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Package Contents

Inside the package that your Z500 came in, you will find the following items.

1. Power Cord
2. Wireless Network Antenna
3. Cat.5-UTP Ethernet Network Cable (Straight Through)
4. Z500 Remote Control with Batteries
5. Standard Composite A/V 3-in-1 cable (RCA connectors)
6. This User Manual
7. CD containing Media Server Software and Manual in PDF
8. Z500 High Definition Network DVD Media Player

Safety Precautions

Please note the following safety precautions.

- To avoid risk of electric shock, do not use or expose this player to wet or moist environments
- Do not place objects containing fluids above or on top of the player
- It is recommended to disconnect this device during electrical storms
- There are no user serviceable parts inside the player, all internal maintenance or servicing should be carried out by qualified service personnel authorised by Zensonic
- Do not insert objects into the ventilation slots on the player
- This player has a laser device inside, looking at a laser can seriously damage your eyes
- Place the unit in or on a safe and stable cabinet
- Avoid exposure to extreme heat, extreme cold or direct sunlight
- Do not drop the player, or subject it to strong shocks
- Unplug the unit and remove the remote control batteries if it is not to be used for a long time
- Do not place the unit near sources of strong magnetism
- Disconnect the power when cleaning
- Clean only with a damp cloth
- Keep the unit away from dust and sand
- If the unit is moved from a very cold environment to a warm one, or placed in a humid place, the laser lens may get moisture condensing on it, if so leave the unit powered on for about an hour for the moisture to evaporate
- Ensure that you use this device with a properly grounded power cord
- Do not place the player on top of heat sources (including amplifiers that get hot)
- Please ensure adequate ventilation around the player

Introduction

Congratulations and thankyou for purchasing the Z500 High Definition Network DVD Media Player.
This player is a state-of-the-art media and DVD player utilising the Sigma Designs EM8620L multimedia processor for unparalleled media playback and picture quality capabilities, and is powered by software by Sliceware.

The Zensonic Z500 networked digital media player gives users four connectivity options in one unit: wireless networking, Ethernet wired networking, optical disc playback and a USB 2.0 connection.

The Z500 not only supports High Definition media content, but also has the ability to up scale media content for playback on high definition TV's and screens, whilst also maintaining compatibility with standard definition TV's. (Up scaling of protected DVD content is only available via the HDMI™ interface to devices that are HDCP compliant)

The Z500 has unprecedented file format support including high definition Windows Media® Video 9 and MPEG4 playback

The Z500's music playback capability handles all the formats enthusiasts have longed for, including the high definition FLAC lossless compressed format, OGG, AAC (commonly used in Apple iTunes), MP3, Windows Media Audio 9 (including digitally rights managed WMA9*), CD Audio and others.

Video playback is also astonishingly comprehensive. The Z500 handles playback in Windows Media Video 9, XviD, Nero Digital™, MPEG-4, QuickTime MPEG-4, MPEG-2, MPEG-1, DVD, and other formats.

The Z500 is engineered from the ground up for high performance networking, with 100Mbit Ethernet and 54Mbit/s 802.11G wireless networking integrated.

The Internet is just a button away on the Z500, with instant access to features such as local weather and support for streaming Internet radio stations.

Included with the player are two options for media servers: TwonkyVision and Windows Media Connect. These programs make sorting and streaming digital media files from multiple PCs simple.
TwonkyVision supports Windows, Mac OSX and Linux.
SMB network shares can also be accessed via the Z500, for even greater network connectivity.

We are sure that you will enjoy your new player and that it will be an integral part of your home entertainment system.

* Firmware Upgrade required for Digital Rights Managed media

Important Notes

- Apple and iPod are trademarks of Apple Computer. iPod must be formatted for Windows, Nero Digital™ is a trademark of Nero Software. Microsoft, Windows, Windows XP and Windows Media are Trademarks of Microsoft Corporation. All other products and companies referred to herein are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective companies. HDMI, the HDMI logo and High-Definition Multimedia Interface are trademarks or registered trademarks of HDMI Licensing LLC.

- This product is covered by certain intellectual property rights of Microsoft and cannot be used or further distributed without a license from Microsoft.

- This product incorporates copyright protection technology that is protected by U.S. patents and other intellectual property rights. Use of this copyright protection technology must be authorized by Macrovision, and is intended for home and other limited viewing uses only unless otherwise authorized by Macrovision. Reverse engineering or disassembly is prohibited.

- This product is covered by certain intellectual property rights of Microsoft and cannot be used or further distributed without a license from Microsoft.

- AAC support does not include Apple Fairplay digitally rights managed AAC files. Mac formatted iPods are not compatible with the Zensonic Z500.

- 54Mbit/s is the theoretical maximum of the 802.11G wireless networking standard. Real life speeds vary depending on the environment and are typically around 20Mbit/s.
  If wireless networking reception is poor, users may need to reposition their wireless base station to achieve optimum media playback performance.

- Source files with Global Motion Compensation encoding applied cannot be played back at 1080i

- The Z500 player supports many types of file formats, but due to encoding differences, not all files may play.
  Please ensure that any files you wish to play on this player are properly encoded with settings that are compatible with the player.
  (e.g. do not use 3 warp point GMC, or other formats that the player does not support)

- A file extension on a file (such as .avi) does not mean that the data within that file is compatible with the player. Many file formats use similar file extensions, and it is not necessarily an indication of what the file encoding format contained in that file is.

- Product specifications and or features are subject to change without notice.

Specifications

1. **Audio Formats Supported**
    - MPEG 1 Layers I,II and III
    - WAV
    - CD Audio (With Freedb Support)
    - OGG Vorbis
    - FLAC
    - WMA
    - AAC

2. **Video Formats Supported**
    - MPEG-1, MPEG-2 MP@HL, MPEG-4
    - ASP@L5 (720p), WMV9 MP@ML (720p)
    - XviD
    - Nero Digital™
    - QuickTime with MPEG4 encoding. .MP4 extension
    - DVD ISO/IFO

3. **Picture Formats Supported**
    - JPG/JPEG2000
    - BMP
    - GIF
    - PNG

4. **Play lists Supported**
    - M3U
    - PLS
    - ASX

5. **Network Support**
    - Ethernet 10/100 Mbps
    - Wireless 802.11b/g
    - SMB support -- access Windows shares directly

6. **USB 2 device Support**
   (if the device appears as a mass storage device)
    - USB Thumb Drives
    - USB HDD Drives

7. **Internet Radio Support**
    - Integrated Internet Radio Player with preinstalled library of stations
    - Stations streaming MP3 or ASX are supported

8. Media Streaming Software

- TwonkyVision (Full Version)** and Windows Media Connect
- TwonkyVision supports Windows, MacOS X & Linux
- Share Pictures, Audio and Video Files
- UPnP enabled

9. DVD Player

- DVD-Video, SVCD, VCD 1.x and 2.0
- DVD-R/-RW/+R/+RW
- CD/-R/-RW

10. Extras

- Subtitle support - SRT, SMI, SSA formats
- Online Weather Panel
- HDCP Support
- Digital Rights Management: Windows Media DRM 10 *
- EL backlit remote
- Multi-purpose joystick for quick and easy navigation
- ID3 Tag and display on VFD panel on player
- Incremental Pan & Zoom (fine grained control of zoom)
- Firmware updates from OSD. Check for new updates.
- WEP encryption support on Wireless 802.11g (64 and 128 bit)

11. I/O

- SCART output
- HDMI™ output
- S-Video output
- Composite Video output
- Component output

12. Audio

- Stereo output
- Coaxial output
- Optical output
- Analog 5.1 output

13. Connectors

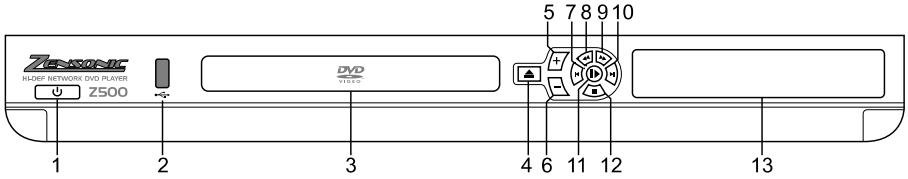
- 10/100 Ethernet
- USB 2.0
- Wireless 802.11g

14. TV Types

- NTSC (480i / 480p)
- PAL (576i / 576p)
- HDTV (720p50 / 720p60 / 1080i50 / 1080i60)

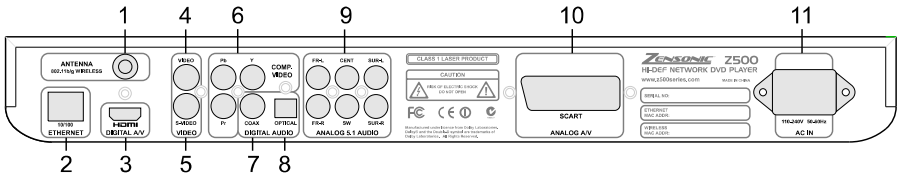
* Features will be available in a firmware update
** The bundled Twonkyvision software does not include free upgrades.
A discount voucher for upgrades is available.

