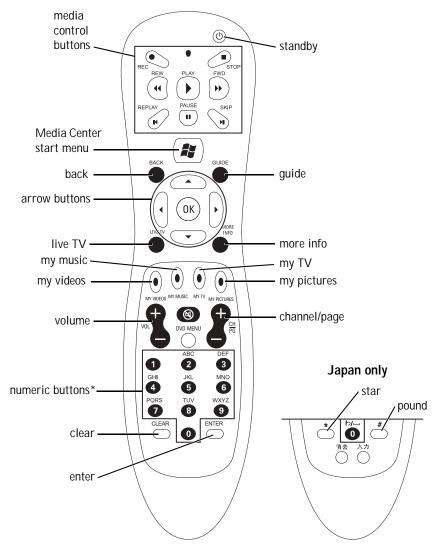
Dell[™] Media Center User's Guide



*Note: When entering text in a Media Center search or text box on a computer running Japanese Microsoft[®] Windows[®] XP, you can enter extended characters using the numeric buttons. Follow the instructions on the screen.



Notes, Notices, and Cautions

NOTE: A NOTE indicates important information that helps you make better use of your computer.

NOTICE: A NOTICE indicates either potential damage to hardware or loss of data and tells you how to avoid the problem.

 $m \Lambda$ CAUTION: A CAUTION indicates a potential for property damage, personal injury, or death.

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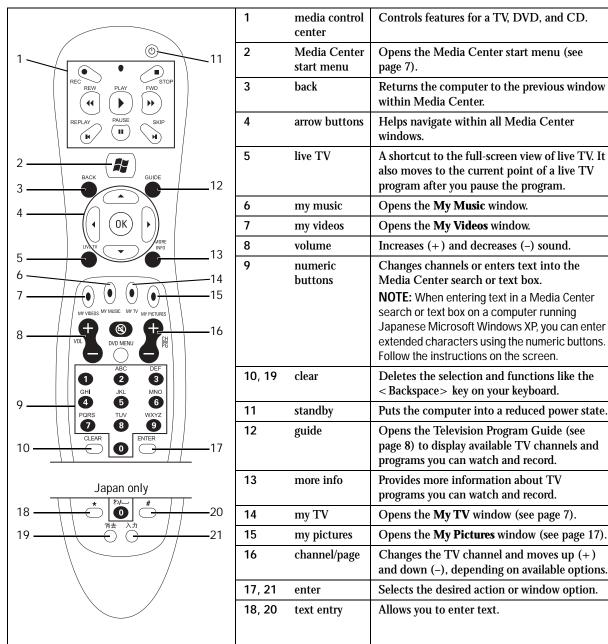
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Quick Start

Introduction

Microsoft[®] Windows[®] XP Media Center is your all-in-one computer entertainment center. Whether you want to watch or record TV programs, play DVDs, or view pictures, Media Center does it all. The following instructions explain how to explore some of the more common functions of Windows XP Media Center using either your mouse/keyboard or the all-in-one remote control.

Remote Control Buttons



Starting Media Center

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1 Click the Start button and click Media Center .	1 Press 🕜.
The Media Center Start Menu window appears.	The Media Center Start Menu window appears.



Watching TV

Media Center allows you to watch any program offered by your TV service provider. However, before you can watch TV using Media Center, you must correctly set up your computer for the TV signal source (cable, satellite, etc.) and run the software wizard. For more information on hardware setup, see "Other Features" on page 19 and the setup diagram that came with your computer.

Watching a TV program

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My TV. The last channel selected or the first channel available appears next to the My TV menu. To change channels, click - oh + on the bottom Media Center toolbar or press the channel number on your keyboard (< Num Lock> must be enabled). NOTE: The Media Center toolbars appear when you move the mouse. To maximize the TV window to full-screen mode, click on the TV image. To return to the smaller TV window, click () on the top Media Center toolbar. 	 Press the MY TV button. The last channel selected or the first channel available appears next to the My TV menu. To change channels, press the CH/PG button or enter the channel number using the numeric buttons. To maximize the TV window to full-screen mode, press ▼ to scroll down to the smaller TV window and press OK. To return to the smaller TV window, press the BACK button.

