



# QUICK SETUP GUIDE

## HDA10 SERIES



[www.NightOwlSP.com](http://www.NightOwlSP.com)



# What's in the Box

## Package Contents

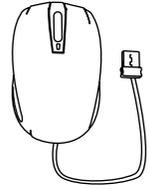
**Disclaimer:** The exact components of your system, images and quantities may vary depending on your model number. While these may vary, this QSG will address the setup and initial configuration of your DVR and cameras.



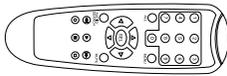
DVR



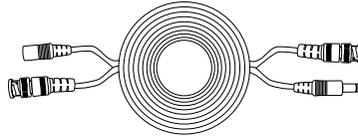
Camera(s)



USB Mouse (x1)



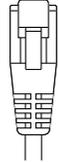
Remote Control  
(includes batteries)(x1)



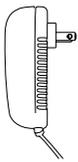
60 ft. Video/Power Cables  
(1 cable per camera)



6 ft. HDMI  
(x1)



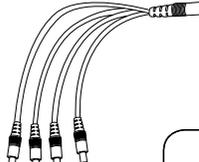
6 ft. Ethernet  
(x1)



DVR Power  
Adapter (x1)



Camera Power  
Adapter(s)  
(1 per 4 cameras)



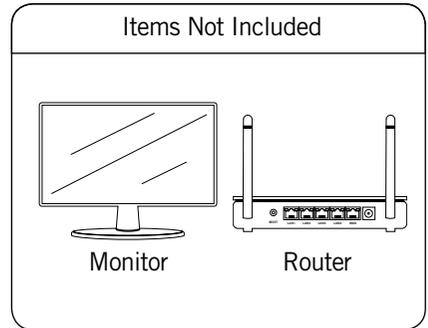
Power Splitter(s)  
(1 per 4 cameras)



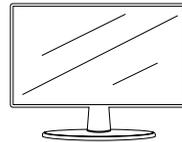
Mounting  
Hardware



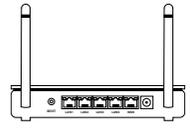
Safety  
Stickers



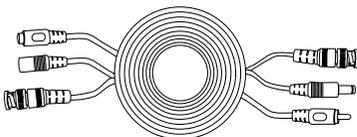
Items Not Included



Monitor



Router

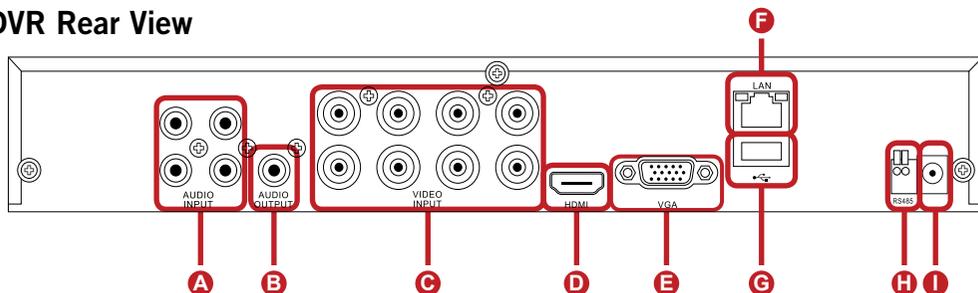


60 ft. Video/Power/Audio Cables  
(If applicable: 1 cable per camera)

Your system may include an audio enabled camera. Each audio enabled camera comes equipped with an audio enabled BNC Video/Power cable. Simply connect the white audio end of the BNC cable to an open audio input port on the rear of the DVR and ensure the audio input port number and channel port number match. For instance, if you have an audio enabled cable plugged into video input port 1, it will also need to be connected to audio input port 1. **After making the audio input connection, be sure to enable the audio function in the DVR's menu.**

# Product Overview

## DVR Rear View



*Images used are for reference only. Your product may vary slightly. An 8 channel model is displayed above.*