Front Panel



1. Power Button
2. USB 2.0 Connector
3. Disc Tray
4. Eject Button
5. Volume Up
6. Volume Down
7. Previous Chapter / Item
8. Rewind
9. Forward
10. Next Chapter / Item
11. Play / Pause
12. Stop
13. Display Window

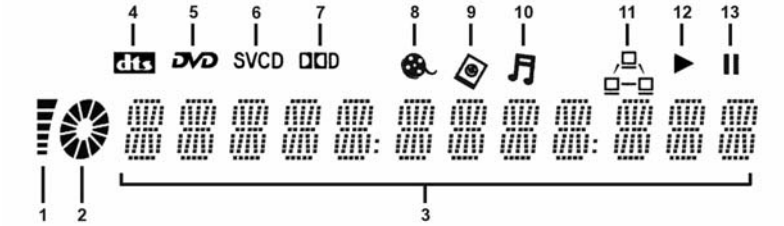
Rear Panel



1. Wireless Antenna Connector
2. Ethernet Network Connection
3. HDMI™ Digital A/V Output
4. CVBS Standard Composite Video Output
5. S-VIDEO Output
6. Component Video Output
7. Coaxial Digital Audio Output
8. Optical Digital Audio Output
9. Analog 5.1ch Audio Output
10. SCART A/V Output
11. IEC Power Input

Front Panel Display

The Z500 incorporates a Vacuum Fluorescent Display (VFD) that can display 12 characters of both Alpha and Numeric data.
This aids in such things as menu navigation, as well as the ability to display the currently playing file, current playing time etc.



1. 802.11 (Wireless) network signal strength
2. Disc indicator
3. 12 Digit Alpha-Numeric Display
4. DTS audio present
5. DVD disc present
6. SVCD or VCD disc present
7. Dolby Digital (AC3) audio
8. Video file playing
9. Image file playing
10. Audio file playing
11. Network connection to active network
12. Play indicator
13. Pause indicator

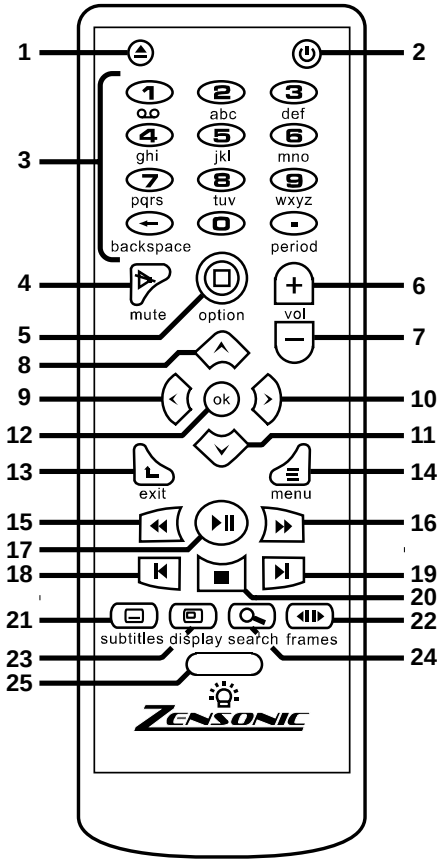
The front panel display will display the item that is currently selected on your display device (such as menu item, file name etc.)

This provides you with the ability to make file selections and to make settings changes without the user needing to have a display device (such as a TV) switched on.

You can select and play music and Internet radio using an external amplifier without having to turn on your screen.

You can also navigate the settings of the player (such as the video settings), without a display screen. This is very useful if you have accidentally set the player to a display mode that your display device does not support.

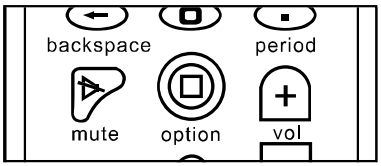
Remote Control



1. Eject Disc Tray
2. Standby On / Off
3. Alpha / Numeric Keyboard
4. Mute Sound
5. Joystick Option Selector
6. Volume Up
7. Volume Down
8. Up Arrow
9. Left Arrow
10. Right Arrow
11. Down Arrow
12. OK – Select Menu Option
13. Exit Current Screen
14. Go to Menu Screen
15. Rewind
16. Forward
17. Play / Pause
18. Previous Chapter / Item
19. Next Chapter / Item
20. Stop
21. Subtitle Selection
22. Slow Forward / Rewind
23. Display – toggle play time / filename display
24. Search – Time based seek function
25. Illuminate Remote Buttons

Remote Control - The Option Selector

On your Z500's remote control is a small joystick type controller for accessing many of the options that are available while using your Z500.



The advantage of having this stick controller is that it can perform different operations, depending on what the Z500 is doing at the time.

The option joystick controller has four directions of movement, as well as being a button that can be pressed to put you into the various options modes.

Some of the selections that the option button is used for include:

- adjust volume
- adjust brightness
- adjust contrast
- adjust colour saturation
- set zoom level
- select DVD angles (on DVDs with alternate angles)
- select subtitles
- select audio tracks
- adjust the pan and scan when the picture is zoomed

All of these things can be accessed just by clicking on the option selector.

Click the option button to get to the option you want, and then move the option stick left / right or up / down to make the changes.

Zooming and Panning with the option stick

Press the option button until you see the Zoom option, then press left or right to adjust the zoom level.
While zoomed in you can also pan the screen around to see the rest of the picture. Press the option button until you see the Pan option, then the option stick can be moved in all four directions to move the zoomed in section around.

Remote Control – Navigation

To navigate through the Z500's menu and through file selection, you can use either the option stick, or the arrow keys.

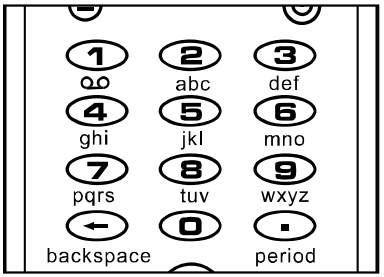
While in menu and file navigation mode, the option stick performs the same function as the up, down, left and right arrow keys.
Pressing down on the option stick performs the same as pressing the 'ok' button on the remote control. (That is, the item is selected).

If you are playing a DVD, then the option stick performs other functions, such as the zoom and colour controls as listed above.
For this reason, when navigating through DVD menus, you cannot use the option stick for menu selection, only the arrow keys and the 'ok' button can be used.

Remote Control - Entering Text

When using your Z500 remote control, there may be places in which you need to enter text.

The Z500 has incorporated an alpha-numeric style keypad so that you can enter text when needed.



Text is entered via the remote control in much the same way as you would enter text using a mobile phone keypad.
Keys need to be pressed multiple times to enter the letter corresponding to that key.
For example, to enter the letter "h", you would press the "4" button twice.

If you have a place to enter text while using your Z500, you would enter it the following way.

To enter the text "test 5", you would

- Press "8" once - "t" is displayed
- Press "3" twice - "e" is displayed
- Press "7" four times - "s" is displayed
- Press "8" once - "t" is displayed
- Press "1" once - a space is inserted
- Press "5" four times - "5" is displayed
- Press "OK" to accept the text

If you make a mistake at any point, you can use the "backspace" key to go back and correct your input.

You can also use the "exit" button to exit from an input screen without accepting the inputted text.

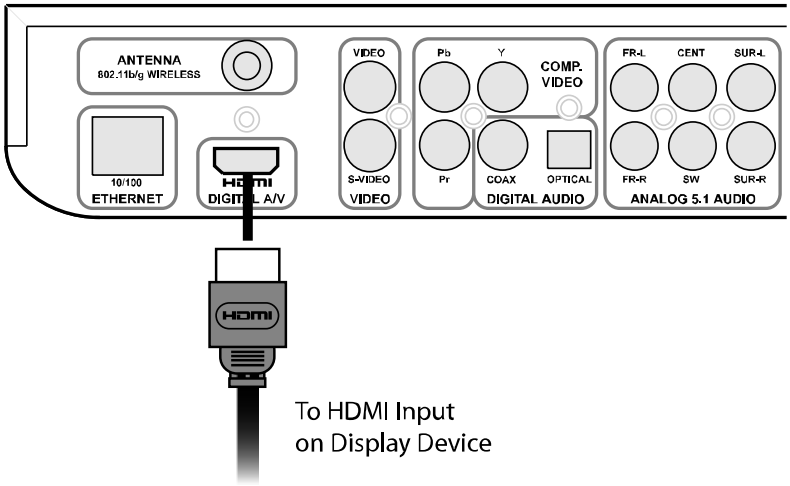
Connection Guide - Video

HDMI™

If your display device has a HDMI input, then for the best quality picture use the HDMI interface output on the Z500.
The HDMI connector transports the video and audio streams as digital data from the Z500 to your display device.

