

Setting up Sonos Beam

Before your [Sonos Beam](#) can play audio from your TV or music services, it must be setup using the Sonos app on your computer, tablet or mobile device. If the Beam is not set up using the Sonos app, you will not receive audio. Follow the instructions below to set up the Beam.

1. [Download the Sonos controller app](#) on the device you will use for setup.
2. Place the Beam in the desired location and apply power.
3. Connect the supplied HDMI cable to the Beam, and the other end to the HDMI-ARC port on your TV.

If your TV does not have an HDMI-ARC port, you can use the supplied optical audio adapter, and then connect to the digital audio out port (optical) on your TV.

4. Open the Sonos app on your device and follow the on-screen instructions.

If you already have an existing Sonos system, go to the More tab and tap Add Speakers.

What is HDMI-ARC?

Sonos Beam connects to your TV's HDMI-ARC port. Most TVs have two to four HDMI ports, one of which is labeled ARC, which stands for Audio Return Channel. The HDMI-ARC port syncs audio and picture, plus automatically pairs your TV remote to Sonos Beam. If you're unsure if your TV has an HDMI-ARC port, consult your TV specs with the manufacturer.

If your TV is older than 5 years, or otherwise doesn't have an HDMI ARC port, you can use the included optical audio adapter to connect Sonos Beam to the optical port on your TV. Please note that Amazon Alexa TV voice commands will not work when the Beam is connected via optical adapter.

Control your TV with Alexa ([where available](#))

For compatible TVs, Beam introduces commands specific to TV use, including "Turn on the TV" and "Turn off the TV." Beam also follows commands such as

“Turn it up” and “Mute,” applying them to the TV volume.

To use these commands, Beam must be connected to your TV’s HDMI-ARC input, and your TV needs to have HDMI-CEC enabled. HDMI-CEC is sometimes referred to as:

- Samsung: Anynet+
- LG: SimpLink
- Sony: Bravia Link
- Phillips: EasyLink
- Panasonic: Viera Link
- Hitachi: HDMI-CEC

Amazon Alexa voice control for your TV (*Alexa, turn the TV on/off*) will not work if Beam is connected via optical adapter.

Beam can also be linked to Alexa-enabled video streaming devices such as Fire TV. Once linked, you can control these services with Sonos Beam by saying “Play Catastrophe,” “Switch to ESPN” or “Tune to channel 500.” If you’ve logged into Netflix or added HBO NOW to your Fire TV, you’ll be able to play shows by name, e.g. “Play Stranger Things” or “Play Game of Thrones.”

Learn more about setting up the Fire TV with Sonos Beam [here](#).

What audio formats are supported by the Sonos Beam?

Sonos Beam plays audio from PCM stereo and Dolby Digital sources.

Not getting any audio

If the Beam has already been set up, make sure it is plugged into an HDMI-ARC port and that ARC is enabled on your television. Your television should make this adjustment automatically, but check that it’s set to output its audio to external speakers as well.

Audio does not start once TV is turned on

Audio may take a few seconds to start. This is normal, but it shouldn’t take more than 15 seconds.

Frequently Asked Questions

How does work with amazon alexa

Sonos Beam supports voice commands with Amazon Alexa. These include commands to start music and content with Spotify, TuneIn and Audible; commands to control other services started with the Sonos app, plus requests for popular Alexa features like “What’s my Flash Briefing?” or “What’s the weather?” or “Play Song Quiz”.

Differ from playbar and playbase

Sonos Beam is a more compact speaker and can fit almost anywhere. Playbar and Playbase have more speakers, so they produce louder sound with more width and bass. Beam is perfect for small to mid-sized rooms, whereas Playbar and Playbase are capable of filling large spaces.

Beam features HDMI connectivity and has Alexa voice control built-in while Playbar and Playbase rely on Optical and work with other Alexa-enabled devices.

Can I control my tv with beam and alexa

For compatible TVs, Sonos Beam introduces commands specific to TV use, including “Turn on the TV” and “Turn off the TV”. Sonos Beam also follows commands such as “Turn it up” and “Mute”, applying them to the TV volume. Sonos Beam must be connected to your TV’s HDMI-ARC input and your TV needs to support CEC features. Amazon Alexa voice control for your TV will not work if Sonos Beam is connected via optical adapter.

Compatible with FireTV and other video streaming devices that work with Alexa when they launch in your region.

Beam here me when audio is playing

Yes. Five far-field microphones are built in to Sonos Beam to detect your voice from any direction, anywhere in the room. You can speak at natural volume to activate Alexa-supported voice commands. Based on your preference, you can choose to have voice feedback turned on or off.

Far field microphones

Yes, simply touch the microphone icon and the light will turn off/on. When the microphone light is on, Alexa is ready for a voice command. When the light is off, the microphone is off. This ensures privacy when you want it.

Connect to smart home or home automation systems

Sonos Beam can control devices through skills in the Alexa app. In addition, Sonos has certified partnerships with smart home systems like Wink and Lutron. Based on your setup, commands to control various smart devices throughout your home will work. Possibilities include “Set temperature to 20” and “Turn Living Room lights on.”

HDMI ARC

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Beam support air play

You can use AirPlay and stream straight to Sonos Beam from your iPad, iPhone and Mac. [Learn more on the Sonos AirPlay page.](#)

Can I wall mount

Yes. You can easily and securely mount Sonos Beam using our custom-designed wall mount. Our wall mount comes in all white or black – to complement your speaker – and is designed with 1 inch/2.5 cm of clearance from the wall to achieve the best acoustics. Sonos Beam also supports a range of certified third-party accessories that you can find on Sonos.com.

What audio content can I play in beam

Sonos Beam plays back all of your TV audio, once setup with the Sonos app is complete. You can stream audio from TV, movies, video on demand, music, radio, video games, audiobooks and podcasts.

What my tv support a codec

When Sonos Beam is connected to HDMI-ARC on your TV, the TV and Sonos Beam automatically pick the best format that both systems can support. If you are using the Optical Audio Adapter, Sonos Beam will support PCM stereo and Dolby Digital.

Bluetooth low energy

Sonos Beam uses Bluetooth Low Energy (BLE) to temporarily communicate with your phone/tablet during the setup process. BLE does not support audio streaming. Once setup is done, Sonos Beam streams and updates via your own WiFi.