



800

REFERENCE
DVD/CD PLAYER

USER GUIDE

BOOTHROYD STUART
MERIDIAN

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BOOTHROYD STUART
MERIDIAN

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Meridian 800 Reference DVD/CD Player User Guide

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Important safety instructions

- Read the instructions.
- Keep these instructions.
- Follow all instructions.
- Do not use this apparatus near water.
- Clean only with a dry cloth.
- Install only in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions.
- Refer all servicing to approved service personnel.

Safety warnings

WARNING: TO REDUCE THE RISK OF FIRE OR ELECTRIC SHOCK, DO NOT EXPOSE THIS APPARATUS TO RAIN OR MOISTURE

- Do not expose the speakers to dripping or splashing.
- Do not place any object filled with liquid, such as a vase, on the speakers.
- Do not place naked flame sources, such as lighted candles, on the speakers.

To avoid overheating

- Leave at least 10cm around the equipment to ensure sufficient ventilation.

Do not position the unit:

- In direct sunlight.
- Near heat sources, such as a radiator.
- Directly on top of heat producing equipment, such as a power amplifier.

To avoid interference

Do not position the unit:

- Near strong magnetic radiation.
- Near to a television, or where connecting cables may be subject to or cause interference.

Radio interference

FCC Warning: This equipment generates and can radiate radio frequency energy and if not installed and used correctly in accordance with our instructions may cause interference to radio communications or radio and television reception. It has been type-tested and complies with the limits set out in Subpart J, Part 15 of FCC rules for a Class B computing device. These limits are intended to provide reasonable protection against such interference in home installations.

EEC: This product has been designed and type-tested to comply with the limits set out in EN55013 and EN55020.



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Copyright and acknowledgements

Sales and service in the UK

Meridian Audio Ltd
Latham Road
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 6YE
England

Tel (01480) 445678
Fax (01480) 445686

Sales and service in the USA

Meridian America Inc
8055 Troon Circle
Suite C
Austell
GA30168-7849
USA

Tel (404) 344 7111
Fax (404) 346 7111

World Wide Web – <http://www.meridian-audio.com>

Designed and manufactured in the UK by

Meridian Audio Ltd
Latham Road
Huntingdon
Cambridgeshire
PE29 6YE
England

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Introduction

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Welcome to the Meridian 800 Reference DVD/CD Player!
**This User Guide provides full information about using the DVD/CD
player in conjunction with your other equipment, to achieve the
superb results you can expect from it.**



The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player

The design philosophy of the Meridian 800 Reference DVD/CD Player is simply to deliver the highest possible quality audio and video signals from every format of DVD and CD, without compromises at any stage. It combines Meridian's extensive experience in producing audiophile compact disc players with their experience in applying state-of-the-art digital processing techniques to audio and video equipment, resulting in a DVD/CD player that delivers reference quality signals whatever the media.

Audio inputs

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player incorporates a precision DVD-ROM drive with the audio and video data read asynchronously and then triple buffered to isolate output timing from the mechanics of the drive. The audio data is also de-jittered using precise master oscillators to give a clear, open, authoritative sound.

The 800 can also be used as a system controller, allowing it to control the overall system volume with Meridian DSP speakers, or with an amplifier or active speakers if fitted with analogue outputs.

Audio outputs

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player incorporates a unique multichannel link, which allows it to provide an upsampled six-channel PCM stream to a compatible digital surround controller, such as the Meridian 861 Reference Digital Surround Controller, for the highest possible quality sound.

An additional feature of the Meridian multichannel link is that it provides intelligent stream content information from the 800 DVD/CD Player, allowing the digital surround controller to select an appropriate preset depending on whether the source is music or a movie soundtrack, and whether it is two-channel or multichannel.

The auxiliary output can be used either as a supplement to the surround decoder, or to feed a second zone. The 800 can also be fitted with analogue outputs with 192kHz, 24-bit conversion capability to drive a preamplifier, power amplifier, or active loudspeakers. The 800 does not provide analogue tape outputs.

Video outputs

The 800 Reference DVD/CD player provides an HDMI output for compatibility with the latest displays, and this automatically handshakes with the display to determine the highest quality signal that can be provided by the player. The HDMI interface also supplies two-channel digital audio.



The 800 also provides analogue progressive component video outputs, in addition to interlaced and NTSC/PAL encoded outputs. Picture controls allow you to adjust the aspect ratio, picture position (progressive only), brightness, contrast, and hue (NTSC only).

In addition to providing high-quality video outputs, the 800 has the ability to give help and system control information via an on-screen display.

Video inputs

The 800 Reference DVD/CD player also provides two composite, two S-video, and one interlaced component video input. All video sources are converted internally to a common broadcast-resolution standard digital video format.

DVD-Audio

DVD-Audio discs now make music recordings available with significantly higher quality than Audio CDs, with up to 24-bit resolution and up to 192kHz sampling rate. The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player is capable of taking advantage of the highest-quality audio available on DVD-Audio discs, and by using the proprietary MHR (Meridian High Resolution) encoding scheme, in conjunction with Meridian DSP Loudspeakers, allows the signal to be preserved at full resolution and sampling rate until the latest possible stage in the reproduction chain.