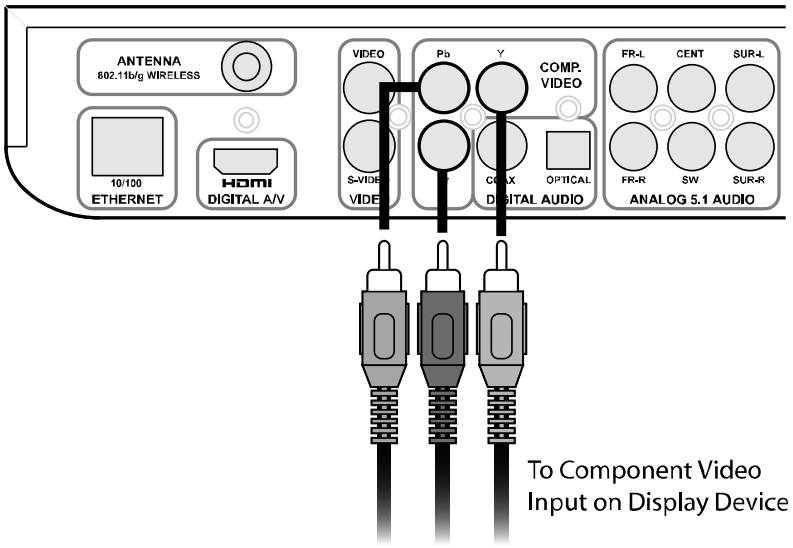
The HDMI interface is the only display output that will upscale protected DVD content for high resolution display. (Display device must be HDCP compliant to upscale protected DVD content)

With just one connector both high resolution video and audio can be delivered to your display device.



COMPONENT

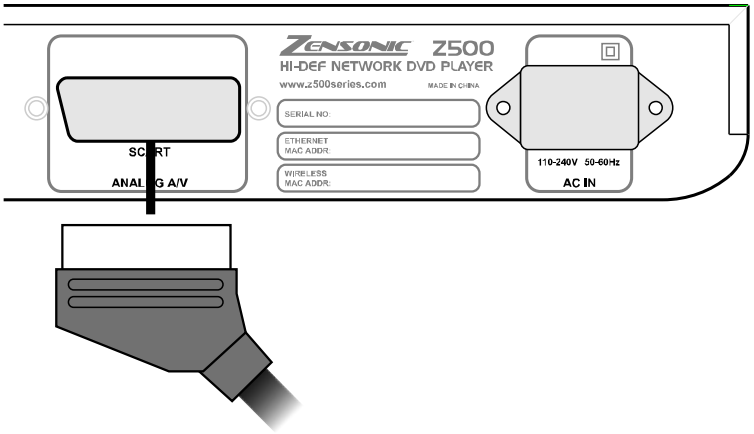
The next best video display output after HDMI is Component Video.
Component Video is an analog video format and can be either Progressive scan, or Interlaced.
Progressive Scan is the better of the output types, as every line on the display device is drawn one after the other. With Interlaced, every alternate line on the display is drawn on the first screen draw, and every other line is drawn on the next screen draw.
Component Video splits the colour and brightness video signals into three separate cables, giving a better picture quality.
If your display device supports Progressive Scan, then choose this as the picture will appear clearer, particularly with moving objects.
Both Progressive Scan and Interlaced Component output use the three plugs on the back of the player, marked as “COMP. VIDEO”.
Ensure that you match the colour coded cables with the colour coded connectors on both the back of the player and the inputs to your display device.



SCART

(Syndicat des Constructeurs d'Appareils Radiorécepteurs et Téléviseurs)

The SCART connector is a combined analog audio and video connector.

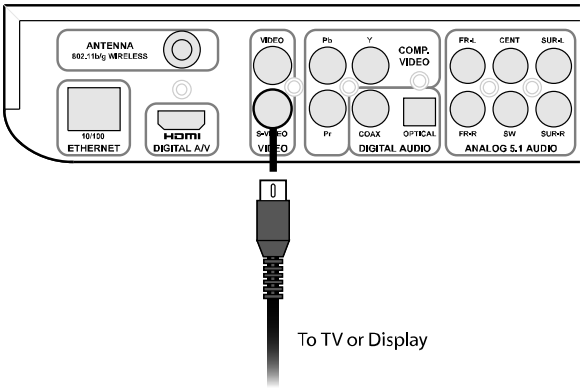


If you wish to use the SCART output on the Z500, plug your SCART plug into the SCART connector on the back of the Z500.
The SCART output on the Z500 supports RGB and component video outputs. For best results with SCART, it is recommended to use a SCART to SCART cable.

S-VIDEO

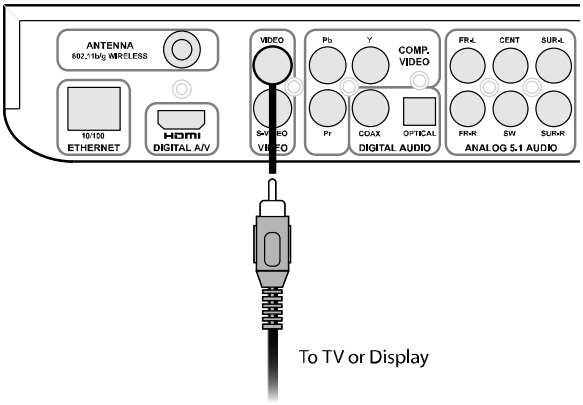
S-Video is a video format that works by separating the colour and brightness video signals into two parts, this results in less interference than you get with the two combined (as is the case with Composite video).

If your display device has only Composite or S-Video inputs, then for the best display results, it is recommended that you use the S-Video input.



COMPOSITE VIDEO

Composite Video is the standard video connector format.
It gets its name from the fact that all the colour and brightness video signals are combined and passed through a single cable.

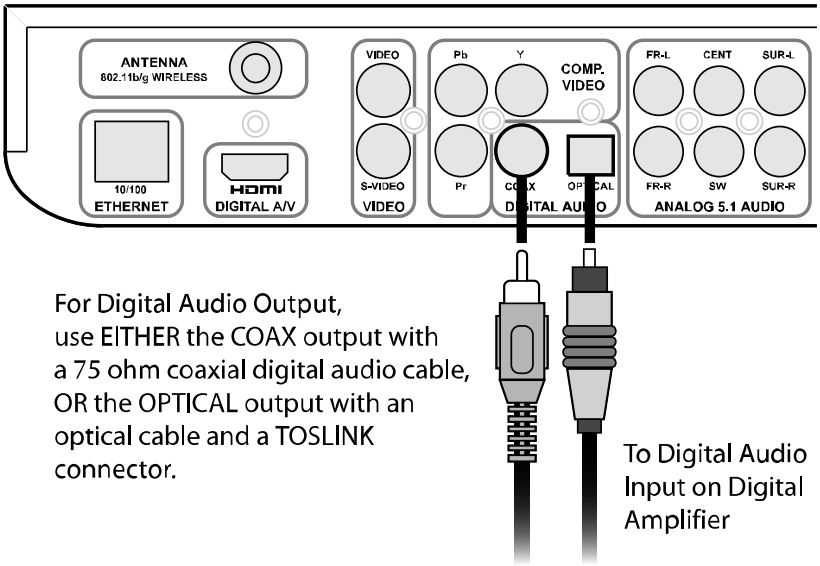


Connection Guide – Audio

DIGITAL AUDIO

The Z500 supports Digital Audio output via either Coaxial or Optical Digital Audio outputs on the rear of the player.
Digital audio can also be delivered via the HDMI interface.

If you have a Digital Audio Amplifier, supporting either Dolby Digital (AC3) or DTS decoding, then using either of the Digital Audio outputs will provide you with the best quality of sound to your amplifier.
With the Digital Audio outputs, the audio data is sent directly from the Z500 to your amplifier as a digital data stream, and this is then decoded by your amplifier with no loss of sound quality between the Z500 and your amplifier.

