

Samsung DVD-VR357

Samsung DVD-VR357 Tunerless DVD Recorder and VCR Combo User Manual

Model: DVD-VR357

1. INTRODUCTION

This manual provides detailed instructions for the setup, operation, and maintenance of your Samsung DVD-VR357 Tunerless DVD Recorder and VCR Combo. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the unit to ensure proper functionality and to maximize your viewing and recording experience. Keep this manual for future reference.

The Samsung DVD-VR357 is a versatile home entertainment device designed to play and record both DVD discs and VHS tapes. It features progressive scan output for enhanced picture quality and HDMI upconversion for improved resolution on compatible displays.

2. IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

Observe the following safety precautions to prevent electric shock, fire, or damage to the unit:

- **Power Source:** Connect the unit only to the power supply indicated on the rating label.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation. Do not block ventilation openings.
- **Water and Moisture:** Do not expose the unit to rain or moisture. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the unit.
- **Cleaning:** Unplug the unit from the wall outlet before cleaning. Use a dry cloth for cleaning.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
- **Placement:** Place the unit on a stable, level surface. Avoid placing it near heat sources or in direct sunlight.
- **Cables:** Route power cords and other cables carefully to prevent tripping hazards or damage.

CONSUMER ALERT: This television receiver has only an analog broadcast tuner and will require a converter box after February 17, 2009 to receive over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the U.S.'s transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TVs should continue to work as before with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCRs, DVD players, and similar products. For more information, call the Federal Communications Commission at 1-888-225-5322 (TTY: 1-888-835-5322), or visit the commission's digital-television Web site at: www.dtv.gov.

3. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in the package:

- Samsung DVD-VR357 Unit
- Remote Control
- AAA Batteries (2)
- User Manual (this document)
- Audio/Video Cables (may vary by region)

4. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

4.1 Front Panel

The front panel provides access to disc and tape loading, basic controls, and the display.



Image 1: Front view of the Samsung DVD-VR357 unit with its remote control. The unit features a DVD tray on the left, a VCR slot on the right, and a central display showing "7:45". Below the display are various control buttons and indicators, including power, open/close, and input selection. The remote control is positioned in front of the unit.

- **Power Button:** Turns the unit on or off.
- **DVD Tray:** Insert DVD discs here.
- **VCR Slot:** Insert VHS tapes here.
- **Display Panel:** Shows current time, playback status, and other information.
- **Open/Close Button:** Opens and closes the DVD tray.
- **Play/Pause/Stop Buttons:** Basic playback controls.
- **Input Selector:** Switches between DVD, VCR, and external inputs.

4.2 Rear Panel

The rear panel contains all connection ports for audio, video, and power.



Image 2: Rear view of the Samsung DVD-VR357 unit, highlighting its various connection ports. These include HDMI output, component video outputs (Y, Pb, Pr), composite video output, S-Video output, and analog audio outputs (L/R). There are also input ports for external devices.

- **HDMI Output:** Connects to an HDMI-compatible TV or receiver for digital audio and video.
- **Component Video Output (Y, Pb, Pr):** Connects to a TV for high-quality analog video.
- **Composite Video Output:** Connects to a TV for standard analog video.
- **S-Video Output:** Connects to a TV for improved analog video quality over composite.
- **Analog Audio Output (L/R):** Connects to a TV or audio receiver for stereo audio.
- **Digital Audio Output (Coaxial/Optical):** Connects to an audio receiver for digital surround sound.
- **Antenna In/Out:** For connecting an antenna or cable signal (note: tunerless unit).

4.3 Remote Control

The remote control provides full functionality for operating the DVD-VR357 from a distance. It requires two AAA batteries (included).

- **Power:** Turns the unit on/off.
- **DVD/VCR:** Selects DVD or VCR mode.
- **Input:** Selects external input sources.
- **Menu:** Accesses DVD or system menus.
- **Navigation Buttons (Up/Down/Left/Right/Enter):** Used for menu navigation and selection.
- **Playback Controls (Play, Pause, Stop, Fast Forward, Rewind, Skip):** Controls media playback.
- **Record:** Initiates recording.
- **Rec Speed:** Adjusts recording quality/duration for DVDs.
- **Title List/Disc Menu:** Accesses recorded titles or disc menus.
- **Tracking:** Adjusts VHS tracking during playback.

