

# Black Box Micro

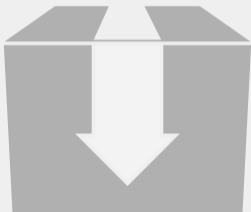
## User's Guide



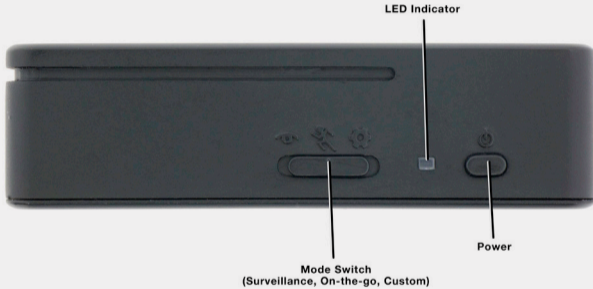
## **Black Box Micro**

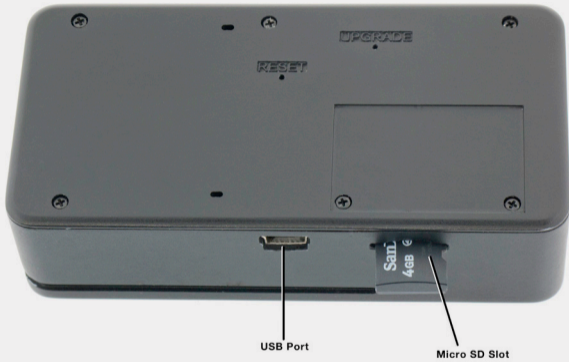
The Black Box Micro is a fully functional and customizable video recording system in a compact case. Use one of the 2 preset recording modes, or program custom settings to record based on motion or vibration, change video quality, video orientation and more. Record for up to 21 hours on a single charge, or use the AC adapter and eliminate power concerns.

All video is recorded to a micro SD card. Use the DVR Configuration Tool to customize your settings from your Windows PC, and view your videos using your PC's media player (MPC Star, Windows Media Player, VLC, etc.).



In the box you will find the Black Box Micro DVR, a USB cord, AC power adaptor, and this user's guide.





USB Port

Micro SD Slot




## Getting Started

The first step in using your device is charging it. Connect the device to a USB port on your PC or plug it into AC power with the included adapter. While charging, the LED indicator will glow red and will turn off when the battery is full. Before first use, we suggest charging the device for 8 hours

This device does not have internal memory and relies on a micro SD card for recording. The micro SD card should be inserted with the gold contacts facing up in the direction of the BrickHouse Security logo. Before inserting a micro SD card, make sure the card is formatted correctly. The device can record in the FAT 16/32 format. If you aren't sure how to format an SD card, you can find instructions [here](#):

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9WJU2Jf87KU&feature=plcp>. The Black Box Micro is compatible with micro SD cards up to 32GB capacity.

This chart shows the default settings for your Black Box Micro.

	Surveillance 	On-the-GO 	Custom (default) 
Video quality	High	High	(High) / Medium / Low
Resolution	320x240	640x480	640x480 / (320x240)
Circular recording	Enable	Disable	(Enable) / Disable
Timestamp	Enable	Disable	Enable / (Disable)
Frame rate	High	High	High / (Low)
Split file time (min)	30	15	10 / (15) / 30
Day / Night mode	Day mode	Day mode	(Day mode) / Night mode Auto switching
Orientation	Normal	Normal	(Normal) / Vertical Flip
Vibration-Trigger Sensitivity	Disable	Disable	(High) / Medium / Low / Disable
Motion Detection Sensitivity	Disable	Disable	High / Medium / Low / (Disable)

\* Setting video quality to low, resolution to 320x240 and frame rate to low can have the longest recording time, functioning similarly as a digital voice recorder.

\*\* The recording mode cannot be changed after the mini DVR starts recording

To change settings on your device or record motion-activated video, you will need to download and install the DVR Configuration Tool. This can be downloaded from <http://l.bhs.net/blackbox>. Once downloaded, open the zipped file, double-click on Setup.exe and follow the prompts on your screen to complete installation. **Note that motion activation is a feature of Custom recording, and must be activated using the Coffiguration Tool.**

Videos can be played using Windows Media Player (version 9 or higher), MPC Star or VLC Player. MPC Star (<http://www.mpcstar.com/>) is the recommended player for its ability to toggle between vertical and horizontal video orientation.

# DVR Configuration



The DVR Configuration Tool is broken up into 3 sections. When the DVR is plugged into your PC via USB, the icon along the top will say “DVR Connected”. If it says “DVR Disconnected”, you may need to power your computer off and on and plug the device back in.

**Date Time:** in the Date Time section, you can adjust the time stamp on your videos. Choose PC Date Time to program the device using the time and date saved to your computer.

Click the Custom Date Time radio button to manually program the time stamp using the dropdown boxes.

DVR Date Time SnapShot displays the time stamp programmed into your Black Box Micro when it was connected to your PC.

To load any time changes, click on Sync Date Time to DVR. You should see a notification that reads, “Date Time Updated” when complete.

If the device runs out of power it will hold its time settings for up to 5 days. If more time passes between charges, the time will have to be reset.

