

# QUICK START GUIDE

(PRELIMINARY)

## OVERVIEW

The UltraHDMI video processor is an internal add-on to all retail Nintendo 64 game consoles. It's very flexible – it can do as much processing as you want, or do the least amount possible. All of the options are accessible via the on-screen display (OSD) that can be brought up at any time.

## USING THE ON-SCREEN DISPLAY

The OSD can be brought up on Controller 1

1. During a game, or
2. By itself if the N64 is powered on with no game inserted.

There are two possible combos so that you can press all the buttons no matter if your left hand is on the controller's leftmost or center prong.

**OSD HOTKEY**      *L/Z + Dpad right + C right + R trigger*

**OSD MOVEMENT**    *Either Dpad, Analog stick, or C-buttons*

Menu items are selected by pressing A, or pressing rightwards on one of the 3 movement methods above. Cancel a selection or move backwards in the menus by pressing B or leftwards.

## NOTE ON CONTROLLER POLLING

While a game is running, the kit watches Controller 1. Whenever the game checks the gamepad, this is called "polling" – and the kit can only read the controller when the game decides to. There may be some times like loading screens where the OSD may not respond.

## HOW THE N64 GENERATES VIDEO

**PROGRESSIVE**      Each field comprises a complete frame of video, displayed at 50 or 60hz. On CRTs, the scanlines are located in the same spot every time, causing dark bands to appear between them.

Vertical resolution is 240 lines on NTSC, and 288 lines for PAL.

**INTERLACED**      Each field makes up half of a complete frame of video, displayed at 25 or 30hz. The CRT slightly shifts up and down to scan each line, which increases perceived resolution at the cost of interlacing artifacts (called combing).

Vertical resolution is 480 lines on NTSC, and 576 lines for PAL.

A game may have an opening title screen in interlaced for a higher resolution picture, then switch to progressive for gameplay. Some of the visual effects, like scanlines, appear differently depending on what mode the N64 is currently producing.

**MAIN MENU OPTIONS**

<b>FILL MODE</b>	Changes how the source material is fit onto the output area.								
	<table border="1"> <tr> <td><b>NORMAL</b></td> <td>Fit while maintaining original aspect ratio.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>STRETCH</b></td> <td>Input material is stretched to cover output.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>CINEMA</b></td> <td>Input is enlarged so that the width matches the output, while cropping top and bottom. Used for watching letterboxed content.</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b>PAL-FIX</b></td> <td>Applies a 1.2x aspect ratio correction to remove black bars from some PAL titles. Only available in 50hz modes.</td> </tr> </table>	<b>NORMAL</b>	Fit while maintaining original aspect ratio.	<b>STRETCH</b>	Input material is stretched to cover output.	<b>CINEMA</b>	Input is enlarged so that the width matches the output, while cropping top and bottom. Used for watching letterboxed content.	<b>PAL-FIX</b>	Applies a 1.2x aspect ratio correction to remove black bars from some PAL titles. Only available in 50hz modes.
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<b>OVERSCAN</b>	Enlarges the input content to better fit, if there is unrendered black space around the image								
<b>GAMMA BOOST</b>	Applies a non-linear gamma boost that approximates the response of a CRT television. Also accentuates visual effects for below <b>SCANLINES: HYBRID</b>								
<b>SCANLINES</b>	Adds one of two types of scanlines. Best seen in progressive input modes.								
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<b>[ADVANCED...]</b>	Enters the Advanced Settings menu.								
<b>[HDMI SETUP...]</b>	Enters the HDMI output setup menu.								
<b>[ABOUT...]</b>	Shows About, Thanks, and Self-Test.								
<b>[SAVE SETTINGS]</b>	Writes the current settings to flash memory to be loaded on subsequent boots.								
<b>[RESTORE DEFAULTS]</b>	Wipes all settings and loads baseline factory defaults.								
<b>[RETRO MODE]</b>	Applies a set of tweaks to mimic gameplay on a typical 90s television. Each setting may be tweaked on its own after application.								

## ADVANCED SETTINGS

Advanced settings allow you to customize the processing parameters to your liking. You can freely experiment – as long as you don't save settings, a simple power-off reverts them.

### FEATURE AVAILABILITY

Many options are only available when the HDMI output resolution is 720p or greater. Most features are not available when running at 480p/576p.