Television Program Guide

Media Center provides a Television Program Guide that allows you to scroll through a list of the current TV programs and channels available from your TV service provider. The Guide displays the channel and network, as well as the show title and scheduled time block. The number of days displayed in the Guide depends on your TV service provider. When you select a program title, a detailed description of the program appears at the bottom of the window.

Using the Television Program Guide

- The Guide is a shared programming schedule that is visible to all users. When someone attempts to schedule a recording when another recording is scheduled, a message appears.
- If the Guide is not updated, the number of days displayed decreases each day.
- You can have Media Center automatically connect to the Internet and update your Guide. Not all Internet Service Providers (ISPs) support this feature. Check with your ISP.

If your ISP does not support automatic Guide updates, you must update the Guide manually in the **Settings** window. You can manually update the Guide at any time even if you have set up automatic updates.

• If the Guide is not updated, the following message appears next to each channel: No data available.

- If your computer does not automatically disconnect from the Internet after updating the Guide, manually disconnect from the Internet.
- Your TV service provider determines the number of channels and calendar days that appear.
- The Guide does not display past TV listings.

NOTE: If you are using your remote control to navigate through Media Center, you must use the arrow buttons to highlight a specific function.

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard		Using the Remote Control
1 2 3	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My TV . Click Guide . To see a program description, move the cursor over the program.	1 2 3	Press the GUIDE button. To see a program description, highlight the program and the description appears at the bottom of the window. To navigate through the channels, press \checkmark .
	The description appears at the bottom of the window.	4	To watch a program, highlight the program and press OK .
4	To navigate through the channels, click \checkmark in the window or press $\uparrow \downarrow$ on your keyboard.	5	To view upcoming programs on a specific channel, highlight the channel number and station call letters. Future programs appear at the
5	To watch a program, click the program. To view upcoming programs on a specific channel, move your cursor over the channel number and station call letters. Future programs appear at the bottom of the window.		bottom of the window. You can also press ▶ to scroll through future programs for the channels that are displayed.
	You can also click > in the window to scroll through future programs for the channels that are displayed.		

Recording TV

Media Center allows you to record TV programs so that you can watch them at your convenience. You can record the program you are watching or a future program or program series using the Guide, using **Search** or manually. If you schedule the recording of several shows or a series, you can change the priority order in the **Settings** window in **My TV**. See "Changing Recording Priorities" on page 13.

Recording a Program You are Watching

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard		Using the Remote Control
1	Click 💿 on the bottom Media Center toolbar.	1	Press the REC button.
	The Record icon () appears in the Guide next to the program.		The Record icon (a) appears in the Guide next to the program.

Recording a Program Using the Guide

NOTE: Depending on the time of day, some networks share the same channel. The Guide may display the programming for one network, which can cause recording options to be unavailable. You may need to manually update the Guide before scheduling a recording.

NOTE: During scheduled recordings, you can only watch the program being recorded. If you change channels while recording, the recording stops.

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click	1 Press the MY TV button.
	My TV.	2 Highlight Guide and press OK .
2	Click Guide.	3 To navigate to the program you want to record,
3	To navigate to the program you want to record, click \checkmark \land in the window or press $\uparrow \downarrow$ on your keyboard. If the program is scheduled at a future	press ▲▼. If the program is scheduled at a future time and does not appear, press ▶ to scroll through future programs.
	time and does not appear, click $>$ in the window or press \rightarrow on your keyboard to scroll through	4 Highlight the program and press OK .
	future programs.	5 Highlight Record and press OK to record the program or highlight Record series and press OK
4	Click the program.	to record the program series.
5	Click Record to record the program or click Record series to record the program series.	The Record or Record series (1) icon appears in the Guide next to the program.
	The Record () or Record series () icon appears in the Guide next to the program.	NOTE: When you schedule a recording in the Guide, you can press the REC button once to record a program, twice to
•	Advanced record — Displays the recording start and stop times and other recording settings.	record a series, or three times to cancel the scheduled recording you just selected.
		• Advanced record — Displays the recording start and stop times and other recording settings.

Recording a Program Using Search



NOTE: During scheduled recordings, you can only watch the program being recorded. If you change channels while recording, the recording stops.

NOTE: If you go to another area in Media Center, the TV channel you last selected is displayed in the inset window at the bottom of the window.