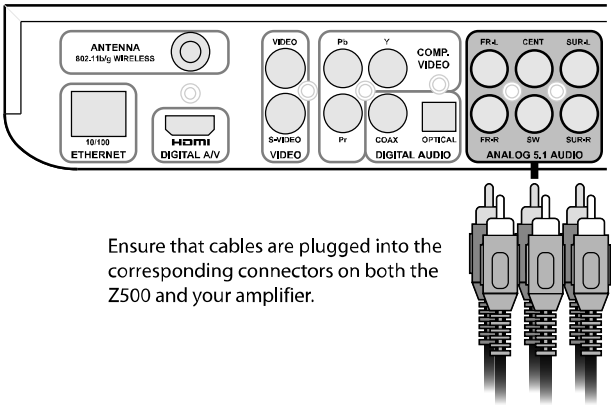


ANALOG 5.1CH AUDIO

The Z500 provides for 5.1 channel analog audio outputs for analog audio amplifiers that do not have digital audio inputs available.

The Z500 can decode Dolby Digital (AC3) and DTS audio and output it as 6 discrete audio channels to go to an amplifier that supports 5.1 channel inputs.

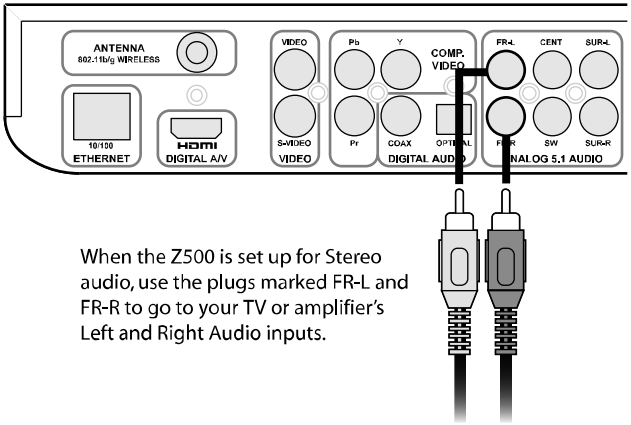
When connecting the cables, ensure that the cables are connected to the same inputs on both the Z500 and the amplifier.



Ensure that cables are plugged into the corresponding connectors on both the Z500 and your amplifier.

STEREO – 2CH AUDIO

The Z500 can down mix digital audio to an analog stereo audio output. This can be fed to a stereo amplifier or your television.

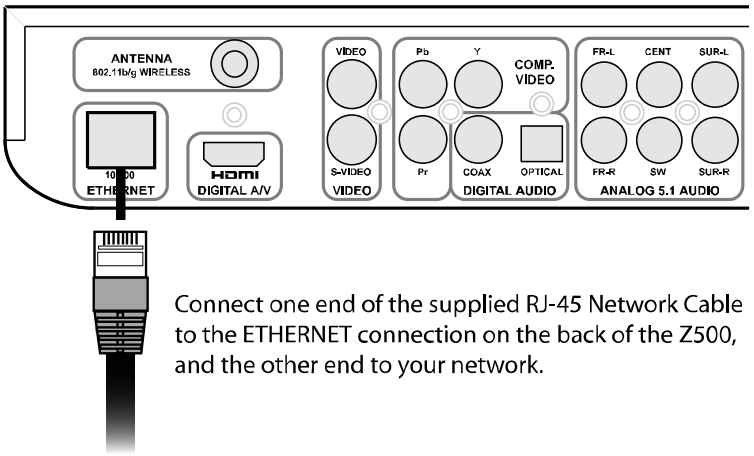


When the Z500 is set up for Stereo audio, use the plugs marked FR-L and FR-R to go to your TV or amplifier's Left and Right Audio inputs.

Connection Guide – Network

The Z500 provides the ability to connect to your home network via either a wired network connection (RJ-45 Ethernet connector) or a wireless network connection (802.11b or g).

For best network bandwidth, use the Ethernet connector on a 100Mbit network.

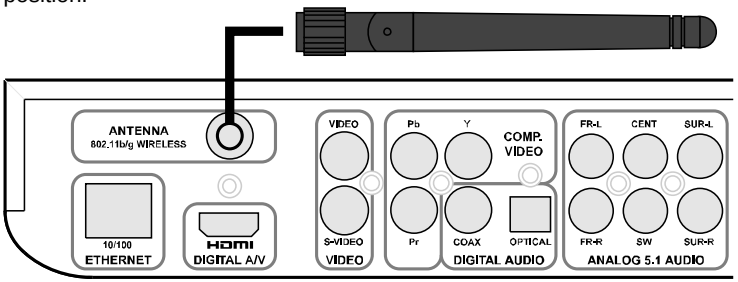


Connect one end of the supplied RJ-45 Network Cable to the ETHERNET connection on the back of the Z500, and the other end to your network.

WIRELESS

If using a wireless network connection, the best network bandwidth is achieved over an 802.11g wireless network.

Locate your supplied wireless antenna, and screw it into the antenna connector on the back of the Z500 making sure it is secure.
Then carefully turn the antenna so that it can be positioned in an upright position.



Setting Up

After you have plugged your Z500 into your display and audio devices, you will need to make sure that the settings are configured correctly to ensure that you get the best possible video and audio output.

Ensure that you have your display device switched on, then turn your Z500 High Definition Network DVD Player on.

You will be presented with the following screen:

Using the arrow keys on your remote control, navigate down to the “Settings” button, and press “OK” on the remote.
You will then be presented with the Z500 Settings screen.

The “SETTINGS” menu allows you to set up all of the settings on the Z500.

Language Setting

The first option in the settings menu is “Language”.
This allows you to choose the language that you want the Z500 to display in.
Choose “Language”, and then press “ok” on the remote control.

The currently selected language choice is shown in as boxed.
Using the arrow keys on the remote control, move the highlight bar down to select the language of your choice, then press ‘ok’ on the remote control.

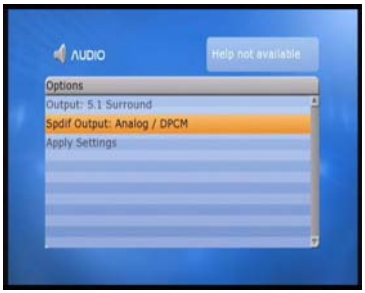
After you have made your choice, move the highlight bar down to “Apply Settings” and press “ok” on the remote control.
This will save your setting to the player and return you to the “Settings” page.

If you wish to discard your changes, or simply exit this menu, just press “exit” on the remote control, and your changes will be discarded.
You will then be returned to the “SETTINGS” page.

Audio Settings

The Audio setting page allows you to configure how you want the Z500 to treat audio streams on the player.
From the “SETTINGS” page, select “AUDIO” and press “ok” on the remote control.
You can change each of the settings by highlighting an option (using the arrow keys on the remote control, and pressing the ‘ok’ button to toggle the selections.
Below are some examples of audio output settings.

Set the Output to 5.1 Surround and the Spdif output to “Encoded Digital” to pass the audio to an external digital audio amplifier as encoded digital data via one of the digital audio outputs on the Z500.



Set the Output to 5.1 Surround and the Spdif output to “Analog / DPCM” to use the Analog audio outputs on the back of the Z500, or to send the audio as a PCM stream from one of the digital audio outputs on the Z500.

The Z500 can also down mix the audio to stereo. Select Output, and press “ok” to toggle the output setting to “Stereo (Downmixed)”
This screen shows the Z500 set to stereo output on the analog audio output.

If you wish to discard your changes, or simply exit this menu, just press “exit” on the remote control.
If you have made any changes, you will be prompted to confirm if you wish to discard your changes.

When you have made your selections, highlight “Apply Settings” and press “ok” on the remote control.
You will be returned to the previous menu.

Video Settings

The Video settings page allows you to choose what video mode you wish the Z500 player to output in.
Please be aware, that if you select resolutions higher than standard DVD settings, the player will not be able to upscale the output of commercial copy protected DVDs on the analog video outputs.
It will only be able to do upscaling of commercial DVDs via the HDMI port to a HDCP compliant device. This is due to copy protection requirements.
Upscaling of all other video types can be done on both the analog and HDMI video outputs.
To modify video settings, choose 'Settings' from the main menu, then select 'Video'.

Video Output Resolution
You can select the output resolution for the player in the Video Settings page, by highlighting the 'TV Standard' option at the top of the menu and pressing the 'ok' button to toggle through the video modes.

The available video modes that the Z500 supports are…

Mode Setting	Output Resolution	Frames per Second
PAL	720x576	50 interlaced
NTSC	720x480	60 interlaced
NTSC Progressive	720x480	60 progressive scan
PAL Progressive	720x576	50 progressive scan
720p50	1280x720	50 progressive scan
720p60	1280x720	60 progressive scan
1080i50	1920x1080	50 interlaced
1080i60	1920x1080	60 interlaced

Please ensure that your TV supports the mode that you select.

If you cannot see a picture on your screen due to having selected a mode that your screen does not support, you can still navigate to this menu using the display on the front of the player.

