



# Users Guide

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# Introduction

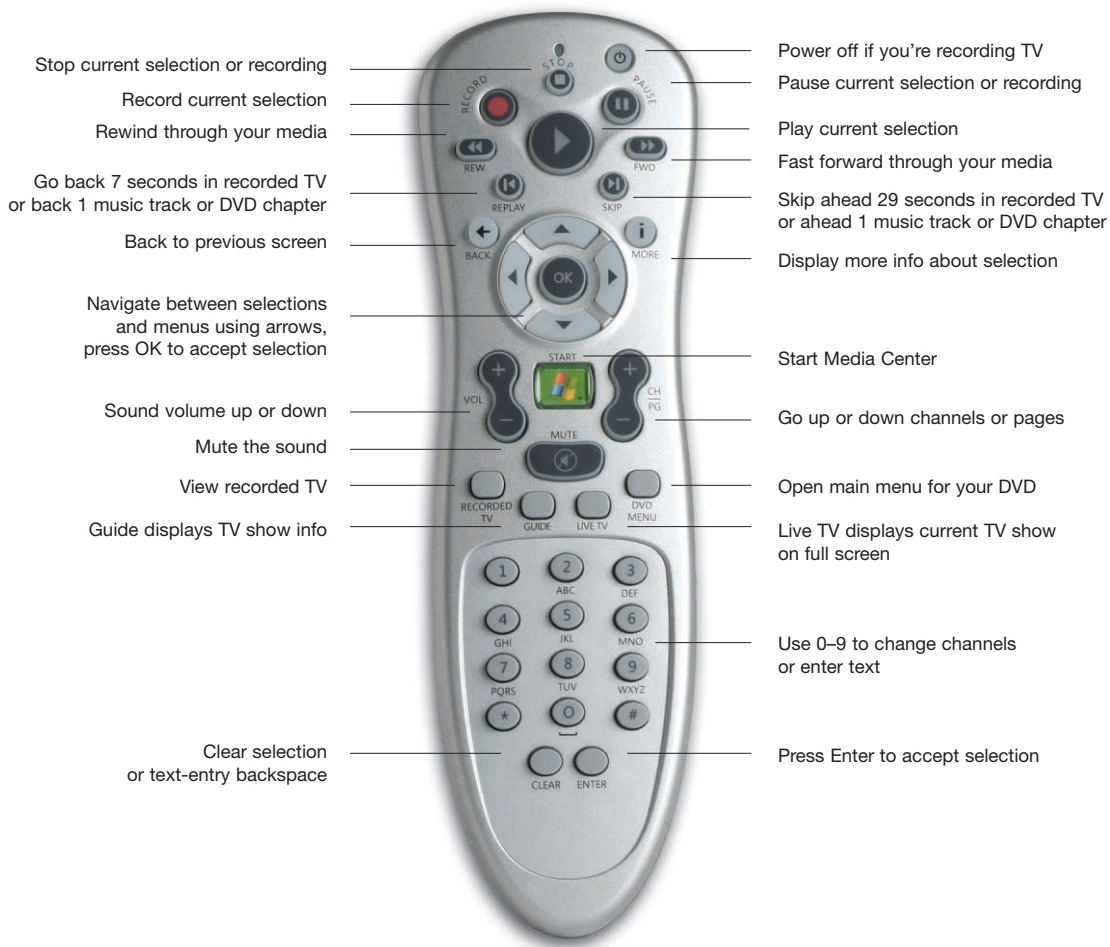
## Welcome to Your Stack9 Digital Media System

Welcome to your new Stack9 Digital Media System. Your new system is designed to please a discerning video and audiophile, while maintaining the simplicity that appeals to even casual users.

Your integrated, easy-to-use system puts your entire digital library at your fingertips and allows you to manage your digital movies, music, photos, CDs, DVDs, downloadable audio, TV, cable, and satellite programming from a single remote.

