

Frequently Asked Questions

Audio Video

Audio Video:

Q1: What is Bit?

A1: Bit is the smallest unit of data. It is expressed in binary notation so that it is either 0 or 1, basically an 'off' or 'on' switch. The word 'bit' is an amalgam of 'binary' and 'digit'.

Q2: What is Built-in digital surround decoder?

A2: Built-in decoder means that you don't need a Dolby Digital or DTS processor - simply connect it to any multi-channel AMP for digital surround sound.

Q3: What is BONUSVIEW (Final Standard Profile)?

A3: It is an advanced function that creates a range of exciting and new entertainment possibilities. It opens the door to new functions such as Picture-in-Picture (which displays a second image in a sub window) and Audio Mixing (which lets you switch the sound between the main and sub windows).

* Actual functions vary depending on the Blu-ray disc media.

Q4: What is Coaxial cable?

A4: There are two types of cables and sockets used to connect digital audio equipment.

Optical cables: Use thin fiber optic leads.

Coaxial (or electrical) cables: Are thicker and the sockets look the same as conventional RCA connectors.

Arguably, coaxial digital cables offer better performance but optical ones can be easier to use and hide.

Q5: What is Codec (Compressor / De-Compressor)?

A5: It's a circuit or software module used to compress and/or decompress data. When an analog video signal is converted to a digital signal, the resulting digital data is massive 20MB per second. The codec is used to compress this data for recording (for example, to a memory card), and then to decompress it to its original form for playback.

Q6: What is the use of commercial skip?

A6: Commercial skip can be quickly edited out of recording for seamless and continuous playback of a program.

Q7: What is the component video?

A7: The video signal is separated into its component form i.e. red, green and blue (RGB). For television, the signal is modified and referred to as (YUV). It offers the highest quality of picture reproduction, especially from a DVD source. Component video input connections are usually three RCA photo-type plugs color coded red, green and blue. Often labeled Y, Pb, and Pr.

Q8: What is meant by data Compression?

A8: It's a process that uses an algorithm to reduce data volume while preserving the original data content. Compression is used to reduce the time required to send and receive data over a network, and to enable the recording of more data onto a memory card or other storage media.

Q9: What CCD stand for and use?

A9: CCD stands for (Charged Couple Device), the key image-processing component. It's a semiconductor chip which coordinates photo sensors (pixels) to turn a picture into electronic signals. Most cameras have 1 chip but the best is a 3CCD unit with is a chip for each color element (red, green and blue). The higher number of pixels is resulting better picture.

Q10: What is Panasonic Digital Signal Processing?

A10: Unique Panasonic digital signal processing technologies deliver true-to-life detail and color, with whiter whites, deeper blacks, and superb rendering of fine details such as individual strands of hair.

Q11: What is the effect of Digital Zoom?

A11: It increases the range of the optical zoom by electronically enlarging the image, bringing distant subjects up close.

Q12: What is Dolby Digital (5.1)?

A12: Dolby Digital is a form of digital audio coding which makes it possible to store and transmit high quality digital sound. This audio coding can be used for mono, stereo or multi-channel soundtracks. Dolby Digital 5.1 is a multi-channel system used by film producers to deliver five discrete (i.e. the signals for each channel are recorded independently), full range channels: front left, front right, front center, left surround and right surround. The .1 refers to the Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel which is purely for bass and is therefore not full range.

Q13: What is Dolby Pro Logic IIx?

A13: Dolby Pro Logic IIx lets you enjoy virtually any program- music, radio, TV, etc. - in surround sound. It converts any stereo or 5.1 sound signal into 6.1 or 7.1 channel output and creates a seamless, natural surround sound field. Dolby Pro Logic IIx also incorporates an exclusive Game mode that delivers full-impact special effects signals panned to the surrounds.

Q14: What is Dolby Pro-Logic II?

A14: Dolby's original Pro-Logic surround sound system developed in the 1980s used four channels - front left, front right, center and a mono rear. The rear channel's treble frequencies were also limited. Pro-Logic II is an enhanced version with full range stereo output and greatly improved steering logic. It can be used with any kind of stereo program - CDs, older film and TV material, games, etc. - to give surround sound effects.

Q15: What is DPI full form?

A15: DPI is abbreviation for "Dots per Inch." Indicates the resolution of a printer, scanner, or monitor. Refers to the number of dots in a one-inch (approx. 25.4-mm) line.

Q16: What is DPOF?

A16: Digital Print Order Format allows the user to mark their recorded still images with printing instructions, such as which photos they want to print and how many copies are required. This makes it easier to get prints made at a photo laboratory or to print them at home.

