **B** to display the Preferences screen.
3. Choose **Turn ON Auto Erase**.



Copy Recordings From Your DVR to a VCR Tape

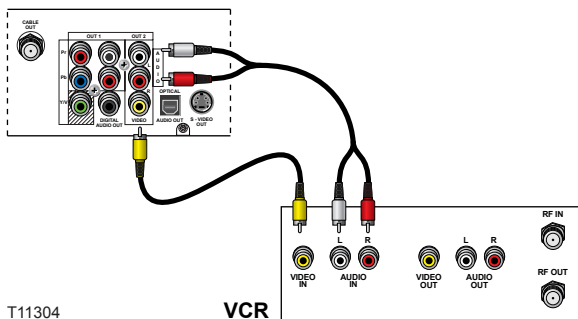
The Copy to VCR feature lets you copy recordings from your DVR to a VCR tape.



Warning: Avoid electric shock. Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the DVR.


Verify that the **OUT 2** outputs are connected to your VCR inputs.

Note: This graphic shows the 8300HD DVR back panel layout. The 8300 DVR back panel is slightly different.











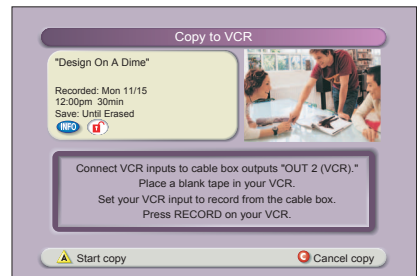
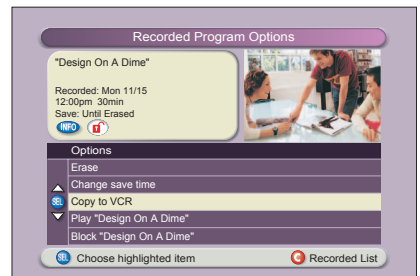
The program that you are copying appears in the *PIP window*. Connecting to your VCR using the **OUT 2** outputs allows you to watch or record another program or even change channels in the Main screen, without affecting the copy in progress.

Notes:

- You can turn the PIP feature off and on without affecting the copy in progress. A “Copying to VCR” banner will be displayed for 3 seconds when you turn the PIP feature on.
- You can still record live TV directly to a VCR tape (instead of your DVR) by connecting the DVR **OUT 2** outputs directly to the VCR inputs and not using the **Copy a Recording to a VCR Tape** instructions on page 13. Recording live TV directly to your VCR causes the VCR to record all remote control activities, including information banners and on-screen displays such as when **Guide**  is pressed.


Copy a Recording to a VCR Tape

1. Connect the VCR to the **OUT 2** connection on the back of the Explorer DVR. See page 12 for more information.
 2. Make sure that a tape is in your VCR and that the VCR is set to record.
 3. Press **List** . The Recorded List screen appears.
 4. Press **Move Up**  or **Move Down**  to highlight the recording you want to copy to the VCR. Make sure to select a program that is not currently being recorded.
 5. Press **Select** . The Recorded Program Options screen appears.
 6. Press **Move Up**  to highlight "Copy to VCR."
 7. Press **Select** . The Copy to VCR screen appears.
 8. Make sure your VCR is properly connected to your DVR outputs, and press **Record** on your VCR.
 9. Press **Start copy** . The recording begins copying to VCR tape. The Recorded List displays the VCR symbol  for the recording that is copying to VCR.
- Note:** You can watch the copying in progress through the PIP.






Using Picture-In-Picture

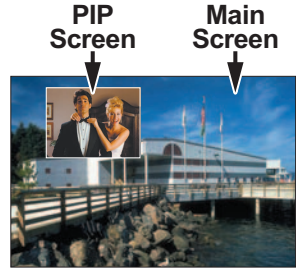
Activate PIP on Your TV

While watching a program, press **PIP On/Off**  to activate the PIP screen.




Notes:

- To pause or record the video in the PIP screen, you must first swap it to the Main screen.
- You can only use the dedicated DVR keys (**Pause**, **Rewind**, **Fast-Forward**) to control the program shown in the Main screen.
- To change the channel in the PIP screen, use **PIP CH+**  and **PIP CH-** .


Tip: While the PIP screen is activated, press **INFO**  to display a channel banner for both the Main screen and the PIP screen.



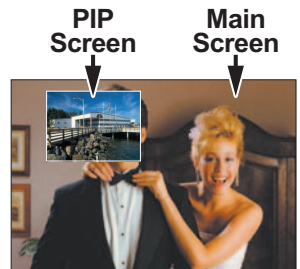
Activate PIP From the Program Guide

From the Program Guide, press **Exit**  or **Guide**  to close the Program Guide, and then press **PIP On/Off**  to activate PIP. You can only activate PIP from full-screen video.