With additional accessories, you can use your Stack9 system to automate house functions like lighting and climate control for the ultimate in convenience. Optional extender technology enables distribution of digital content throughout your home or business.

Access to services like downloading movies for viewing on your schedule, and convenient web browsing from your remote control, is performed through simple-to-use and intuitive menus. Stack9's revolutionary combination of technologies provides you with the ultimate in digital entertainment.



Stack9 Remote Control

# Setting Up

## Connecting Your System

Before turning on your Stack9 Digital Media System for the first time, you need to spend a few minutes connecting the system to your television, audio system, Internet, cable or satellite TV system, and so on.

Follow the instructions on the separate Connection Guide.

## Configuring Your Hardware Connections

Before using your Stack9 Digital Media System for the first time, you also need to spend a few minutes setting up Media Center.

The set up wizard guides you through the process of recognizing and configuring all your hardware connections, including your Internet connection. An Internet connection is required to display Program Guide listings, as well as information on DVDs, movies, and music. The wizard prompts you to enter details about your Internet connection, such as your Internet host and password.

Respond to the on-screen prompts to proceed through the set up wizard.



## Setting Up Your Television

As part of your initial set up, you also need to configure your TV to work with Media Center. Respond to the on-screen prompts to continue through the set up wizard.

### Television set up includes:

- Specifying the country and region where you live
- Configuring a standard or digital TV signal
- Downloading current TV program listings
- Adjusting TV antenna and channel choices
- Setting up an optional set-top controller box
- Configuring a TV tuner and picture quality
- Customizing the Program Guide
- Editing channels
- Specifying parental controls
- Setting TV audio and closed caption options



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**Note:** You can change your hardware and software settings once you're done. Use Media Center's Settings menu to revise your settings.

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# Using Your Stack 9 System

## Getting Started

Your Stack9 system is simple to use. Using a Stack9 remote control and the on-screen menu shown below, you can easily manage your digital lifestyle – right from your favorite chair.



From the Media Center main menu, select:

<b>My TV</b>	View or record television programs
<b>My Music</b>	Listen to your favorite music
<b>Radio</b>	Listen to FM radio
<b>More Programs</b>	Access games and other programs
<b>Settings</b>	Access Media Center settings
<b>Play DVD</b>	View a DVD
<b>Online Spotlight</b>	Visit other vendors & service providers
<b>My Videos</b>	View videos that you have installed
<b>My Pictures</b>	View your digital photos

## Using My TV

Your Stack9 system lets you watch live or recorded TV. You also have access to detailed information about movies and TV shows.

### Watching Live TV

#### To watch live TV:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select My TV.
- 2 Specify a channel using the remote control. Press the plus or minus channel buttons, or enter a channel number.
- 3 To temporarily pause live TV, press Pause; press Pause again to resume watching.

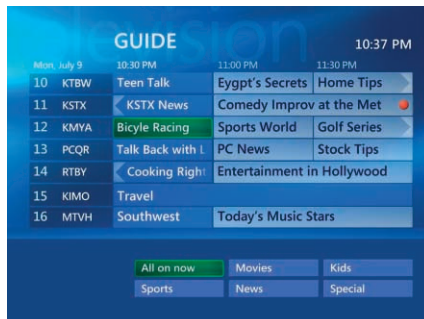
### Using the Program Guide

Media Center provides detailed TV program and movie information, which is updated using your Internet connection.

If you select a Pay-Per-View show from the Program Guide, you are prompted to complete the Pay-Per-View order before the show is displayed. This may require using the set top box's remote control.

#### To use the Program Guide:

- 1 Press Guide on the remote control.
- 2 When the Program Guide appears, press the navigation arrows to display the desired program information.

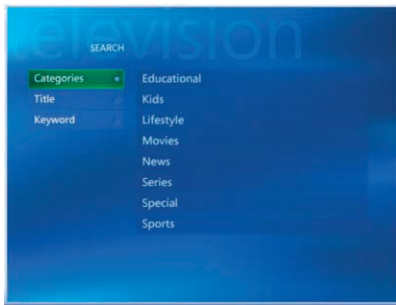


## Searching for Programs

You can search for TV programs by category, by title, or by using keywords such as movies, news, or sports. Use the keyboard or text entry from the remote control to enter detailed search criteria.