DVD-Audio discs are also capable of offering multichannel audio. The 800 DVD/CD Player can be fitted with a multichannel digital output card to allow up to six discrete channels to be connected to Meridian DSP Loudspeakers, or a digital surround controller with discrete multichannel inputs such as the 861.

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player also provides access to the range of additional features available on the DVD-Audio format, including still images and video sequences.

DVD-Video

The multichannel soundtracks on DVD-Video discs are encoded and compressed, using the Dolby Digital, MPEG, or DTS encoding systems. The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player uses mathematically precise digital signal processing (DSP) to decode the soundtrack into discrete channels. The video is processed using broadcast-quality video circuitry, with the ability to reproduce both PAL and NTSC video formats and to convert between them if the television or video display is not capable of displaying both formats.



Audio CDs

Because the CD catalogue is so comprehensive, CD will be the major source of music enjoyment for many years. In designing the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player no compromises have been permitted in reproducing conventional audio CDs. The 800 uses triple buffering and a FIFO to remove the timing variations that typically occur with reading data from an audio CD, resulting in an extremely clear and authoritative sound.

MP3 audio CDs

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player can also play CD-ROMs containing directories of MP3 audio files. This provides a convenient way of archiving record collections to achieve up to 10 times the capacity of a conventional CD where sound quality is not of primary importance.

MP3 discs can be created from a computer using appropriate MP3 encoding software and a CD-ROM writer. Generate the MP3 files with a data rate of at least 128Kbits per second. Group the tracks into folders to create separate albums on the disc. Do not create folders within folders.

Tracks and albums are played in the order in which they are recorded onto the CD-ROM. Usually this will be in alphabetical order of filename.

Computer-based configuration

The 800 Reference DVD/CD player can be configured using Meridian's Windows-based Configuration Program, which also supports the 861 Reference Digital Surround Controller and Meridian Room Correction. The Configuration Program includes a graphic system definition tool which allows a comprehensive system architecture to be built up on-screen and then uploaded to the units concerned.

Typical specification

Drives

- Internal ATAPI/IDE drive, with space for a second drive.

Audio outputs

The 800 is supplied as standard with digital or analogue outputs, or both:

- 6-channel (multichannel) digital outputs, normal or encrypted, PCM or compressed.
- 2-channel (auxiliary) digital output, normal or encrypted, PCM or compressed.
- 6-channel analogue output, balanced and unbalanced.

Signal processing

800 uses Meridian's proprietary DSP software to provide the following powerful features:

- Upsampling/downsampling.
- FIFO and error correction.
- Resolution enhancement.
- MLP decoding.

Video outputs

- HDMI output, providing video for HDMI-compatible displays, plus two-channel audio.
- Analogue progressive component video.
- Composite, S-video, or interlaced component video.
- NTSC or PAL.
- 16:9 or 4:3 letterbox/pan-scan.
- Black level option for NTSC.
- Picture controls for aspect ratio, picture position (progressive only), brightness, contrast, and hue (NTSC only).

Video inputs

- 2 composite, 2 S-video, and 1 interlaced component video input.
- Analogue video sources converted internally to a common broadcast-resolution standard digital video format.

Controls, etc.

Front-panel facia controls for:

- Open, Play, Stop, Pause, Previous, Next, and Off.



Hinged control panel provides additional switches for:

- Open, Function, Source, Copy, Store, and Setup.
- Top Menu, Parameter menus, Return, and Enter.
- Display, Mute, Gain+, and Gain-.

Display

- 20-character dot-matrix display with adjustable brightness and contrast.
- Lights for MLP, Multi, Repeat, and DVD/CD.