Swap the Main and PIP Screens

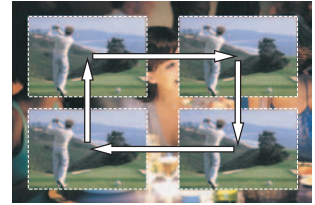
To swap the TV program that is in the PIP screen to the Main screen, press **PIP Swap** .

Note: You will only hear the audio for the program shown in the Main screen.



Move the PIP Screen

To move the PIP screen clockwise to a different corner of the Main screen, press **PIP Move** . You can move the PIP screen to any of the four corners of the Main screen.



Use Power-Save Mode

To maximize the life of your DVR, you should power-down the DVR when it is not in use. Simply press **CBL** and then **Power** on your remote control, or press **Power** on the front panel of the DVR. The Power light turns off; but, because the DVR is still plugged in, your scheduled recordings still occur.

Between 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. daily, your DVR will automatically enter Power-Save mode unless you press a key on the remote control or a key on the DVR front panel at least once every 2 hours. In Power-Save mode, the set-top is powered-down, but all scheduled recordings still occur. When the DVR enters Power-Save mode, your TV displays a black screen. **Note:** Your cable service provider controls whether or not the automatic Power-Save mode is activated on your set-top.



At 1:10 a.m., the DVR displays the above 5-minute warning banner, indicating that the DVR is about to enter power-save mode. When this banner appears, do one of the following:

- To allow the DVR to enter Power-Save mode, do nothing when the warning banner appears. The DVR will automatically power-down. After your DVR powers down, you must press **CBL** and then **Power** on your remote control, or press **Power** on the front panel of your DVR to start watching TV again.
- To prevent the DVR from entering Power-Save mode, simply press any key on your remote or any key on the front panel of the DVR when the warning banner appears. The DVR will not attempt to enter power-save mode again until another 2 hours of inactivity has passed.

Frequently Asked Questions

How far back can I rewind live TV? The length of time you can rewind live TV depends on how long you have been tuned to a single channel. Each time you change channels, a new copy is automatically stored to the built-in recorder. This copy saves up to the last 1 hour of programming. For example, if you have been watching the same channel for 15 minutes, you can rewind that 15 minutes of the program.

Can I record the quarter screen in the Program Guide or the DVR Recorded List? Yes, you can record the quarter screen on all DVR screens by pressing **Record**. You can also record the quarter screen in the Program Guide. Press **Exit** to display the video in full screen, and then press **Record**. **Note:** Pressing **Record** while in the Program Guide will record the highlighted program in the grid.

Can I record or pause the video in the PIP screen? Yes, but you must swap it to the Main screen first. After pressing **Record** and confirming the recording, you can swap it back to the PIP screen and it will continue recording. You can also press **PIP On/Off**, and the video will continue to record.

Can I use PIP while copying a program to my VCR? When copying a program to a VCR, the PIP can be used only to monitor the progress of the copy status. You cannot use PIP to watch another program while copying a program to a VCR.

If I've been tuned to a program since it started, do I have to rewind to the beginning to record the entire program? No, if you have been tuned to the program since its beginning, just press **Record** from any point in the program to record the entire program. Recording will automatically stop when the program ends.

How will I know the DVR is almost out of recording space? When you try to schedule the next recording, a warning appears on the Confirm Recording screen. Also, you can see what percentage of recording space you have used. Press **List** and then press **B** for preferences.

What happens if my DVR loses power temporarily? Everything you have recorded is saved, based on the save time you selected in the Confirm Recording screen. Your scheduled recordings during the time the DVR lost power are the only recordings you may miss.

Do my Parental Controls in the Program Guide carry over to DVR recordings? Yes. If you block programs by channel or rating in General Settings menu, those settings are carried over to DVR recordings. For example, if you decide to block all R-rated programs in the General Settings menu, the R-rated programs will still be recorded, but you cannot play them back until you enter the correct PIN.

How do I block or erase individual recordings in my recorded list or change the save time for the recording? Highlight the recording on the Recorded List screen, and press **Select** on the remote control. An Options screen appears for the program you selected.