### To search for programs:

- 1 From the My TV submenu, select Search.
- 2 Enter search criteria using the remote control or keyboard.



## Using Dual Tuners

The Stack9 9300 and 9500 systems include two TV tuners. If you have a model with two tuners, you can:

- Watch a TV show on one channel while recording another show on a different channel
- Record two different programs at the same time

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**Note:** To use these features, both TV sources must be the same type, such as basic cable TV connected to each tuner using a signal splitter, or a premium TV service connected through two set top boxes. Both sources must also have an identical line-up of channels.

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## Recording My TV

Your Stack9 system includes sophisticated TV recording and playback features. Recordings are stored on the system's hard disc, giving you quick, convenient access to your recordings. You can then copy saved shows to a CD or DVD.

Using the Program Guide, you can select one TV show for recording, or select the entire series of shows. You can also use the guide to schedule recording ahead of time. If any scheduling conflicts exist, you are alerted about the conflict and given a choice of which show to record.

### To record TV shows:

- 1 Select My TV, and then select Recorded TV.
- 2 Select Add Recording.
- 3 Do one of the following:
  - To use the Program Guide, select Guide. Use the guide to specify the desired show.
  - To search for a show, select Search. Select a show using a search by Category, Title, or Keyword.

### To playback recorded TV shows:

- 1 Select My TV, and then select Recorded TV.
- 2 Select a submenu choice to view the saved programs sorted by either date or title.
- 3 Select the show you want to watch.

## Managing Recording Settings

Use Media Center to manage your recording settings. For example, specify how long to keep saved shows to maintain free disc space. Or specify default settings used for recording most shows.

Refer to Media Center's online help for more information on using advanced features, such as managing your recording settings.

## Listening to My Music

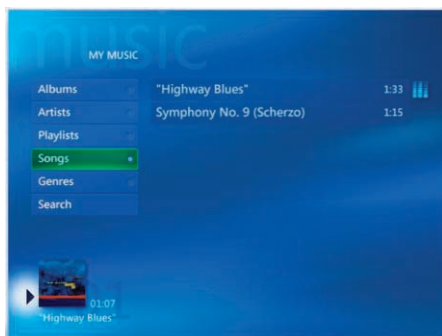
Your Stack9 system lets you listen to your favorite music, either from FM radio, music CDs, or from your online music collection. Media Centers supports many popular audio formats, including CD, Windows Media audio, Windows audio, and MP3 files.

## Listening to Recorded Music

You can save and playback audio recordings, and categorize your music collection by Albums, Artists, Playlists, Songs, and musical Genres. You can also search for saved songs.

### To list and playback recorded music:

- 1 From the My Music menu, select how to list your music. For example, select Songs.
- 2 Make a selection from the listing.



### To add recorded music to your media collection:

- 1 Copy the music to your Stack9 system.
- 2 From any My Music screen, press Info on the remote control. Then select Add Music.
- 3 Select Add folders, and Next.
- 4 Specify the location where the music was copied, then select Finish.

## Playing or Copying Music CDs

Use your Stack9 system to play or copy music CDs. When you play CDs, you also have the option to add them to your media collection.

### To play music CDs:

- 1 Insert a music CD.
- 2 Follow the on-screen instructions. For example, select whether to add the CD to your online media collection.

### To copy music CDs:

- 1 Press Start on the Remote Control to open Media Center.
- 2 Insert a music CD.
- 3 From the Media Center main menu, select My Music.  
If prompted to add music, select No.
- 4 Select the thumbnail for the music CD.
- 5 Press Info on the remote control to display a submenu.
- 6 Select Copy CD.
- 7 Follow the on-screen instructions. For example, the wizard will prompt whether to add copy protection, and so on.