Video Settings – Continued

You can choose the TV screen setting type for correct aspect ratio playback of video files.

Set TV Type to Wide Screen (16:9) if you have a widescreen monitor.
This will ensure that 16x9 file types fill your screen, and 4x3 files are pillar boxed.

Set TV Type to Standard (4:3) if you have a standard shaped monitor.
This will ensure that 4x3 files fill your screen, and 16x9 files are letterboxed.

This setting is to set the Color Space to RGB mode.

This setting is to set the Color Space to YUV mode.

The aspect ratio can be set for widescreen (16x9) or standard (4x3) TV types.

HDMI Mode

If you are using the HDMI output on the Z500, you can either let the player auto detect the HDMI output resolution, or manually set it.

To manually set the mode highlight the 'HDMI Mode' option and press ok until you get the resolution you want.
This option is only available if you are using the HDMI output port.

Saving Your Settings

When you have finished making your selections, down arrow to “Apply Settings” and press “ok” on the remote control.

The Z500 will pop up a window asking you to confirm that you wish to accept the changes.
The player has a 10 second time out on the confirmation window, so if your display device does not support the video mode that you have selected and you see a blank or corrupted screen, you can wait for this timer to expire and the player will revert back to the previous video mode.
Pressing “ok” on the remote control will also revert back to the previous video mode, as the default answer to the confirmation window is “NO”.

Selecting “Yes” at the confirmation window will save the setting, and return you to the “SETTINGS” page.

Discarding Your Settings

If at any stage during this process you wish to discard your changes press the ‘exit’ button on the remote control.
The player will ask you to confirm that you wish to discard your changes and take you back to the previous screen.

Network Setup

To access files or internet based media over your network, you will need to connect your Z500 to a network and configure it.

The Z500 supports the automatic acquisition of IP addresses from DHCP server devices to make setting up your player easy.
If you leave the network settings to “Auto”, the player will attempt to acquire the network settings from a DHCP server in your local network.

A DHCP server is a server or device that is designed to make TCP/IP network configuration easy.

Most Broadband Internet routers also act as DHCP servers on a local network. Consult your routers manual if you are unsure if it supports this function, and for instructions on how to set it up.

If you wish, you can also enter the IP address manually.

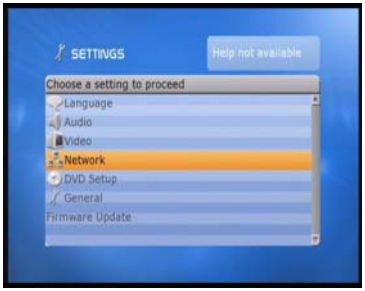
You can choose whether you wish to use the Wired or Wireless network.
(To use a wireless network, you will need a wireless access point on your network)

Choosing the Active Network Device

You will need to set the network that you wish to use.
This can be…

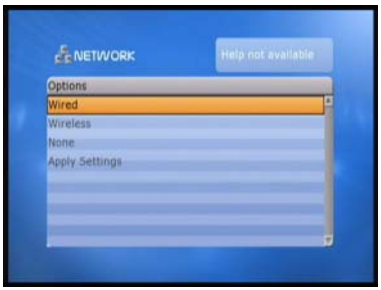
Wired	10/100 Mbit/s Ethernet connection
Wireless	802.11b/g Wireless connection
None	No network connection

To choose your network...

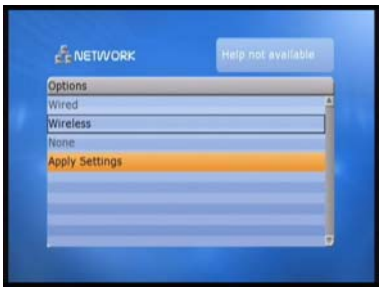


1. From the “SETTINGS” page, choose “Network” then press “ok” on the remote control.

2. Select “Active Network” and press “ok” on the remote control.



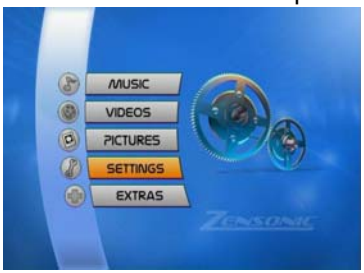
3. Choose the network type you wish to use. The currently selected network is outlined.



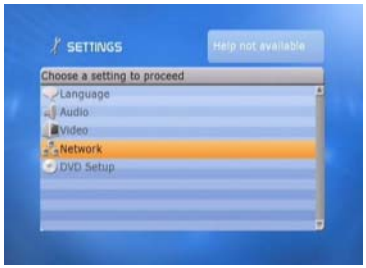
4. Arrow down to “Apply Settings” and press “ok” on the remote control.
You will be returned to the “SETTINGS” screen.

If you change the Active Network Interface from Wired to Wireless, or Wireless to Wired, you will be required to restart your player.
The player will prompt you for this.

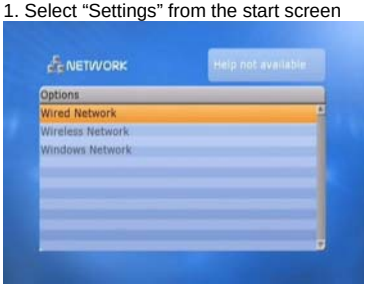
Wired Network Setup



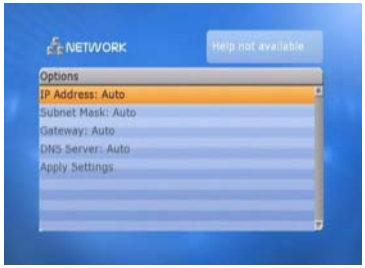
1. Select “Settings” from the start screen



2. Choose “Network”

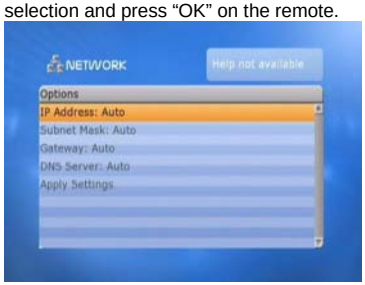


3. Choose “Wired Network”

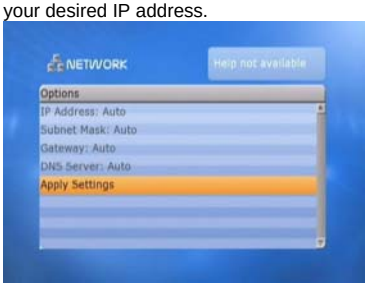


4. All settings default to “Auto”.
To manually change a setting, highlight the selection and press “OK” on the remote.

5. A pop up window will appear.
Using the keys on your remote control, enter your desired IP address.



6. Configure your other network settings, such as the Subnet Mask, Gateway and DNS Server settings



7. Select “Apply Settings” to save.

Wireless Network Setup

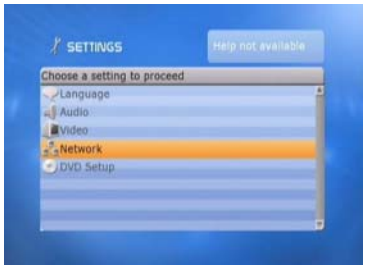
To work in a wireless network your Z500 you will need to configure a few things such as the name of your wireless access point and your WEP key.

WEP (Wired Equivalent Privacy) uses keys at both the access point, and the device connecting to the access point to provide a means of data encryption between the wireless network devices.
The Z500 can use either 64bit or 128bit WEP protection.

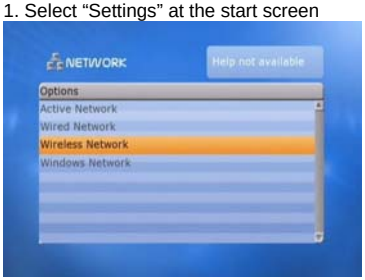
Apart from the WEP Key and the access point, IP configuration for the Wireless Network is the same as it is for the Wired Network.
Use “Auto” for the IP settings to acquire an IP address from a DHCP server, or manually configure them.

Below is how to set the WEP key and access point in the wireless setup…

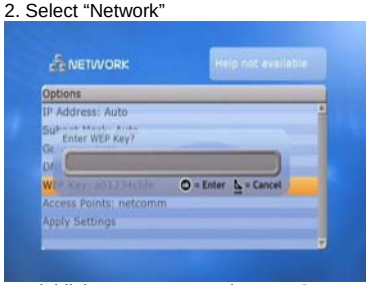
1. Select “Settings” at the start screen



2. Select “Network”



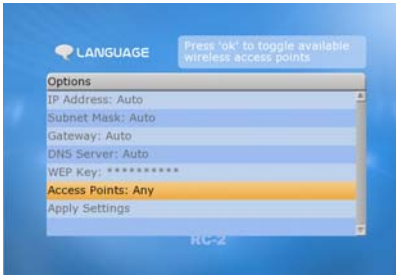
3. Select “Wireless Network”



4. Highlight “WEP Key” and press “OK”
A pop up window will appear.
Enter your WEP key matching the one set at your wireless access point using the keys on your remote control.

