DLNA Network Guide

The Digital Living Network Alliance (DLNA) is a group of companies working to create a common, open standard for connecting devices.

Use this guide to find out how to connect DLNA certified devices throughout your home into one single entertainment network, plus get some handy tips to help you if you have any questions.

Before you start you might want to read about how DLNA works and what you’ll need.

What types of devices are DLNA compatible?
DLNA compatible devices include TVs, mobile phones, PCs and laptops, music players, consoles such as the PLAYSTATION®3, printers and HiFi systems.

Start by checking your devices are compatible. All DLNA certified devices have a logo or sticker to tell you that the product meets DLNA testing requirements and can connect with other DLNA certified devices. Each product also comes with a description identifying the type of digital content it supports (e.g. audio, video, images) and the kind of services or features available (e.g. player, printer, etc).

How does a DLNA network work?
DLNA devices have been designed to connect to one another. Each device is classed according to its use. For example, any device which stores content is classed as a Digital Media Server (such as a mobile phone storing photos, music and videos in its memory). And any device which can play digital content from another DLNA device is known as a Digital Media Player (such as your BRAVIA TV which can show and play photos, videos and music from other devices).

To create a DLNA network you’ll need at least one DLNA certified server that stores content (e.g. a VAIO laptop) and one DLNA certified device to play it (e.g. your BRAVIA TV).

What equipment will you need?
DLNA certified devices connect and communicate with each other over a home network. This works using a similar set-up you may have for your Internet connection. In fact, a router is the key communication point of the network as it is used to link devices to each other.

Here’s a quick checklist of what you’ll need:
• a DLNA certified BRAVIA TV
• at least one DLNA certified Digital Media Server (e.g. laptop, etc)
• router
• either (A) Ethernet cables, or (B) a wireless bridge* to connect your network – see below diagram.

If you are using a wireless connection and want to play HD video, we recommend you use at least an 802.11n wireless connection. Broadband connection speed is not important.

*Only for applicable models: KDL EX600, EX700, HX700, HX800, HX900, LX900, NX700, NX800 Series.
How to connect your DLNA network

Step 1: Connect your BRAVIA TV to the router

The first step is to connect your DLNA certified BRAVIA TV to the router: there are a number of ways to do this. You might want to consider the different options below depending on how close your router is to your TV and to the other DLNA devices you want to connect.

Option 1. Ethernet cable

If your router is close to your BRAVIA TV, an easy way to connect them both is using an Ethernet cable. One end simply plugs into the Ethernet port on your BRAVIA TV and the other into an available port on your router.

Option 2. Wireless bridge

If you have a wireless router, or your BRAVIA TV is located far away, you may want to consider a wireless bridge from TV to router. The wireless bridge plugs into the USB port* on your BRAVIA TV and will then connect wirelessly to your router.

Step 2: Add other DLNA compatible devices to your router

You can now add other DLNA certified servers (e.g. laptop, music player) to the router. These will then become accessible to your BRAVIA TV over the network so you can play the content they have stored.

Some DLNA devices have Wi-Fi built-in or you can connect them to your router using the same methods listed above for your BRAVIA TV – cable, wireless bridge.

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Here’s how to configure certain types of DLNA device:

PC or laptops – connect your laptop to the router via your preferred option. Before you can share content with your BRAVIA TV, you’ll need to install software on your laptop. Options include Windows Media Player 11 or 12 (standard with new versions of Window 7) or VAIO Media Server.

Once you have installed the software you can now select which files you want to share with your BRAVIA TV (e.g. photo, music, videos etc.). How you share content varies for different software programs but it’s usually as simple as indicating playlists, libraries or files you want to share or by adding them to specified folders.

If you are using a VAIO you will also need to enable media sharing in Windows Media Player to give permission for the TV to access the VAIO. To do this open Windows Media Player go to ‘Options’ and then the Windows Media Sharing tab and enable media sharing – see the hints & tips in this guide for more information.

Music players – connecting a music player such as a GigaJuke is straightforward. Simply connect the GigaJuke to the router using the built-in wireless and your music files will be accessible on your BRAVIA TV.

Step 3: Browse and play files using your BRAVIA TV menu

Once you have connected your DLNA devices, turn on your BRAVIA TV and click the ‘Home’ button on your remote to open the XrossMediaBar™ (XMB™) menu.

Scroll through the XMB™ menu options and you will see the shared music, photos and videos from the DLNA devices on your network under the Photo, Music or Video icons.

You’ll see music files listed by title, artist, date of release, and cover art (if available), while photos are shown as thumbnails for quick selection and videos are listed by file name. You simply scroll to the desired music, video, or photo file, and then click to play or view it.

If you cannot see any devices or files you may need to scan for the DLNA devices which are connected to your BRAVIA TV. To do this, go to ‘Settings’ on your XMB™ menu then scroll to ‘Network Settings’ > ‘Server Display Settings’ and then press ‘Options’ on your remote and select ‘Update list’. Icons of each DLNA server device will appear in the XMB™ menu when found, and the files can be found under each menu icon for Photo, Music or Video.
If you need help setting up a DLNA home network with your BRAVIA TV, here are a few hints and tips.