## Listening to Radio

Use Media Center to tune into your favorite stations, which can be saved as presets for quick recall. You can pause, play, stop, and skip forward or back.

### To listen to radio:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select Radio.
- 2 Choose a station by doing one of the following:
  - Enter a station number, or use the plus or minus buttons to seek or tune a station. As shown following, select Save to include the station as one of your presets.
  - Press the number matching one of your presets.



### To manage radio presets:

- 1 From the Radio menu, press Info on the remote control.
- 2 Select Settings, then select Radio.
- 3 Modify the presets:
  - To modify the on-screen display order, use the up and down arrow buttons on screen.
  - To sort the presets in order, select Auto Sort. The sort order toggles between ascending and descending.
  - To delete a preset, select the adjacent X button, then OK.

## Visualizing Music

Choose the Visualize feature to have Media Center create colorful abstract images on screen to accompany your music.

You can alter the visualization display by choosing from a variety of options. For example, you can select different designs, as well as specify whether to also display information about the music tracks.

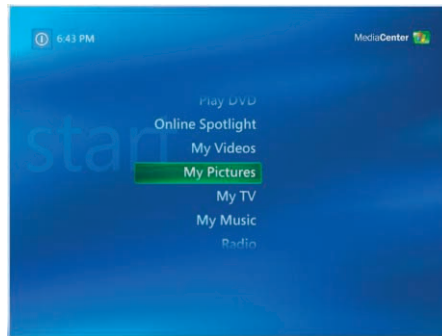
### To visualize music:

- 1 From any My Music screen, press Info on the remote.
- 2 Select Settings, then Music.
- 3 Select Visualizations and change settings as desired.

## Using Personal Media Collections

In addition to simplifying your collection of commercial TV and audio recordings, you can use your Stack9 system to organize and display your personal digital media collections.

Using Media Center, you can save and play your personal photos and videos. Let your Stack9 system be the convenient centerpiece of your digital lifestyle.



### Playing My Pictures

Use Media Center to store, organize, touch up, and display all your favorite digital pictures. Sort all your pictures by name or by date. You can display individual photos, or play an entertaining slideshow with animated transitions between images.

Media Center supports most popular digital photo formats, including JPEG (.jpg or .jpeg), TIFF (.tif or .tiff), GIF (.gif), Windows Bitmap (.bmp), Windows Metafile (.wmf) or Enhanced Metafile (.emf), and Portable Network Graphics (.png) files.

Once you have added pictures to your personal media collection, you can enjoy and share them in many ways. For example, pictures can be saved to disc for sharing.



## Adding My Pictures

Media Center automatically displays images that are stored in the default locations for your Shared Pictures or My Pictures folders. You can add pictures stored anywhere elsewhere on your system that you can access.

### To add My Pictures:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select My Pictures.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control, then select Add Pictures.
- 3 Select Add Folders, then Next.
- 4 Navigate to the desired folder.
- 5 With the folder of photos selected, select Finish.



You can also view images stored on removable media or WIA compliant digital cameras.

When you insert digital media, or connect a camera to your system, Media Center prompts you to specify what to do. For example, if you insert a digital media card or a multimedia disc, you can specify View Pictures to display small thumbnails of the images.

Media Center supports many popular digital camera media formats. Some Stack9 systems also include a built-in media reader that accepts media formats including Compact Flash I/II, Memory Stick, Microdrives, Secure Digital (SD)/Multi-Media, or Smart Media.

## Using My Pictures

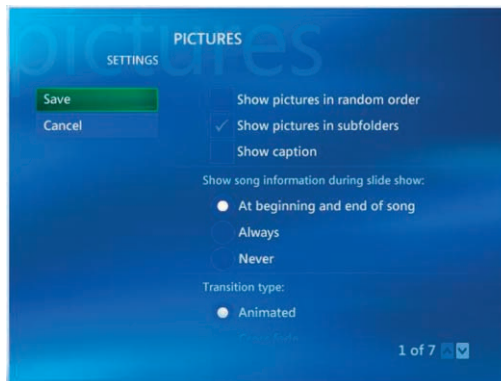
Display pictures individually, in albums, or in slideshows. You can also touch up photos to fix red eye, or to improve image contrast or cropping. Save and share pictures by printing or copying them.

