

DVR Installation Guide

Version 1.0.0.

Revised October 12th, 2018

This quick installation guide will provide basic information on how to install and setup your DVR. For a more in depth look on key features of your device please refer to the Quick Start Guide or User Manual.

- ## What Is Included?

  Your Amcrest DVR will come with the following items for setup:

  1. The Amcrest DVR unit.
  2. A power cable (red and yellow), HDD cable (blue and black), and fastener screws to install your hard drive.
  3. A power adapter for your DVR.
  5. A USB Mouse
  6. A Quick Start Guide and other useful documentation.

- ## First Time Use

Remove the DVR its contents from the box. Since the DVR will need to be hooked up to your network router, place the device in an area that can be easily accessible to your router with an Ethernet cable. Please also verify your cameras or within range of the device before setting up or installing your cameras.

- ## Hard drive installation

A hard drive can be installed if you want to be able to use the DVR to record and save footage locally (on the DVR). Having a hard drive allows you to configure and use the recording functionality of the DVR, including playing back previously recorded footage.

The DVR has connections for only 1 hard drive inside the case. The hard drive must be no bigger than 4TB (Terabytes).

To install your hard drive, the following is needed:

- A medium sized (regular) Phillips-head screwdriver - *not included*
- A hard drive - *not included*
- Four hard drive fastening screws - *included*

Note: **Before installing the hard drive, make sure the DVR is powered off with the power cable disconnected.**







1. Loosen the screws of the upper cover and side panel.	2. Attach four screws in the HDD (Turn just three times).	3. Place the HDD in accordance with the four holes in the bottom.







4. Turn the device upside down and then turn the screws in firmly.	5. Attach the HDD firmly.	6. Connect the HDD cable and power cable.





7. Put the cover in accordance with the clip and then place the upper cover back on.	8. Secure the screws in the rear panel and the side panel.

- **Setting Up the Cable Connections**

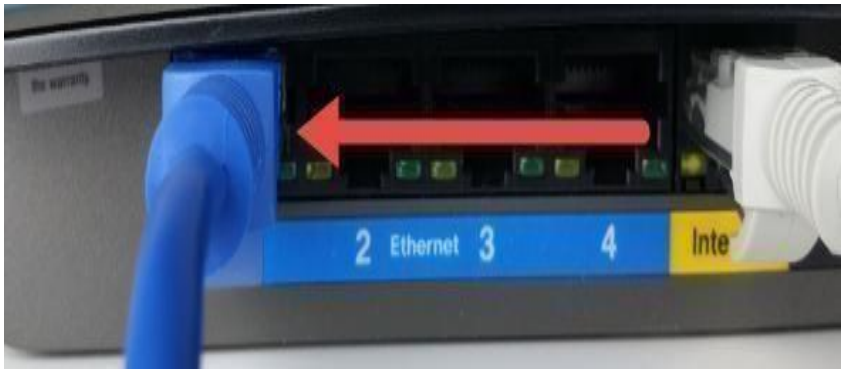
The following instructions will show you how to set up the cables for the DVR, as well how to setup a monitor or TV screen to the device. The images provided are for demonstrational purposes **only** and may vary model to model.

To set up the DVR"s cable connections, there are 7 simple steps:

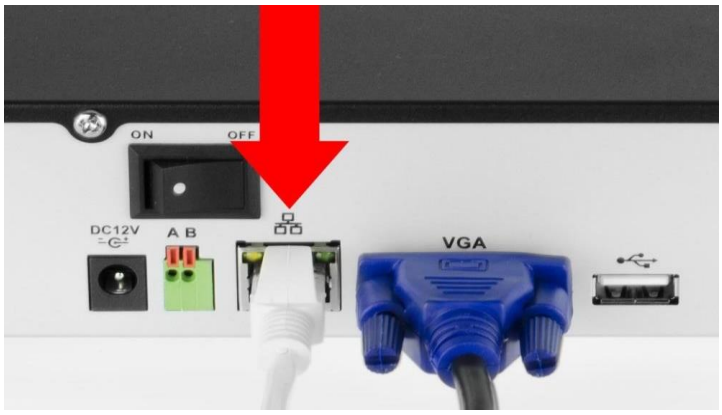
1. Connect a monitor or TV screen to your DVR. The DVR is compatible with any monitor or screen that uses a VGA or HDMI connection. For purposes of this guide, we will use a VGA connection. To start, take a VGA cable, and connect one end to the VGA port on your monitor/screen and the other end to the VGA port on the back panel of your DVR.