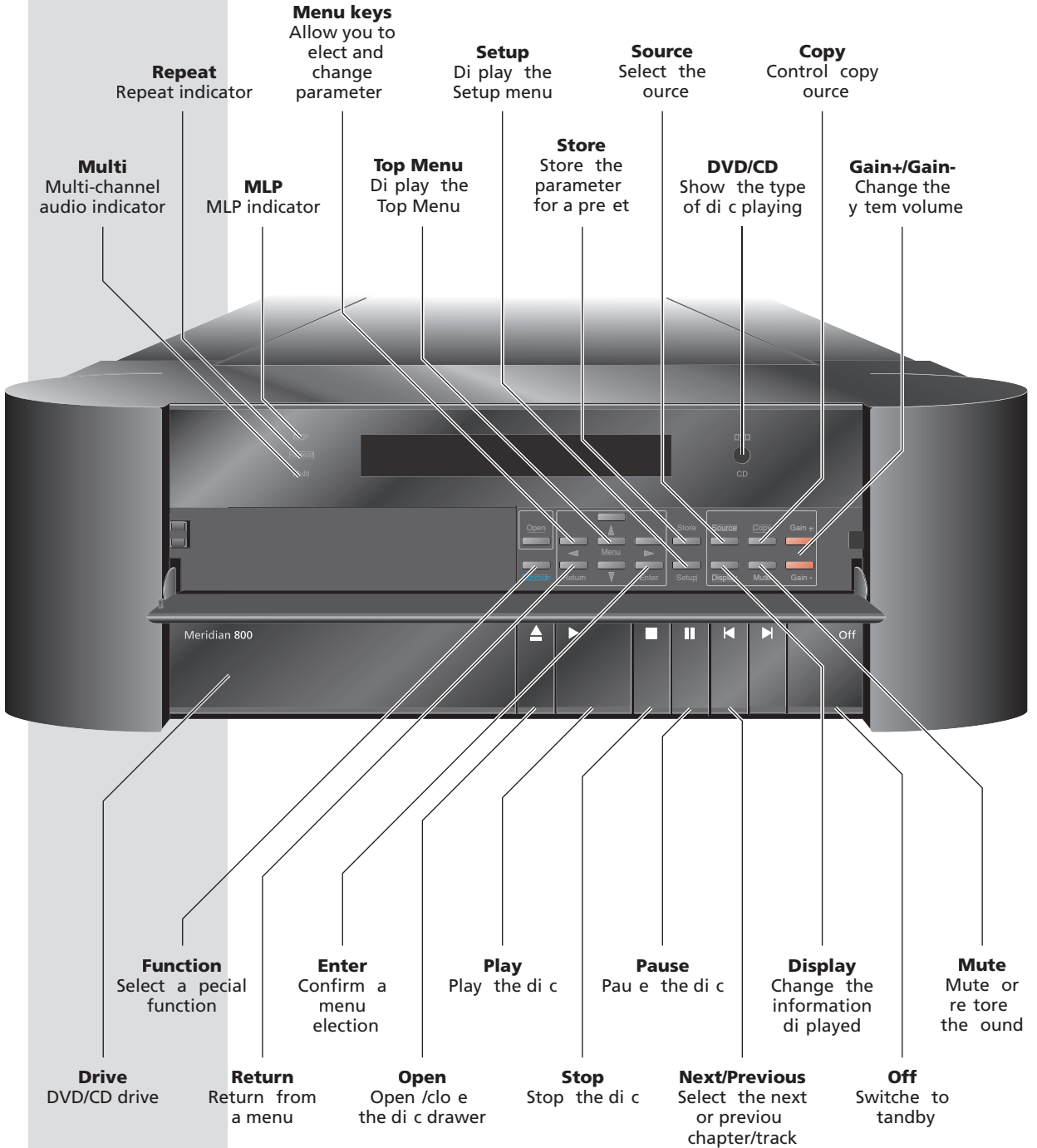
Using the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player

This chapter provides a summary of the functions of the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player to identify the controls which you use to operate the unit.

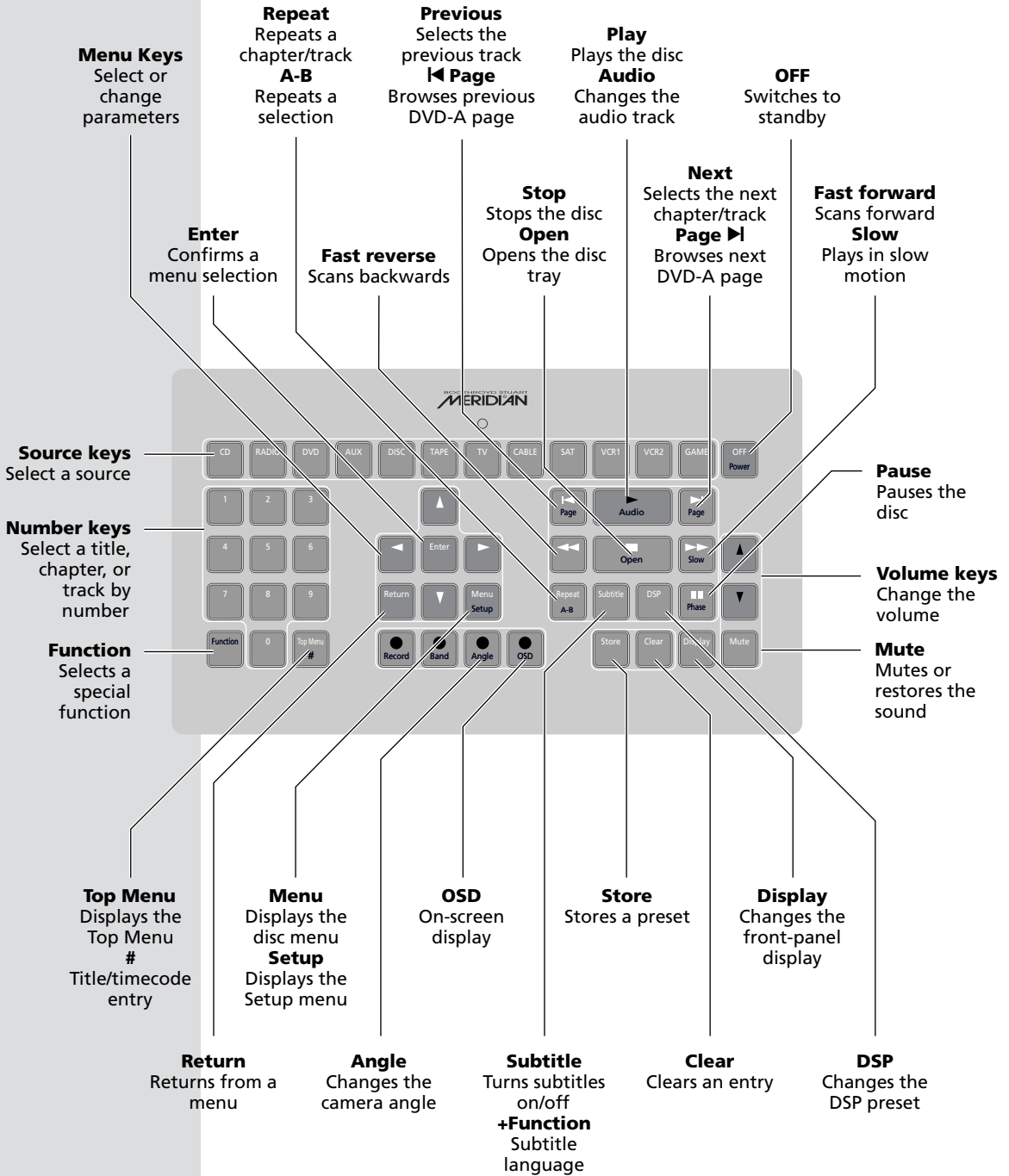
It also provides step-by-step instructions for operating the DVD/CD player, using either the front panel or the MSR+.