### To display My Pictures:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select My Pictures.
- 2 Specify how to display pictures:
  - Select one picture in the right pane, then press OK.
  - Select a picture album in the right pane, then specify whether to Sort by Name or Sort by Date.
  - Select a picture album in the right pane, then select Play Slide Show in the left pane.

### To customize slide show settings:

- 1 From the My Pictures menu, press Info on the remote.
- 2 Select Settings, then Pictures.
- 3 Customize settings as desired. For example, select Show pictures in subfolders, or select animated transitions.



### To touch up photos:

- 1 From My Pictures, select a photo for retouching.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control.
- 3 Select Picture Details, then Touch Up.
- 4 Specify how to touch up the photo.
- 5 Save the improved photo.

### To delete photos:

- 1 From My Pictures, select a photo to delete.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control.
- 3 Select Picture Details, then Delete.
- 4 When prompted to confirm, select Yes.

### To print photos:

- 1 From My Pictures, select a photo for printing.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control.
- 3 Select Picture Details, then Print.



### To copy pictures to a CD or DVD:

- 1 From the My Pictures menu, select a folder to copy.
- 2 Select Create CD or Create DVD in the left pane.
- 3 Specify the correct disc format, name the disc, select OK.
- 4 Specify which pictures to include, as shown above.
- 5 Select Create CD or Create DVD.
- 6 When prompted to create the disc, select Yes.

## Playing My Videos

Use Media Center to store, organize, and playback all your favorite digital home movies and videos.

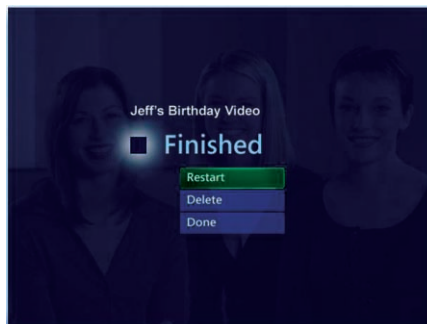
Media Center supports many popular digital movie formats, including Windows Media Video (.wm, .asf, or .wmv), Audio/Video Interleaved (.avi), or Moving Picture Experts Group (.mpeg, .mpg, .mpe, .m1v, .mp2, or .mpv2) files. Media Center includes the codecs (compression/decompression) for all these formats by default. If you install more codecs, you may be able to play additional formats.

Once you have added videos to your personal media collection, you can enjoy and share them in many ways. For example, videos can be saved to disc for sharing or played on your Stack9 system.

### To play My Videos:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select My Videos.
- 2 Select one video in the right pane, then press OK.
- 3 Use the remote control buttons to:
  - Play or Pause
  - Fast Forward or Rewind
  - Skip or Replay

While a video is playing, press Info on the remote control to display more information about the video. When a video finishes playing, you have the option to Restart or Delete the video. To return to the listing of videos, select Done.



## Adding My Videos

Media Center automatically displays videos that are stored in the default locations for your Shared Videos or My Videos folders. You can add videos stored anywhere elsewhere on your system that you can access.

### To add My Videos:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select My Videos.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control, then select Add Videos.
- 3 Select Add folders, then Next.
- 4 Navigate to the desired folder.
- 5 With the folder of videos selected, select Finish.



You can also view video stored on removable media, such as multimedia discs. When you insert digital media, or connect a WIA compliant digital camera to your system, Media Center prompts you to specify what to do.