2. Connect an Ethernet cable to your router.



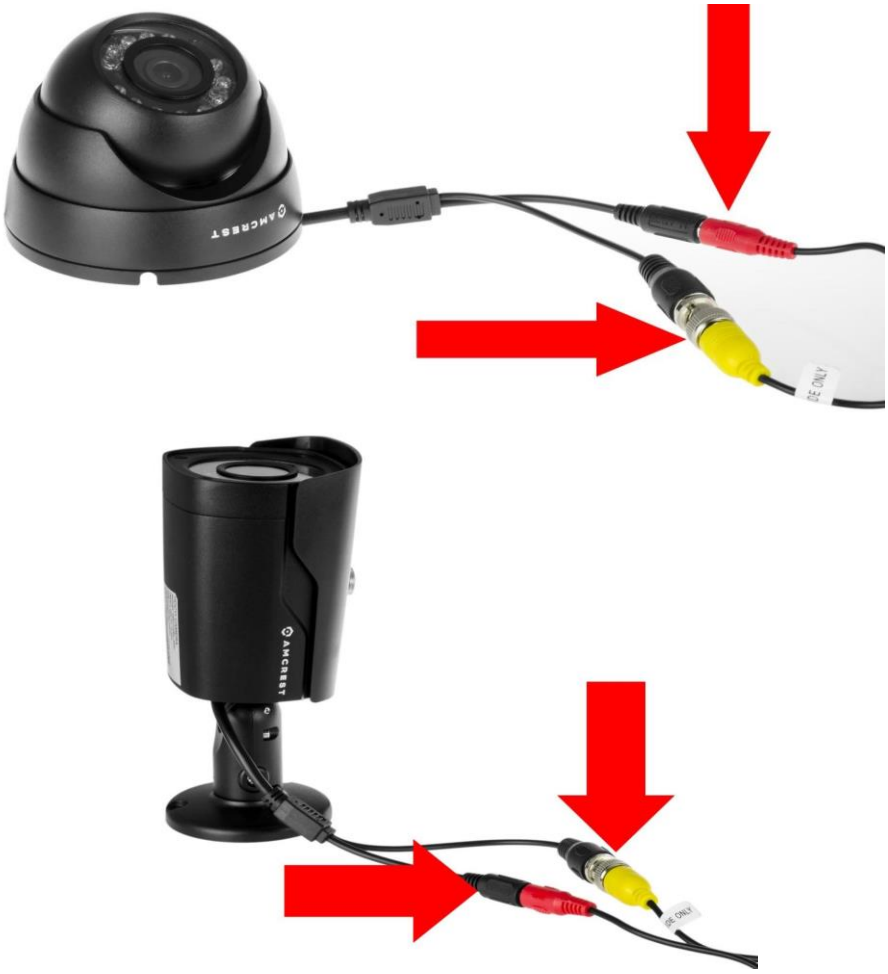
Then, connect the other end of the Ethernet cable to the DVR.



3. Connect the USB mouse to a USB port on the DVR.



4. Connect the video extension cable to the camera's video cable then connect the power extension cable to the camera's power cable. There should be a tag on the video cable to help you make sure the right end of the cable is at hand.



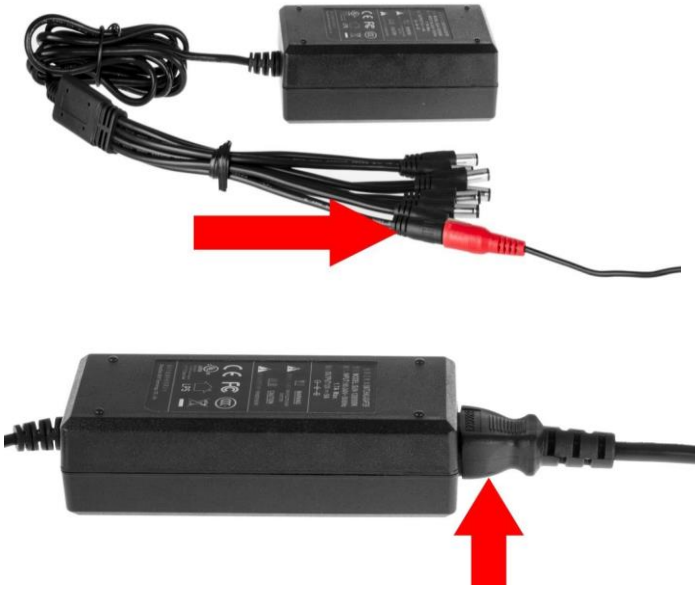
Plug the adapter into a wall outlet or power strip.



5. Connect the camera cable to any of the video input (coaxial) ports on the DVR.



6. Connect the camera power extension cable to one of the camera power cables, connect this power cable into the power brick, and then plug the cable into an electrical socket.