Why are all my programs displayed in 1080i format? You may have selected the Easy Setup mode and the Widescreen (16:9) TV setting in the HDTV Setup Wizard. Choosing these two settings together limits your programming to 1080i format, even on non-HD channels. To see your non-HD programs in 480i on a widescreen (16:9) HDTV, use the Advanced Setup in the HDTV Setup Wizard. Make sure that you select 480i as one of your saved formats, and then select **Pass-Through** in General Settings: Picture Format for your default picture format.

Connecting the 8300 Digital Video Recorder to Entertainment Devices

Where Are the Connection Diagrams?

The diagrams on the following pages show examples of common ways to connect the 8300 to your TV, VCR, and home theater receiver.

However, these diagrams do not show every possible combination of devices. Please consult the user's guides that came with your other electronic devices for further information.

What Cables Do I Need?

Some of the cables shown in the diagrams may not be included with the 8300. The required cables are shown in the connection diagrams on the following pages.

How Do I Connect the 8300 to My TV and Other Entertainment Devices?

When you are ready to connect the 8300, follow these instructions.

1. Power off all electrical devices before connecting to avoid electrical shock.
2. Connect the 8300 to your TV, VCR, and other entertainment devices as shown in the diagrams on the following pages. (The diagrams in this guide do not cover every possible combination.)
3. Connect the 8300 to the coaxial cable coming from the wall.
4. Plug the 8300 and the TV into an AC power source.
5. Do *not* turn on the set-top or TV yet.
6. Wait until you see one of the following displays on the front of the set-top:
 - Current time
 - Four dashes (- - - -)

Important: It may take several minutes for the set-top to receive the latest software, programming, and service information. When the front panel displays the time or four dashes, the update is complete.

7. After the update is complete, turn on the TV.

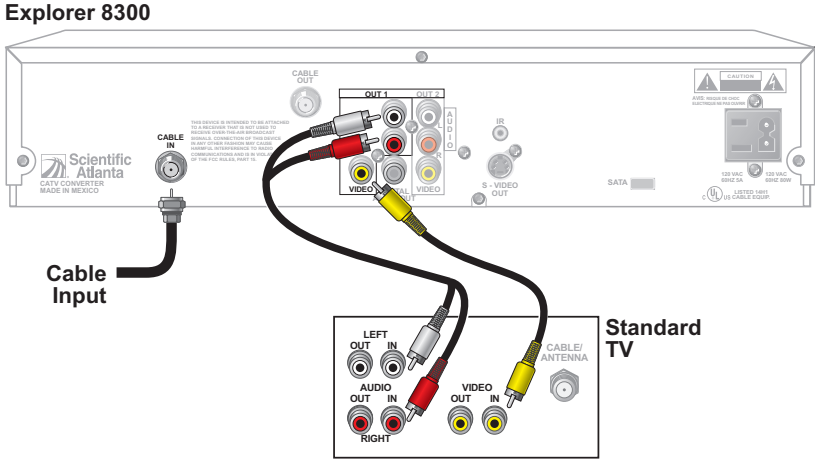
How Do I Set Up Stereo Sound?

To set up stereo sound, choose one of the following options:

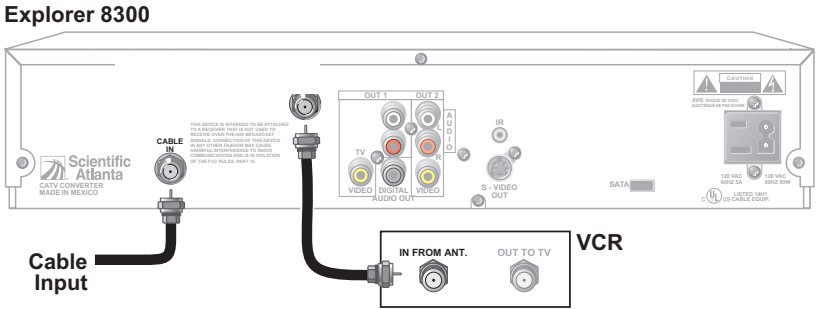
- Connect an RCA cable from the DIGITAL AUDIO OUT on the 8300 to the DIGITAL AUDIO IN on your TV (if equipped) or stereo receiver.
- Connect stereo audio cables from the AUDIO OUT LEFT and RIGHT connectors on the 8300 to the AUDIO IN LEFT and RIGHT connectors on your TV.

Connecting the 8300 to Your TV and VCR

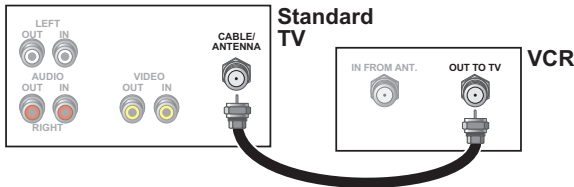
- 1 Connect the 8300 to the TV.



