

Re: Media Center PC/TV useage with a TV tuner card. Possible? How

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- *From:* PFC <PFC@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Tue, 27 Feb 2007 17:32:05 -0800
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I tried this method with success until I clicked on media center – then I just get a black screen with jumpy white lines (I've tried making the TV the primary monitor and also adjusting screen resolution to no avail). If I CTRL-ALT-DEL I can get the task manager (to end media center) and see media center, but as soon as I click on it, same black screen. Any ideas? I have a request under home theater too. Thanks!

"jutrased" wrote:

Here is what I do. I use the conventional connection to the PC, then I take the tuner card output and feed that to the TV.

Next, set up the multiple monitor feature found on the Settings tab of Display Properties. You should see 2 rectangles labled 1 and 2. Click on one of them and then check "Extend my windows desktop onto this monitor". The check is only available on one, so if it is greyed out just try the other monitor. You can move the screen icons to match your actual physical layout.

Now you have a virtual screen that spans both monitors. Scroll your mouse from one screen to the other to see what I mean. Now start Media Center, and it will probably start on the PC monitor. Click the Restore icon in the upper right corner to shrink the screen, then drag it to the TV monitor. Click Restore again and Media Center will fill the entire TV monitor.

Now when you start Media Center, it will remember to display on the TV monitor.

As far as the cable box goes, it depends on the type of system you have. If you can hook your cable directly to a TV, you can do the same to the tuner. If you want to record one show while watching another, you will either need a dual tuner or have a switch that allows you to choose what signal goes to the TV.

If your cable requires a box (either for all channels or just the

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premium channels) then you need to set up a remote sensor. This "eye" connects to a USB port on the computer and has 2 jacks for IR control cables. The end of the cable is attached to your cable box. When you use the remote control, it sends a signal to the remote sensor, which passes it to the computer, which send a signal down the IR control cable to make your cable box change to the correct channel.

It sounds a lot worse than it is to set up and use. If you do require a box, you will need a second one as well as a second IR cable if you get the dual tuner.

Ed

On Jan 5, 1:25 pm, "Jay" <Jay.Pomp...@xxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

I understand that decent TV tuner cards have a PC monitor out and a TV/video out connection for sending video to either your PC monitor or your TV. What I'm not sure of is how you select which output you want to use. In other words, sometimes I want to surf the net on my PC monitor. And other times, say, I downloaded a show using Media Center, and now I want to 'push' it to the TV and watch it. How do you switch between the two? I know on the TV end I would probably have to switch sources, but what about the originating (PC) end to tell it to go to the TV output and not the PC monitor output?

Also, one other thing I don't understand is, do I need to put my Comcast cable box in line before the input to the TV tuner card? Or does the TV tuner card in the PC already serve as a type of cable box? What I'm getting at is I need to know if I need to pick up a SECOND digital cable box (1 for the TV, and one for the PC) for the PC.

I'm thinking (and please anyone is welcome to offer other suggestions) is that I want to keep my PC as the content recorder and 'pusher' to the TV.

Thank you.