7. Connect the DVR power cable into the back of the DVR, and then plug in the DVR power adapter into an electrical socket.



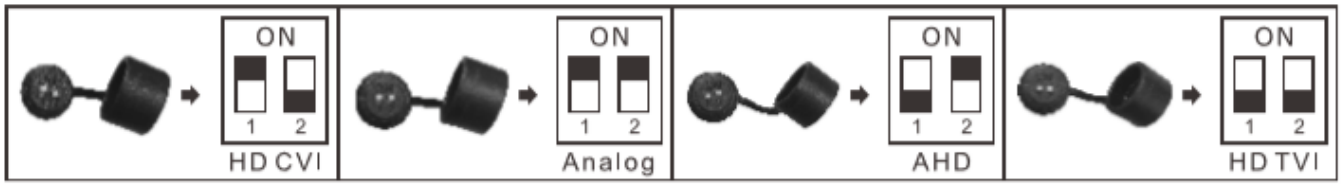
The DVR will turn on. Allow the device to boot up, you will then be taken to an administrator setup page.

Using 4-in-1 Cameras?

Quadbrid or 4-in-1 technology, allows for a flexible means of providing HD-CVI, HD-TVI, AHD, and Analog formatted video to your DVR. The signal is transmitted uncompressed, which eliminates latency and allows for real-time, highly reliable video security without loss or delay. The cameras connect point-to-point directly to the DVR (BNC) which provides a highly secure, closed network, as well as a painless and non-complex plug-and-play setup process. The toggle switch for your 4-in-1 camera is represented in the image below:



Most Amcrest DVRs will require you to set the camera to **HD-CVI or Analog (960H)** settings and may not be compatible with HD-TVI or AHD. Ensure your 4-in-1 camera's toggle switch is set to the proper setting as indicated in the diagram below.



Note: If the proper mode configuration is not set, **you will not be able to view your camera on your DVR**. Please make sure you have the proper settings on your camera before you begin setting up or installing.

To install your Amcrest 4-in-1 camera, please follow the steps provided below:

Note: Make sure you have the proper mode configuration on your camera before running or connecting any cables. Refer to the Figure 1-1 for more details on how to set mode configurations for your specific DVR.

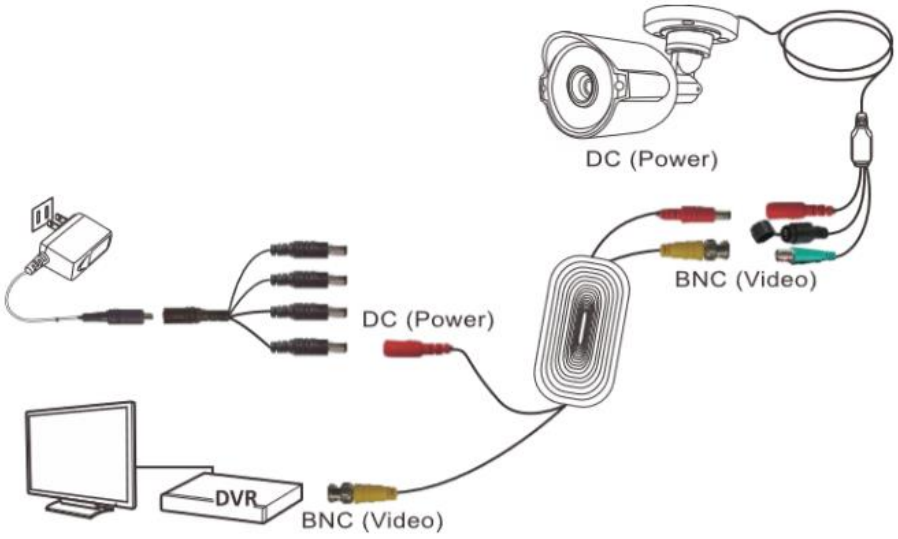
Step 1: Connect a BNC (coaxial) cable to the video out connection of your camera.

Step 2: Connect the male end of the DC power connector of the BNC (coaxial) cable to the female end of the power connector of the camera.

Step 3: Connect the BNC (coaxial) cable to a video out channel on the back of your DVR.

Step 4: Connect the male end of the DC power connector of the power adapter to the female end of the power connector of the BNC (coaxial) cable. Plug in the power adapter to apply power to the camera.

For more information on the installation process described, refer to the image below for more details.



Note: Your DVR may not work properly if the following is not accounted for.

