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## Night Owl FTD4-81-8L

# Night Owl FTD4-81-8L 12-Channel 2K HD DVR Security System User Manual

Model: FTD4-81-8L

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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This manual provides detailed instructions for the installation, operation, and maintenance of your Night Owl FTD4-81-8L 12-Channel 2K HD DVR Security System. This system includes a 12-channel DVR with a 1TB hard drive and eight wired 2K HD indoor/outdoor deterrence cameras. Please read this manual thoroughly before using the product to ensure proper setup and functionality.



Image 1.1: The Night Owl FTD4-81-8L security system, featuring the DVR unit and eight wired 2K HD cameras.

## 2. PACKAGE CONTENTS

Verify that all items are present in your package. If any items are missing or damaged, contact Night Owl support.

- 1 x 12-Channel 2K HD DVR with 1TB Hard Drive
- 8 x Wired 2K HD Indoor/Outdoor Deterrence Cameras
- 8 x 60 ft. BNC Camera Cables
- 1 x DVR Power Adapter
- 2 x Camera Power Adapters (4-way splitters)
- 1 x USB Mouse
- 1 x HDMI Cable
- Mounting Hardware
- Quick Setup Guide

## 3. SETUP

### 3.1 Initial Hardware Connection

1. **Connect Cameras to DVR:** Connect each wired 2K HD camera to an available BNC input port on the back of the DVR using the provided BNC camera cables. Ensure connections are secure.
2. **Connect Cameras to Power:** Use the provided camera power adapters and 4-way splitters to power the cameras. Connect the power splitter to the camera's power input and then to a power outlet.
3. **Connect DVR to Monitor:** Connect the DVR to a monitor or TV using the supplied HDMI cable.
4. **Connect USB Mouse:** Plug the USB mouse into an available USB port on the DVR.
5. **Connect to Network (Optional but Recommended):** For remote viewing and updates, connect the DVR to your router using an Ethernet cable (not included).
6. **Power On DVR:** Connect the DVR power adapter to the DVR and then to a power outlet. The system will boot up automatically.

### 3.2 Mobile App Setup (Night Owl Protect)

The Night Owl Protect app allows for remote viewing, playback, and system management. It is available for both iOS and Android devices.

1. **Download the App:** Search for "Night Owl Protect" in the Apple App Store or Google Play Store and install it.
2. **Create Account:** Open the app and follow the on-screen instructions to create a new account or log in if you already have one.
3. **Add Device:** Use the app's Bluetooth setup feature to easily add your DVR to your account. Ensure Bluetooth is enabled on your mobile device and the DVR is powered on and connected to the internet.

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## Mobile App

- Secure App-Based Bluetooth Setup
- Single Sign-On
- Live View
- Playback
- Save and Share
- Multi-Channel Viewing Options

Real-Time Alerts



Image 3.1: The Night Owl Protect mobile application displaying real-time alerts and live camera feeds.

## 4. OPERATING THE SYSTEM

### 4.1 Live View and Playback

Access live camera feeds and review recorded footage through the DVR connected to a monitor or via the Night Owl Protect mobile app.

### 4.2 2-Way Audio Communication

Each 2K HD camera is equipped with 2-way audio, allowing you to listen and speak through the camera using the mobile app.



Image 4.1: An illustration of the 2-way audio feature, enabling communication with individuals near the camera.

### 4.3 Smart Detection and Alerts

The system utilizes advanced technology for accurate detection and notifications.

- **Human/Vehicle Detection:** The system can differentiate between human and vehicle movement, reducing false alerts from other sources.
- **Preset Audio Alerts & Camera Siren:** Configure the cameras to trigger an audible siren or play a preset audio message upon detection of activity.



Image 4.2: The system's AI capabilities highlighting human and vehicle detection for precise alerts.



 **Preset Audio Alerts  
& Camera Siren**

Image 4.3: The camera's deterrence features, including preset audio alerts and a siren, activated by detected motion.

#### 4.4 Night Vision

The cameras provide clear night vision up to 100 feet, ensuring surveillance in low-light conditions.