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control	
N	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My TV .	 Press the MY TV button. Highlight Search and press OK. 	
A • C in a • T t C b	Click Search. A window appears with the following options: Categories — Displays general categories including Educational, Kids, and Sports as well as subcategories to find your program. Fitle — Displays a search box for you to type in the program name using the keyboard. Media Center automatically searches for the program based on each character you type. The more characters you type, the more specific the search	 A window appears with the following op Categories — Displays general categoria including Educational, Kids, and Sport as subcategories to find your program. Title — Displays a search box for you to the program name using the numeric by Media Center automatically searches for program based on each character you en more characters you enter, the more species arch results. 	es s as well o enter in uttons. or the nter. The
• H in a F e y V a	results. Keyword — Displays a search box for you to type in a keyword using the keyboard. Media Center automatically searches for the word in the program title or program description based on each character you type. The more characters you enter, the more specific the search results. When the search is complete, a list of programs appears.	 Keyword — Displays a search box for yo in a keyword using the numeric buttons Center automatically searches for the w program title or program description ba each character you enter. The more cha you enter, the more specific the search n When the search is complete, a list of p appears. To navigate through the list and find the 	Media ord in the sed on racters results. rograms
4 C	To navigate through the list and find the program you want to record, click \checkmark in the window or press $\uparrow \downarrow$ on your keyboard. Click the program. If it is a program series, click on the specific episode you want to record.	 you want to record, press ▲▼. 4 Highlight the program and press OK. If program series, highlight the specific ep want to record and press OK. 	

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
 5 Click Record to record the specific program or Record series to record the program series. The Record or Record series on icon 	5 Highlight Record and press OK to record the program or highlight Record series and press OK to record the program series.
appears in the Guide next to the program.	The Record or Record series on icon
NOTE: If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displays a message and allows you to select the program you want to record.	appears in the Guide next to the program. NOTE: If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displays a message and allows you to select the program you want to
6 Click Internet Start Menu window.	 record. Press press to return to the Media Center Start Menu window.

Recording a Program Manually

Media Center allows you to begin recording before the scheduled program begins and after the program ends.

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1 In the Media Center Start Menu window, clic	k 1 Press the MY TV button.
My TV.	2 Highlight Recorded and press OK .
2 Click Recorded .	3 Highlight Record set-up and press OK .
3 Click Record set-up .	4 Highlight For a Manual Record and press OK.
4 Click For a Manual Record.	5 Enter the channel number using the numeric
5 Enter the channel number using the numeric	buttons.
buttons on your keyboard.	6 Press \blacktriangle to select \blacksquare and adjust the
6 Click — • to adjust the settings—recording frequency, date, start and stop times, storage, a quality options. You can also enter start and st times using the numeric buttons on the	nd stop times, storage, and quality options. You can
keyboard.	7 Press OK to confirm each setting change. When
7 When you complete the changes, click Record	
 NOTE: If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displant a message and allows you to select the program you wan record. 8 Click I to return to the Media Center State Menu window. 	to NOTE: If there is a recording conflict, Media Center displays a message and allows you to select the program you want to
	Menu window.

Changing Your TV Guide Settings

Media Center allows you to change the settings for playing and recording TV programs as well as playing DVDs. If you set up a program recording and another program is scheduled at the same time, you can enable Media Center to resolve the conflict.

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control	
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click	1 Press the MY TV button.	
	My TV.	2 Highlight Recorded TV and press OK.	
2	Click Recorded TV .	3 Highlight Scheduled and press OK to display	/ a
3	Click Scheduled to display a list of all programs	list of all programs scheduled to record.	
	scheduled to record.	4 Highlight the program you want to change ar	nd
4	Click the program you want to change.	press OK.	
	A window appears with the following options:	A window appears with the following options	::
•	Record settings — Displays the recording start and stop times and other recording settings.	• Record settings — Displays the recording sta and stop times and other recording settings.	rt
•	Keep until — Allows you to keep a program until you want to remove it.	• Keep until — Allows you to keep a program until you want to remove it.	
•	Record series — Records the program series.	• Record series — Records the program series.	
•	Don't record — Cancels the scheduled recording.	• Don't record — Cancels the scheduled	
5	Click 🚮 to return to the Media Center Start	recording.	
	Menu window.	5 Press and to return to the Media Center State Menu window.	irt

Changing Recording Priorities

Watching Recorded TV

Media Center stores all your recorded programs in **Recorded TV**. In the **Recorded TV** window, you can sort the programs by name, date, or category. You can also delete a recorded program or program series and check for any recording errors.