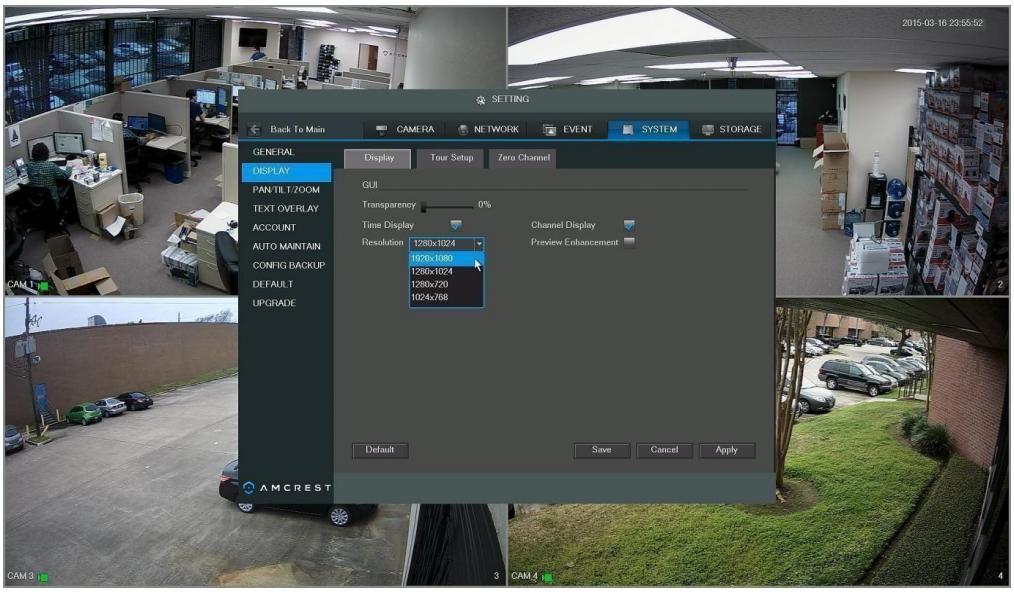
Every DVR comes preset to a video output resolution of **1280x1024**. What this means is that any time an HDMI cable is plugged into an HDTV, it may result with a blank screen even if the DVR is operational.

If this occurs, please follow the steps below.

Procedure using a VGA cable:

1. Connect your DVR to a computer monitor or TV screen with a VGA cable (the HDMI cable should not be connected during this process).
2. Boot up your DVR. When the interface loads, you will see the login screen appear. On the monitor or TV, please make sure the 'input' is set to VGA.
3. On your DVR, open the Main Menu by left-clicking once on the live feed screen and, under the Settings row, click on the System icon. Then, on the new window, click Display from the list on the left column of options. Change your resolution from **1280x1024** to **1920x1080** and click Apply down below. Your DVR will reset to effect the change.
4. Disconnect the VGA cable and connect your DVR to an HD monitor or TV using an HDMI cable. Don't forget to change the input to HDMI on a TV. Your interface will now appear, and you can use your DVR freely.

Display Settings Screen

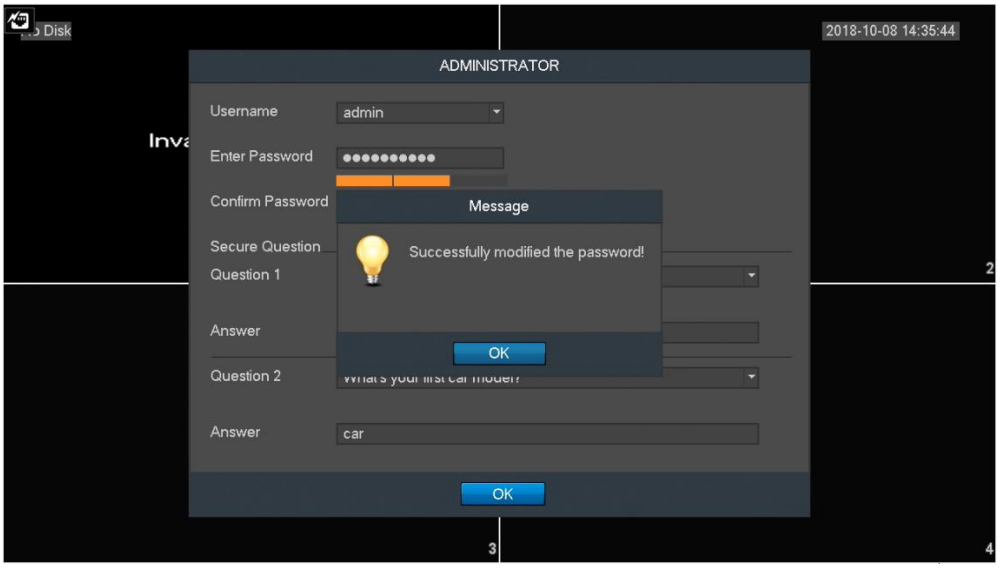


- **DVR Setup**

The first screen you will be taken to during setup will be the Administrator page. In this page, you will set your DVR username and password as well as set up security questions. These security questions will help assist during password reset procedures or as a means of gaining access to a forgotten password.