Wireless Network Setup - continued

In the Wireless Network setup screen you can scan for wireless access points or type in your access points SSID name.



Highlight “Access Points” and press ‘ok’ to enter the Access Point sub menu.

The player will list nearby access points and their signal strength. Highlight one and press ‘ok’ to select it.
Choose ‘Any’ to have the player automatically select the nearest access point.

Highlight “Custom” and press ‘ok’ if you wish to type in your access points SSID name. (SSID names are case sensitive).
Use your remote keypad to enter the name and press ‘ok’ to save it.
Press ‘exit’ to cancel.

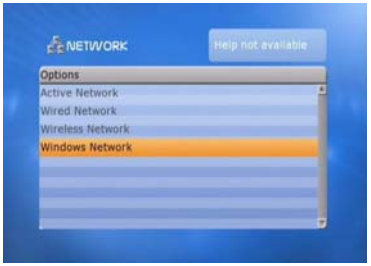
Select “Apply Settings” to save your settings.

Windows Network (SMB) Setup

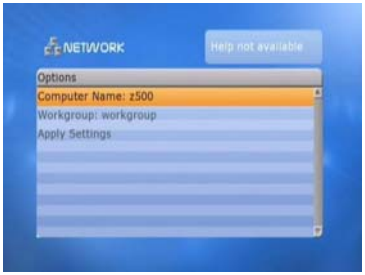
Before you can browse a SMB network, you need to configure your computer and workgroup names.
Your workgroup name needs to be the same as is set on your computers in your local network. Your computer name must be unique on the network.

To set your computer and network names:

1. Choose “Settings” from the start menu

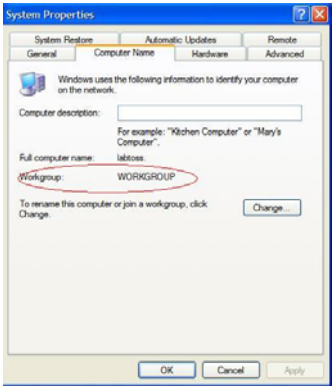


2. Choose “Windows Network”

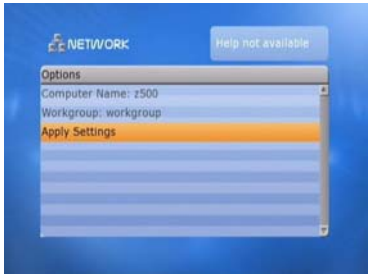


3. Highlight “Computer Name”, and using your remote control, enter a name for your Z500 that is unique on the network.

4. Highlight “Workgroup” and enter your workgroup name.
This needs to be the same as your local network setting. (see next box)



Ensure your workgroup name matches what you have set on your computers in your network.
This example is from a Windows XP computer.



5. Select “Apply Settings” to save your settings and exit.

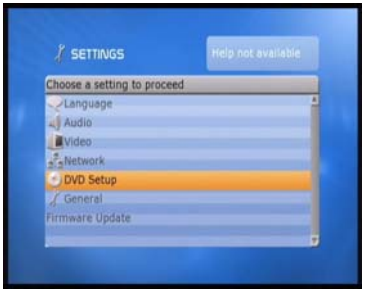
Your Z500 player is now configured for network access, and may access files that are shared on your local network and access internet content.

Using SMB Network Shares

- The maximum size of a file to be played back via a SMB network share is 2GB.
  Please use a UPnP media server (such as the supplied TwonkyVision) if you wish to playback files greater than 2GB in size.
- Also, please use a UPnP media server to play back high definition, high bitrate video streams due to SMB bandwidth limitations.

DVD Setup Options

In the “Settings” page, you can also set options for how the player will treat DVDs that are inserted into the player.
These settings are to select such things as the default aspect ratio, subtitle format etc.



1. From the “SETTINGS” page, select “DVD Setup” and press “ok”

2. Choose “Aspect Ratio”, press “ok” to select the aspect ratio you desire. Options are “Widescreen”, “Pan and Scan” and “Letter box”

3. Select “Subtitles” and press “ok” to select the default subtitle language to be displayed when playing a DVD.

4. If you wish to apply a Parental Ratings Level Lock on what content can be played on the player, select “Parental Level” and press “ok” to select the highest content ratings level that can be played without using the Parental Key.

5. If you set the “Parental Level” to a setting other than “Off”, and you put a DVD disc in with a higher rating than that specified, you will be prompted to type in a key to override the level selection.
To set this key, highlight “Parental Key” and press “ok”.
You will then have the ability to enter the override key.

6. The “Region” option is to display what region DVD discs your player can play. This is for your information only and cannot be changed.

7. When you have made all of your selections, arrow down to “Apply Settings” and press “ok” to save them and exit.

If you press “exit” on the remote control at any time in this screen, you will exit this setup screen.
If you have made any changes, you will be prompted to confirm that you wish to discard the changes before exiting.

An additional menu setting has also been added – “Override TV Standard”.
The options are “yes” or “no”.
Set to “Yes”, if you would like the aspect ratio setting in the DVD setup section to override the TV Type setting made in the “Video” settings section of the main settings menu.
Set to “No” if you would like the player to just follow the TV Type setting.

General Settings

Options not covered by the previous settings pages are accessible from the "General" settings page.
From the "SETTINGS" page, select "General" and press "ok" on the remote.

Available options are:

- **CD/DVD/VCD Autoplay**
  To choose to have the player Automatically play these discs when they are inserted, set this option to "On"
- **Volume Controller**
  You can choose whether you want the Volume Controller turned On or Off.
  Set this option to off if you are going to use the volume controls only on your amplifier or display device.
  Setting to on means that the Z500 volume controls can be used to reduce the volume of the signal output from the Z500 to your amplifier or display device.
- **GUI Animations**
  Select 'Disabled' if you would like to turn off the animation of pop up windows and the user interface.
- **Picture Slideshow Interval**
  Use to set the amount of time you wish for pictures to be displayed while doing a slideshow.
- **Statusbar**
  Allows you to set what messages will appear on the screen while using you player.
  You can use 'None' if you want no messages displayed, or one of 'All', 'System Messages', 'Track Info'
- **Screen Saver**
  The Screen Saver option allows you to select the timeout interval for when the screen saver will activate.
  Set to "Off" to disable the screen saver, or select a time interval for it to activate at. (The options are Off, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 15 or 20 minutes)
  The screen saver will not activate while video is being played, but will activate if the video playback is paused for the amount of time selected here.
  If the screen saver is active, you can press any key on the remote or front panel to deactivate it.

If you press "exit" on the remote control at any time in this screen, you will exit this setup screen.
If you have made any changes, you will be prompted to confirm that you wish to discard the changes before exiting.

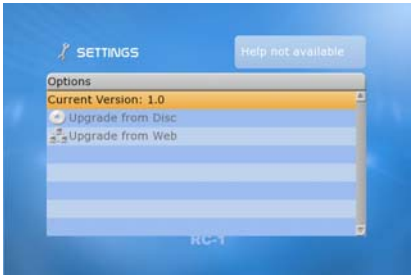
Firmware Updates

The Z500 supports the ability to upgrade the firmware for updates to the player's firmware.
These updates can be installed from disc, network file or directly from Zensonic via the Internet (with a working network and Internet connection).

From the Firmware Update selection on the "SETTINGS" page, you can view the current firmware version, or perform the upgrade.

Performing Firmware Upgrades

Available firmware upgrade methods are via Internet (Web) or Disc.



Please make sure you have a stable Internet connection if updating from Web.

You can press "exit" on the remote if you wish to exit this page without performing any functions.

Important Firmware Upgrade Notes

- It is very important to read and correctly follow all instructions when upgrading the firmware on your player. Failure to follow the instructions could render your player unusable. Please ensure you check and follow the instructions and any on screen prompts when doing this.
- Do not under any circumstances disconnect power from the player during a firmware upgrade. To do so will cause the player to no longer function.
- Always wait for the player to fully complete the firmware upgrade before restarting the player.
- The firmware update can take anywhere between 3 and 25 minutes depending on the size of the update.
- When erasing parts of the firmware the screen will flash green, this is normal.
- If you are using the HDMI video output, the screen may go blank during the update.
- If in any doubt about this process, contact Zensonic support at support@zensonic.com

Additional Setup Items

Information Screen
You can bring up information regarding your player by choosing ‘Info’ from the Settings screen.
This lists information like the current firmware revision, current active network card, IP address of the player etc.