Playing a Recorded Program

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard		Using the Remote Control
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click	1	Press the MY TV button.
'	My TV.	2	Highlight Recorded TV and press OK .
2	Click Recorded TV.		A window appears with the following options:
	A window appears with the following options:	•	Sort by date — Allows you to organize all recorded
•	Sort by date — Allows you to organize all		programs by date.
	recorded programs by date.	•	Sort by name — Allows you to organize all recorded
•	Sort by name — Allows you to organize all		programs by name.
	recorded programs by name.	•	Sort by category — Allows you to organize all
•	Sort by category — Allows you to organize all		recorded programs by category.
	recorded programs by category.	•	Record set-up — Allows you to select the method
•	Record set-up — Allows you to select the method you want to record your program—		you want to record your program—Guide, Search, Autorecord and Manual Record
	Guide, Search, Autorecord and Manual	Autorecord, and Manual Record.	,
	Record.	•	Scheduled — Provides a list of all programs scheduled to be recorded.
•	Scheduled — Provides a list of all programs	•	Recording errors — Displays programs that were
	scheduled to be recorded.		not recorded and provides an explanation. The
•	Recording errors — Displays programs that		program may have been in conflict with another
	were not recorded and provides an explanation.		program and Media Center canceled it or the
	The program may have been in conflict with another program and Media Center canceled it		program may have been a duplicate episode in a series.
	or the program may have been a duplicate	3	
	episode in a series.	3	Highlight the program you want to watch and press OK .
3	Click the program you want to watch.	4	Highlight Play and press OK .
4	Click Play .	•	

Playing DVDs

Media Center allows you to watch DVDs while using your remote control or mouse to control the DVD menu items. If you play your DVD in another program, the use of some remote control buttons is not supported.

Playing a DVD Movie

- Although Media Center supports closed captioning, subtitles, and multiple languages, these options appear only if the DVD movie includes them.
- If your DVD includes its own playback software, Media Center may not open when you insert the DVD.

• To watch your DVD in Media Center, cancel the on-screen messages to use the DVD player software and then open Media Center.

Using the Mou	se and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control		
	Center Start Menu window, the drive. The DVD plays few seconds.	1	While in the Media Center Start Menu window, insert the DVD into the drive. The DVD plays automatically after a few seconds.	
asks if you want to pl	nedia playing, Media Center ay the DVD. Click Yes or an option, the DVD en mode after a few		If you have another media playing, Media Center asks if you want to play the DVD. Highlight Yes or No and press OK . If you don't select an option, the DVD autoplays in full-screen mode after a few seconds.	
0=00000000		2	If a DVD menu appears, use the menu items to control the DVD movie playback.	
to control the DVD i 3 Click Stop to stop pl	1 5	3	Highlight Stop and press OK to stop playing the DVD.	
The Stopped menu a options:	appears with the following		The Stopped menu appears with the following options:	
Resume — Allows yo where it was previous	u to begin playing the DVD sly stopped.	•	Resume — Allows you to begin playing the DVD where it was previously stopped.	
• Restart — Allows you at the beginning.	ı to begin playing the DVD	•	Restart — Allows you to begin playing the DVD at the beginning.	
• Title Menu — Allow main menu, if availa	rs you to go to the DVD ble.	•	Title Menu — Allows you to go to the DVD main menu, if available.	
	Allows you to change the D sound track, subtitles, and	•	DVD Languages — Allows you to change the language for the DVD sound track, subtitles, and menu.	
• Eject — Allows you	to open the disc tray.	•	Eject — Allows you to open the disc tray.	
4 To change the windo taskbar of the DVD v	w size, click 🗗 on the vindow.	4	To change the window size, you must use the mouse. Click 📑 on the taskbar of the DVD window.	

Playing a DVD Already in Your Drive

If you have a DVD in your drive and have been working in another area of Media Center or another program.

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click Play DVD .	1 In the Media Center Start Menu window, press the arrow buttons ▲▼ to highlight Play DVD
NOTE: If you do not see the Play DVD option, scroll through the list using ↑↓ on your keyboard.	and press OK. NOTE: If you do not see the Play DVD option, scroll through the list using \checkmark .
The DVD movie begins playing in full-screen mode.	The DVD movie begins playing in full-screen mode.