Note: A strong password for the device should be between 8 to 32 characters long with a combination of letters and numbers. Please avoid using special characters during password setup.

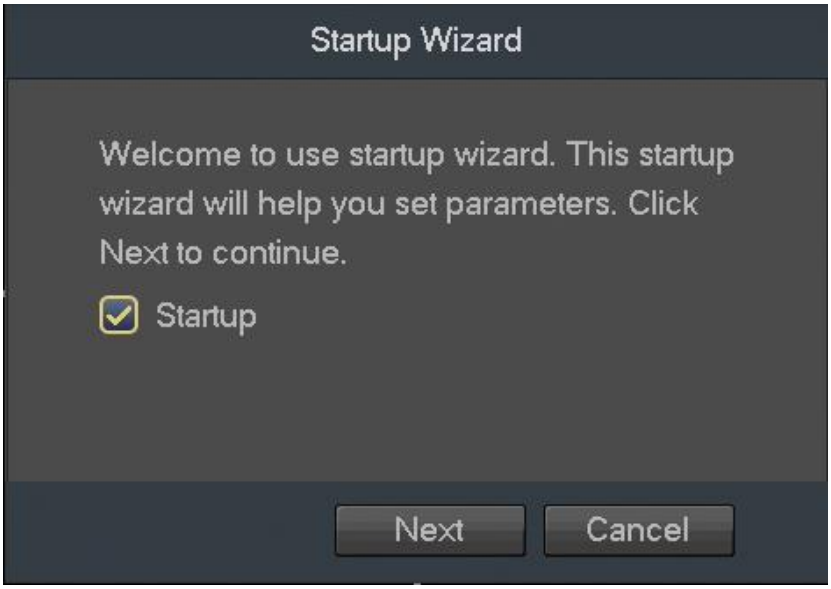
After you have entered a valid password, use the drop-down menu in question one and two to select a security question. Enter the answer for your question into the **Answer** field. When you are done, click **OK** to continue. The information will then be modified and saved to your device, click on **OK** to continue.



After the administrator page has been modified, you will then be taken to the startup wizard which will guide you through a step by step process of setting up your DVR.

- **Startup Wizard Walkthrough**

The first page of the Startup Wizard will appear:

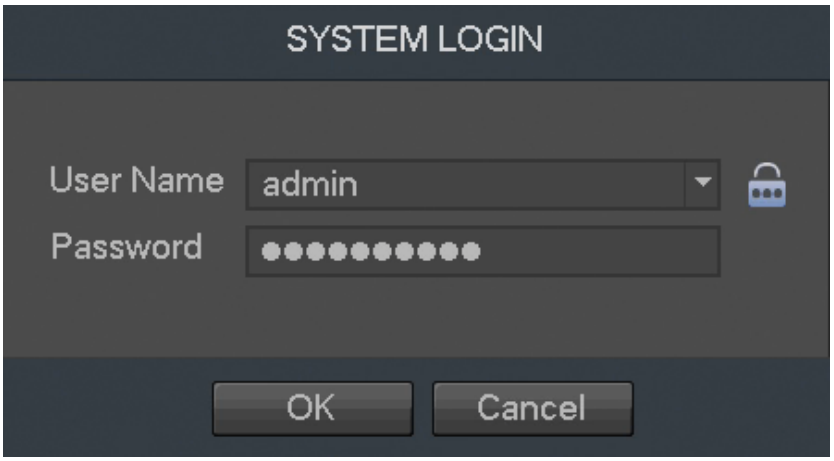


If you do not want to use the Startup Wizard, or you have already gone through it and do not want it to keep appearing, unmark the checkbox next to **Startup** and click **Cancel**. To proceed with the startup wizard, click **Next**.