- A Audio Inputs** – Audio inputs allow for the connection of audio enabled cameras by connecting the white RCA plug to one of the audio inputs. **After making the audio input connection, be sure to enable the audio function in the DVR’s menu interface.**
- B Audio Output** – Audio output allows for the connection of an amplified speaker using an RCA connector.
- C Video Inputs** – Video inputs allow for the connection of BNC cameras.
- D HDMI Output** – HDMI output allows for a video connection. If the TV/Monitor has an HDMI input, connect the HDMI cable from the HDMI output port on the DVR to the HDMI input port on your TV/Monitor.
- E VGA Output** – VGA output allows for a video connection. If the TV/Monitor does not have an HDMI input but does have a VGA input, connect the VGA cable from the VGA output port on the DVR to the VGA input port on your TV/Monitor. (VGA cable is not included)
- F RJ-45 (Ethernet) Port** – RJ-45 port will be used to connect the DVR to your router/modem via the included Ethernet cable.
- G USB Port** – USB port allow for the connection of a USB mouse and/or a USB flash drive. You will connect the included USB mouse to assist you in navigating the DVR’s menu interface. You will connect a USB flash drive to download video files from the DVR and save them to your USB flash drive.
- H RS-485 (PTZ) Port** – RS-485 port allows for the connection of a Pan-Tilt-Zoom (PTZ) camera. Some PTZ cameras utilize Up the Coax (UTC) technology and will not require the RS-485 port to function.
- I Power Input** – Power input to connect the included 12V DC power supply.

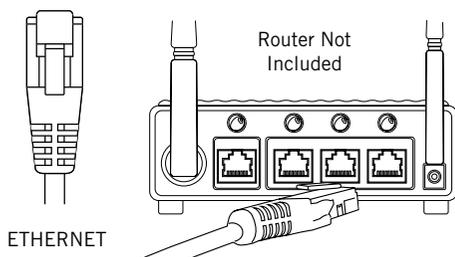
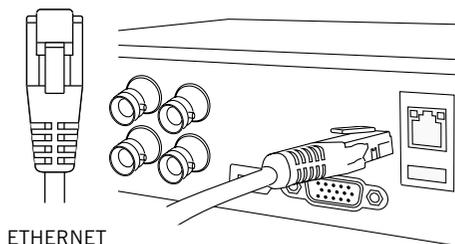
# Updating Your System's Firmware



**Before setting up your system, you must update your DVR's firmware. Please follow the steps detailed herein. If you do not update your firmware, you will be unable to use this QSG or the updated Startup Wizard.**

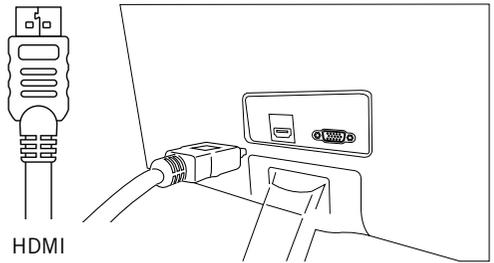
- 1** Connect one end of the included Ethernet cable into the LAN port on the back of the DVR. Connect the other end into your Modem/Router to establish an Internet connection.

**NOTE:** You must have an Internet connection before powering on the DVR. The lights in the LAN port on the back of the DVR will blink repeatedly when the Internet connection has been established.



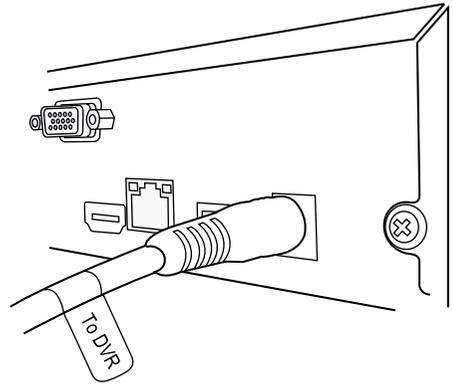
- 2** Next, connect the DVR to your TV/monitor using the provided HDMI cable. If your TV/monitor does not have an HDMI port, you may use a VGA cable (not provided).

**NOTE:** To view cameras, TV/Monitor must be tuned to the same Input the HDMI is plugged into.



- 3** Using the provided DVR power adapter, power on the DVR.

**NOTE:** Power adapters will be labeled as either DVR or Camera.



- 4** Once the DVR has powered on, a Notice message will appear indicating a new firmware version is available. Select **OK**.