Front panel keys



MSR+ keys



Switching on and off

When not playing, the DVD/CD player should be left in the standby state. This uses a minimal amount of electricity, but ensures that the components of the DVD/CD player operate at maximum efficiency from the moment you start.

After switching on, the 800 runs an initialising cycle which takes a few seconds. Do not press any keys until the standby display appears.

If you are not going to use the DVD/CD player for several days you should switch the unit off completely at the rear panel, and disconnect it from the AC power supply.

To switch on from standby

- Press **Open**, **■**, or **▶** (front panel), or select a source on the remote.

If the DVD/CD player is part of a Meridian system it will automatically switch on any other unit in the system, such as the 861 Reference Digital Surround Controller and Meridian DSP Loudspeakers.

To switch to standby

- Press **Off** (front panel or remote).

If you have other Meridian equipment or Meridian DSP Loudspeakers connected to the DVD/CD player these units will also switch to standby.

If a disc is currently playing, switching to standby will stop the disc, and the disc can safely be left in the unit.

Always remove any disc before moving or shipping the 800.

Playing a disc

Most DVDs start playing automatically when you close the tray. Some DVDs are double-sided, and need to be turned over during play.

DVD-Audio discs usually behave differently depending on whether you start them by closing the tray, or pressing ►. Depending on how the disc is authored the typical behaviour is:

- Inserting the disc and pressing ► will start playing immediately from group 1, track 1.
- Inserting the disc and closing the tray will display the Top Menu.

To insert a disc

- Press ▲ (front panel) or **Function** ■ (remote) to open the tray.
- Place the disc, label side up, in the tray.

Ensure that the disc is correctly seated in the tray before closing the tray.

- Press ▲ again or ► (front panel or remote), or gently push the front of the tray, to close the tray.

To play the disc

- Press ► (front panel or remote).

The on-screen display shows ► and the front-panel display shows the title, chapter, and elapsed time (DVDs), or track number and elapsed time (CDs).

For example, on chapter 14 of title 1:



To move to the next or previous chapter or track

- Press ►| or ◀ (front panel or remote).

The on-screen display shows ►| or ◀.

To move to the next or previous album (MP3 discs only)

- Press ▼ or ▲ (remote).

The on-screen display shows ▼ or ▲.

These functions are normally disabled while the disc's copyright notice is being displayed.

Playing DVD-Audio discs

The Meridian 800 DVD/CD Player allows you to take full advantage of all the benefits provided by DVD-Audio discs, including one or more of the following features:

- Higher-quality audio up to 24 bit, 192kHz.
- Longer playing times.
- Multichannel surround sound.
- Additional materials, such as photographs, lyrics, and track listings.
- Videos.

Each DVD-Audio disc may offer a different selection of these features, depending on the material on the disc.

A DVD-Audio disc is identified by the following icon on the on-screen display:



Groups

DVD-Audio content can be divided into up to nine groups, similar to titles on Video discs. Each group can contain up to 99 tracks. Groups can be used to separate content, like high-quality audio from movie sections. Alternatively groups might provide the same content in different forms, such as multichannel and stereo.

Some DVD-Audio discs may contain hidden groups that require a password for access. Follow the instructions given on the disc.

Still images

DVD-Audio tracks often include still images, called pages, which are displayed while the disc is playing. These images may include text or menu buttons. According to the disc these images may be browsable, selected from menus, or change automatically.

DVD-Video compatibility

To allow them to be played on DVD-Video players with no DVD-Audio capability, some DVD-Audio discs provide one or more groups with the content recorded in DVD-Video format; typically AC-3 or DTS. Selecting one of these with the Meridian 800 DVD/CD Player will generally give poorer quality audio than selecting the DVD-Audio group.

In some cases a DVD-Video group will be used to provide a music video or video sequence. Some discs provide DVD-Audio on one side and DVD-Video on the other.

To locate a group by number

- Press **#** (**Function Top Menu** on the remote).

The on-screen display prompts you to enter the group number:



- Enter the group number using the number keys (remote).
- Press **▶** or **Enter** (remote) to play from the group number you have specified.

To display DVD-Audio images

- Press **Page ▶** (**Function ▶** on the remote) or **◀ Page** (**Function ◀** on the remote) to step between the browsable images.

Note: These functions will only work if the disc has been authored to allow browsing.

To display the Top Menu

- Press **Top Menu** on the remote.

The player will go to the disc menu, if it exists.

To resume play:

- Press **Top Menu** again.