- 2 Connect the 8300 to the VCR.



- 3 Connect the TV to the VCR.

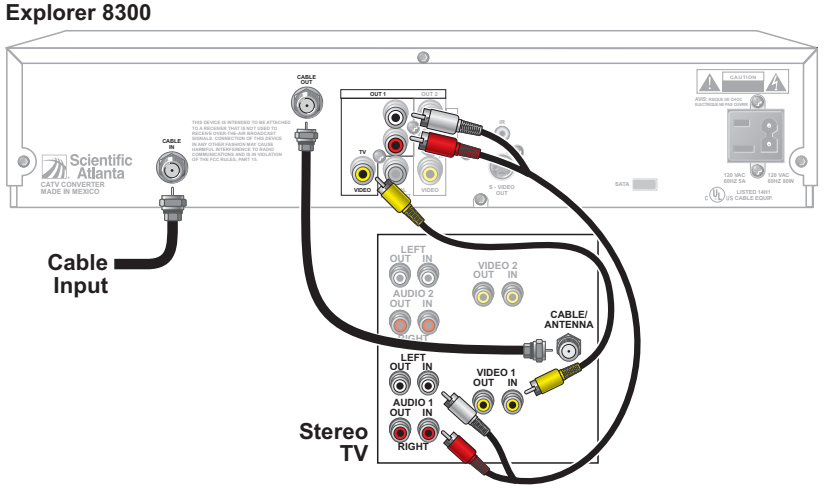


WARNING:
Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300.

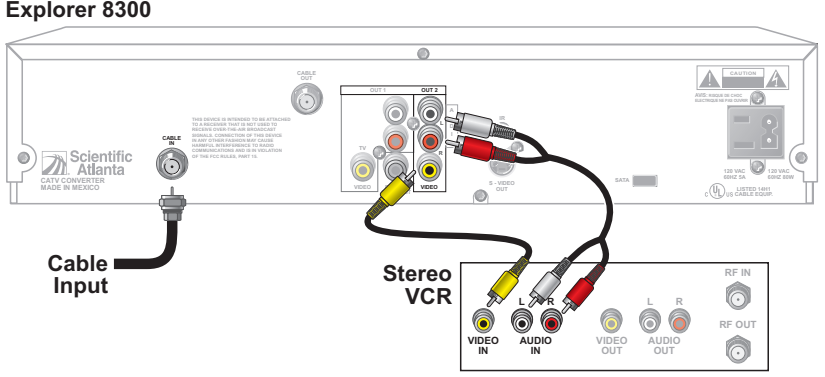
T11327

Connecting the 8300 to Your Stereo TV and Stereo VCR

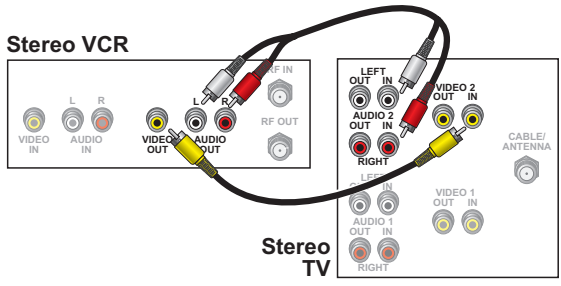
1
Connect the 8300 to the stereo TV.



2
Connect the 8300 to the stereo VCR.



3
Connect the stereo TV to the stereo VCR.

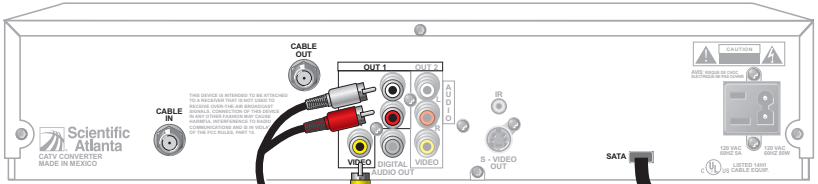


WARNING:
Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300.