Watching a DVD in a Resized Window

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1 While the DVD movie is playing, click 27 .	1 While the DVD movie is playing, press 1 .
The Media Center Start Menu opens with the DVD playing in the inset window.	The Media Center Start Menu opens with the DVD playing in the inset window.
 2 To resize the window, click on the taskbar and then manually adjust the window size. NOTE: If you manually resize the Media Center window, the 	2 To resize the window, you must use the mouse. Click in on the taskbar and then manually adjust the window size.
DVD movie plays in the same window size.	NOTE: If you manually resize the Media Center window, the DVD movie plays in the same window size.

Viewing Your Pictures

Media Center allows you to view your pictures individually, as a slide show, or as a slide show with music. You must organize your pictures in the **My Pictures** folder in Windows Explorer to view them in **Media Center**.

Viewing Pictures in Media Center

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control	
 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Pictures. NOTE: If you do not see the My Pictures option, scroll through the list using ↑↓ on your keyboard. 	1 Press the MY PICTURES button. The right side of the window displays thumbnails and folder icons, if you have organized your pictures into folders.	
 The right side of the window displays thumbnails and folder icons, if you have organized your pictures into folders. Click on the picture or click on the folder to view the pictures inside the folder. The selected picture opens in full-screen mode. To view additional pictures not displayed in the window, click and in the window or press ↑↓ on your keyboard to scroll to other pages of picture files and folders. 	 2 Press ♦ to move through your picture files and folder files. 3 Highlight the picture or the folder to view the pictures inside the folder and press OK. The selected picture opens in full-screen mode. 4 To view additional pictures not displayed in the window, press ▲▼ to scroll to other pages of picture files and folders. 	

Viewing Pictures as a Slide Show

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Pictures. NOTE: If you do not see the My Pictures option, scroll through the list using ↑↓ on your keyboard. Click on the folder of pictures you want to view. Click Play slide show to display your pictures automatically. You can also press ← → on the keyboard to manually go to the next or previous picture. If you do not select the pictures you want to view as a slide show, Media Center uses the first folder listed. 	 Press the MY PICTURES button. Highlight the folder of pictures you want to view and press OK. Highlight Play slide show and press OK to display your pictures automatically. You can also press ◀ ▶ to manually go to the next or previous picture. If you do not select the pictures you want to view as a slide show, Media Center uses the first folder listed.

Sorting Pictures

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Pictures. NOTE: If you do not see the My Pictures option, scroll	 Press the MY PICTURES button. Highlight Sort by date or Sort by name and press OK.
 through the list using ↑↓ on your keyboard. 2 Click Sort by date or Sort by name. 	

Viewing a slide show with music

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard		Using the Remote Control
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click	1	Press the MY MUSIC button.
	My Music.	2	Highlight the song and press OK .
	E: If you do not see the My Music option, scroll through st using ↑↓ on your keyboard.	3	If the music doesn't automatically start, press the Play button \triangleright .
2	Click the song you want to play.	4	Press the MY PICTURES button.
3	If the music doesn't automatically start, click on the bottom Media Center toolbar.	5	Highlight the folder with the pictures you want to view and press OK .
4	Click 🚮.	6	Highlight Play slide show and press OK .
5	Click My Pictures.		When Media Center switches to full-screen
	E: If you do not see the My Pictures option, scroll ugh the list using ↑↓ on your keyboard.		mode, the inset window disappears and the music continues to play.
6	Click on the folder with the pictures you want to view.		1 5
7	Click Play slide show.		
	When Media Center switches to full-screen mode, the inset window disappears and the music continues to play.		

Other Features

Using My Music

Media Center allows you to copy, organize, and play CDs or digital music files in your music library.

Copying a CD to the Media Library

Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
 In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Music. Insert a CD. Media Center asks if you want to play the CD. Click Yes or No. If you don't click an option, the tracks are displayed automatically. Click Copy CD. 	 Press the MY MUSIC button. Insert a CD. Media Center asks if you want to play the CD. Highlight Yes or No and press OK. If you don't select an option, the tracks are displayed automatically. Highlight Copy CD and press OK.