Locating a specific title, chapter, or track

Normally, DVD-Video discs are divided into one or more titles, and the titles are subdivided into Chapters. Audio CDs are divided into tracks.

The DVD/CD player allows you to play an entire disc, or start playing from any chapter or track number.

You can also enter a specific chapter/track or title number to locate the corresponding section of the disc directly.

To play starting from a particular chapter or track

- Press **▶** or **◀** (front panel or remote) to step through the track numbers until the display shows the track you want to play:

For example, to play chapter 23:



1 23 1:17:33

The on-screen display shows the chapter or track number as you step:



After a short delay the chapter or track you have selected will start to play.

To locate a chapter or track by number

- Press **#** (**Function Top Menu** on the remote) twice.

The on-screen display prompts for you to enter the chapter or track number:



- Enter the number of the chapter (DVD) or track (audio CD) using the number keys (remote).

The number is displayed as you enter it:



- Press **▶** or **Enter** (remote).

The DVD/CD player starts playing from the chapter or track number you specified.

To locate a title by number

- Press # (**Function Top Menu** on the remote).

The on-screen display prompts you to enter the title number:



- Enter the title number using the number keys (remote).
- Press ► or **Enter** (remote) to play from the title number you have specified.

To play from a specified timecode

- Press # (**Function Top Menu** on the remote) three times until the on-screen display prompts for a timecode:



- Enter the timecode using the number keys (remote).
- Press ► or **Enter** (remote) to play from the timecode you have specified.

Stopping, pausing, and resuming play

You can stop or pause a disc, and then resume play at the same position.

To stop play


- Press ■ (front panel or remote).

The on-screen display shows .

This Stop/Pause icon indicates that you can resume from the current position.

To resume after stopping

- Press ► (front panel or remote).

The disc will resume playing from the position where you stopped playback, and the on-screen display shows .

To pause play

- Press || (front panel or remote).

The on-screen display shows .

To step forward frame by frame

If you are playing a DVD-Video disc you can step forward, frame by frame, while it is paused:

- Press || (front panel or remote).

The on-screen display shows .

To continue after pausing

- Press ► (front panel or remote).

To return to the start of the disc

- Press ■ (front panel or remote) while the disc is stopped.

The on-screen display shows  and the disc is reset to the start.

Changing the front-panel display

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player displays information about the current disc and settings on the 20-character front-panel display.

You can adjust the contrast and brightness of the front-panel display for optimum viewing, and choose what information is displayed.

To change the contrast or brightness

- Press **Function** ► or ◀ (remote or under the front panel), until the display shows the current contrast or brightness.

For example:

A black rectangular display showing the text "DVD Contrast 10" in a white, monospaced font.

- Press **Function** ▲ or ▼ (remote or under the front panel), to change the selected setting.

You can change the contrast or brightness between 0 and 15.

To change the displayed information

- Press **Display** (remote or under the front panel).

Each time you press **Display** the display will step between the options shown in the following table:

Display option	Example
Source and volume	DVD 65
Title, chapter, and elapsed time (DVD), or track and elapsed time (CD)	1 32 1:55:58
Sampling rate, precision, and audio format*	44k1 16Bit AC-3 *DVD
Blank	

* indicates an unprotected disc.

If the **Diagnostic displays** option has been selected, additional diagnostic displays are included; see the *Meridian Configuration Program Guide*, available separately.

Displaying disc information on screen

You can display information about the current DVD or CD on the on-screen display.

To display disc information on screen

- Press **OSD (Function blue ● key on the remote) or Function Display** (under the front panel).
- To display the second DVD on-screen display, press twice.

The following table shows the information displayed for each disc format:

Disc	Information
DVD-Video 1	<p>Title number Chapter number Elapsed title time Camera angle Play mode</p>
DVD-Video 2	<p>Subtitle language Audio track Audio format Repeat mode Play mode</p>
Audio CD	<p>Track number Elapsed disc time Repeat mode Play mode</p>
DVD-Audio 1	<p>Group number Track number Elapsed group time Play mode</p>
DVD-Audio 2	<p>Group number Track number Audio format Repeat mode Play mode</p>
MP3 audio CD*	<p>Album number Track number Elapsed track time Repeat mode Play mode</p>

*The album number is not displayed if there is only one album.

To turn off the on-screen display

- Press **OSD (Function blue ● key on the remote) or Function Display** (under the front panel) again.

Video controls

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player includes several video controls to allow you to adjust the video image. The video controls are available for video sources, and the picture position controls are also available for the internal DVD.

Note: The menus do not appear unless you have a locked video input.

To display the video controls

- Press the red ● key on the remote.

If you have reprogrammed the remote you may need to press **Function DVD** first.

The display shows the first video control; horizontal and vertical picture position.

For example:



- Press ◀ or ▶ to change the horizontal picture position, and ▲ or ▼ to change the vertical picture position.

The vertical position controls will not work with some projectors.

Each control can be varied between -30 and 30.

- Press **Video** or the red ● key on the remote to show the next video control.

The following table shows the full list of video controls:

Display	Description
X=, Y=	Horizontal and vertical picture position.
Film	Film mode detection setting†.
Black*	Black level.
Contrast*	Picture contrast.
Colour*	Picture colour.
Hue*	Picture hue (NTSC inputs only).

*Only for external video sources.