Connecting the 8300 to Your Home Theater, Stereo TV, and External SATA Hard Disk Drive

1 Connect the 8300 to the Home Theater Receiver.

Explorer 8300



2 Connect the 8300 to the SATA hard disk drive.

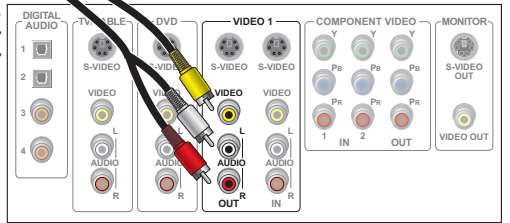
External SATA Hard Disk Drive



Notes:

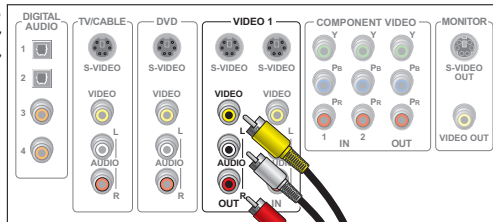
- Consult with your cable service provider for a list of approved external SATA hard disk drives that work with the 8300.
- External SATA hard disk drives allow for greater program storage capacity and are not meant to be used for archiving.

Home Theater Receiver

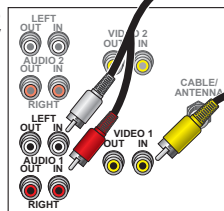



3 Connect the Home Theater Receiver to the stereo TV.

Home Theater Receiver



Stereo TV

















WARNING:
Electric shock hazard!
Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300.

Connecting the 8300HD to Entertainment Devices

Required Connections for an HDTV








When using the 8300HD with an HDTV, you must make *one* of the following connections to view the HD content. In addition, you can make connections to a VCR or other external recording device. You also have the option to make an SD connection from the 8300HD to an SDTV. See the tables and cabling diagrams in this section for more detailed information.

	8300HD Connector	HDTV Connector
<p>Some HDTVs have an HDMI or DVI connector. The HDMI connector provides both a digital video and audio connection. The DVI connector provides a digital video connection. The HDMI connector provides the optimal connection to an HDTV with either an HDMI input or a DVI input.</p> <p>If your HDTV has a DVI connector, you will need an HDMI-to-DVI adaptor, and you will need to connect a separate audio connection.</p>	<p>HDMI </p>	<p>HDMI </p> <p>or</p> <p>DVI </p>
<p>Most HDTVs have PrPbY connectors for component video inputs. When you set up the 8300HD in HD mode, the Y/V connector supplies the "Y" component of the component video. See the diagram on page 10 for an example.</p> <p>Refer to your DVR and HDTV user's guides to choose the proper scan rates (480i, 480p, 720p, 1080i) for your setup. See the Picture Formats section in this guide for more information on scan rate.</p>	<p>Pr </p> <p>Pb </p> <p>Y/V </p>	<p>Pr </p> <p>Pb </p> <p>Y </p>
<p>Some HDTVs have only RGB connectors. If you have one of these HDTVs, you need an RGB adaptor. Check with your cable service provider for information about acquiring an RGB adaptor, or you can purchase the adaptor at your local electronics supplier.</p>	<p>Adaptor Needed</p>	<p>R </p> <p>G </p> <p>B </p>

Note: You can stretch and zoom the displayed picture using the built-in capability of the 8300HD by pressing the # key on the remote control. Refer to your DVR user's guide for more information on this feature.

Optional Connections for a VCR















There are several brands and models of VCRs in the marketplace. The features and connectors are not the same on all brands and models. The following table describes the connectors commonly found on stereo VCRs and specifies the corresponding connector on the 8300HD that should be used.

	8300HD Connector	VCR Connector
<p>For VCRs that have a Video, Left, and Right connector, you can use the Out 2 connectors (Video, Left, and Right) on the 8300HD.</p>	<p>OUT 2</p> <p> L</p> <p> AUDIO</p> <p> R</p> <p> VIDEO</p>	<p> VIDEO IN</p> <p> L IN</p> <p> R IN</p>

Connecting the 8300HD to Entertainment Devices, continued

Required Connections for a Standard-Definition TV

When using the 8300HD with an SDTV, you must make *one* of the following connections to view content. There are several brands and models of SDTVs in the marketplace. The features and connectors are not the same on all brands and models. The following table describes the connectors commonly found on SDTVs and specifies the corresponding connector on the 8300HD that should be used.