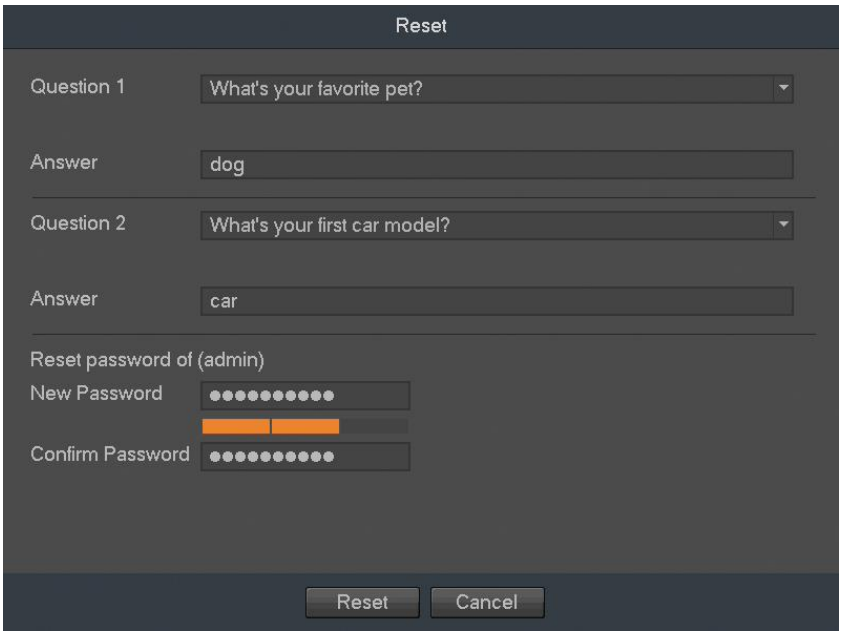
Note: Every page from the Startup Wizard that follows can be accessed and modified at any time through the Main Menu.

System Login

Log into your DVR with the credentials set up on the administrator page. Type in the username and password you have initially set for the DVR and press **OK** to continue.



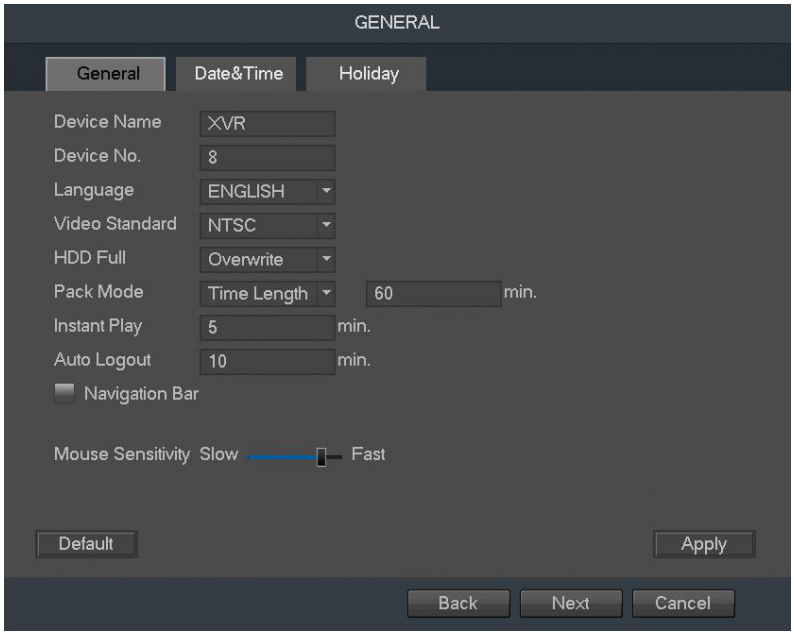
If you have forgotten your password or would like to reset your existing password. Click on the Forgot Password icon ( ) and answer the security questions that you assigned in the administrator menu.



Next, enter the new password that you would like to set in the **New Password** field and confirm the password. Lastly, click on the **Reset** button to reset the password. Once your password has been successfully reset, click on **OK** to continue.

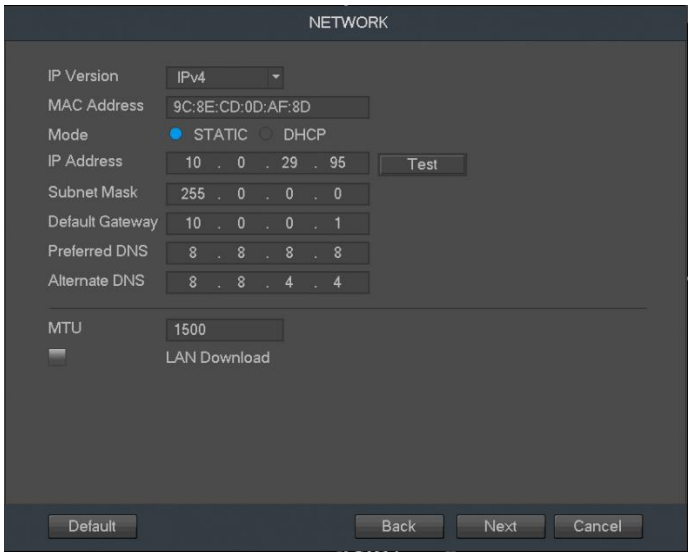
General

The first screen that comes up is the **GENERAL** settings screen. Make sure to click the tabs at the top for Date & Time, as well as Holiday to configure those settings as well. Once you are satisfied with the settings on this screen, click the **Next** button at the bottom of the screen.



