

BCD HDi-250 - Quick Start Guide

This short tutorial is designed to get you recording *Right Now*.

It does **not** cover all the options, just enough to get you going in the simplest way..

We will bypass some of the menu items in order to get started fast.

These instructions apply to Serial Numbers #2017 and above with Version v2.6e and above.

As of this writing, the latest version is v3.0-rc17 as of 17 April 2017.

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Connect Video Out

Connect your TV Monitor to **one** of the Video Out connectors (OUT is the bottom row):

- Composite Out is a single BNC connector
Use the RCA Audio Out connectors for audio.
- Component Out consists of 3 BNC connectors
Use the RCA Audio Out connectors for audio.
- HDMI Out is the lower HDMI connector on the rear, right.

(We like HDMI Out the best because it is a single cable for both video and audio, and it will display any video that the machine can record, regardless of the Input connector.)

Connect Video In

Connect your video source (camera/switcher) to one of the Video In connectors on the top row.

- Composite In is a single BNC connector
Use the RCA Audio In connectors for audio.
- Component In consists of 3 BNC connectors
Use the RCA Audio In connectors for audio.
- HDMI In is the upper HDMI connector on the rear, right.
HDMI Audio is usually embedded in the HDMI cable. In some cases, you may use separate audio via the RCA jacks. This is setable in the menus.

Startup

Turn it on: Press and release the Power button on the front right of the machine. Wait about 20 seconds, the BCD Logo will play from all of the video connections. The animated Logo is SD/Standard Definition, so it will play on any TV monitor.

During startup the front panel Vacuum Fluorescent Display (VFD) will show all the available features. This feature display will continue for a little while after the Logo has finished. The feature display will finish showing

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Ready

Auto Video Detect

→ **A new/reinstated feature is Video Auto Detect during Startup (4/14/2017)**

The system will automatically detect the video format of video connected to Composite, Component or HDMI. (The Composite connector is shared with the “Y” connector of the Component set. You will get false detection of composite if Component is connected.

→ Remember: **You should NOT have Composite and Component-Y connected at the same time.**

Press the blue Menu button and see

Main: Up For Help
Eject the Optical Disc

Press the white Down button to see

Record/Playback Target
-Internal HDD/Hard Disk

This is where you want the recordings to be saved.

E-E Loop Through
-E-E Loop Record Only

“E-E” means Electronics-to-Electronics: the video that comes in goes directly out without being recorded, i.e. “Loop Through Video”.

Other options are available with <- and -> arrow buttons - “E-E Always” and “E-E Stop/Record”.

(The “-” dash at the front of line #2 indicates a pre-saved default.)

Press Down to see

Video Output Connector
-HDMI and Composite Out

Change this using <- or -> only if you are using Component video out.
It always has HDMI Out but Component and Composite are selectable, not both.

Press Down to see

Video Standard You Use:
-All Of The Standards

Press Down to see

Detect Video Format
-On HDMI In

NOTE: You DO NOT have to do this. Auto-Detect has probably done it for you. This option is available in case you change your input cables.

(Arrow right to select **Composite In** or **Component In** if necessary.)

Press the Enter key for your chosen video input to detect the format of that video input.

- **Note:** The HDi can detect over 30 different formats, from 720x486 to 1920x1080i/p, PAL,NTSC,Computer and beyond.

Auto-Detect is far easier than hunting for a format that works.

Video detection takes only about a second. The front panel display will dim momentarily to indicate that something is happening.

That's it. Those six button presses make you ready to record to the Hard Disk Drive (HDD).

You can now press the Pause (II) button or the RECord button to engage E-E video loop-through.

Press REC once to engage E-E video loop-through

(The Pause button, "II" also toggles E-E loop-through)

Press REC once again to begin recording.

HOWEVER, we strongly encourage you to "arrow down" to the bottom of the menu (or "arrow up" to the top of the menu) until you see

Save/Load The Settings
Save As Your Default

Press the Enter key to save. This will save your settings so they will be ready the next time you turn it on. Otherwise, your settings will disappear when you power-off.

Recording

Press the red REC button once.

This puts the machine into “E-E” mode. Video coming in goes directly out.

Press REC a second time. The machine Records.

You can Pause recording by pressing the “II/Pause button. E-E video will continue, but recording will not. Press II/Pause again to resume.

Press Stop to stop recording

Playback

Press the green Play button. See the filenames appear on the front panel display, row #2.

Scroll <- & -> Right and Left to see more filenames.

Press Play when you see one you like.

SD/Standard Definition files will play through **all** the connectors.

HD/High Definition files will play through HDMI and Component connectors because Composite has limited resolution and cannot show HD.

You can Pause playback by pressing the “II” Pause button. Un-Pause by pressing Pause or Play.

Make a DVD-Video Disc

1. Record video to HDD, RAM, or USB drive
2. “Mark” the desired files. Press Play (to see the Play/File menu) and use <>arrows to see the filenames. Press Enter to mark a file you like. See the “+” to the left of the filename. Repeat for several files.
3. Put a blank DVD “-R” or “+R” or “+RW” disc into the DVD drive.
If your +RW disc has files, they will be erased after prompting,.
4. From the Play menu, press Down, then Right to see the options:
Copy to Optical Disc just copies the file as files to the optical disc
Make DVD-Video - No Menu. This disc just begins playing your first file.
Make DVD-Video - Text Menu. The filenames are listed in the upper left of the disc menu.
Make DVD-Video - Icon Menu. This is our favorite. It makes a Main Menu on the DVD with motion icons for file selection.
5. Press Enter to make your selection.
6. If the machine is in Stop mode, a slide will appear on the TV monitor to the effect of “Making DVD-Video Disc”.
7. Wait until the word “Done” appears on the front panel display and the slide “Done” appears on the TV monitor and on the front panel display..

8. The finished disc should eject.