

Can I use a ZVOX Audio V-Series system with my TV?

In the majority of home TV systems, a V-Series will add great sound at a reasonable price. Here are some explanations for people interested in the V-Series.

A V-Series system has convenient audio inputs.

The ZVOX Audio V220, V320 and V420 each have a total of five selectable audio inputs.

On the back panel, you will find:

- An optical digital audio input (**dIn1** on the system display)

- A coaxial digital audio input (**dIn2**)

- Analog audio input 1 (left and right phono jacks) (**In1**)

- Analog audio input 2 (left and right phono jacks) (**In2**)

On the front panel, there is a 3.5mm stereo minijack:

- Analog audio input 3 (**In3**)

Most people will use one audio input on the rear (either digital or analog). The front panel audio input is convenient for connecting portable audio sources like a “smart phone” or mp3 player. We included the miniplug to miniplug cable you would need for this purpose.

You should connect to the audio output on your TV (analog setup is typically easier).

We recommend making one audio signal connection from your TV to the V-Series system.

Using the TV’s audio output allows you to hear any program you select on the TV.

Connecting the V-Series speaker to individual program sources is not necessary.

All recent HDTVs have at least one digital audio output. The majority of TVs also include a two-channel analog audio output. As of 2012, it is typically some Panasonic and some Toshiba TVs that restrict audio to a single digital output. There are individual exceptions to this generalization. We encourage you to check with ZVOX Audio if you want to know the audio output configuration of any specific HDTV model. We pay attention to these details and are happy to save you time.

Call us toll free: (866) FOR-ZVOX (866) 367-9869 or email us at info@zvoxaudio.com

If your TV has an analog audio output, we recommend you use it. The analog audio output is of equivalent quality to the digital audio output when used with a ZVOX Audio V-Series system. Also, an analog audio output is sure to provide audio from every video program source (cable or satellite box, DVD/Bluray player, game box, direct-connect HDTV cable TV, off-air TV antenna, etc).

Won’t a digital audio output provide audio from every program source?

Not all digital audio is the same format. The digital audio processor on ZVOX Audio V-Series systems uses PCM format (Pulse Code Modulation). This is the “general” digital audio signal. It is not licensed or restricted. The primary “licensed” digital audio format is Dolby Digital. The V-Series systems can not process Dolby Digital audio bitstreams.

What if I would like to use the digital audio output?

Some TVs convert all digital audio to PCM before sending the signal to the TV's digital audio output. In this case, you can connect the V-Series speaker to the digital audio output of your TV and you will hear all the audio. But it is possible the audio from some programs or from some sources will not be heard. This indicates the TV is sending digital audio through without converting the digital audio to PCM from a proprietary format, usually Dolby Digital.

How can I hear all the audio using a TV's digital audio output?

You can configure each video program source to send PCM digital audio to the TV. In a typical case, a ZVOX Audio system owner will have a cable or satellite box and DVD/Bluray disc player. Each of these two devices has audio configuration options. Use the option to restrict the digital audio format to PCM rather than Dolby Digital or "bitstream". Once these two sources are configured to send PCM digital audio to the TV, a ZVOX Audio V-Series system will reproduce all the sound from both sources.

I connect my video program sources to my TV with HDMI cables. How is this related to digital audio formats like Dolby Digital and PCM?

Most video program sources connect to the TV using an HDMI cable. The digital audio is sent to the TV along with digital video. Less often, digital audio can be connected to the TV using a digital audio cable (optical or coaxial). These are simply connection methods (HDMI, optical digital, coaxial digital). Each supports transfer of any digital audio format (Dolby Digital or PCM).

Will the audio output of my TV work with all the video sources on my TV?

All current TV sets send the audio of the currently selected video program to both the digital audio output and the analog audio output. It doesn't matter which audio format is used by the video program source. The TV makes the digital to analog conversion or the analog to digital conversion.

Are any TV/video program source combinations not compatible with a V-Series system?

This specific combination of TV and video sources is not compatible:

If you use an off-air antenna to receive HDTV signals OR if you connect an HDTV cable directly to your TV via the threaded (screw on) cable connector on the TV (no cable box) AND your TV has no analog audio output, then a V-Series system will not play audio from all the programs you can watch. This is the only case where the proprietary Dolby Digital audio is the only audio option provided by the TV.

We hasten to repeat--most TVs have an analog audio output. In this case, a V-Series system will work beautifully with either of the two video sources I just named.

Besides the common left and right phono jack audio output, many TVs use a "stereo minijack" for an analog audio output. As of 2012, LG and Samsung brand TVs usually have a minijack analog audio output. Some recent Sony models have switched to a combination headphone/audio output stereo minijack. We encourage you to check with ZVOX Audio if you want to know the audio output options of any specific model.

Call us toll free: (866) FOR-ZVOX (866) 367-9869 or email us at info@zvoxaudio.com