	8300HD Connector	SDTV Connector
<p>Some SDTVs have PrPbY connectors for component video inputs. The connectors on the 8300HD function as follows depending on the mode of the 8300HD:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> When you set up the 8300HD in HD mode on an SDTV with a PrPbY input, the Y/V connector on the 8300HD supplies the Y portion for the PrPbY input on the SDTV. See the diagram on page 13 for an example. Refer to your TV's user's guide for more information on the scan rate that is supported. Refer to your DVR user's guide for more information on configuring the 8300HD for this setup. 	<p>Pr </p> <p>Pb </p> <p>Y/V </p>	<p>Pr </p> <p>Pb </p> <p>Y </p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> When you set up the 8300HD in SD mode, the Y/V connector on the 8300HD is configured as a composite video out connector (V). See the diagram on page 13 for an example. 	<p>Pr </p> <p>Pb </p> <p>Y/V </p>	<p></p> <p>VIDEO IN</p>
<p>The S-Video Out connection provides an optimal video connection to standard-definition TVs. This connector remains active regardless of whether the 8300HD is in SD or HD mode.</p>	<p></p> <p>S-VIDEO OUT</p>	<p></p> <p>S-VIDEO IN</p>
<p>The Cable Out connector provides a video and audio connection to a VCR or SDTV. This connector remains active regardless of whether the 8300HD is in SD or HD mode.</p>	<p></p> <p>CABLE OUT</p>	<p></p> <p>CABLE IN/ANT IN</p>

Setting Up Your Explorer 8300HD With an SDTV

If you have an SDTV, you must first connect the 8300HD to your SDTV following the guidelines in the section **Required Connections for a Standard-Definition TV** on this page. You may also reference the diagram on page 13.

Follow these steps to set up the 8300HD to work with an SDTV:

1. Make sure that the 8300HD is **Off** and the TV is **On**.
2. On the 8300HD, press **Guide** and **Info** at the same time.
3. Follow the on-screen instructions to choose the **SD** mode.
4. Press **POWER** to begin watching television.

Connecting the 8300HD to Entertainment Devices, continued

Where Are the Connection Diagrams?

The diagrams on the following pages show examples of common ways to connect the 8300HD to your HDTV, DVD, and home theater receiver. However, these diagrams do not show every possible combination of devices. Refer to the user's guides that came with your other electronic devices for further information.

What Cables Do I Need?

Some of the cables and adaptors shown in the diagrams may not be included with the 8300HD. The required cables are shown in the connection diagrams on the following pages.

How Do I Connect the 8300HD to My TV and Other Entertainment Devices?

When you are ready to connect the 8300HD and to choose the screen type for your TV, follow these instructions.

1. Make sure that all electrical devices are powered off before connecting the 8300HD to avoid electrical shock.
2. Connect the 8300HD to your HDTV, DVD, and other entertainment devices as shown in the diagrams on the following pages. (The diagrams in this guide do not cover every possible combination.)
3. Connect the 8300HD to the coaxial cable coming from the wall.
4. Plug the 8300HD and the TV into an AC power source.
5. Do *not* turn on the 8300HD or HDTV yet.
6. It may take several minutes for the 8300HD to receive the latest software, programming, and service information. When the front panel displays the time or four dashes, the update is complete.

Wait until you see one of the following displays on the front of the 8300HD:

- Current time
- Four dashes (- - - -)

Note: If four dashes are displayed, you must call your cable service provider to get the 8300HD authorized.

7. After the update is complete, turn on the TV and the 8300HD.

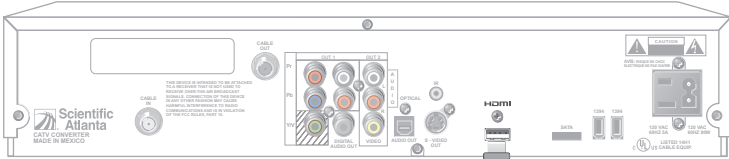
How Do I Set Up Stereo Sound?

To set up stereo sound, choose one of the following options:

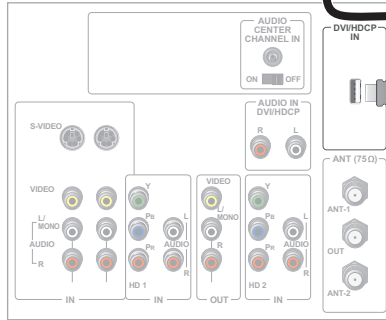
- Connect an RCA cable from the DIGITAL AUDIO OUT on the 8300HD to the DIGITAL AUDIO IN on your HDTV or stereo receiver.
- Connect an optical digital audio cable from the OPTICAL AUDIO OUT on the 8300HD to the OPTICAL AUDIO IN on your HDTV (if equipped) or stereo receiver.
- Connect stereo audio cables from the AUDIO OUT LEFT and RIGHT connectors on the 8300HD to the AUDIO IN LEFT and RIGHT connectors on your HDTV.