<b>SCAN SERRATION</b>	Adds an adjustable inter-line distortion to scanlines.	
<b>SCAN SIMPLE DEPTH</b>	Adjust the percent darkness between scanlines when scanlines is set to <b>SIMPLE</b>	
<b>SCAN INTERLACED</b>	Normally, scanlines are disabled in interlaced mode. This option adds scanlines that alternate every field like a real TV. Some displays may have trouble with this, especially if they do motion compensation.	
<b>TUBE CRT HV BLOOM</b>	Simulates screen bloom exhibited by cheap CRT TVs. Inexpensive televisions typically had poor high voltage regulation, which means bright scenes cause the screen to “grow” subtly.	
<b>SHARP PIXELS</b>	Disables upscaling filtering. Only applicable to 720p/1080p.	
	<b>INTEGER</b>	Displays the input centered in the screen at exactly 1x (720p) or 2x (1080p) with pixel doubling.
	<b>INTEGER+ (FW 1.01+ only)</b>	Multiplies each pixel by 1.5x (720p) or 2.5x (1080p). When game uses 320x240 progressive mode, each pixel will be exactly 3x3 or 5x5 pixels. Produces visual artifacts on anything higher-res.
	<b>FRACTION</b>	Allows the input to be scaled while filtering is still turned off. Produces visual artifacts, not recommended.
<b>VI DE-BLUR</b>	Attempts to remove horizontal filtering added by the final video processing stage in the N64. All N64s output video data that is 640 active pixels in width, regardless of the game's internal resolution. The vast majority of games render in 320x240 and can benefit from this functionality.	
	<b>OFF</b>	Video data is taken as-is from N64.
	<b>AUTO</b>	Uses heuristics (educated guessing) to determine if the game uses a 320px wide framebuffer, and if so, reverses it. Only in progressive.
	<b>ALWAYS</b>	Ignores heuristics and always reverses the filtering, again in progressive modes.
	<b>ALL +INT.</b>	Always reverses filtering in all modes, even interlaced.

**FAST  
INTERLACED**

Interlaced modes work by sending every other video line per field, and it takes up 2 fields to make a full frame. Normally de-interlacing works over a series of framebuffers, which eliminates any possible tearing artifacts, but introduces an additional 1 frame lag and stronger combing artifacts.

When enabled, this option runs all interlaced content into a single working buffer, minimizing latency and visual artifacts.

**SHOW VIDEO  
MODES**

Shows the N64's current video mode for a few seconds in the left corner whenever it changes modes, or loses sync. Can be useful for debugging.

**DISABLE  
HOTKEY**

Prevents loading the OSD during gameplay for the rest of the power-on session, if the key combo is interfering with the game.

If you SAVE SETTINGS after enabling this, the OSD will be locked out all the time.

To get the OSD back, start the N64 with no game inserted, and use the hotkey to bring up the menu and disable the setting (remember to save!)

With firmware 1.06, IGR options enable In-Game Reset which must have an additional wire soldered to function.

When enabled, the key combo Z+R+A+B+Start causes a soft reset.

## HDMI OUTPUT SETUP

While the previous settings control the intermediate processing of the N64's video signal, the following options directly control the HDMI output used.

RESOLUTION	480p	VESA 640x480 mode. Compatible with all monitors. Perfect fit for NTSC video signals. Only available at 60hz.
	576p	DTV 720x576 video mode for PAL video signals. Only works at 50hz. Will have some horizontal fuzziness.
	720p	Standard baseline HDMI resolution. All visual effects enabled.
	1080p	Enhanced HDMI resolution. All visual effects enabled. Recommended.
REFRESH RATE	50 Hz	Best suited for if you play primarily PAL games (Europe, Australia)
	60 Hz	Best for NTSC games (North America, Brazil, Japan)
DIRECT MODE	<p>This option allows you to bypass almost all internal processing. Normally, UltraHDMI runs in buffered mode where all video data runs through a framebuffer with 1 frame (16ms) of latency, providing a consistent and stable video signal.</p> <p>Direct mode bypasses all the other HDMI options and creates a new video signal that most closely matches whatever signal the N64 is currently producing, with less than 2 scanlines (1/500<sup>th</sup> frame) of lag – but there are tradeoffs.</p>	
	NO	Buffered (normal mode). Recommended for most users.
	YES	Outputs 640x480@60hz in NTSC Mode, 720x576@50hz in PAL mode. Frame rate varies depending on progressive/interlaced. Compatible with virtually all displays, but it's possible there may be some tearing every few seconds.
	YES+SYNC	Attempts to adjust the signal in such a way that violates HDMI spec to perfectly match the N64's refresh rate. While this eliminates any possibility of tearing, some displays may not be compatible.

# END OF DOCUMENT

## REVISION INFORMATION

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September 13, 2015	First internal draft
November 03, 2015	Updated for 0.03
November 20, 2015	Updated for 1.00
December 2, 2015	Updated for 1.02
October 21, 2016	Updated for 1.05
December 11, 2016	Changed wording
March 13, 2017	Updated for 1.06

## COPYRIGHT INFORMATION

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