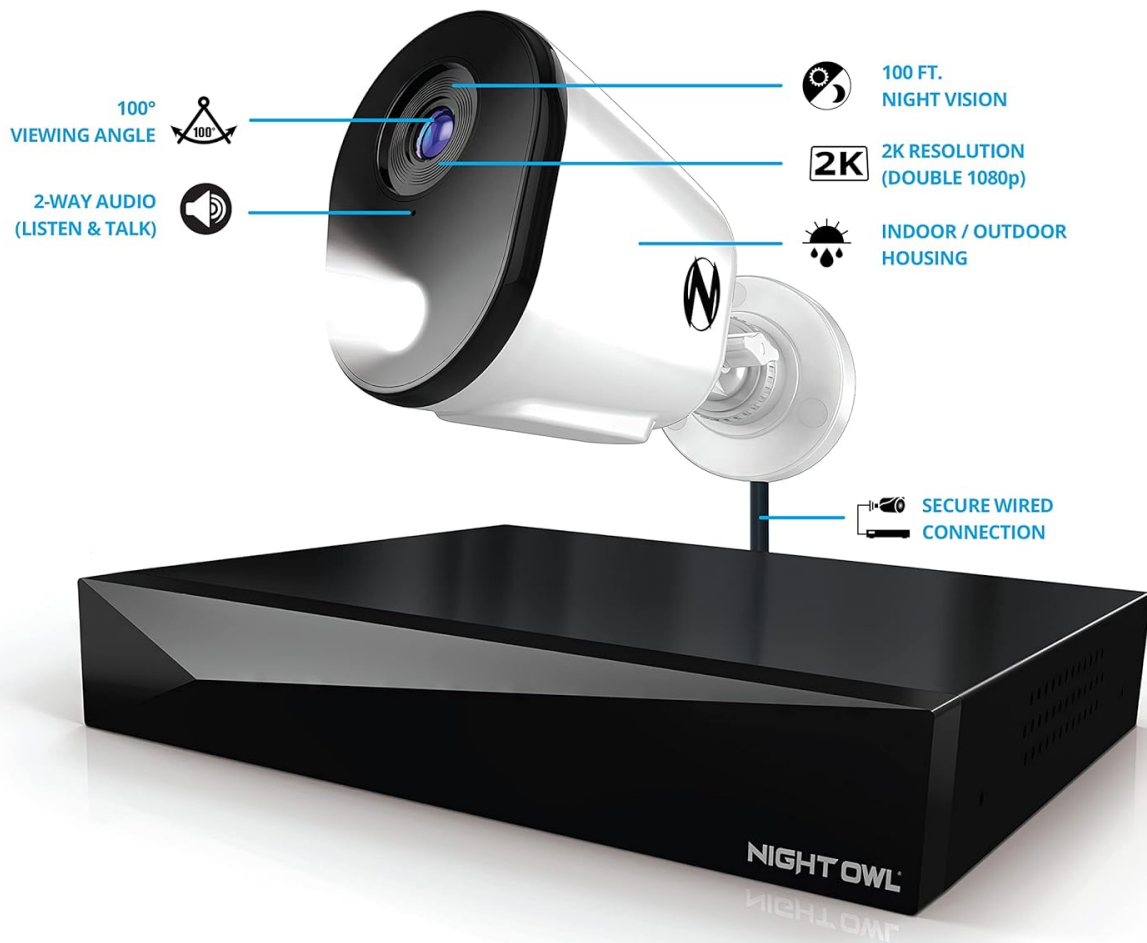


Image 4.4: Detailed view of a Night Owl camera, highlighting its 100 ft. night vision, 2K resolution, 2-way audio, and 100° viewing angle.

## 5. MAINTENANCE

- **Camera Cleaning:** Regularly clean the camera lenses with a soft, damp cloth to ensure clear image quality. Avoid abrasive cleaners.
- **Firmware Updates:** Periodically check for firmware updates through the Night Owl Protect app or the Night Owl website to ensure optimal performance and security.
- **Hard Drive Management:** The 1TB hard drive provides ample storage. The system is configured to overwrite the oldest footage automatically when the drive is full. Back up important footage to a USB drive if needed.
- **Cable Inspection:** Periodically inspect all cables for wear or damage, especially for outdoor installations, to maintain reliable connectivity.

## 6. TROUBLESHOOTING

### 6.1 No Video Display

- Ensure the DVR is powered on and the power adapter is securely connected.
- Verify the HDMI cable connection between the DVR and the monitor/TV.
- Check that the monitor/TV is set to the correct input source (HDMI).
- Confirm that each camera is receiving power and its BNC cable is securely connected to the DVR.

## 6.2 False Motion Alerts

- Adjust the motion detection sensitivity settings in the DVR menu or mobile app.
- Utilize the human/vehicle detection feature to filter out irrelevant motion.
- Ensure cameras are not pointed at moving objects like trees, flags, or busy roads if not intended for monitoring those areas.

## 6.3 Poor Night Vision Quality

- Clean the camera lens to remove any dirt or smudges.
- Ensure there are no obstructions directly in front of the camera that could reflect the infrared light.
- Verify the camera's power supply is stable.