Network

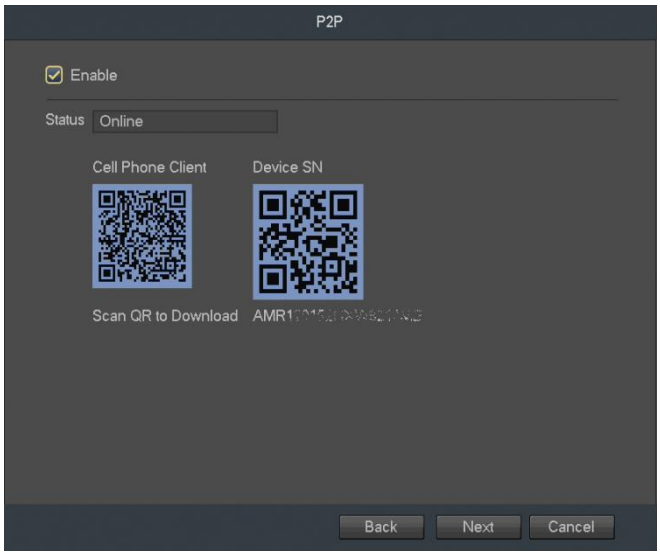
The next screen that comes up is the **NETWORK** settings screen. *Unless you have a specific reason to change these settings, it's best to leave them as they are.* Please note, the IP address for the DVR will be used to access your DVR's web user interface on a laptop or PC. As good practice it is important to set your IP address to static before proceeding. For more information on how to access your DVR's web user interface on a laptop or PC, visit, amcrest.com/DVRwebsetup.



Once you are satisfied with the settings on this screen, click the **Next** button at the bottom of the screen.

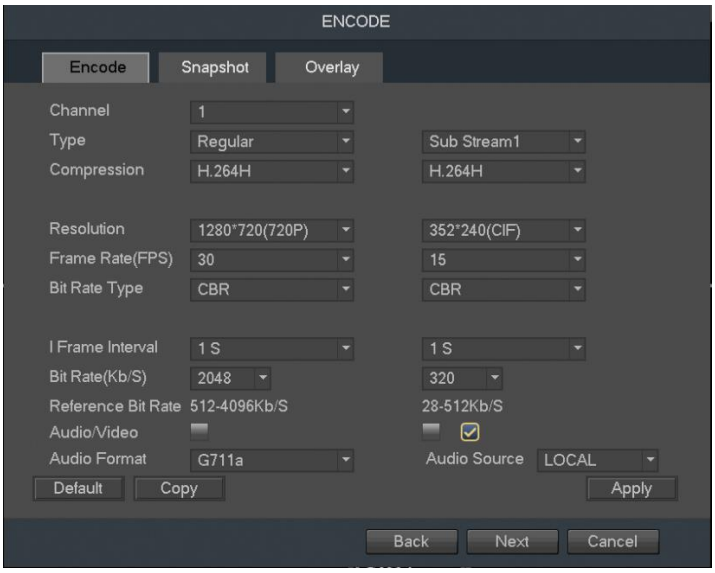
P2P

The next screen that appears is the P2P screen. This screen allows you to connect your DVR to your mobile device via the Amcrest View Pro app. To download the app, use your mobile devices camera and scan the **Cell Phone Client** QR code. For more information on how to add your DVR to the Amcrest View Pro app, visit amcrest.com/appsetupDVR