Adding Files to Media Library and Creating a Playlist

- 1 Click the Start button and select Windows Media Player.
- 2 In Windows Media Player, click **Media Library**. The first time you select **Media Library**, a message stating that Media Player needs to search your computer for your music files appears.
- 3 Click Yes.

Media Player searches for all available audio media and places them in the Media Library.

- 4 Click Playlists in the toolbar and then click New Playlist in the drop-down menu.
- 5 Type in a name for the playlist and click **OK**. Your new playlist appears under **My Playlists**.
- 6 In **Media Library**, highlight the music files you want to add, right-click and select **Add to playlist**.
- 7 In the **Add to playlist** window, click on the playlist where you want to place the files, and then click **OK**. Repeat this step to add all of your music files.
- 8 In the Media Library, select your playlist to confirm your music files have been added.
- 9 If open, close **Media Center**. Your playlist does not appear in **My Music** unless you close and open Media Center.

Playing Music

You can use My Music to play songs in a variety of different ways including by Playlists, Albums, Artists, and Genres. The following table is an example of playing music by album.

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard	Using the Remote Control
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Music .	Press the MY MUSIC button. Highlight Albums and press OK .
2	Click Albums.	A window appears with the following options:
•	A window appears with the following options: Play — Plays the album selected.	Play — Plays the album selected.
•	Shuffle — Rearranges the music tracks on the album.	Shuffle — Rearranges the music tracks on the album.
•	View by list — Allows you to organize the albums by list.	View by list — Allows you to organize the albums by list.
•	View by cover — Allows you to organize the albums by cover.	View by cover — Allows you to organize the albums by cover.
3	Click the album.	Highlight the album and press OK . Highlight Play and press OK .
4	Click Play . A window appears with the following options:	A window appears with the following options:
•	View Song — Allows you to view cover art and play one track.	View Song — Allows you to view cover art and play one track.
•	View Tracks — Allows you to view a list of all tracks on the album.	View Tracks — Allows you to view a list of all tracks on the album.
•	Shuffle — Rearranges the play order of the tracks on the album.	Shuffle — Rearranges the play order of the tracks on the album.
•	Repeat — Replays the album.	Repeat — Replays the album. Buy Music — Allows you to connect to the
•	Buy Music — Allows you to connect to the Internet, find CD information, and buy	Internet, find CD information, and buy music CDs.
•	music CDs. Visualize — Allows you to change the graphics displayed when playing music.	Visualize — Allows you to change the graphics displayed when playing music.

Using My Videos

Media Center allows you to organize and play videos on your computer.

Organizing Your Videos

When you attach a digital video camera to your computer, Windows asks how you want to capture the video. Various software programs allow you to capture and edit video files. Most programs automatically save the file to the **My Videos** folder in Windows Explorer. If not, you must move your videos into the **My Videos** or **Shared Video** folder in Windows Explorer in order to play them in Media Center. When you have placed all your videos into the **My Videos** or **Shared Video** folder, you can rename, add, delete, and organize them into folders.

To organize and store your videos in the My Videos folder in Windows Explorer:

- 1 Click the Start button and click My Documents.
- 2 Double-click the My Videos folder.

If you want to share your videos with others, place them in the **Shared Video** folder. To organize and store your videos in the **Shared Video** folder in Windows Explorer:

- 1 Click the Start button and click My Documents.
- 2 Under Other Places, click Shared Documents.
- 3 Double-click the Shared Video folder.

Playing Digital Videos

	Using the Mouse and Keyboard		Using the Remote Control
1	In the Media Center Start Menu window, click My Videos .	1	Press the MY VIDEOS button. The right side of the window displays small
, i	The right side of the window displays small images of your video files and folder icons, if you	2	images of your video files and folder icons, if you organized your videos into folders.
2	organized your videos into folders. Click an image to play the video. The selected video plays in full-screen mode, or the folder opens displaying a list of video files.		Press ♦ to highlight an image and press OK to play the video. The selected video plays in full-screen mode, or the folder opens displaying a list of video files.
	If you want to play the video in the smaller window, click the back button.		If you want to play the video in the smaller window, press the BACK button.
3	To view additional videos not displayed in the window, click \checkmark in the window or press $\uparrow \downarrow$ on your keyboard to scroll to other pages of video files and folders.	3	To view additional videos not displayed in the window, press $\blacktriangle \lor$ to scroll to other pages of video files and folders.

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