## 6.4 Remote Viewing Issues

- Confirm the DVR is connected to the internet via an Ethernet cable.
- Check your home network's internet connection.
- Ensure the Night Owl Protect app is updated to the latest version.
- Restart both the DVR and your mobile device.

# 7. SPECIFICATIONS

Feature	Specification
Brand	Night Owl
Model Number	FTD4-81-8L
Connectivity Technology	Wired, Wireless (for Wi-Fi camera expansion)
Video Capture Resolution	2K (1520p)
Number of Channels	12 (8 wired 2K cameras included, expandable with up to 4 Wi-Fi cameras)
Memory Storage Capacity	1 TB Hard Drive
Special Features	Night Vision, 2-Way Audio, Human/Vehicle Detection, Deterrence Cameras
Night Vision Range	Up to 100 feet
Viewing Angle	100 Degrees
Frame Rate	30 fps
Recording Mode	Continuous, Event-based
Video Input	BNC
Power Source	Corded Electric

Feature	Specification
Product Dimensions	15.67 x 11.97 x 9.29 inches
Item Weight	18.66 pounds
UPC	816522025564

## 7.1 Camera Compatibility

The DVR is compatible with various wired and Wi-Fi cameras. Refer to the compatibility chart below for details on supported camera models.

Wired Recorder - Camera Compatibility Chart																
NIGHT OWL		Wired Cameras						Wi-Fi Cameras (For Wi-Fi Expandability)								
Series		FTD4 (2K)		FTD8 (4K)		FTN8 (4K)		BWNIP2 (1080p)	WNIP2 (1080p)	FWIP2 (1080p)	FWIP3 (3MP)	FWIP3 (3MP)	FBNIP4U (2K)	FWIP4 (2K)	WNIP8 (4K)	FWIP8 (4K)
Wired DVR 4-Channel Expansion	FTD2 (1080p)	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
	FTD4 (2K)	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
	FTD8 (4K)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓
Wired NVR 4-Channel Expansion	FTN8 (4K)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✗	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓	✓
Camera Model #'s		CAM-2PK-FTD1 CAM-F100-800-B	CAM-2PK-FTD04U CAM-F100-800-B CAM-4PK-FTD040-B	CAM-2PK-FTD8 CAM-F100-800-B CAM-4PK-FTD8-B	CAM-2PK-FTD08U CAM-F100-800-B CAM-4PK-FTD08-B	CAM-FTN8-BU CAM-2PK-FTN8-BU CAM-FTN8-OU CAM-2PK-FTN8-OU-B CL-CAM-2PK-FTN8-OU-B CL-CAM-2PK-FTN8-B	CAM-FTN8-OU CAM-FTN8-OU CAM-FTN8-OU CAM-2PK-FTN8-OU-B CL-CAM-2PK-FTN8-OU-B CL-CAM-2PK-FTN8-B	CAM-BWNIP2-BU CAM-BWNIP2-BU	CAM-2PK-WNIP2-BU CAM-WNIP2-BU CAM-WNIP2-BU CAM-WNIP2-BU CAM-WNIP2-BU CAM-WNIP2-BU	CAM-FWIP2-BU CAM-FWIP2-BU CAM-FWIP2-BU CAM-FWIP2-BU CAM-FWIP2-BU CAM-FWIP2-BU	CAM-FWIP3-TN CL-CAM-2PK-FWIP3-TN	CAM-FWIP3-PL	CAM-BNIP4U-PP CAM-BNIP4U-PP CAM-2PK-SECURITY-PP CAM-2PK-SECURITY-PP CAM-2PK-SECURITY-PP	CAM-FWIP4 CAM-2PK-FWIP4 CL-CAM-2PK-FWIP4	CAM-WNIP8-BU CAM-WNIP8-BU CAM-WNIP8-BU CAM-WNIP8-BU CAM-WNIP8-BU CAM-WNIP8-BU	CAM-FWIP8 CAM-2PK-FWIP8

DISCLAIMER: The series can be found on the product support page on your recorder or camera.

Image 7.1: A compatibility chart detailing which wired and Wi-Fi camera models are supported by different Night Owl DVR/NVR series, including the FTD4 (2K) series.

## 8. WARRANTY AND SUPPORT

### 8.1 Product Warranty

For detailed information regarding the product warranty, please refer to the warranty card included with your purchase or visit the official Night Owl website. Warranty terms and conditions may vary.

### 8.2 Customer Support

If you require further assistance, technical support, or have questions not covered in this manual, please contact Night Owl customer support:

- **Website:** Visit the official Night Owl support page for FAQs, downloads, and contact options.
- **Phone:** Refer to your Quick Setup Guide or the Night Owl website for current support phone numbers.