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PNI RD290

PNI RD290 Internet Radio User Manual

Model: RD290 | Brand: PNI

Your comprehensive guide to setting up and operating your PNI RD290 Internet Radio.

1. Introduction

Thank you for choosing the PNI RD290 Internet Radio. This device offers a rich audio experience, combining traditional FM and DAB radio with modern internet radio capabilities, Spotify Connect, and network media playback via DLNA/UPnP. With its intuitive controls and versatile features, the RD290 is designed to be the central hub for your home audio entertainment.

This manual provides detailed instructions for setup, operation, and maintenance to ensure you get the most out of your new radio. Please read it thoroughly before first use and keep it for future reference.

2. Safety Information

- **Power Source:** Use only the provided power adapter. Ensure the voltage matches the requirements of your region.
- **Water and Moisture:** Do not expose the unit to rain, moisture, or dripping/splashing liquids. Do not place objects filled with liquids, such as vases, on the unit.
- **Ventilation:** Ensure adequate ventilation. Do not block any ventilation openings.
- **Heat:** Do not place the unit near heat sources such as radiators, heat registers, stoves, or other apparatus (including amplifiers) that produce heat.
- **Cleaning:** Unplug the unit from the power outlet before cleaning. Use a dry cloth only.
- **Servicing:** Do not attempt to service this product yourself. Refer all servicing to qualified service personnel.
- **Placement:** Place the unit on a stable, flat surface. Avoid placing it in direct sunlight or in environments with extreme temperatures.

3. Product Overview

3.1 Package Contents

Upon unpacking, please ensure all items listed below are present and in good condition:

- PNI RD290 Internet Radio Unit
- Remote Control (with CR2025 3V battery included)
- Telescopic Antenna
- Power Adapter (5V/1A)
- User Manual (this document)



Image: PNI RD290 radio unit, power adapter, and remote control, as typically found in the package.

3.2 Front Panel Controls and Display

The front panel features a 2.4-inch color display and essential control buttons and knobs for easy navigation and operation.



Image: Front view of the PNI RD290, highlighting the display, speaker, and control layout.

- **Display:** 2.4-inch color screen for showing station information, time, date, and menu options. Brightness is adjustable.
- **Volume/Home Knob:** Rotate to adjust volume. Press to return to the home screen.
- **Dial/Select Knob:** Rotate to navigate menus or tune stations. Press to confirm selection.
- **Standby Button:** Puts the radio into standby mode.
- **Preset Button:** Accesses saved radio station presets.
- **Left/Right Buttons:** Used for navigation within menus.
- **Headphone Jack (3.5mm):** For private listening.

3.3 Rear Panel Connections

The rear panel provides essential connection ports for power and external audio devices.



Image: Rear view of the PNI RD290, showing the power input, AUX input, and Line-Out ports.

- **DC IN 5V:** Power input for the provided adapter.
- **AUX IN (3.5mm):** Connect external audio devices (e.g., MP3 player, smartphone) to play through the radio's speaker.
- **Line-Out (3.5mm):** Connect the radio to external speakers or an amplifier.
- **Telescopic Antenna:** Extend for optimal FM and DAB reception.

3.4 Remote Control

The included remote control provides convenient access to all radio functions from a distance.



Image: The remote control for the PNI RD290, showing its buttons and the CR2025 battery.

Ensure the CR2025 3V battery is correctly inserted before use. The remote allows control over power, volume, navigation, presets, alarm settings, and more.

4. Setup

4.1 Power Connection

1. Insert the small plug of the power adapter into the "DC IN 5V" port on the rear of the radio.
2. Plug the power adapter into a wall outlet.
3. The radio will power on or enter standby mode.

4.2 Antenna Setup

For optimal FM and DAB reception, fully extend the telescopic antenna located on the rear of the unit.

4.3 Wi-Fi Network Setup

To access internet radio and network features, the radio must be connected to a Wi-Fi network.

1. Upon first power-on, the radio may prompt you to set up the network. If not, navigate to the **Settings** menu using the Dial/Select knob.
2. Select **Network** or **Wi-Fi Setup**.
3. Choose **Scan Network** to find available Wi-Fi networks.
4. Select your desired network from the list.
5. Enter the Wi-Fi password using the on-screen keyboard and the Dial/Select knob for navigation and selection.
6. Confirm your selection. The radio will attempt to connect to the network. A successful connection will be indicated on the display.

Note: The radio supports 802.11 b/g/n Wi-Fi standards. Ensure your router is compatible.

5. Operating Instructions

5.1 Internet Radio

Access thousands of radio stations from around the world via your Wi-Fi connection.

1. From the main menu, select **Internet Radio**.
2. You can browse stations by location, genre, or search for specific stations.
3. Use the Dial/Select knob to navigate and select.
4. To save a station as a preset, tune to the station and press and hold the **Preset** button. Select an empty preset slot and confirm. The radio can save up to 99 stations.

5.2 DAB/DAB+ Radio

Enjoy high-quality digital radio broadcasts.