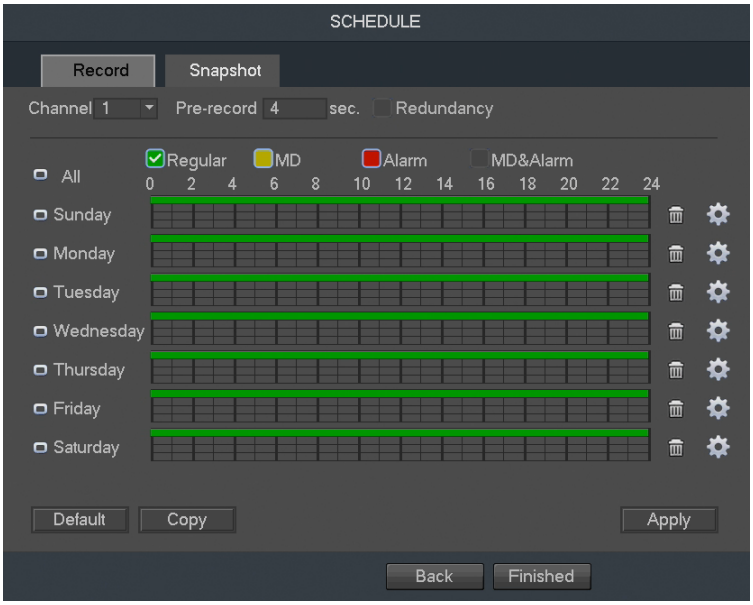


Encode

The next screen that appears is the **ENCODE** settings screen. This is where you can adjust the video quality settings for your DVR/cameras, including the compression and frame rate. Make sure to check the **Snapshot** and **Overlay** tabs to see those settings too.



The next screen you see is the Schedule settings screen. Make sure to click the tabs at the top for Record and Snapshot to configure those settings as well. Your DVR is configured, by default, to record everything on all channels 24/7 (this will only actually happen provided you have a hard drive installed). You can also use this screen to set up motion detection and alarm schedules.



Once you are satisfied with the settings on this screen, click the **Finished** button at the bottom of the screen.

Congratulations! You have just successfully setup your Amcrest DVR!

Before following this guide to the next step, that covers the main menu, you will need to left-click once or right-click and select “Main Menu” from the right-click menu.

- ## Main Menu Overview

The screenshot below is the main menu screen for the Amcrest DVR console interface:



Below are short descriptions for each of the menu items on the main menu:

OPERATION -> **SEARCH**: Search and playback recorded video that is stored on the hard drive.
OPERATION -> **BACKUP**: Backup recorded files onto a USB drive.
OPERATION -> **SHUTDOWN**: Logout, shutdown, or restart the system.

INFO -> **SYSTEM**: View information about the recordings, hard drive statistics, or version information. **INFO** -> **NETWORK**: View information about the network or test the network status **INFO** -> **EVENT**: Display information about events that triggered recording. **INFO** -> **LOG**: Display system logs of critical events.

SETTINGS -> **CAMERA**: Review or edit settings for each camera, including video settings (e.g. quality, bit rate, color, etc.).
SETTINGS -> **NETWORK**: Review or edit network settings for the DVR (e.g. email, DDNS, UPnP, etc.) **SETTINGS** -> **EVENT**: Review or edit settings that trigger recording events (e.g. motion detection, alarm, etc.).
SETTINGS -> **SYSTEM**: Review or edit system parameters or configuration, including account settings (e.g. usernames, etc.).
SETTINGS -> **STORAGE**: Review or edit storage parameters and settings.

For a more in depth look into these settings and more please refer to the Quick Start Guide or User Manual for your device. You can also visit, amcrest.com/support for more helpful tips.

Appendix A Toxic or Hazardous Materials

Component Name	Toxic or Hazardous Materials or Elements					
	Pb	Hg	Cd	Cr VI	PBB	PBDE
Sheet Metal (Case)	o	o	o	o	o	o
Plastic Parts (Panel)	o	o	o	o	o	o
Circuit Board	o	o	o	o	o	o
Fastener	o	o	o	o	o	o
Wire and Cable/AC Adapter	o	o	o	o	o	o
Packing Material	o	o	o	o	o	o
Accessories	o	o	o	o	o	o

O: Indicates that the concentration of the hazardous substance in all homogeneous materials in **Note:** the parts is below the relevant threshold of the SJ/T11363-2006 standard.
X: Indicates that the concentration of the hazardous substance of at least one of all homogeneous materials in the parts is above the relevant threshold of the SJ/T11363-2006 standard. During the environmental-friendly use period (EFUP) period, the toxic or hazardous substance or elements contained in products will not leak or mutate so that the use of these (substances or elements) will not result in any severe environmental pollution, any bodily injury or damage to any assets. The consumer is not authorized to process such kind of substances or elements, please return to the corresponding local authorities to process according to your local government statutes. **Note:**

- This document was created to be used as a reference for initial DVR setup. Slight differences may be found in the user interface
- All the designs and software here are subject to change without prior written notice.
- All trademarks and registered trademarks mentioned are the properties of their respective owners.
- If there is any uncertainty or controversy, please refer to us for the final explanation.
- Please visit our website or contact your local service engineer for more information.

References & Contact Information

To view setup videos for many of the steps outlined in this guide, go to http://amcrest.com/videos

For more supplemental information to view articles related visit http://amcrest.com/support

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If you have any questions or concerns, please contact us at support@amcrest.com, or call us at 888-212-7538.

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