**NOTE:** Failing to select **OK** will result in the firmware not being updated.



# Updating Your System's Firmware

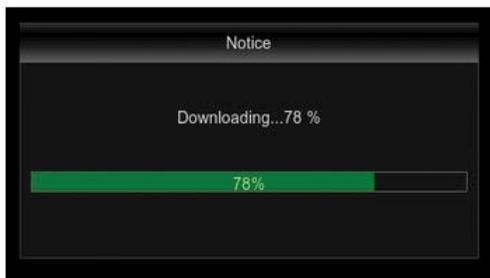
- 5 Next, you will be prompted to login to the DVR. **DO NOT** enter a password. Instead, select **Login** and bypass the password request at this time.

**NOTE:** Once the firmware has updated, you will begin the Startup Wizard and will create a password at that time.



- 6 The firmware will now be downloaded and you will see a message on screen showing the firmware is being remotely updated.

**NOTE:** **DO NOT** power off the DVR during this process.



- 7 This process may take up to 5-8 minutes. It is crucial that you **DO NOT** power off the DVR during this process as that will cause damage to your unit.

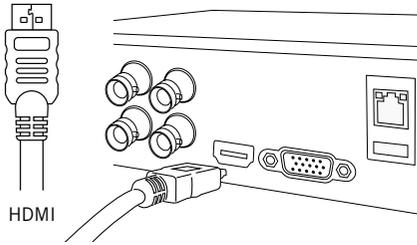


- 8** After the firmware has finished updating, your DVR will automatically reboot. Once the reboot has occurred, you will be directed to the Startup Wizard to begin configuring your system.

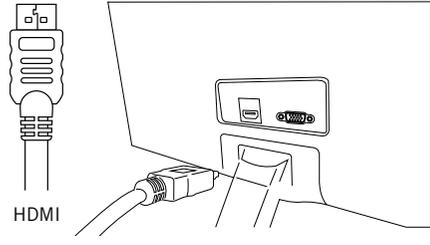
A photograph of a modern house at night, illuminated by warm interior and exterior lighting. The house has a mix of wood siding and stucco. A large, semi-transparent graphic of an owl's face, composed of many small circles, is overlaid on the sky above the house. In the foreground, there is a small sign in the yard that says 'WARNING NIGHT OWL'.

**Thank you  
for updating  
your firmware!**

# Connecting Your System

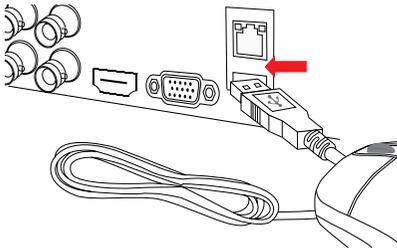


- 1 Plug one end of the included HDMI cable into the HDMI port on the back of the DVR.

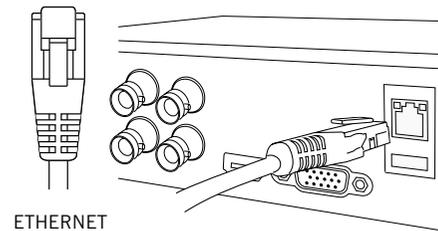


You may also connect using VGA (not included)

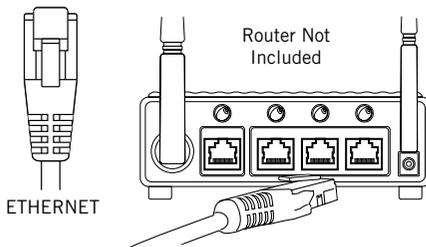
- 2 Plug the other end of the HDMI cable into the back of your TV or monitor. **NOTE: To view cameras, TV/Monitor must be tuned to the same Input the HDMI is plugged into.**



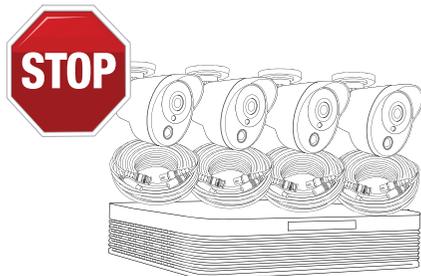
- 3 Plug in the USB Mouse into the USB port on the back of the DVR.