**Settings:** in the Settings section you can create custom recording settings for your Black Box Micro.

**Video Quality:** High, Medium, or Low. The higher the video quality, the more memory it will use.

**Resolution:** 640 x 480 or 320 x 240

**Circular Recording:** Enable or Disable circular recording. When enabled, the device will automatically delete the oldest file on the memory card if it reaches capacity, and replace it with a new file.

**Timestamp:** Enable or Disable to turn the timestamp on and off.

**Frame Rate:** High is 18 FPS. Low is 6 FPS.

**Split File Time:** Choose 10, 15, or 30. This is how long the device will record before creating a new file. For example; if you choose 10, the device will save each recording and start a new file every 10 minutes

**Day/Night Mode:** Choose Day, Night, or Auto switching. When in Night mode, the device needs less light to capture video, but its picture can be “blown out” if there is bright light. Enabling Auto switching will allow the device to automatically switch between Day and Night modes, depending on current lighting conditions.

**Orientation:** Choose Normal or Vertical Flip. In Normal setting, the side of the device with the BrickHouse Security Logo will be considered the top. In Vertical Flip, the side with the Mode Switch and Power button will be considered the top. This allows you to adjust orientation depending on where you will be placing the device.

Vibration-Trigger Sensitivity: High, Medium, Low, or Disable the vibration sensor.

Motion Detection Sensitivity: High, Medium, Low, or Disable motion activation.

Once you have chosen your settings, click on the Sync Settings to DVR icon. You will receive a Settings Saved notification when they have been loaded.

**Option:** The Option section allows you to change the language the DVR Configuration Tool will display. Choose from English, Chinese traditional, and Chinese simplified. Click on the Save Option button to save any changes you have made. When disconnecting the Black Box Micro from your computer, be sure to always choose the Safely Remove Hardware option in the Windows control panel.

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## **Recording Video**

To record video, choose Surveillance, On-the-Go, or Custom using the Mode switch, then hold down the Power button for 2-3 seconds. When powered on, the LED will blink green twice and stay on for 60 seconds before going dark. Once it stops blinking, the device is recording using the settings loaded for whatever mode you have chosen.

## Viewing Your Files

To view your files on a computer, simply connect the device via the supplied USB cord with the Micro SD card inserted to the device, making sure the device is powered Off. It will connect as a removable drive, and depending on the settings on your PC, it may automatically notify you that new hardware was detected. If so, select Open Folder to View Files.

If it is not automatically detected, click Start on your desktop. Select My Computer if you are using Windows XP, or Computer if using Windows Vista or Windows 7. The device should be listed as a Removable Disk under the Devices With Removable Storage section. Open that drive, which will contain a folder called BHS. This folder will contain all your recorded files.

## Upgrading Firmware

Occasionally, upgrades may be available for your device's firmware that add functionality or fix issues. To upgrade your device, download the new firmware to your PC and open the file. Once open, press the Reset button on the device using a paperclip, pin, or similar and connect the device to your computer via USB. The upgrade should occur automatically, and a notification will appear on your screen once it has been completed.

## Troubleshooting

**Problem:** The device is “stuck” with the LED light on and is not responding to any buttons.

**Solution:** This issue occurs most commonly when the device is given too many commands too quickly (rapidly pressing the power button repeatedly). This can cause it to freeze up. If this occurs, use a paper clip or other small object to gently push the Reset button while holding down the Power button, and plug the device into a power source. Hold the buttons down for 10 seconds to force the device to power down and reset. drained for 5 days, time settings will be lost.

Problem: The time is incorrect.

Solution: Charge the device and use the DVR Configure Tool to set the time. If the battery remains drained for 5 days, time settings will be lost.

Problem: As soon as the device is turned on the LED turns red and it will not accept any commands.

Solution: This indicates that the Black Box Micro is unable to read a memory card. Make sure there is a micro SD card inserted in the DVR. If there is a card, try formatting it or using another card.

## Glossary

DVR: short for Digital Video Recorder; this abbreviation refers to any device capable of recording and saving a digital video file. This is the high-tech equivalent of a VCR.

GB: GB is short for gigabyte which is a unit used to measure computer storage capacity and is approximate to 1.07 billion bytes. 1 Gigabyte of data is almost twice the amount of data that a CD-ROM can hold. Additionally, 1 Gigabyte could hold the contents of about 10 yards of books on a shelf.

## Glossary (cont.)

**LED:** An abbreviation for “light emitting diode,” it’s an electronic device that lights up when electricity passes through it. LEDs are good for displaying images because they can be relatively small, and they do not burn out. However, they require more power than LCDs.

**Micro SD Card:** Micro SD cards, also known as TransFlash, are smaller versions of SD memory cards. As electronic devices are becoming smaller, Micro SD cards are becoming more and more common in the marketplace. Currently, the highest capacity of micro SD card is 32GB.

## **Glossary (cont.)**

USB Port: A USB port is a standard cable connection interface on personal computers and consumer electronics. USB ports allow stand-alone electronic devices to be connected via cables to a computer. USB can connect computer peripherals such as mice, keyboards, PDAs, gamepads and joysticks, scanners, digital cameras, printers, personal media players, flash drives, and external hard drives.



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