First-time connection of your Tailgater should be performed at your residence or a location where you have good phone reception. When your Tailgater system is set up, call DISH Network at 1-800-333-DISH (3474) to activate your receiver and begin viewing your satellite programming.

Power on the system and perform the setup procedure at least once every two months if your Tailgater is not used for extended periods of time.

1. Before You Leave Home

Make sure your Tailgater antenna is packed securely for transport. Don’t forget the following items:
- A Portable power generator or an AC/DC power inverter.
- Power extension cord
- Power strip for your receiver and TV
- Tailgater compatible DISH Network HD Receiver (VIP 211k)
- Audio/visual cable(s)
- Coaxial cable

2. Setup your Tailgater

Your Tailgater requires an unobstructed view of the southern sky for the best signal reception. Be sure to place the Tailgater in a location free from obstructions such as people, trees, buildings, or vehicles. This will allow for the strongest signal and will help prevent any interruption to your programming. Follow the steps below to begin using your Tailgater.

3. Connect Your Cables to Your TV

Connect your receiver to the TV using the best connection type supported by your television. You only need to select one of the connections below for audio and video.

4. Power Up System

a. Turn on your TV and plug in your receiver to a 110V power source.

b. The green power light on your receiver should be lit or begin cycling on and off. Wait for the green light to turn solid. If it does not turn solid within two minutes, power on your receiver using the front panel POWER button.

c. Connect your receiver to the TV using the best connection type supported by your television. You only need to select one of the connections below for audio and video.

   - Standard Definition audio and video ports can also be used to view your programming. See your receiver User’s Guide for more information.

5. Program Your Remote

If you have used your Tailgater before and your remote can operate your receiver, you may skip this step and go to step 6.

a. Press the “SYSTEM INFO” button on the front panel of your receiver.

b. Press and release the SAT button on the remote control.

c. Press and release the RECORD button. You may see the remote address change on screen.

d. Press and release the SELECT button on the remote to continue.
6. Connect Your Tailgater

a. Connect one end of the coaxial cable (included) to the “Satellite In” coaxial port on the back of the DISH Network HD Solo Receiver.

b. Connect the other end of the coaxial cable to the coaxial port on the Tailgater.

c. The Portable Antenna Installation Setup screen displays. This may take up to two minutes.

7. Scan for Receiver Signal

Your Tailgater requires an unobstructed view of the southern sky for the best signal reception. Verify the Tailgater is in a location free from obstructions such as people, trees, buildings, vehicles, etc. This will allow for the strongest signal and will help prevent any interruption to the scan.

a. Use your remote to select the state you are currently located in from the “Portable Antenna Setup” screen. Verify the Scan button is highlighted, then press SELECT on your remote.

b. When the scan is complete, the “Acquiring Signal” message displays. This process may take up to 5 minutes to complete.

c. The Portable Antenna Installation Setup screen displays. This may take up to two minutes.

d. Call DISH Network at 1-800-333-DISH (3474) to activate your receiver.

FAQs

Can I run my Tailgater antenna, DISH receiver, and TV from my vehicle? Yes, you can use an inverter to power your system off of your vehicle’s DC power supply (12V power outlet). However, if you plan to watch TV for more than a few hours, be sure to start and run your vehicle for a few minutes every hour. If convenient, a portable power generator or alternative accessory battery may be a better option for operating your system and can help preserve your vehicle’s battery life.

Will my Tailgater work during inclement weather? Though rare, heavy rain, snow, or dense cloud cover can reduce the satellite signal, which may interrupt your television programming. Your television programming will return as conditions improve.

Can I attach an external hard drive to my receiver to add DVR functionality (record and pause live TV)? Your receiver has a USB port on the back where you can attach your own USB external hard drive and add DVR functionality for a one-time service fee of $40. For more information or to see if your receiver is applicable, go to www.dishnetwork.com/supportsection/dvrcconversion.

Troubleshooting

For more troubleshooting symptoms, please refer to your Tailgater User’s Guide or visit www.dish.com/tailgater.

### Symptom/Message | Possible Cause | Troubleshooting
--- | --- | ---
Complete Signal Loss - 015 | Obstructions to the antenna’s view of the southern sky, such as tree branches, severe rain, etc. | 1) Make sure nothing is blocking your portable antenna’s view of the southern sky, such as tree branches, severe rain, or other obstructions. 2) Check that the cable between your DISH receiver and the portable antenna is securely connected. 3) Unplug the power cord of your receiver for 10 seconds and plug it back in. It may take up to 1 minute for the receiver to power back on.
Partial Signal Loss - 002 | Cabling not connected properly between the DISH receiver and the portable antenna. | 1) Make sure nothing is blocking your portable antenna’s view of the southern sky, such as tree branches, severe rain, or other obstructions. 2) Check that the cable between your DISH receiver and the portable antenna is securely connected. 3) Unplug the power cord of your receiver for 10 seconds and plug it back in. It may take up to 1 minute for the receiver to power back on.
All Satellites Not Found - 150 | Your physical location may be outside the footprint of the desired orbital slot. | 1) Make sure nothing is blocking your portable antenna’s view of the southern sky, such as tree branches, severe rain, or other obstructions. 2) Check that the cable between your DISH receiver and the portable antenna is securely connected. 3) Unplug the power cord of your receiver for 10 seconds and plug it back in. It may take up to 1 minute for the receiver to power back on.