Install Your Own Home Loop System with Confidence

Dr. Neil Presents

Install Your Own Home Loop System with Confidence

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This presentation teaches you how to install the wonderful Univox DLS-50 home loop system in your home or apartment.
A loop system consists of two parts:

1. The transmitting section
2. The receiving section
Transmitting Section

The transmitting section consists of 4 components
1. Sound Source (TV)
2. Audio Cable

To connect the audio output of your TV to the loop amplifier
3. Loop Amplifier

Univox DLS-50 Loop Amplifier
4. Room Loop or Loop Pad

Red arrow points to room loop wire

Red arrow points to loop pad

Loop amplifier connects to TV audio jack

Loop "broadcasts" to the entire room

Hearing aid broadcasts TV sound

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Receiving Section

The loop system receiving section consists of a single component. There are two choices, depending whether you wear hearing aids with t-coils or not. These components are:
Hearing Aid with T-coil

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Loop Receiver

Univox Listener

Loop receivers are useful for people who do not wear hearing aids, or do not have t-coils in their hearing aids.
Setting up your Univox DLS-50 Loop System is a simple four-step process

1. Plug in the power adapter
2. Attach the audio cable to your TV (or other audio device) and the loop amplifier
3. Hook up the room loop or loop pad
4. Adjust the controls

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Univox DLS-50 (power plug)

Plug in the power adapter plug to the power jack on the left.
Locate the red and white audio output RCA jacks on the back of your TV.

Note: make sure you use the audio OUT jacks, not the audio IN jacks.
Plug the red and white RCA plugs of your audio cable into the corresponding audio output RCA jacks.

Some audio cables just have a red and white band on them.
Plug the mini-phone plug on the other end of the audio cable into the Line jack on the back (center) of the Univox DLS-50
Choose whether to install a

Loop Pad

or

Room Loop
Advantages of a Loop Pad

• Fast and easy to install

• Portable—easy to move

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Disadvantages of a Loop Pad

• Have to sit in one specific chair in order to hear on the loop

• Typically only one person can hear at a time
Advantages of a Room Loop

• Can sit anywhere or move around freely anywhere inside the looped area

• As many people as can fit inside the looped area can hear via the loop
Disadvantages of a Room Loop

• Harder to install the loop wire

• Depending on your place, may be hard to hide the loop wire

• May not be allowed to fasten loop wire in apartments
Here’s how to install a Loop Pad
Where should you place your Loop Pad?

• On the floor under your favorite chair

• Under the cushion you sit on

• On your headrest, especially if you use a recliner chair
Many people place the loop pad on the floor under their favorite chair.

Run the loop pad cord behind your chair and along the walls to your TV.
Loop Pad Extension Cord

The cord on the loop pad is 32 feet long, which is plenty long for most places. If you need a longer cord, get the loop pad extension cord and you’ll have another 32’.

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Plug the loop pad cord into the special jack on the back (center) of your DLS-50 loop amplifier. That’s it. Now you’re ready to go.
Loop Pad “Y” Adapter

The Univox DLS-50 can easily handle two loop pads so two people can listen at the same time. All you need is this “Y” adapter and a second loop pad. The “Y” adapter plugs into the back of the DLS-50 and the two loop pads plug into it.
Here’s how to install a Room Loop

Before installing a room loop, you have to decide where you want to place the wire. You can place it:

- Behind a baseboard or crown molding
- Under the carpet
- In the crawl space (attic) above the ceiling
- Under the floor if you have an unfinished basement or crawl space
- Along the walls at the ceiling or floor level
How big can a room loop be?

The room loop can be as big or small as you want it. The DLS-50 can handle up to about 100 lineal feet of loop wire. This would cover an area of 20’ x 30’.

If you are installing the loop in a basement or attic, you can cover all or parts of several rooms without regard to where the walls are, or you can choose to only cover part of one room.
Wire for a Room Loop

Use insulated stranded copper wire—18, 20 or 22 gauge

You can use single or two-conductor wire, but typically a single wire loop works well in most situations
Fasten the loop wire using insulated staples or stick-on aluminum clips.