Restore Factory Default Settings
In the Settings page you can choose to Restore the factory default settings for the setup options.

1. Go to ‘Settings’
2. Scroll down to ‘Restore Factory Defaults’
3. Press ‘ok’
4. Choose ‘yes’ to confirm.

Using Your Z500

Turning on the Z500 will present you with the following screen.

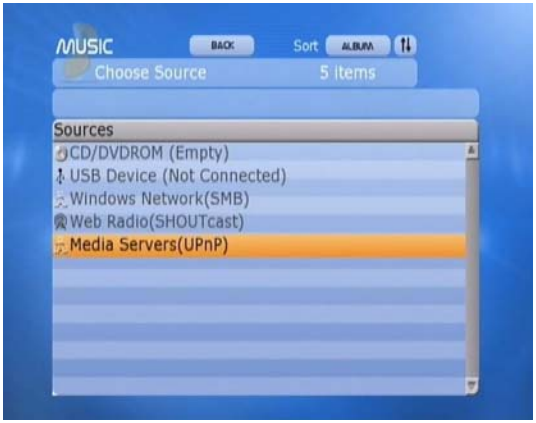
This is the main screen from which you can choose your options.

From here you may use the arrow keys on your remote control or the option stick to select the type of media you wish to play, change your player's settings, or access some extra features.

You can use the arrow keys or the option stick to move through any of the menus or to navigate the file lists.

MUSIC

Pressing the “OK” button on the remote control when “MUSIC” is highlighted will take you into the music section.



From here you can select from what source you would like to access your music.

- CD/DVDROM drive
- USB Device (mass storage devices only)
- Windows Network Style Shares (SMB)
- Web Radio (SHOUTcast)
- Media Servers (UPnP)

Using the arrow keys on the remote control, select your music source.

(In this case, the CD/DVDROM drive was selected)

MUSIC - continued

You may then navigate through the file structure of the selected source to find what music you wish to play.

Only music files with supported file extensions will be listed.

Highlight the file, and press “OK” on the remote control.
The selected file will then play.

You can press “exit” on the remote control at any time to take you back one layer at a time, or press “menu” to take you back to the start screen.

You can start music playing and continue to have it playing while navigating through the folders to find a different song.
You can also start a music track playing and the music will keep playing while you view photos. (If you select to play a video, the music will stop playing.)

If there is more than one file in a folder, the player will automatically move on to the next file and start playback of that file.

You can press the stop button to stop music playback from any menu screen.

VIDEOS

Playing back video is just as simple as selecting an audio file.
At the home menu screen, just choose “Videos”.

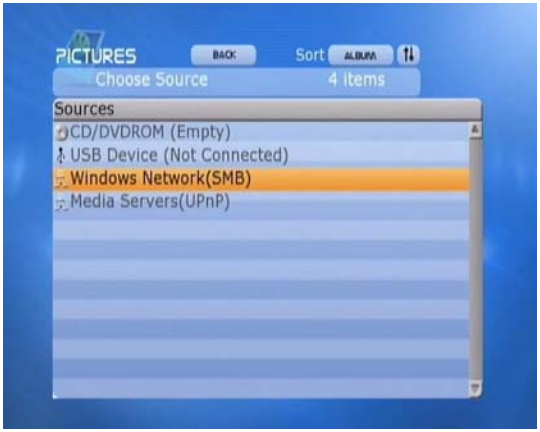
Once “VIDEOS” is selected, press “OK” on the remote control.

You will be asked to choose the source that you will be playing your files from, and then navigate through until you select the file you wish to play.
Only video files with filename extensions that are supported will be listed.
If there is more than one file in a folder, the player will automatically move on to the next file and start playback of that file.

PICTURES

You can display digital pictures by selecting “Pictures” from the home start screen.

Once you have highlighted “Pictures”, press “OK” on the remote control.



Choose the source device, and then navigate the file system to your photos. Pressing “OK” on a file will display it.
In “Pictures” mode, only files with supported picture type file extensions will be listed.
If there is more than one picture in a folder, the player will automatically move on to the next picture and display it. (Time delay is set in the settings menu)

EXTRAS

If your Z500 is connected to a home network with access to the Internet you can make use of some useful extra features.

Just select “Extras” from the home start menu and press “OK” on the remote control.

You will then be presented with the Weather Channel weather forecast.

You can highlight “edit” and press “ok” to type in your location.
You can also choose what measurement format you wish the readings to be displayed in.

UPnP Media Servers

Your Z500 comes shipped with two popular UPnP based Media Server utilities.
These include:

- Twonkyvision
- Windows Media Connect

By using your Zensonic Z500 High Definition Network DVD Player in conjunction with a UPnP media server, you can deliver more media content to your Z500 than the player can play on its own.

Depending on the UPnP server software you use, you can deliver additional streaming audio and video, transcode video formats that the Z500 cannot natively support into a format it can play and gain access to additional functionality.

The UPnP media server software needs to be installed and configured on a PC on your local network.
Then all you need to do is tell the UPnP software what you want to make available to your UPnP device.

When you are given a choice of sources all you need to do is select “Media Servers (UPnP)”.

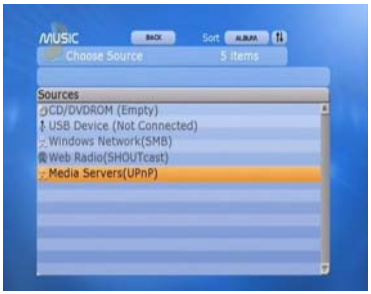
You will then be given a list of available UPnP media servers in your network. Choose the one you wish to connect to, and start accessing its resources.

The content available is limited to what your UPnP media server can deliver.

Please note:
If you are using any firewall software on the PC that is acting as a UPnP media server please ensure that the firewall software allows the passage of network traffic for the port that the UPnP is serving the data on.
If you do not do this, the player may not see the UPnP server due to the firewall software blocking the network data.
Examples of firewall software are programs such as Sygate Personal Firewall, ZoneAlarm and (in Windows XP SP2 and higher) Windows Firewall.
You may need to consult the manual for your firewall software if you need to do this.

UPnP Media Server Browsing

Below is an example of using a UPnP server to browse for music.



1. From the main screen, select music, then at the “Choose Source” screen choose “Media Servers(UPnP)” and press “ok”

2. You will be presented with a list of UPnP media servers on your network.
Choose one and press “ok”

3. The UPnP server will then give you a list of options to choose from. The list is sent by the UPnP server software.
In this example, choose “Music” and “ok”

4. The UPnP server will then present you with a list to choose from. The types of items available will depend on the UPnP server software that you are using.
Here, we chose to browse by folders.

5. Once you have browsed and selected the folder that you wish to play, choose your song and press “ok” to play it.

Browsing SMB Network Shares

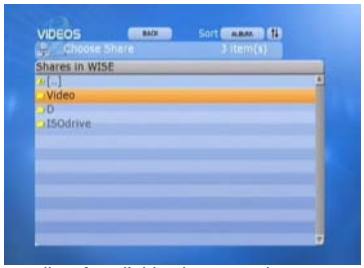
Your Z500 has the ability to browse SMB network shares to make it easy for you to play content that you have stored on computers on your network.

Once your network is configured and you are connected to your local network, all you have to do is choose “Windows Network (SMB)” when you are choosing your media source.

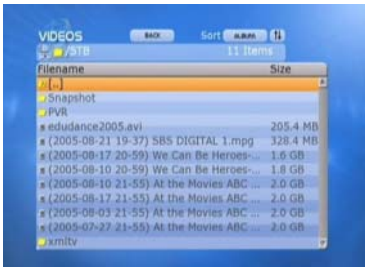
1. Select “Videos” from the start screen

2. When prompted for a source, choose “Windows Network(SMB)”

3. A list of your “Neighbour” computers on your local network will be shown.
Choose the computer you wish to browse.



4. A list of available shares on that computer will be shown.
Choose the share that has your files on it.



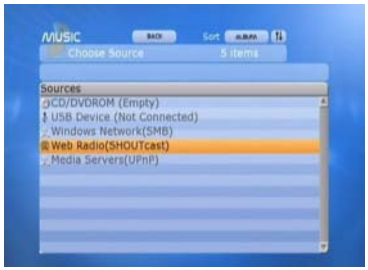
5. Browse the folder list, choose the file you wish to play, and press “OK” to play it.

Please note that some High Bandwidth Video may not play smoothly from SMB shares. It is recommended to use a UPnP server for this content.

SHOUTcast Radio

Your Z500 High Definition Network DVD Player comes with some preconfigured SHOUTcast Internet radio stations, so you can start accessing Internet radio straight away.
All you need is your Z500 connected to your local network that has Internet access.