Connecting the 8300HD to an HDTV With an HDMI Connector

Explorer 8300HD DVR



Back of HDTV



T11211

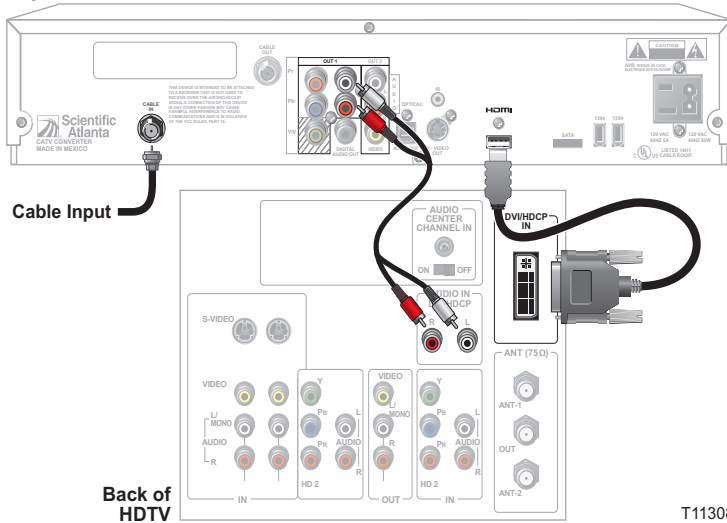


WARNING:

Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

Connecting the 8300HD to an HDTV With a DVI Connector

Explorer 8300HD DVR



Note: When connecting the HDMI connector to the HDTV's DVI connector, you need an HDMI-to-DVI adaptor, and you need a separate audio connection.

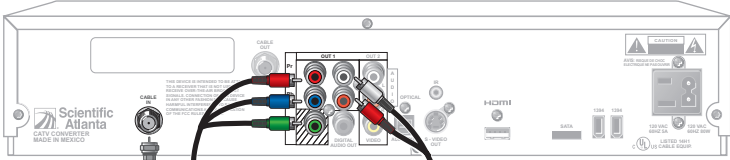


WARNING:

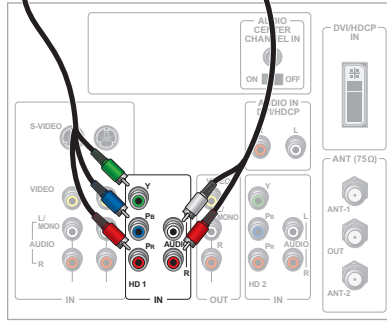
Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

Connecting the 8300HD to an HDTV With Component Input (PrPbY)

Explorer 8300HD DVR



Cable Input



Back of HDTV

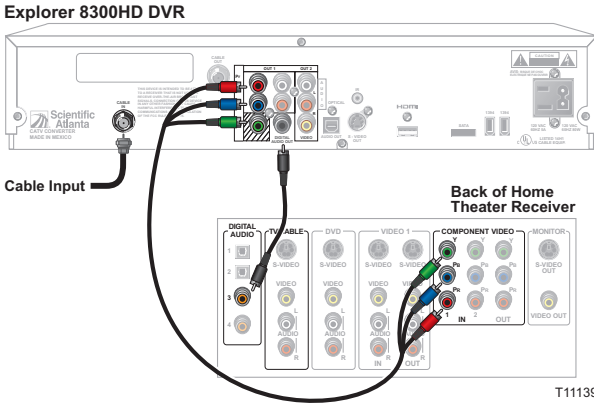
T11140



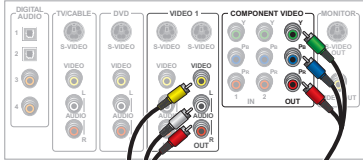
WARNING:

Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

Connecting the 8300HD to a Home Theater System With Component Input (PrPbY)



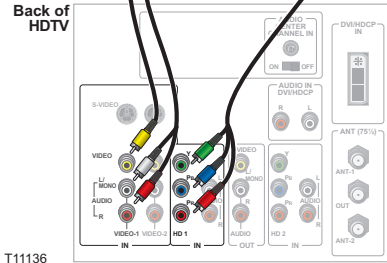
Back of Home Theater Receiver



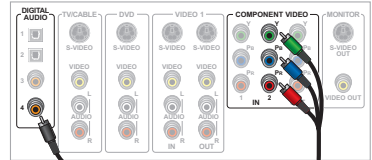
WARNING:

Electric shock hazard! Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

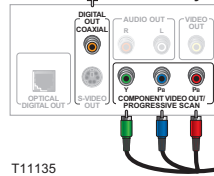
Back of HDTV



Back of Home Theater Receiver



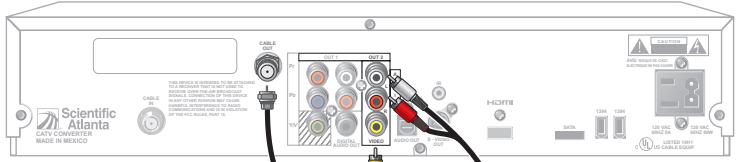
Back of DVD Player



Note: This connection assumes that audio is provided by the home theater speakers.