- Insulated staple
- Aluminum clip with peel and stick back for use on finished surfaces

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Leave the wire loose

Leave wire loose                  Wrong—too tight

Don’t “mash” the fastener into the wood and thus damage the wire and/or insulation.
Insert the loop wire in the Univox DLS-50

Strip the insulation from the end of the loop wire, then press and hold the thumb clip down, insert the tip of the loop wire in the hole and let go.
Room loop wire properly installed in the Univox DLS-50

Loop wires properly inserted in the back of the Univox DLS-50 loop amplifier
Univox DLS-50 (lights)

The right blue light indicates there is power to the DLS-50.
The left blue light indicates a sound signal is reaching the DLS-50.
The center blue light indicates the sound signal is going into the loop.
Univox DLS-50 (front controls)

1. Set the VOLUME to 4 or 5 to start with. Note: if the volume is 0 you won’t hear anything and the middle blue light won’t go on.
2. Set the BASS to a comfortable level.
3. Set the TREBLE to a comfortable level.

Note: the Bass and Treble controls don’t provide a whole lot of variation, maybe 10 dB or so.
1. If you want to plug in a microphone to the DLS-50 use the dedicated mic jack on the right.

2. Beside it is the mic gain control.

3. You can also listen to the DLS-50 via headphones. Plug them into the headphone jack.
Univox AutoLoop

If you don’t like fiddling around with controls, this AutoLoop amplifier is for you. It has no controls. It adjusts everything automatically. It’s the same size, power and price as the DLS-50.

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The back of the AutoLoop looks much the same as the DLS-50, just note that the jacks are in different places. You hook it up the same way as you do the DLS-50. It does not have the separate mic jack, nor the headphone jack.
That’s the simple version

If your TV has fixed RCA audio out jacks you are all done.

However, if your TV is a new one that doesn’t have RCA audio out jacks, here’s what you need to know to hook it up.
There are two basic kinds of Audio Output Jacks

Analog Audio

Digital Audio (S/PDIF)
(Sony/Phillips Digital Interface)
Analog Audio Output Jacks

RCA:

May have fixed or variable output (fixed is better as you always have a strong signal whether the sound is high, low or muted).

If your TV only has variable RCA audio outs, look for RCA output jacks on your set-top or cable box or on a DVD or VCR recorder/player that is hooked into the cable AHEAD of the TV and use those audio outs.
Analog Audio Output Jacks

Mini-phone (1/8” or 3.5 mm). This is the kind of jack you see on portable TVs, computers and most audio devices such as iPods, MP3 players, etc.

To hook these devices to the Univox DLS-50, all you need is a double male 1/8” (3.5 mm) stereo audio patch cord.
Digital Audio Output Jacks

Coaxial:

Looks like an RCA jack, but it is colored orange.

Uses a special coaxial patch cord.
Digital Audio Output Jacks

Toslink (Toshiba Link):

- Optical—uses a fiber optic cable
- Jack has a hinged “trap door”
- Do NOT look inside jack as the laser light can damage your eyes

Notice the red laser light escaping around the trap door

Toslink plug
Connecting Digital Audio Output to the Univox DLS-50

At this time the DLS-50 does not have optical or coaxial inputs so if your TV only has one of these, you’ll need to get a digital to optical converter (DAC).
The DAC has a Toslink and a Coaxial Jack on the IN end
The DAC has RCA jacks on the OUT end.

Simply connect the DAC between your TV and the DLS-50 loop amplifier. The Toslink cable goes between the TV and the DAC while the RCA audio cable goes between the DAC and the loop amplifier. That’s all there is to it.
Stereo DAC vs. 5.1 Surround Sound DAC

This DAC only works with standard stereo outputs.

This DAC works with Dolby 5.1 surround sound outputs.
Contact us for your home looping needs

If you would like a copy of this presentation for your reference, the link is near the bottom of the page at www.hearinglosshelp.com/products/univoxdls50.htm