



# What's the Plus in Dolby® Digital Plus?

For current and emerging broadcast formats, Dolby Digital Plus defines the broadcast surround experience.

Dolby® Digital Plus is a next-generation audio codec that includes Dolby Digital, while offering extended capabilities for evolving content delivery systems.

## More Channels

Dolby Digital Plus can offer 7.1 channels of surround sound for today's HD broadcasts, providing a richer and more involving entertainment experience. It's also ready for future home entertainment developments, allowing up to 14 channels of surround sound.

## More Features

Dolby Digital Plus adds interactive mixing, enabling multiple new audio tracks to be mixed into the single bitstream. These could be audio descriptors of the video for the visually impaired, or a movie director's commentary streamed from the studio website.

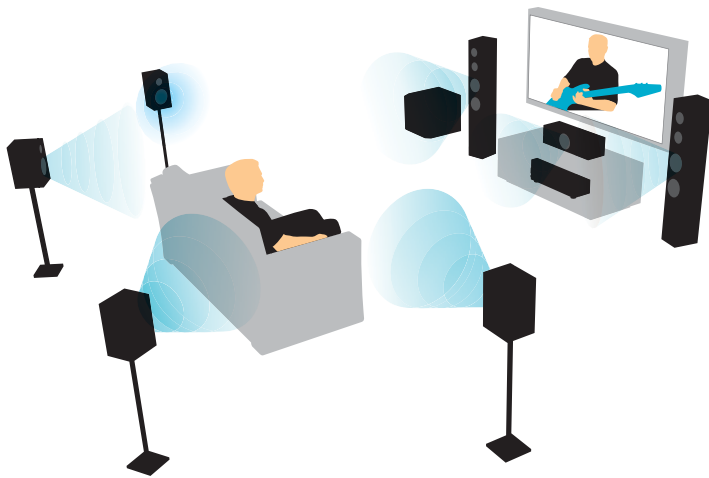
## Flexibility

Dolby Digital Plus is scalable—the bit rate can be configured for the available broadcast system, while delivering compelling multichannel sound. Dolby Digital Plus easily scales from limited-bandwidth systems to high-bandwidth VOD entertainment, for the same high-definition sound as from HD DVD and Blu-ray Disc™.

## Compatibility

Dolby Digital Plus provides for compatibility with the huge installed base of Dolby Digital A/V receivers and home theater systems (over 500 million devices worldwide). As an integral piece of the Dolby broadcast chain from Hollywood to the home, Dolby Digital Plus ensures an exceptional entertainment experience.





Typical 7.1 Speaker Setup

## Dolby Digital Plus Features and Benefits

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**Feature:** Scalable sound delivery, with wide range of bit rates

**Benefits:** Optimum sound quality and efficiency for available bandwidth, consistently enhanced surround sound experience

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**Feature:** Up to 7.1 channels of surround sound

**Benefits:** More involving experience, dramatic special effects

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**Feature:** Backward compatibility

**Benefit:** Works with existing A/V receivers and home theater systems for compelling 5.1 surround sound with no loss of quality in the conversion process

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**Feature:** HDMI™ and IEEE 1394 support

**Benefit:** Easy connections with current and future components

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**Feature:** Interactive mixing capability

**Benefit:** Soundtracks with additional material, such as multiple languages, audio descriptors for the visually impaired, or streamed commentary from a website



## Where Dolby Digital Plus Fits into Next-Generation Broadcast

In the broadcast industry, growing demand for high-definition video content has fueled the development of new video compression technologies such as H.264. These new codecs can deliver high-quality content with more efficiency.

Dolby developed Dolby Digital Plus to provide an audio complement to these next-generation video codecs. Dolby Digital Plus maintains the high audio quality viewers have come to expect from Dolby Digital while providing additional benefits such as flexibility and scalability, more surround sound channels, and innovative features such as stream mixing. Dolby Digital Plus realizes its bandwidth savings through unique new audio coding tools and a proprietary bandwidth extension technology.

Dolby Digital Plus maintains backward compatibility with the installed base of Dolby Digital home A/V receivers through a converting tool that is at the heart of every Dolby Digital Plus set-top box, enabling the box to output a bitstream compliant with Dolby Digital in addition to Dolby Digital Plus.

Dolby Digital Plus is a mandatory part of the revised ATSC broadcast standard and of the ETSI standards related to digital television and IPTV. It is also a designated format in the DVB and IPTV audio/video specifications and has been selected by the ITU focus group on IPTV. In packaged media, Dolby Digital Plus is part of both the HD DVD and Blu-ray Disc formats.

## Applications for Dolby Digital Plus

Dolby Digital Plus is ideal for broadcast delivery formats—including cable, IPTV, satellite, and terrestrial TV—and can be easily implemented in set-top boxes and TV sets. Dolby Digital Plus technology is also applicable for HD DVD and Blu-ray Disc players and discs, next-generation A/V receivers, and game consoles.

To learn more about the specifications and capabilities of Dolby Digital Plus, or to find out how to incorporate this technology in your next-generation entertainment products, please contact us at [licensing@dolby.com](mailto:licensing@dolby.com).

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