Q17: What is DTS (5.1)?

A17: Digital Theater Systems is an alternative digital audio coding system to Dolby Digital and offers high quality audio coding for digital movies, music, TV broadcasts, games, etc. The data rate is much higher than Dolby Digital so in theory it should provide a superior sound.

Q18: What is Dynamic Range?

A18: Dynamic range describes the ratio of the softest sound to the loudest sound in a musical instrument or piece of electronic equipment. This ratio is measured in decibels (abbreviated as DB) units. Dynamic range measurements are used in audio equipment to indicate a component's maximum output signal and to rate a system's noise floor. As a reference point, the dynamic range of human hearing, the difference between the softest sounds we can perceive and the loudest, is about 120 DB. Compressors, expanders, and noise gates are processing devices that are used in audio to alter the dynamic range of a given signal. This is done to achieve a more consistent sound when recording or as a special effect (by radically altering the dynamics of a sound, thereby creating a sound not possible from the original source).

Q19: What is EP Mode feature?

A19: Extended Play mode is a feature on a Panasonic DVD-RAM recorder. Can offer up to 12 hours of record time when used with a 4.7 Gigabyte blank disc.

Q20: What is 100Hz Super Digital Scan?

A20: A conventional PAL analogue TV set emits a signal at a frequency of 50 frames per second - 50Hz. Our eyes are sensitive to this frequency and at times 50Hz picture appears to flicker. 100Hz technology

digitally creates a replica of each frame and inserts it after the one before. This significantly reduces flicker. But it still does not produce a completely smooth picture (especially with fast motion video). Panasonic has therefore enhanced standard 100Hz technology with Advanced 100Hz Super Digital Scan and other unique picture enhancing features such as Acuity.

Q21: What is (2.35:1) ratio?

A21: Known as Cinemascope, this is the widest aspect ratio commonly used by movie-makers.

Q22: What is 2-channel Dolby Digital Recording?

A22: Panasonic DVD recorders can record Dolby Digital programmed material as two channel stereo.

Q23: What are the 2-way loudspeakers?

A23: Most loudspeakers have two drive units. The tweeter is the smaller unit and handles higher frequencies while the larger woofer is for middle to lower frequencies. The electronic circuitry inside the speaker features a crossover. This sends the signals from an amplifier to the appropriate drive unit - in a 2-way speaker, high frequency signals are sent to the tweeter and lower ones to the woofer. 3-way speakers also exist and you may come across speakers that have more than two drive units in each cabinet. But note, these speakers can only be described as 3-way if their crossovers filter and send signals three ways.

Q24: What is Bass Reflex?

A24: When a loudspeaker produces sound, volumes of air move around inside its cabinets. Big air shifts mean bigger bass. But smaller speakers do not have the physical dimensions to create trouser-flapping lower frequencies. This where a bass reflex port comes in. This is a vent which forces air out from inside the cabinet. Forcing air out in such as way can help smaller speaker enclosures deliver more impactful bass.

Q25: What is the Ethernet?

A25: Its interface used to connect computers and peripherals in a Local Area Network (LAN). Huge amounts of data can be transmitted quickly over Ethernet cables — up to 10,000,000 bits-per-second is possible. The latest Panasonic Hard Disk Recorders feature Ethernet connectors so that they can be incorporated in a LAN.

Q26: What is EX Surround?

A26: Films with Dolby Digital EX Surround have a third rear channel for more realistic effects, you get a better spread of sound behind you and this adds more realism. To take advantage of this 'back surround channel, you need a compatible processor and an extra speaker which is placed between the two at the back. DTS also has its version of EX called DTS-ES.

Q27: What is FireWire?

A27: It's a Popular interface standard for connecting PCs and peripheral devices. Allows 400-Mbps high-speed data transfer. "FireWire" is the name used by Apple Corporation and is identical to IEEE1394. It is also called "i. Link".

Q28: What are the benefits of HighMAT?

A28: Panasonic DVD players equipped with HighMAT (High-performance Media Access Technology - a joint development with Microsoft) can handle discs with a mixture of data (such as different types of picture and sound files) more quickly, smoothly and easily. HighMAT benefits include quicker disc start-up, rapid data access, and easier track navigation thanks to playlist menus.

Q29: What is HDD means?

A29: Hard Disk Drive. Although usually associated with computers, Panasonic's top-ranging DVD recorders also feature hard disks. Their enormous capacity can store huge amounts of video and images which can be archived or edited before transferring to a 'soft' disk such as a blank DVD-RAM or DVD-R.