†Normally turned on. Should only be turned off if advised by technical support. 30fps setting may be useful for some older NTSC film material.

To change the image aspect ratio

With correctly authored DVDs the DVD player will automatically select the correct scaling. For external inputs or incorrectly authored DVDs you can specify the aspect ratio of the image by pressing the green ● key on the remote, which cycles through the following options:

Option	Description
4x3	Typical VHS and broadcast TV.
14x9LB	4x3 picture with black bars top and bottom enclosing a 14x9 image. Typically BBC broadcasts in the UK.
16x9LB	4x3 picture with black bars top and bottom enclosing a 16x9 image. Typically for films on Laserdisc.
16x9	16x9 picture filling the image. Often called anamorphic. Typically for external DVD inputs.
Native	Aspect ratio conversion disabled. Image fills display as is.



Advanced features

This chapter describes the more advanced features of the DVD/CD player. These features are not essential if you simply want to enjoy

DVD-Video discs or audio CDs, but they allow you to take full advantage of the range of options available with the DVD format. Note that many of the advanced features depend on the content of the particular disc you are playing.



Selecting options from a menu

DVDs generally provide a Top Menu, which provides access to the content on the disc.

Many DVD-Video discs also provide a disc menu, which allows you to select additional sections or special options.

You can operate the menus either using the remote or using the keys under the front panel.

To select a title or group using the Top Menu

- Press **Top Menu** to display the Top Menu on the screen.
- Press **▲**, **▼**, **◀**, or **▶** to highlight a title or group, and press **Enter** to select it.

The DVD/CD player starts playback from chapter 1 of the title (DVD-Video disc) or track 1 of the group (DVD-Audio disc) you selected.

Alternatively, press **Return** or **Top Menu** again (remote or under the front panel) to return to the original position on the disc.

To select an option from the disc menu

- Press **Menu** to display the disc menu on the screen.

A typical disc menu looks like this:



- Press **▲**, **▼**, **◀**, or **▶** to highlight an option, and press **Enter** to select it.

Alternatively, press **Return** to exit from the menu without selecting an option.

Fast and slow-motion play

You can play back DVD-Video discs faster than normal, at between twice and eight times normal speed, or in slow motion, at between one-half and one-sixteenth of normal speed.

You can also play back audio CDs faster than normal.

Note: The sound is muted when playing back DVD-Video discs faster or slower than normal.

To play DVD-Video discs or audio CDs faster than normal

- Press ►► or ◀◀ (remote) during playback.

Only one speed is available on DVD-Audio discs, and fast forward/back is not available for MP3 discs.

Each time you press the key the speed switches between twice and eight times normal speed, as shown by the on-screen display:



To play DVD-Video discs in slow motion

- Press **Slow** (Function ►► on the remote) during playback.

The speed switches between one-half, one-quarter, one-eighth, and one-sixteenth normal speed, as shown by the on-screen display:



To resume normal speed

- Press ► (front panel or remote).

Playing repeatedly

You can play back a specified title, chapter, track, or section of a disc repeatedly.

To repeat a title, chapter, or track

- Select the title, chapter, or track you want to repeat.
- Press **Repeat** (remote) to switch between **Ch.** (chapter repeat), **Title** (title repeat), and **Off** (no repeat).

Repeat is not available for DVD-Audio discs.

The current repeat mode is displayed on the on-screen display:



To repeat a specific section of a disc

- Press **A-B** (**Function Repeat** on the remote) at the beginning of the section you want to play back repeatedly.

The on-screen display shows **A-**:



- Press **A-B** again at the end of the section.

The on-screen display shows **A-B**:



The DVD player automatically returns to the start of the section and plays it back repeatedly.

To cancel the repeat press **A-B** a third time.

Selecting an audio soundtrack

You can select one of the audio soundtracks from those included on a DVD-Video disc during playback.

To display the current audio setting

- Press **OSD (Function ►)** on the remote) or **Function Display** (under the front panel) twice to display the second on-screen display bar:



This gives the following information:

Information	Examples
Soundtrack language (when available)	ENG, FRE, GER, SPA.
Soundtrack number, and total number of soundtracks	2/3
Recording system	LPCM, MLP, DD, MPEG, DTS.

To select the audio setting (DVD-Video)

- Press **Audio (Function ►)** on the remote).

Each time you press **Audio** the next available soundtrack is selected.

To switch between stereo and multichannel (DVD-Audio)

Some DVD-Audio discs allow you to switch between stereo and multichannel. If this feature is available:

- Press **Audio (Function ►)** on the remote).

The 800 will switch to the alternate format and restart the current track.

Displaying subtitles

Many DVD-Video discs include subtitles in up to 32 different languages. While you are playing a disc you can turn the subtitles on or off, and select the subtitle language from those provided on the DVD-Video disc.

To display the current subtitle setting

- Press **OSD (Function blue ● key on the remote)** or **Function Display** (under the front panel) twice to display the second on-screen display bar:



This gives the following information:

Information	Examples
Subtitle language when available	ENG, FRE, GER, SPA, OFF.
Subtitle number, and total number of languages	2/3

To select the subtitle language

- Press **Function Subtitle** (remote).

Each time you press **Function Subtitle** the next subtitle language is selected.

To turn subtitles on or off

- Press **Subtitle** (remote).