### Connecting your network

**Are all BRAVIA TVs DLNA certified?**
No, not all BRAVIA TVs are DLNA certified. Remember to look out for the DLNA logo or sticker to check your BRAVIA TV is compatible.

**What should I do if my router is located far away from my TV?**
If your router is located far away from your BRAVIA TV and other DLNA devices, use a wireless bridge.

**My BRAVIA TV is not connecting to the network, what should I do?**
- Check the cable or connection between your BRAVIA TV and the router and between your other DLNA devices and the router.
- Check if your network is properly configured on your TV by opening the XMB™ menu on your BRAVIA TV and going to ‘Settings’ > ‘Network Settings’ > ‘Network’. Your TV should show with an IP. If the IP address is blank (or 0.0.0.0) your router may not be connected properly. Check your network connections and/or router instruction manual for connection information.

**What sort of devices are DLNA compatible?**
There is a huge range of DLNA compatible devices. See the Digital Living Network Alliance (DLNA) website – www.dlna.org – for more information.

**Can I only connect to Sony DLNA certified devices?**
No. You can connect to any DLNA certified device from any manufacturer. See the Digital Living Network Alliance (DLNA) website – www.dlna.org – for more information on DLNA compatible devices.

**My BRAVIA TV isn’t communicating with certain devices, what should I do?**
If your BRAVIA TV can’t access content from another device this could be one of several reasons:
- Your TV or other DLNA device isn’t connected to the network.
- There is a problem with your router or network service.
- The other device is not DLNA certified or is not a Digital Media Server (i.e. doesn’t have memory to store files).
- You do not have DLNA server software running on your PC or laptop.

‘Network disconnected’ keeps appearing on my TV screen?
Check the current network settings. Go to ‘Settings’ > ‘Network Settings’ > ‘Network’ on the XMB™ menu. Your TV should show with an IP. If the IP address is blank (or 0.0.0.0) your router may not be connected properly. Check your network connections and/or router instruction manual for connection information.

What is the best network set-up: cables or wireless?
This really depends on the location of your devices and whether you want visible cables throughout the home. Wired networks, however, may provide a slightly better performance than wireless. Here are a few other tips:
- You should try and avoid complex network setups with multiple subnets and hubs as this may affect the performance of your DLNA network.
- If you want to be able to stream multiple HD videos, we recommend using at least a 200Mbps network for better performance.
- When using Ethernet cables we recommend Cat5e over a Cat 5 cable as this may enable your network to achieve higher speeds.

**Playing and sharing files**

**Can I store files on my BRAVIA TV?**
No, your BRAVIA TV is a DLNA Media Player. This means it can access and play files from DLNA Media Servers which store content. Your DLNA certified BRAVIA TV with large screen and superb picture means you can enjoy films and music with an amazing audiovisual experience. In many ways your BRAVIA TV is the ultimate DLNA Media Player.

**For a laptop, depending on your network settings, it may be necessary to disable the firewall. Please note you should do this at your own risk; any changes to your security settings are your sole responsibility. Ask a certified professional if you are unsure.**

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Need more help?

- Check the box next to ‘Music’, ‘Pictures’ and ‘Video’. You can also choose whether you want to only share files over a certain rating – this may depend on how you have set up your media library.

Fig 1

- Click ‘OK’ and your files will now be accessible on your BRAVIA TV, and you can sit back and enjoy music, movies and photos on the big screen.

When my BRAVIA TV is connected to my PC can I rotate images?
No, you cannot rotate images on your BRAVIA TV. You should pre-rotate pictures on your laptop or other device before you share them with your TV.

My photos look distorted when shown on the BRAVIA TV screen?
Picture quality may degrade if a photo is enlarged. For best results you should display photos at their own resolution even if it means the image won’t fill the full screen.

My photos don’t fill the entire screen on my BRAVIA TV?
Images may not fill the entire screen depending on a photo size and ratio. For best picture quality results you should keep photos at their original resolution.

What sort of file types can I play on my BRAVIA TV?
Your BRAVIA TV shows and plays MP3, JPG and MPEG files.

What sort of file types are supported by DLNA devices?
Supported file types vary for each device. You should check a device’s DLNA certificate for details or check the DLNA website (www.dlna.org).

Why can’t I see the file and folder names for my photos?
You may not be able to see certain folder or files on your BRAVIA TV due to the characters you have used when naming them. Try renaming a file and sharing it again with your BRAVIA TV.

My DLNA certified server device is listed under the Photo/Music/Video icons on my TV but the files are inaccessible?
Your BRAVIA TV or other DLNA devices may have lost connection with the router, check your cables or connections. To check if your DLNA device is communicating properly with your TV you can also run a diagnostic check under ‘Settings’ on the XMB menu.

Once the diagnostic check is complete, you will find out if a device is communicating properly with your TV.

Video streaming quality is sometimes poor when I use a wireless connection?
The quality of your wireless network connection can vary depending on the distance between the bridge and the router, any environment interference and the quality of the wireless router.

To improve the quality you may want to try using a wireless router which supports 5GHz operations for video streaming and place the router closer to the wireless bridge.