

Re: Hooking up tv to computer

Source:

<http://www.tech-archive.net/Archive/Windows/microsoft.public.windows.mediacenter/2007-10/msg00268.html>

- *From:* ric926 <ric926@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Sat, 6 Oct 2007 12:03:02 -0700
-

ati 9600 pro, flat screen using vgi, tv has vgi,s vid, and reg lookin rca
conns.
tv/comp can be pip , split screen or one or the other
reinstalling new drivers today, will keep ya posted thanks for the response
—
rf

"RalfG" wrote:

Basically the same. TV as the only monitor? Either way it depends on how you connect to the TV and whether it is a standard resolution TV or otherwise. You could use Clone mode instead of Extended if you wanted both displays to be identical but then the resolution should really be the same for both (lowest common denominator). The resolution of most standard TVs isn't very good for use as a monitor but higher resolution LCD and plasma TVs should be Okay. My 32" Sony standard TV sucks as a monitor even when set at 1024x768 resolution but we've got a 15" LCD TV with the same resolution that is nearly perfect for use as a monitor (its native resolution is slightly less than the 19" LCD monitor it is paired with).

If you've got HDTV, LCD or Plasma you can set up the MC computer to use whatever the optimum resolution of the TV is. One caveat is if you connect to the TV using S-Video and configure MC settings accordingly, MC (XP MCE 2005) will default to low resolution output regardless of what you set the video adapter resolution to be. At least that was always my experience with it. If your TV has VGA, DVI or Component inputs that you can use the MC resolution isn't restricted that way (AFAIK). For example, I can set the display resolution for the TV to 1024x768 in Windows Display properties and the Windows desktop, Media Player and other apps will obey that setting. If I configure Media Center to display on the TV over the S-Video connection however it will automatically drop the resolution that MC displays itself in to somewhere around 700x500 regardless of the higher setting in Display properties. IOW it defaults to standard TV resolution. At that resolution if I ever need to drag MC onto my LCD monitor it looks pretty awful. A workaround is to configure Media Center to display on the monitor rather than the TV, using the monitor's higher resolution. Then Media Center can be

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dragged onto the TV screen and when maximised will be at the Display resolution set in Windows.

One Media Center annoyance in the dual monitor configuration is that some MC components will always open on the Primary monitor even if MC is running full screen on the secondary monitor. It doesn't affect the main MC features but Solitaire, Tweak MCE and some others won't open on the extended desktop display.

The drivers from MS update are usually pretty basic. They don't include everything that the manufacturer provides in their driver downloads so it's not surprising if some of the video card's features are suddenly missing or broken after the "update". I get the impression you are using an ATI All-In-Wonder card? AFAIK only the AIW 9600 and higher cards are supported in XP MCE and even then there are limitations on some of them (eg. the HDTV Wonder analog tuner is not detected by MCE but digital is).

There's a list of XP MCE supported ATI cards here:

<http://ati.de/buy/promotions/mcesolutions/index.html>

"ric926" <ric926@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
<news:791FB199-084E-42AC-AA1F-8E16354E9773@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

btw i was just being sarcastic last time guys, quick question for ralfg,
what
if the tv is the monitor also would the recomendations you stated apply
also?
i got a ati update from windows and lost my tuner (i can split the screen
on
my tv or use it as one or the other) but i am just getting ready to
reinstall
ati's most recent drivers, but the odd thing was mce would never pick up
the
tuner
thanks—
rf

"RalfG" wrote:

Since you mentioned Catalyst you probably have an ATI
video card. Open
Display properties, go to settings, click on the picture of the
2nd
display,
then in the options that appear below it select "extend my
Windows

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desktop
onto this monitor". Set the screen resolution setting to
800x600 or
640x480
and the color quality to Highest. Click Apply. Assuming that
the S-video
cable is connected to the TV and you have your TV input
selector switched
to
the S-Video input your wallpaper should appear on the
screen. Click Okay.

If you need to adjust the display area dimensions and
position on the TV
that is done in the advanced Catalyst controls. Similarly if
the TV
wasn't
detected that can be done manually in the Catalyst controls..
normally
both
displays should be turned on before you boot the computer
but when one is
a
TV it often isn't necessary.

"MRBC78" <MRBC78@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
wrote in message
news:9148C2CF-6E02-4A67-B0B6-0749B0042A92@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

"Jaime" wrote:

Depends on your PC.

First off, if you are using a
desktop, are you are sure
you are
plugged
into
a s-video output (it would
normally be on your video
card).

On a laptop, there may be a
key combination to activate
the s-video
out.

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On a desktop, you may have
to go into the display
properties and tell
the
card to use the s-video
output.

Have you run the display
setup wizard?

--

James
Orlando (Goofy says
"Hey"), Florida

"MRBC78"

<MRBC78@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

wrote in message

news:5D61C71A-5EFD-4D96-A5FC-FD5F2317247D@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx

I have ran
the s-video
cable from
the tv to the
computer,
but when I
want
to
watch
recorded tv
shows from
the
computer
on my tv
there is no
image.
Also, can I
see my
desktop on
my tv?

I am using a desktop windows xp media
center (DELL XPS 410). The
s-video
plug on the back of the tower next to the
monitor plug has seven prongs
and
one long wide prong at the bottom. My TV

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only has a four prong plug
with a
long wide prong at the bottom. (yes the cord
fits both)?? I also have
two
TV
tuners installed and they have a plug
matching the tv (four prong) i
tried
to
use them but still nothing? Is there a way to
set them up for output? I
looked in the display properties for the
s-video output selector but
saw
nothing? I have even tried the Catalyst
thing? rgh!@!

Why the HELL dont Microsoft and these
other companies make this easier?
Has
much money has some of us put into these
things come on now?