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- › [Panasonic](#) /
- › [Panasonic DMR-ES40V DVD/VHS Recorder Instruction Manual](#)

Panasonic DMR-ES40V

Panasonic DMR-ES40V DVD/VHS Recorder Instruction Manual

Model: DMR-ES40V | Brand: Panasonic

1. PRODUCT OVERVIEW

The Panasonic DMR-ES40V is a versatile home entertainment unit combining a DVD recorder and a VHS cassette tape recorder. It supports playback and recording for various media types, including DVD-RAM, DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD+R, and VHS tapes. This unit also functions as a VHS to DVD converter, allowing you to preserve your analog video memories digitally. It features a 4-head Hi-Fi Stereo VHS player and a built-in TV tuner for recording television broadcasts.



Image 1: Front view of the Panasonic DMR-ES40V DVD/VHS Recorder, showing the DVD tray on the left, the VHS slot on the right, and the display panel with control buttons below. A remote control is also visible to the right of the unit.

2. SETUP INSTRUCTIONS

2.1 Unpacking and Placement

- Carefully remove the unit and all accessories from the packaging.
- Place the unit on a stable, flat surface with adequate ventilation. Avoid placing it near heat sources or in direct sunlight.

2.2 Connecting to a Television

The DMR-ES40V connects to your television using A/V (RCA) cables. An A/V cable is typically included with the unit.

1. Locate the A/V output jacks on the rear of the DMR-ES40V (usually color-coded yellow for video, white for left audio, and red for right audio).
2. Connect one end of the A/V cable to these output jacks.
3. Connect the other end of the A/V cable to the corresponding A/V input jacks on your television. Ensure the colors match (yellow to yellow, white to white, red to red).
4. Plug the power cord of the DMR-ES40V into an electrical outlet.
5. Turn on your television and select the correct A/V input source (e.g., AV1, Video 1, Input 1) using your TV's remote control or input/source button.

For optimal audio, ensure both red and white audio cables are connected. For video, the yellow cable is essential.

3. OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

3.1 Powering On/Off

- Press the **POWER** button on the front panel or the remote control to turn the unit on or off.

3.2 Selecting Playback Mode (DVD or VCR)

The unit has separate sections for DVD and VCR. You can switch between the DVD and VCR output modes using the **OUTPUT** selector knob on the front panel, or dedicated buttons on the remote control.



Image 2: Close-up of the front panel of the Panasonic DMR-ES40V, highlighting the DVD tray, VHS slot, and the control buttons including the OUTPUT selector knob for DVD/VCR.

3.3 Playing a VHS Tape

1. Ensure the unit is powered on and the TV is set to the correct A/V input.
2. Insert a VHS tape into the VHS slot on the right side of the unit. The unit will automatically load the tape.
3. If the tape does not start playing automatically, press the **PLAY** button on the front panel or remote.
4. Use the **STOP**, **PAUSE**, **REW** (rewind), and **FFWD** (fast forward) buttons for control.
5. To eject the tape, press the **EJECT** button next to the VHS slot.

3.4 Playing a DVD/CD

1. Ensure the unit is powered on and the TV is set to the correct A/V input.
2. Press the **OPEN/CLOSE** button next to the DVD tray on the left side of the unit. The tray will open.
3. Place a DVD or CD onto the disc tray with the label side facing up.
4. Press the **OPEN/CLOSE** button again to close the tray. The unit will begin reading the disc.
5. If the disc does not start playing automatically, press the **PLAY** button on the front panel or remote.
6. Use the **STOP**, **PAUSE**, **SKIP**, and **SEARCH** buttons for control.
7. To eject the disc, press the **OPEN/CLOSE** button.

4. RECORDING FUNCTIONS

The DMR-ES40V offers versatile recording capabilities, including recording from a TV tuner and converting VHS tapes to DVD.

4.1 Recording TV Programs to VHS

This unit features a built-in TV tuner, allowing you to record television broadcasts directly to a VHS tape.

1. Connect your antenna or cable TV signal to the unit's antenna input.
2. Insert a recordable VHS tape into the VHS slot.
3. Select the VCR mode using the **OUTPUT** selector.
4. Tune to the desired TV channel using the channel up/down buttons on the unit or remote.
5. Press the **REC** (Record) button on the front panel or remote to begin recording.
6. Press **STOP** to end the recording.

4.2 Converting VHS to DVD (Dubbing)

This feature allows you to transfer content from a VHS tape to a recordable DVD.

1. Insert the VHS tape you wish to dub into the VHS slot.
2. Insert a blank, recordable DVD (DVD-RAM, DVD-R, DVD-RW, or DVD+R) into the DVD tray.
3. Select the VCR mode for playback and the DVD mode for recording. Consult the on-screen display (OSD) for specific dubbing options.
4. Start playing the VHS tape.
5. Initiate recording on the DVD side. The unit will typically have a dedicated **DUBBING** or **REC** button for this function. Refer to the on-screen menu for detailed steps.
6. Monitor the recording process. Once complete, finalize the DVD if prompted, to ensure it can be played on other DVD players.

5. MAINTENANCE

5.1 Cleaning the Unit

- Wipe the exterior of the unit with a soft, dry cloth. Do not use liquid or aerosol cleaners.
- Keep the disc tray and VHS slot free of dust and debris.
- For VHS playback issues, a VCR head cleaning tape may be used periodically, following the cleaning tape's instructions.

5.2 Disc and Tape Care

- Handle discs by their edges to avoid fingerprints and scratches.

- Store discs in their cases when not in use.
- Store VHS tapes vertically in their cases, away from magnetic fields and extreme temperatures.

6. TROUBLESHOOTING

If you encounter issues with your DMR-ES40V, refer to the following common troubleshooting steps:

- **No Power:** Ensure the power cord is securely plugged into both the unit and a working electrical outlet. Try a different outlet.
- **No Picture or Sound:** Verify that the A/V cables are correctly connected to both the unit and the TV, matching the color codes. Confirm your TV is set to the correct A/V input source.
- **Disc Not Playing:** Check if the disc is inserted correctly (label side up). Ensure the disc is clean and free of scratches. Try a different disc.
- **VHS Tape Not Playing:** Ensure the tape is fully inserted. Check if the tape is damaged. Try a different tape.
- **Recording Issues:** Ensure you are using a compatible recordable DVD or a blank VHS tape. Check available recording space. Verify input source selection for recording.
- **Remote Control Not Working:** Check and replace batteries. Ensure there are no obstructions between the remote and the unit's sensor.

For persistent issues, consult the full user manual (if available) or contact Panasonic customer support.

7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	Panasonic
Model Name	DMR-ES40V
Media Type	CD, DVD, VHS
Special Feature	Recording
Connector Type	RCA
Connectivity Technology	RCA
Audio Output Mode	Stereo
File Format (Recordable)	DVD-RAM, DVD-R, DVD-RW, DVD+R
Video Encoding	MPEG-2
Compatible Devices	Television
Analog Video Format	NTSC
Video Output Resolution	480p, 480i
Item Weight	12 Pounds

8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

This Panasonic DMR-ES40V unit typically comes with a manufacturer's warranty. Please refer to the warranty card or Panasonic's official website for detailed information regarding warranty coverage, terms, and conditions.

For technical support, service, or further inquiries, please contact Panasonic customer service through their official support channels. Keep your model number (DMR-ES40V) and serial number handy when contacting support.