1. Choose “Music” from the start screen.



2. When prompted for a source, Choose “Web Radio(SHOUTcast)

3. You will be given a choice of categories to choose from. Choose one and press “OK”

4. Choose a radio station and press “OK” The chosen radio station will start streaming.

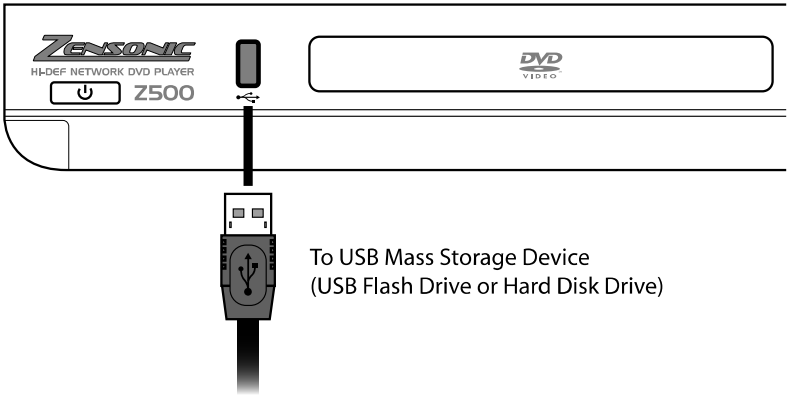
Please note that you must have the Z500 connected to network with access to a working Internet connection for SHOUTcast radio to work.

If you are using a firewall on your network, to use Shoutcast Radio you may need to open the ports on your firewall for the radio stations to work.
For example EYE97 is kara-fast.serv.com:9104 (port 9104)
Please check the stations web site to check what port they use.
This does not affect normal users with standard routers and NAT, only those using specific firewall devices.

Please be aware that when you are using Internet based functions like SHOUTcast radio the player is downloading data from the Internet.
A typical 128kb/s radio stream will use 45Mbytes per hour or more.
If you are on an Internet plan with a set data download limit that involves excess charges or speed shaping please be aware of what your limits are when utilising these features.

USB Port

The Z500 incorporates a USB 2.0 connection on the front of the player for your convenience.
The USB port supports USB thumb drives and USB Hard Disc Drives.
The devices must appear as a mass storage device.



Once you have plugged your USB mass storage device into your Z500, you may use it simply by selecting it in the “Choose Source” section after you have chosen the type of media you wish to play.

Highlight the “USB Device” selection and press “OK”.
You will then be able to browse your mass storage device.

The USB device must be in FAT or NTFS format, and must be a USB mass storage device.

Please note that the NTFS support is experimental and there is no official support for it, use at your own risk.

Please note that the USB port on the Z500 supports USB 2.0 mass storage devices only.

Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	
No Picture	• Z500 not plugged in • Z500 not switched on • Video cables not connected	• Check power cable • Check power switches • Ensure the video cables are connected between the player and the Z500
Network Not Working	• Wrong network type selected • IP address settings incorrect • Cable not plugged in • Wireless access point not working	• Ensure that you have selected the correct network type • Check your IP settings in the Network settings page • If using wired network, check the network cable is plugged in on both the Z500 and your network hub. A link light should show up on the Z500 if the cable is connected correctly • If using wireless network, check that your wireless access point is powered on
Wireless Network Not Working	• WEP encryption is enabled and the WEP key is incorrect • Incompatible wireless adapter • Wireless signal is too weak	• Ensure that you have entered the correct WEP key for you access router • Ensure that your wireless router supports 802.11b/g • Adjust the wireless antennas for better signal, or move either your wireless router or Z500 for better reception
Z500 cannot obtain IP address	• DHCP server not running	• Ensure that there is a server or device that acts as a DHCP server if using the auto setting in the network settings page.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
Remote Control Not Working	• No batteries, or flat batteries • Infra Red Receiver on Z500 obstructed	• Ensure that there are 4 AA size batteries in the remote control and they are inserted the correct way around • Replace the batteries with a fresh set • Ensure that the display on the front of the Z500 is not obstructed by any objects, as the IR receiver for the remote control is in there
File does not play	• Encoding problem	• Check that the file you are attempting to play is encoded in a format that is supported by the Z500
Cannot find UPnP Server	• UPnP Server not running	• Ensure that the PC running the UPnP server software is powered on and that the UPnP server software is running
Some files do not display	• File format is not supported	• Check that the file you are trying to find has a supported file extension and is a format that the Z500 supports
No Sound	• Audio cables not connected • Wrong output type selected	• Ensure that the audio cables are connected correctly between your Z500 and your audio device • Ensure that you have selected the correct output type for your audio connections
USB device not found	• Non supported device • Non supported partition type	• Ensure that the device you are connecting is a “Mass Storage Device” • Ensure that your device is formatted as either FAT32 or NTFS

Glossary

Term	Description
TCP/IP	Network data transmission format using unique numbers to identify devices on the network
IP address	Term for referring to the unique number used for a device on a TCP/IP network
WEP	Wired Equivalent Privacy – an encryption method for wireless network communications
UPnP	Universal Plug and Play
DHCP	Dynamic Host Configuration Protocol – a method for automatically configuring devices using TCP/IP network protocol
SHOUTcast	A Winamp based distributed audio system for Internet radio broadcasting. A trademark of www.shoutcast.com
MP3	A file extension for MPEG1 audio layer 3 – sometimes also used to refer to a digital audio file
WAV	A file extension for a sound file format developed by IBM and Microsoft
AIFF	Audio Interchange File Format
WMA	Windows Media Audio file
WMV	Windows Media Video file
M3U	A play list file supported by Winamp software
PLS	A play list used by SHOUTcast and other audio streams
AVI	Audio Video Interleave – a file extension (as in .avi) used by a number of different encoding programs. Sometimes used to refer to a file encoded with any number of Mpeg 4 formats
JPG	Joint Photographic Experts Group a format used for compressing digital pictures – sometimes used to refer to a digital photograph
GIF	Graphics Interchange Format – a format used for compressing digital pictures
BMP	Image Bitmapped graphics Format – an uncompressed picture format
PNG	Portable Network Graphics – another picture format
TIFF	Tagged Image File Format – another picture format
XviD	A video format that is MPEG 4 complaint
MPEG	Moving Picture Experts Group
MPEG-1	A video encoding format – relatively low in compression and quality, used for VCDs
MPEG-2	A video encoding format – used in DVDs and other formats (such as Digital TV transmission) better quality and compression than MPEG-1
MPEG-4	A video encoding format – depending on the encoding method, can produce a good quality video file with a much better compression than MPEG-2, resulting in a much smaller file size
QuickTime	A video compression format developed by Apple Computer
Access Point	A term used in wireless network communications to refer to the device that acts as a hub for wireless data communications
WEP key	A 64 or 128 bit key number that is set on both the wireless access point and the wireless device to ensure that the device is allowed to use the wireless network

Technical Specifications

Environmental:

- Operating Temperature: 0°C – 45°C
- Storage Temperature: -25°C – 55°C
- Operating Humidity: 10% to 95% non condensing
- Operating Voltage: Auto switching 110V 60Hz / 240V 50Hz

Outputs:

- HDMI™ Digital Audio and Video with HDCP
- RCA Video
- RCA Audio
- S-Video
- Component Video
- SCART Analog Audio and Video
- Optical Digital Audio
- Coax Digital Audio

Network:

- 802.11g Wireless (supporting up to 54Mbps transfer rate)
- 10/100Mbps Ethernet port
- DHCP assigned or Static IP addresses

Wireless Security:

- Hardware based WEP (wired Equivalent Privacy)
- 64bit or 128bit WEP encryption

FCC Regulations

FCC Class B Statement

This device complies with Part 15 of the FCC Rules. Operation is subject to the following two conditions:

- This device may not cause harmful interference.
- This device must accept any interference received, including interference that may cause undesired operation.

Warning: This equipment has been tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B digital device, pursuant to Part 15 of the FCC Rules. These limits are designed to provide reasonable protection. This equipment generates, uses and can radiate radio frequency energy and, if not installed and used in accordance with the instructions, may cause interference to radio communications. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause harmful interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

- Reorient or relocate the receiving antenna.
- Increase the separation between the equipment and receiver.
- Connect the equipment into an outlet on a circuit different from that to which the receiver is connected.
- Consult the dealer or an experienced radio/TV technician for help.

FCC RF Radiation Exposure Statement

The antenna used for this transmitter must be installed to provide a separation distance of at least 20 cm from all persons and must not be co-located or operating in conjunction with any other antenna or transmitter.

Notice: Changes or modification not expressly approved by the party responsible for compliance could void the user's authority to operate the equipment.

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