

Pc video outputs

1 VGA. VGA is an old video output that was first introduced back in 1987 and became the standard PC video output during the 1990s. 2 DVI. ... 3 HDMI. ... 4 DisplayPort / Thunderbolt. ... 5 Fixing Overscan /...

The computer is one of the most versatile video players ever invented. It can play discs, various files or stream video from the web. There's little that isn't available on a PC, and if something is off limits it's usually due to DRM and not the hardware.

Yet the PC has always felt strangely isolated from other devices, including those that are designed to display video. Almost all computers have the ability to output video but the connections used can be confusing to the uninitiated.

This article will help you resolve any unfamiliarity by explaining all of the different output options, how they're used and their advantages. After that we'll briefly touch on how to resolve a couple common issues that arise when trying to display PC video on a HDTV.

VGA is an old video output that was first introduced back in 1987 and became the standard PC video output during the 1990s. It is a 15-pin connection that is often colored blue to distinguish it from other ports with pins.

You will still find VGA connections on many desktop PCs and on many HDTVs. Televisions sometimes refer to the VGA connection as a "PC input." Though developed during a time when resolutions were much lower this connection has the ability to display resolutions up to 2048x1536.

VGA output from your desktop or PC will often require that you enable an additional display connected this way by using Windows display properties. Some laptops include a button or keyboard function key that toggles VGA on or off.

Introduced in 1999, DVI took over for VGA as the PC video output of choice at the turn of the century. It was built to carry digital signals but it also had the ability to handle analog signals.

DVI was and still is incredibly common on desktop computers but it's not as common on laptops. It's also not that common on HDTVs, which tend to just offer a single VGA input instead of both VGA and DVI. Still, you can find it on some models. 1080p output is no problem unless you are attempting to connect a PC to an HDTV with a cable 15 feet long or shorter. Degradation of the signal can create problems with longer runs.

If you own a modern HDTV you almost certainly have HDMI inputs, and if you own a fairly recent desktop or laptop you probably have an HDMI output. This has become an incredibly popular standard for all sorts of

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devices capable of video input or output.

HDMI is a digital connection that can handle resolutions up to 1920x1200 (with versions earlier than 1.3) or up to 2560x1600 (with versions 1.3 and later). It is very much a plug-and-play solution. Your PC should be able to automatically detect and configure any display plugged in via HDMI.

Unlike earlier PC compatible outputs, HDMI also bundles in audio. For a few years this was problematic because PCs were built on the assumption that video and audio output would be handled separately by separate chips.

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