5. SETUP

5.1 Connecting the Unit

Follow these steps to connect your DVD-VR357 to your television and other audio equipment:

1. **Power Off:** Ensure your TV and the DVD-VR357 unit are turned off before making any connections.
2. **Video Connection (Choose ONE method):**
 - **HDMI (Recommended for best quality):** Connect an HDMI cable from the HDMI OUT port on the DVD-VR357 to an HDMI IN port on your TV.
 - **Component Video:** Connect component video cables (Red, Green, Blue) from the Y, Pb, Pr OUT ports on the DVD-VR357 to the corresponding IN ports on your TV.
 - **S-Video:** Connect an S-Video cable from the S-VIDEO OUT port on the DVD-VR357 to the S-VIDEO IN port on your TV.

- **Composite Video:** Connect a composite video cable (Yellow) from the VIDEO OUT port on the DVD-VR357 to the VIDEO IN port on your TV.
3. **Audio Connection (Choose ONE method, depending on video connection):**
- **HDMI:** If using HDMI for video, audio will be transmitted automatically through the same cable.
 - **Analog Audio:** Connect analog audio cables (Red for Right, White for Left) from the AUDIO OUT (L/R) ports on the DVD-VR357 to the corresponding AUDIO IN (L/R) ports on your TV or audio receiver.
 - **Digital Audio (Optional):** For surround sound, connect a coaxial or optical digital audio cable from the DIGITAL AUDIO OUT port on the DVD-VR357 to a compatible digital audio input on your audio receiver.
4. **Power Connection:** Plug the power cord into the AC IN socket on the rear of the DVD-VR357, then plug the other end into a wall outlet.
5. **Antenna/Cable (Optional):** If you are connecting an antenna or cable box directly to the unit (though it is tunerless), connect the antenna/cable to the ANT IN port. Then connect the ANT OUT port to your TV's antenna input.

5.2 Initial Setup

After connecting the unit, perform the initial setup:

1. **Power On:** Turn on your TV and the DVD-VR357 unit.
2. **Select Input:** On your TV, select the correct input source (e.g., HDMI 1, Video 1, Component) that corresponds to the connection you made to the DVD-VR357.
3. **Language Selection:** The first time you power on, you may be prompted to select a language for the on-screen display. Use the remote control's navigation buttons to select your preferred language and press ENTER.
4. **Clock Setting:** Set the current time. Refer to the on-screen prompts or the remote control's TIME SET button (if available) for instructions.

6. OPERATION

6.1 DVD Playback

1. Press the **DVD** button on the remote control to select DVD mode.
2. Press the **OPEN/CLOSE** button to open the disc tray.
3. Place a DVD disc onto the tray with the label side facing up.
4. Press **OPEN/CLOSE** again to close the tray.
5. Playback will usually start automatically. If not, press the **PLAY** button.
6. Use **PLAY**, **PAUSE**, **STOP**, **FAST FORWARD**, **REWIND**, and **SKIP** buttons for control.
7. Press the **MENU** button to access the DVD's main menu.

6.2 VCR Playback

1. Press the **VCR** button on the remote control to select VCR mode.
2. Insert a VHS tape into the VCR slot.
3. Playback will usually start automatically. If not, press the **PLAY** button.
4. Use **PLAY**, **PAUSE**, **STOP**, **FAST FORWARD**, **REWIND** buttons for control.
5. If the picture quality is poor, use the **TRACKING** buttons on the remote to adjust.

6.3 DVD Recording

The DVD-VR357 supports recording to various DVD+/-R/RW formats. Ensure you are using compatible media.

1. Insert a blank, recordable DVD disc into the DVD tray. If it's a new disc, the unit may prompt you to initialize it. Follow the on-screen instructions.
2. Select the input source you wish to record from (e.g., an external cable box, satellite receiver, or the VCR section of the unit). Use the **INPUT** button on the remote.
3. Press the **REC SPEED** button repeatedly to select your desired recording quality (XP, SP, LP, EP). This affects recording duration.
4. Press the **RECORD** button to begin recording.
5. Press **STOP** to end the recording.
6. **Finalizing the Disc:** After recording, the disc must be finalized to be playable on other DVD players.
 - Press the **MENU** button.
 - Navigate to the "Disc Menu" or "Setup" options.
 - Select "Finalize Disc" and confirm. This process may take several minutes.

