

# Mk 5. High definition.

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## 1. General

I had previously done quite a bit of experimenting with high definition videos using a Windows PC and movies on DVD-Rom in Windows media format, see this article (which, although the content is severely obsolete, represents a historic standpoint). From that article it should be clear, that getting a real high-definition setup was a must. Also, in 2007, HD-DVDs and BluRay discs appeared, and I purchased a BluRay player (Samsung BDP 1400, still in use).

For switching HDMI-sources, and converting between digital and analog video, a new receiver was needed. For me, the possibility to integrate it into an automation systems was essential. All AV-Receivers in the "midrange" price segments come with an RS232 control port. However, I considered Ethernet to be a vastly superior solution. It turned out that several AV Recivers contained Ethernet interfaces for Internet radio and streaming, but, except for one extremely expensive device, only the Denon was *controllable* from Ethernet. For this reason, the Denon AVR-3808 (later per software upgraded to AVR-3808A) was selected.

To complete the (full) HD setup, a full HD projector was necessary. In January 2008, affordable projectors were available, and I bought a Sanyo PLV-Z2000 with ISF-Calibration. At about the same time, the destructive "format war" ended. As a result, the prices for both HD-DVD players and discs plummeted, and, dancing on the grave of HD-DVD, I bought a player (Toshiba HD-EP30) as well as fairly large number of HD-DVDs, all to prices unthinkable while the format war lasted...

Not without sadness, I retired the old TV, and bought a new LCD TV. It hangs on the wall using a Vogels wall mount. The old TV table has also been retired, thus the center speaker is also mounted on the wall, using wall brackets intended for a microwave oven!

The DVD player was replaced with an Oppo DV-983H, enabling, among other things, SACD and better possibilities for integration in the automation systems through the bidirectional RS-232 port.

To my disappointment, Nubert decided to discontinue the NuWave series. At this time, I ordered two RS-5 (dipole) surround speakers to complete the 2+2+2 setup.

To switch between analog multi channel sources, together with some additional possibilities, a switch box was constructed, see this forum contribution. However, since modern HDMI-connections can transfer e.g. DVD-Audio or SACD formats losslessly, its use is nowadays more limited.

It is planned to replace the Samsung Bluray player by an Oppo BDP-83 in the near future.

The system can be controlled over my LAN network, using different Ethernet-IR gateways etc. This will be the subject of a future article.

## 2. Details

- Projector Sanyo PLV-Z2000, ISF-Calibrated (2008-01-25)
- Receiver Denon AVR-3808, upgraded to 3808A (purchase 2007-10-12, upgrade 2008-11-05)
- HD-DVD Player Toshiba HD-EP30, code free (2008-03-25)
- Bluray Player Samsung BDP-1400
- OPPO DVD player DV-983H, code free (2008-05-31)
- Loudspeakers:
  - Front Left/Right: NuWave 125, anthracite (2005-08-01)
  - Center: NuWave CS-65 anthracite (2005-08-01)
  - Surround Left/Right: NuWave DS-55 anthracite (2005-10-13) (using Vogel's VLB 200 wall brackets)
  - Left/Right Back Surround: NuWave RS-5 anthracite
  - Height: NuWave RS-5 anthracite (2008-04-29)
  - Subwoofer: NuBox AW-850
- Denon ASD 11R Ipod dock (2008-08-26)
- Screen Mediastar 16:9, 2.34 meters wide
- Turntable Thorens TD150/II (purchased 1972), equipped with SME Model 3009 Series II Improved Arm and ADC XLM MKII stylus.
- Timer: Pioneer DT-555 (only used as clock)
- TV: Philips 37PFL9603 (2008-08-27)
- Vogels EFW6345 TV wall mount
- S-VHS ET Recorder Philips VR-1100
- Nokia dBox II, with hardware modification, running Tuxbox
- Stax SR-X Mark 3 electrostatic earphones, with SRD-7 adapter. Purchased in 1982, adapter in 2005.
- Remote Control: Mainly UFC-7781 (One for All OFA Digital 12) (2008-04-08)
- Cables mainly Clicktronic.
- Selfmade analog 8 channel switch; an article is planned, see this forum contribution (in German) in the meantime.
- Selfmade loudspeaker relay switch box; article planned, see this forum contribution (in German) in the meantime.

## 3. Photos

Photos will appear shortly.