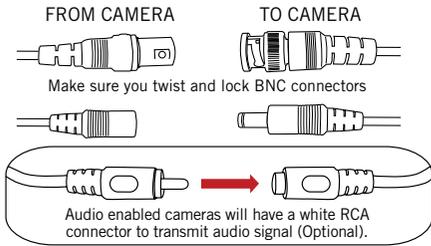
- 4 Plug one end of the included Ethernet cable into the LAN port on the back of the DVR.



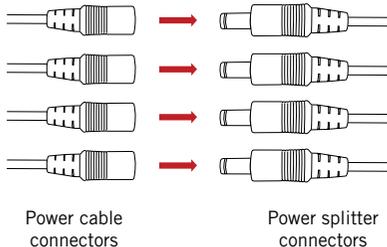
- 5 Plug the other end of the Ethernet cable into a port on the back of your router.



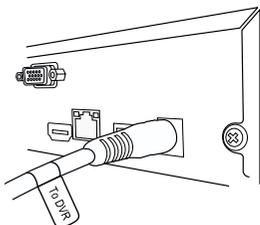
**STOP: BEFORE** installing, test each camera locally to confirm they function properly.



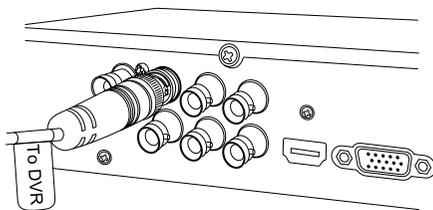
- 6** Connect the ends of the cable attached to the camera to the ends of a video/power cable labeled **TO CAMERA ONLY**.



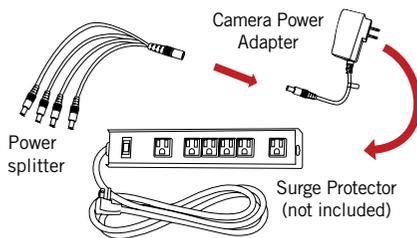
- 8** Connect the female power leads of the BNC cables to the male power splitter ends.



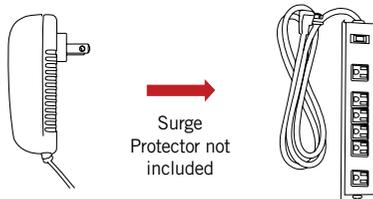
- 10** Connect the DVR power adapter to the Power Input on the rear of the DVR.



- 7** Connect the BNC connector of the video/power cable labeled **TO DVR ONLY** to an open video input on the DVR.  
**NOTE: Make sure you twist and lock BNC connectors.**



- 9** Connect the power splitter to the camera power adapter and plug the adapter into a surge protector or Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS).  
**NOTE: Power adapters are labeled TO CAMERA ONLY and TO DVR ONLY.**



- 11** Plug the DVR power adapter into a surge protector or Uninterruptible Power Supply (UPS). **NOTE: Some systems will beep upon booting up.**

# Booting Up for the First Time

## Startup Wizard

- 1 When you power on the DVR you will be prompted with the following screen. Please follow the instructions to complete the Startup Wizard.



## Important... Please Read

- 2 On the 'Password Creation' screen, please note the following:



### Admin Account Creation

By default, the username will be 'admin'. It must remain 'admin' upon your initial account configuration. However, you may add additional users at a later time.

**NOTE:** Password can be any alphanumeric combination between 6 and 20 characters.



### Recovery Email Address

Please ensure you provide a valid email address in case you ever forget your account information.



### Remember Your Password

Night Owl strongly recommends writing down your password within the Quick Setup Guide. You will need it every time you log into your DVR and to remotely view on a Smart Device.

Write your password here:

- 3** When you reach the **'Camera/Channel Settings'** screen, you will want to have installed the cameras in their final position. Please make sure you have mounted cameras at least 7ft. above the ground and angled them slightly down.