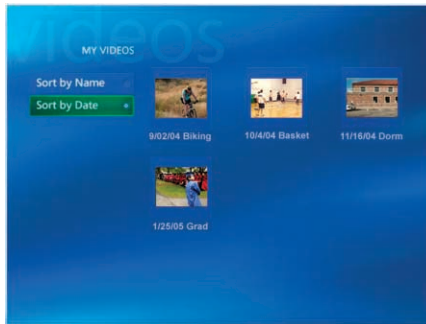
Media Center supports many popular digital camera media formats. Some Stack9 systems also include a built-in media reader that accepts media formats including Compact Flash I/II, Memory Stick, Microdrives, Secure Digital (SD)/Multi-Media, or Smart Media.

## Using My Videos

You can sort a folder of videos to make it easier to find the videos you want to play or delete. You can also save videos to disc for backup or for sharing.

### To sort your videos:

- 1 From My Videos, select a folder of videos for sorting.
- 2 Specify how to sort the videos in the folder:
  - Sort by Name
  - Sort by Date



### To delete videos:

- 1 From My Videos, select a video to delete.
- 2 Press Info on the remote control.
- 3 Select Video Details, then Delete.
- 4 When prompted to confirm, select Yes.

### To copy videos to CDs or DVDs:

- 1 From the My Videos menu, select a video to copy.
- 2 Select Create CD or Create DVD in the left pane.
- 3 Specify the correct disc format, name the disc, select OK.
- 4 Specify which videos to include.
- 5 Select Create CD or Create DVD.
- 6 When prompted to create the disc, select Yes.

## Using DVDs

Media Center includes all the features you expect for playing DVDs. From Media Center, press Info on the remote control to access the Settings option, which lets you manage the DVD language, close captioning, parental controls, and so forth.

## Playing DVDs

Use the remote control to play, pause, fast forward, rewind, or stop a DVD. When you stop a DVD, additional options become available, such as resume or eject. While a DVD is playing, you can press Info on the remote control to access more information.

### To play DVDs:

- 1 Insert a DVD into the DVD drive.
- 2 Choose how to play the DVD:
  - If Media Center is the default application program for DVDs, start Media Center and play the DVD.
  - If the default application is open, play the DVD in the default application.
  - If the default application is not open, but Media Center is open, play the DVD. If other media is playing, you may be prompted to switch to the DVD.

## Selecting the Default DVD Application

When the first DVD is inserted, you are prompted to specify which application to use for playback. Select an application from the list, and click OK. If you also select Always do the selected action, the same application is used for future DVD playback by default.

## Using More Programs or Online Services

Use Media Center to access More Programs on your Stack9 system, or to access vendor services from the Online Spotlight.

### Using More Programs

Visit the More Programs area to access other programs, such as games, that you have stored on your Stack9 system.

#### **To access More Programs:**

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select More Programs.
- 2 Select and open a program.

### Using Online Spotlight

Visit the Online Spotlight area to access services from other vendors that are available using your Stack9 system. For example, from this area you can access subscription news services. Or access an online vendor to download a movie – saving you a roundtrip to the video store.

#### **To access Online Spotlight:**

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select Online Spotlight.
- 2 Select and open a vendor service.

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***Note:** Additional fees may apply when using the Online Spotlight to contract services from outside vendors.*

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# Using Advanced Features

## Accessing More Menus and Choices

Context menus let you access additional choices from Media Center screens. These submenus let you conveniently make choices related to the prior screen.

### To access context menus:

- 1 From a Media Center screen, press Info on the remote control.
- 2 Make a selection.

## Getting Help

Media Center includes more detailed instructions on using both basic and advanced features. This Users Guide is designed solely to help get you started with your Stack9 system. For additional help, refer to Media Center's online help system.

### To open help:

- 1 From the Media Center main menu, select Settings.
- 2 Select Help.
- 3 Select the type of help you need. For example, select more information about recording TV or music.

If the online help system does not answer your questions, you may need to contact the Stack9 Technical Support Department. Customer support is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Mountain Time.

### To contact Stack9 technical support:

- E-mail: [support@stack9.com](mailto:support@stack9.com)
- Telephone: 303.339.6440



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