The on-screen displays shows the current subtitle setting:



Selecting the camera angle

Some DVD-Video discs include scenes recorded from up to nine different camera angles, and you can select the camera angle while you are playing the disc.

To display the camera angle

- Press **OSD** (**Function** blue ● key on the remote) or **Function Display** (under the front panel) to display the first on-screen display bar.

The camera angle icon shows the current camera angle and the total number of angles:



To select or change the camera angle

- Press **Angle** (**Function** yellow ● key on the remote), while viewing a scene with multiple camera angles.

Each time you press **Angle** the next camera angle is selected after a short delay.

Setting the parental lock

Some DVD-Video discs are provided with a parental lock function to allow you to restrict playback of scenes whose content exceeds a specified rating unless a password is entered.

You can operate the menus either using the remote or using the keys under the front panel.

To set the parental lock

- With the disc stopped press **Setup**.

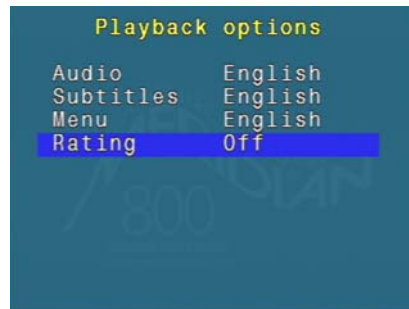
The **Setup** menu is displayed on the on-screen display:



- Press **Enter** to select **Playback options**.

The **Playback options** menu appears.

- Press **▼** to highlight **Rating** and press **Enter** to select it:



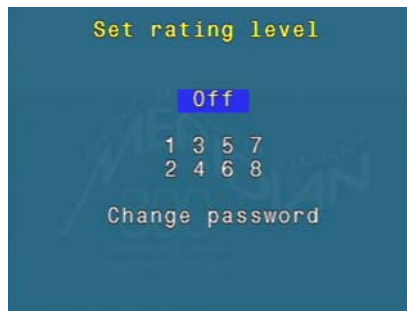
The following screen prompts you to enter the password:



- Enter your four-digit password using the number keys (remote), and press **Enter**.

Initially the password is set to 7890, but you can change it to any password you choose as described in *To change the password*, page 30.

The following screen then allows you to set the rating level:



- Press ▲ or ▼ to highlight the rating level you want to set, or highlight **Off** to turn the parental lock off, and press **Enter** to select it.

Level 1 corresponds to general viewing, level 3 is equivalent to the USA movie rating PG, and level 8 corresponds to adult viewing.

The rating level you have set will be displayed in the **Playback options** menu.

To change the password

- Highlight **Change password** on the **Set rating level** screen and press **Enter** to select it.

The following screen allows you to specify the new password:



- Enter the four-digit password you want to use and press **Enter** to select it. The password cannot start with a zero.

Take care not to forget your password, or you will need to contact your Meridian dealer to reset it for you.



Using the DVD/CD player preamplifier features

In addition to playing DVD discs and audio CDs, the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player can act as a controller for up to 11 other sources. This chapter explains how to use these features from either the front panel or the MSR+.



Selecting a source

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player can be used as a system controller to select sources within a Meridian system. It can also be configured to provide video switching for specified sources.

The DVD/CD player provides the following 12 sources:

CD, Radio, LP, TV, Tape 1, Tape 2, CDR, Cable, DVD, VCR1, VCR2, LDisc.

Your installer may have customised the labels displayed for each source to suit your other equipment

The DVD and CD sources usually correspond to the internal drive(s).

The video input associated with each of the other sources depends on how the DVD/CD player has been set up; for more information refer to the *Meridian Configuration Program Guide*, available separately.

To select a source

- Press **Source** (under the front panel) until the display shows the source you want, or press the appropriate source key on the remote; eg **CD**.

The display shows the source and volume setting.

For example, if you select the Radio source the display might show:

A rectangular digital display with a black background. The word 'Radio' is shown on the left in a white, monospaced font. On the right, the number '65' is shown in the same font, representing the volume level.

The DVD/CD player mutes the sound while you change source.

Adjusting the system volume

The 800 Reference DVD/CD Player can be used as the controller in a system with Meridian DSP loudspeakers, in which case you can adjust the volume using the front panel or remote. The volume changes in precise steps of 1dB, where 9dB is equivalent to doubling the loudness. The current volume setting is displayed in dB on the front-panel display, and can be varied in the range 1 to 99dB.

To change the volume

- Press **Gain +** or **Gain -** (under the front panel), or the red **▲** or **▼** keys on the remote.

As you adjust the volume setting the display shows the current volume level.

For example:

A black rectangular display with white text. On the left, it shows 'DVD' and on the right, it shows '65'.

To mute the sound

- Press **Mute** (under the front panel, or remote).

The display will show:

A black rectangular display with white text showing the word 'Mute'.

To restore the sound

- Press **Mute** again.

Alternatively, the sound will be restored if you adjust the volume.

Changing the balance or phase

If the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player is configured to drive a two-channel power amplifier or active speakers directly, it provides control of the balance and phase.

To change the balance

- Press **Function** ◀ or ▶ (remote or under the front panel) until the display shows the current balance.

For example:

A rectangular display showing the text "CD Balance <0>" in a monospaced font.

- Press **Function** ▲ or ▼ (remote or under the front panel) to move the listening position.