The infrared sensor works best for 'side to side' movement across the cameras field of view as opposed to movement directly to or away from the camera\*

*\*This note only applies if you have Smart Infrared cameras.*

At this stage of the Startup Wizard, you will be instructed on adjusting the camera sensitivity and setting the Motion Detection Area. Having your cameras in their final position will be key.

So, if you would like to detect motion for the front door to your home, place the camera to the side of the entrance.

- 4** This is the last screen you will see when you have successfully completed the Startup Wizard.



**NOTE:** For additional configuration of your DVR, please refer to the owner's manual located on our support page at [www.NightOwlISP.com](http://www.NightOwlISP.com).

# Creating Additional Users within the DVR

The **admin** of the DVR has more privileges than standard users. When configuring your system for remote viewing, we strongly recommend not giving more than one (1) smart device **admin** access. Up to three (3) users can remotely view the DVR simultaneously. If there are multiple users who will be viewing the DVR on their smart device, we encourage the **admin** to create additional users at the DVR level. To add additional users to the DVR:



- 1 Right-click and select Main Menu.
- 2 Login.
- 3 Select System.
- 4 Select Users.
- 5 Select an unassigned user account. **NOTE: The status of an unassigned user account will read *Disable*.**
- 6 Select Edit to Enable the user account and assign a User Name and Password. You may choose to enable or disable Password requirements for each user. If the Password Required entry is Disable, the user will not need a password to login to the DVR.
- 7 Click Save to apply new settings. You will need to enter your **admin** password to save the Enabled user settings.
- 8 Click Permission to select which menus, settings and playback/recording functions are available to that specific user and on which channels. *All* will give that user basic admin settings.
- 9 Select Save to apply permission settings.
- 10 Right-click to exit the Menu.

**NOTE: If the *admin* login is used on multiple smart devices simultaneously, additional users will be able to override *admin* changes.**

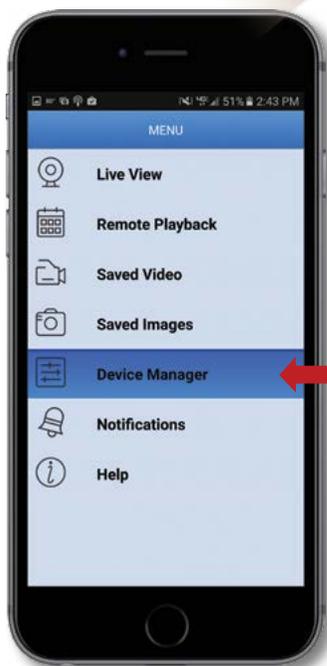
# Using Night Owl HD

## Download and Install Application

- 1 Download **Night Owl HD** from the *App Store* or *Google Play Store* and install the application on your device.



**NOTE:** Setup is the same for phone and tablet.



**Disclaimer:** The images of the Night Owl HD App are taken from the Android™ version of the application. If you are using a iOS® device, the interface may vary slightly; however, the setup will be the same.

- 2 To add a device, go to the Main Menu and select **Device Manager**.

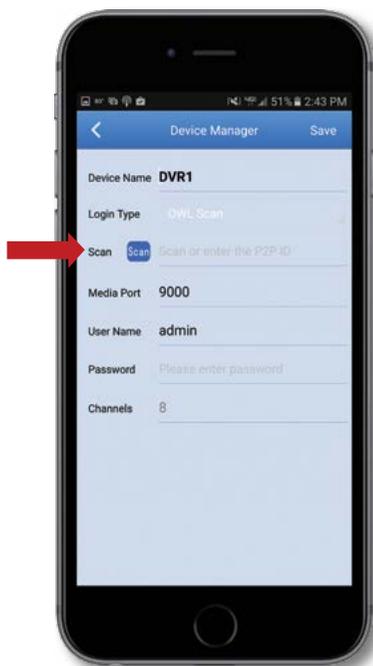
# Using Night Owl HD



- 3 Select the **Add** tab in the top right corner of your screen to add your DVR.