1. From the main menu, select **DAB Radio**.
2. The radio will automatically scan for available DAB stations.
3. Use the Dial/Select knob to browse the list of found stations.

4. Press the Dial/Select knob to tune to a station.

5.3 FM Radio

Tune into traditional analog FM broadcasts.

1. From the main menu, select **FM Radio**.
2. Use the Dial/Select knob to manually tune to a frequency, or press and hold to auto-scan for the next available station.

5.4 Spotify Connect

Stream music directly from your Spotify account to the PNI RD290.



Image: The PNI RD290 displaying Spotify Connect, shown alongside a smartphone running the Spotify app, demonstrating seamless music streaming.

1. Ensure your PNI RD290 and your smartphone/tablet are connected to the same Wi-Fi network.
2. Open the Spotify app on your smartphone/tablet.
3. Play a song and tap the **Devices Available** icon (usually a speaker or computer icon).
4. Select "PNI RD290" from the list of available devices.
5. Music will now play through your radio, and your phone acts as a remote control.

5.5 DLNA / UPnP Media Playback

Play music files stored on your local network (e.g., from a PC or NAS) that are shared via DLNA or UPnP.

1. Ensure your computer or server is configured to share media via DLNA/UPnP on the same network as the radio.
2. From the radio's main menu, select **Media Player** or **UPnP/DLNA**.
3. The radio will scan for available media servers.
4. Select your desired server and browse through your music library.

5.6 Alarm Clock and Sleep Timer

The PNI RD290 features a dual alarm and a sleep timer function.

- **Setting Alarms:** Navigate to **Alarm** in the menu. You can set two independent alarms, choosing the alarm source (buzzer, FM, DAB, or Internet Radio) and repetition (daily, weekdays, weekends, once).
- **Snooze Function:** When an alarm sounds, press any button (except Power) to activate snooze.
- **Sleep Timer:** Navigate to **Sleep Timer** in the menu to set a countdown after which the radio will automatically turn off.

5.7 AirMusic Control App

Control your PNI RD290 directly from your smartphone or tablet using the AirMusic Control app (available for Apple and Android devices).

1. Download and install the "AirMusic Control" app from your device's app store.
2. Ensure your smartphone/tablet and the radio are on the same Wi-Fi network.
3. Open the app; it should automatically detect your PNI RD290.
4. You can now control all radio functions, browse stations, and manage settings from your mobile device.

6. Maintenance

- **Cleaning:** Use a soft, dry cloth to clean the exterior of the radio. Do not use abrasive cleaners, waxes, or solvents.
- **Antenna Care:** Handle the telescopic antenna gently to avoid bending or breaking.
- **Storage:** If storing the radio for an extended period, unplug it from the power outlet.

7. Troubleshooting

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No power	Power adapter not connected; power outlet not active.	Ensure power adapter is securely connected to the radio and a working power outlet.

Problem	Possible Cause	Solution
No sound	Volume too low; Mute activated; incorrect audio source.	Increase volume. Check if mute is on. Ensure correct input source is selected.
Cannot connect to Wi-Fi	Incorrect password; Wi-Fi signal too weak; router issues.	Double-check Wi-Fi password. Move radio closer to router. Restart router.
Internet radio buffering/disconnecting	Weak Wi-Fi signal; slow internet connection.	Improve Wi-Fi signal strength. Check internet speed.
Poor DAB/FM reception	Antenna not extended; poor signal area.	Fully extend the telescopic antenna. Try repositioning the radio.
Remote control not working	Battery depleted; line of sight blocked.	Replace the CR2025 battery. Ensure no obstructions between remote and radio.

8. Specifications

Feature	Detail
Model	RD290
Audio Output Power	3W RMS x 1
Radio Frequencies	FM: 87.5-108MHz, DAB: 174.928MHz (5A) - 239.200MHz (13F) (Supports DAB & DAB+)
Wi-Fi Standard	802.11 b/g/n
Display Type	2.4-inch Color Display (Adjustable Brightness)
Connectivity	Wi-Fi, Bluetooth, 3.5mm AUX In, 3.5mm Line Out, Headphone Jack
Features	Internet Radio, DAB/DAB+, FM, Spotify Connect, DLNA/UPnP, Dual Alarm, Snooze, Sleep Timer, Weather Info, Date/Time Display, Remote Control (via AirMusic Control App)
Power Supply	5V / 1A DC
Remote Control Battery	CR2025 3V (Included)

Feature	Detail
Material	MDF Wood Casing
Dimensions (L x W x H)	220 x 115 x 120 mm (approx. 8.7 x 4.5 x 4.7 inches)
Weight	1093 grams (approx. 2.4 lbs)

9. Warranty and Support

PNI products are designed and manufactured to the highest quality standards. In the unlikely event that you encounter any issues with your PNI RD290 Internet Radio, please refer to the troubleshooting section of this manual first.

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

PNI is committed to providing excellent customer service and support for all its products.

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