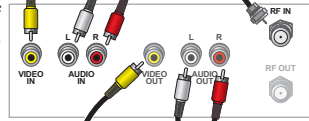
Connecting the 8300HD to a Stereo VCR and HDTV (optional)

Explorer 8300HD DVR

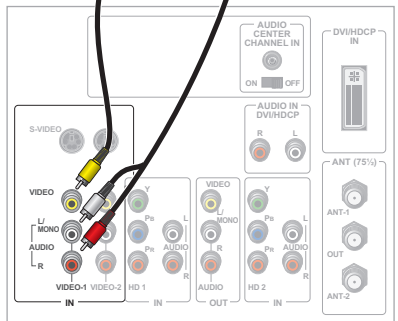


Note: This connection allows for archiving to the VCR and for watching VCR tapes on your HDTV. To watch HD content, one of the other connections required for HD content is needed. See the previous diagrams.

Back of Stereo VCR



Back of HDTV



T11332

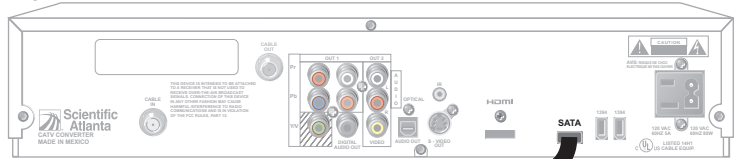


WARNING:

Electric shock hazard!
Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

Connecting the 8300HD to an External SATA Hard Disk Drive (optional)

Explorer 8300HD DVR



Notes:

- Consult with your cable service provider for a list of approved external SATA hard disk drives that work with the 8300HD.
- External SATA hard disk drives allow for greater program storage capacity and are not meant to be used for archiving.

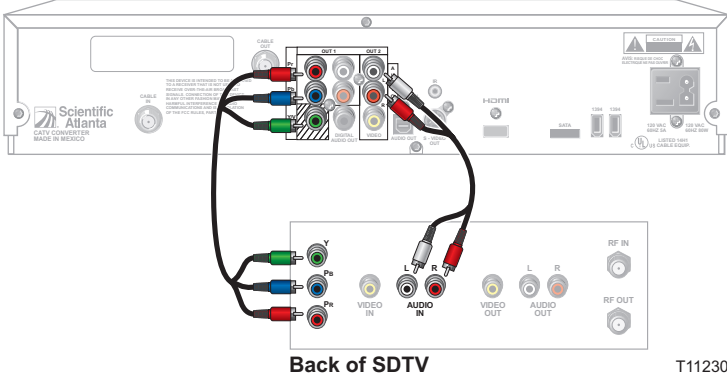
External SATA Hard Disk Drive




T11209

Connecting the 8300HD in HD Mode to an SDTV With Component Input (PrPbY)

Explorer 8300HD DVR Set to HD Mode

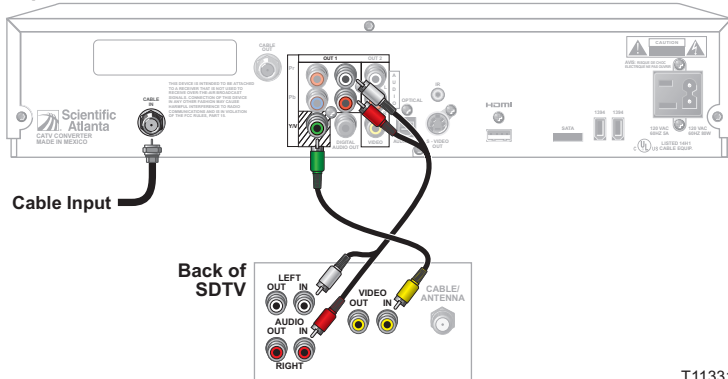


Note: The 8300HD must be set to the proper output mode, typically 480i.

 **WARNING:**
Electric shock hazard!
Unplug all electronic devices before connecting or disconnecting any device cables to the 8300HD.

Connecting the 8300HD in SD Mode to an SDTV

Explorer 8300HD DVR Set to SD Mode



Note: Refer to Required Connections for a Standard-Definition TV on page 6 regarding setting the 8300HD to SD mode.