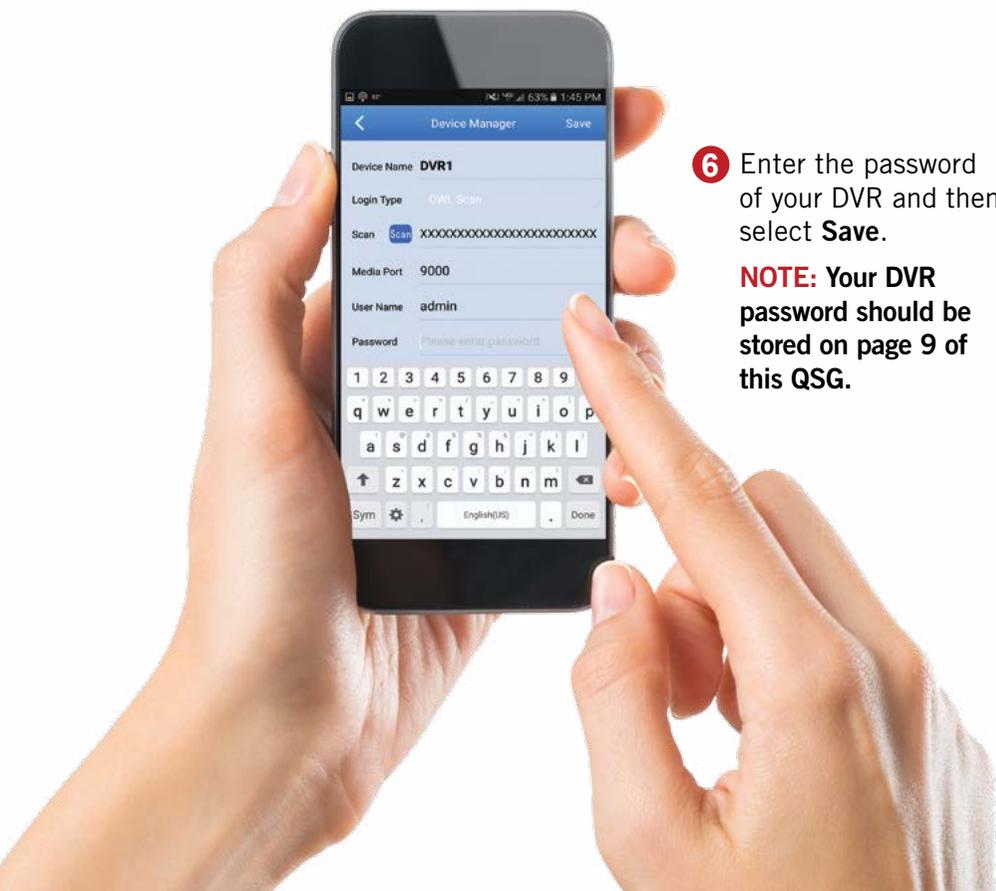
- 4 Select the blue Scan button to utilize Owl Scan.

**NOTE:** You may also elect to manually enter the P2P ID which can be located within the System Menu of your DVR. Navigate to Right Click Menu > Main Menu > System > Info > P2P ID





- 5 Using your phone's built-in camera, hover the lens over the QR code on the top of the DVR and wait for it to successfully scan.



- 6 Enter the password of your DVR and then select **Save**.

**NOTE:** Your DVR password should be stored on page 9 of this QSG.

# Using Night Owl HD

## App Overview

**Live View:** Displays real-time footage of your system.

**Remote Playback:** View recordings and images and save them to your phone's album.

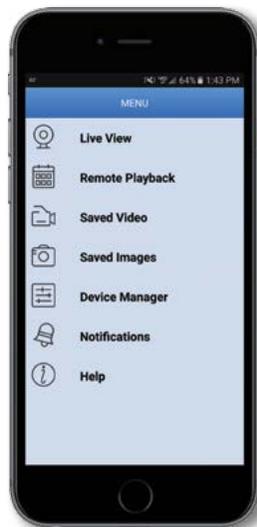
**Saved Video:** View video saved to your Night Owl HD App.

**Saved Images:** View images saved to your Night Owl HD App.

**Device Manager:** Add a new DVR and manage your devices.

**Notifications:** Manage custom push notifications.

**Help:** For additional resources regarding the Night Owl HD App.



## Definition of User Icons



**Device:** To navigate to another added DVR.

**View:** Change the channel view.

**Local:** Record a video and save directly to the application.

**Snap:** Take a snapshot image and save directly to the application.

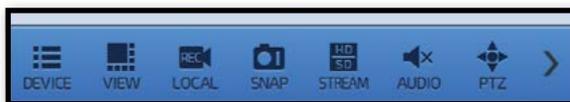
**Stream:** Switch between Mainstream and Substream.