6.4 VHS Recording

1. Insert a blank VHS tape into the VCR slot.
2. Select the input source you wish to record from using the **INPUT** button.
3. Press the **RECORD** button to begin recording.
4. Press **STOP** to end the recording.

6.5 One-Touch Two-Way Dubbing (DVD to VHS / VHS to DVD)

This feature allows easy transfer of content between DVD and VHS formats.

6.5.1 Dubbing from DVD to VHS

1. Insert the DVD you wish to copy into the DVD tray.
2. Insert a blank VHS tape into the VCR slot.
3. Ensure the unit is in DVD mode (press **DVD**).
4. Press the **DUBBING** button (or similar, refer to remote layout). The unit will automatically begin copying the DVD content to the VHS tape.
5. Press **STOP** to end the dubbing process.

6.5.2 Dubbing from VHS to DVD

1. Insert the VHS tape you wish to copy into the VCR slot.
2. Insert a blank, recordable DVD disc into the DVD tray. Initialize if prompted.
3. Ensure the unit is in VCR mode (press **VCR**).
4. Press the **DUBBING** button. The unit will automatically begin copying the VHS content to the DVD disc.
5. Press **STOP** to end the dubbing process.
6. Remember to **finalize the DVD disc** after dubbing for compatibility with other players.

7. MAINTENANCE

Proper maintenance ensures the longevity and optimal performance of your unit.

- **Cleaning the Exterior:** Wipe the exterior surfaces with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use abrasive cleaners,

waxes, or solvents.

- **Cleaning the Disc Tray/VCR Head:** Avoid attempting to clean internal components yourself. If you experience disc reading or tape playback issues, consider using a commercially available DVD/VCR head cleaning kit, following its instructions carefully.
- **Ventilation:** Keep the ventilation openings clear of dust and obstructions to prevent overheating.
- **Disc Handling:** Always handle discs by their edges. Store discs in their cases to prevent scratches and dust accumulation.
- **Tape Handling:** Store VHS tapes vertically in their cases, away from strong magnetic fields and direct sunlight.

8. TROUBLESHOOTING

Before contacting service, refer to the following table for common issues and solutions:

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power	Power cord disconnected; power outlet not active.	Check power cord connection; try a different outlet.
No picture/sound	Incorrect input selected on TV; cables loose or incorrect.	Select correct TV input; check all audio/video cable connections.
Disc won't play	Disc dirty/scratched; incompatible disc format; disc inserted incorrectly.	Clean disc; ensure disc is compatible (DVD-Video, CD-Audio); insert disc label-side up.
VHS tape won't play	Tape damaged; VCR heads dirty.	Try a different tape; use a VCR head cleaning tape.
Cannot record to DVD	Disc not recordable (e.g., DVD-ROM); disc not initialized; disc full; disc not compatible (+R/-R).	Use a blank recordable DVD (+R, -R, +RW, -RW); initialize new discs; check disc capacity.
Remote control not working	Batteries dead/incorrectly inserted; obstruction between remote and unit; remote not pointed correctly.	Replace batteries; ensure clear line of sight; point remote directly at the unit's sensor.
Poor VHS picture quality	Tracking issue; dirty VCR heads; old/damaged tape.	Adjust tracking using remote; use a VCR head cleaning tape; try a different tape.

9. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Detail
Model Name	DVD-VR357
Brand	Samsung
Media Type	DVD, VHS

Feature	Detail
Special Features	Progressive Scan, HDMI Upconversion, One Touch - 2 Way Dubbing, DivX Compatible
Built-in Decoders	Dolby Digital, DTS decoder
Resolution	Up to 720p and 1080i (via HDMI upconversion)
Connector Type	HDMI, Component, S-Video, Composite, Analog Audio (L/R), Digital Audio (Coaxial/Optical)
Color	Black
Item Weight	8.8 pounds (approximately 4 kg)
Product Dimensions (W x H x D)	16.9 x 1.1 x 11 inches (approximately 42.9 x 2.8 x 27.9 cm)
Batteries	2 AAA batteries (for remote control)

10. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

For warranty information and technical support, please refer to the warranty card included with your product or visit the official Samsung website. Keep your proof of purchase for warranty claims.

- **Online Support:** Visit www.samsung.com/us/support/ for product registration, downloads, and FAQs.
- **Customer Service:** Contact Samsung customer service for assistance with product issues or service requests. Refer to the contact information provided on the Samsung support website for your region.