**Audio:** Control audio for audio enabled camera or microphone.

**PTZ:** Control a PTZ camera.

**Stop Single:** Stop a single channel from streaming live view.

**Stop All:** Stop all channels from streaming live view.



**NOTE:** Menu order may vary between iOS® and Android™.

# Using Night Owl HD CMS Software

**Access your DVR from any computer, anywhere!**



## **Main View**

Viewing live video, controlling PTZ functionality and setting image parameters.

## **Remote Playback**

View system recordings and images and save them directly to your PC or Mac®.

## **Group Device Management**

Add and configure available DVRs and cameras on your network.

## Night Owl HD CMS Software

The Night Owl HD Control Management Software (CMS) allows you to view your Night Owl Security system remotely from a PC or Mac®. Additionally, you can playback recorded video, save video and images directly to your PC or Mac®, configure numerous settings such as channel names and set record preferences.

### To download the CMS Software:

- 1 Go to [www.NightOwlSP.com](http://www.NightOwlSP.com)
- 2 Click on the Support tab.
- 3 In the Search bar, type “HD CMS”.
- 4 Download the Night Owl HD CMS Software.
- 5 Once downloaded, select PC or Mac®.

# Frequently Asked Questions

## FAQs

### **1. Does my DVR have to be connected to the Internet?**

Your DVR does not require an Internet connection for basic operation, but you will need to connect the DVR to your router in order to remotely view your system on a PC/Mac® or Smart Device.

### **2. Does my DVR have to be connected to a TV or monitor?**

For initial setup, you will need to connect your DVR to a TV or monitor. After completing the initial setup, your DVR does not need to be connected to a TV or monitor to view or capture recordings. You can view your system using the Night Owl HD CMS Software on a PC/Mac® or by downloading the Night Owl HD app on your Smart Device.

### **3. Are my cameras weatherproof?**

Yes, your cameras are weatherproof and will endure minimal moisture and dirt/debris. However, Night Owl strongly recommends placing all outdoor cameras under an eave or awning to help shield them from overexposure to the elements, which could reduce your camera's lifespan.

### **4. Why does my camera stop working at night?**

It is possible that your camera is not receiving enough power for the LEDs needed for Night Vision. Try plugging that camera directly into the camera power adapter (bypassing the splitter) to see if the LEDs turn on. If they do, you may need to purchase an additional camera power adapter for that camera.

### **5. Why am I not able to add my DVR to the Night Owl HD App?**

In order to successfully add your DVR to the Night Owl HD App, you must enter the password for your DVR verbatim. This password should be stored on page 5 of this QSG and will be the same password you use to login to your DVR. If the exact same password is not entered, you will not be permitted to add the device.

### **6. Why can't I connect using the Night Owl HD app or Night Owl HD CMS Software?**

If you are having trouble connecting using our mobile app or client software, A) your Night Owl system may not be connected to a router, B) the latest firmware or client software may not be installed on your computer or mobile device or, C) the password may have been entered incorrectly or, D) You may need to restart your DVR and try again.



For system manuals, troubleshooting guides, FAQs, video tutorials and more:

Please visit [www.NightOwlISP.com](http://www.NightOwlISP.com).

Click the Support tab.

Type HDA10 in the top right search bar.

Access the support material needed.

## Contact Us

**PHONE** (English, Spanish & French)

**Sales/Technical Support**

1.866.390.1303

Live Chat 24/7, 365 days a year

**EMAIL**

**Sales Support**

[Sales@NightOwlISP.com](mailto:Sales@NightOwlISP.com)

**Technical Support**

[Support@NightOwlISP.com](mailto:Support@NightOwlISP.com)

**WEBSITE**

**24/7 Product Support**

- How-To Videos
- Manuals

[www.NightOwlISP.com](http://www.NightOwlISP.com)



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Rev 170928