The display shows the direction and position of the listening position.

For example:

A rectangular display showing the text "CD Balance <3" in a monospaced font.

The arrow indicates the direction, and the number indicates the position where 0 is central, 8 is in line with the corresponding main speaker, and 10 is fully to one side.

To change the absolute phase

- Press **Function** ◀ or ▶ (remote or under the front panel) until the display shows the current phase.

For example:

A rectangular display showing the text "CD + Phase" in a monospaced font.

- Press **Function** ▲ or ▼ (remote or under the front panel) to change the phase.



Configuring disc options

DVD-Video discs are capable of providing a wide range of options and special features.

This chapter explains how use the options on the Setup menu to configure the operation of the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player.

You can operate the menus using either the remote or the keys under the front panel.



Setting default options

The default options are divided into the following four menus of settings:

Menu	Description
Video setup	The display settings.
Audio setup	The audio settings.
Playback options	The audio, subtitle, and menu languages, parental rating, and screensaver.
Information	The region code and engineering information

You choose the menu of settings you want from the main **Setup** menu.

To display the Setup menu

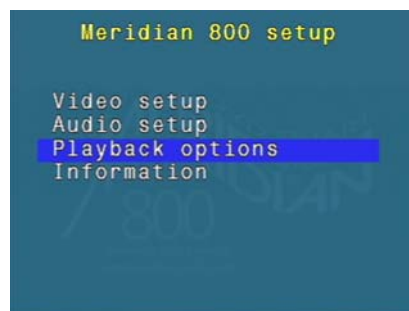
- If necessary switch on the DVD player and press **■** if a disc is currently playing.
- Press **Setup**.

The main **Setup** menu will be displayed:



To select an option from a menu

- Press **▲** or **▼** to highlight the option you want:



- Press **Enter** to select the option.



To return to the previous menu

- Press **Return**.

To exit from the setup menus

- Press **Setup**.



Selecting the display settings

The **Video setup** menu lets you change the video and operational settings of the 800 DVD/CD Player:



To specify your display format

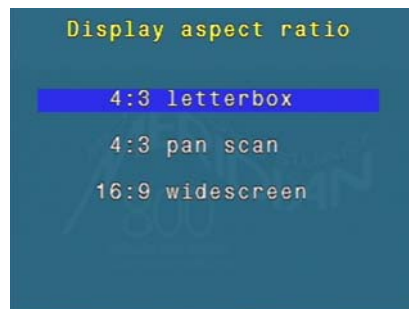
You should set the **Display aspect** option to the format that your display can accommodate.

Select 16:9 if you have a widescreen display, or an external processor for picture formats.

If you have a standard 4:3 television you also have the choice of displaying widescreen pictures cropped to fill your television screen (pan-scan), or with black bars above and below the picture (letterbox).

- Highlight **Display aspect** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Display aspect ratio** menu is displayed:



- Press ▼ or ▲ to select the format of your TV, and press **Enter**.

*The
pan-scan feature is not available
on some discs, in which case letterbox
format will be used*

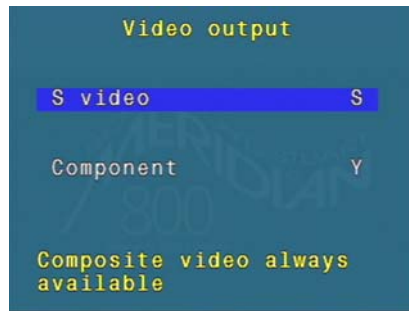
To select the video output format

This option should be set according to which of the S-video or Component video outputs you are using.

- Highlight **Video output** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The option you select will not affect the composite output, which is always available.

The **Video output** menu is displayed:



- Press **▼** or **▲** to highlight the appropriate option, and press **Enter**.

Choose **S video** or **Component** to use the corresponding output.

To select the black level for NTSC

- Highlight **Black level** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Black level** menu is displayed:



This only affects NTSC playback.

- Press **▼** or **▲** to highlight the appropriate option, and press **Enter**.

If you are using the Composite or S-video outputs of the DVD player you should usually select the **7.5 IRE** option. If you are using the Component outputs select the option that matches your display.

If you use the 800 to play both NTSC and PAL material the recommended setting is **0 IRE**.

To select closed caption subtitles

Some DVD-Videos include closed caption subtitles, which provide a description of sound effects for the hard of hearing; for example “door creaks”.

- Highlight **Closed caption** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Closed captions** menu is displayed:



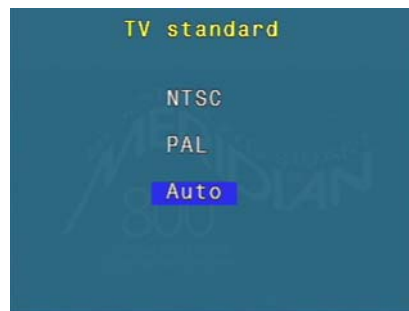
- Press ▼ or ▲ to highlight **On** or **Off**, and press **Enter**.

To select the TV standard

DVD movies are produced in both PAL and NTSC television formats. The 800 DVD/CD Player is capable of converting between formats, to allow you to view DVD movies in either format even if your television is not capable of displaying that format. However, the conversion process introduces some picture degradation, and may disable disc menu operation on some discs.

- Highlight **TV standard** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **TV standard** menu is displayed:

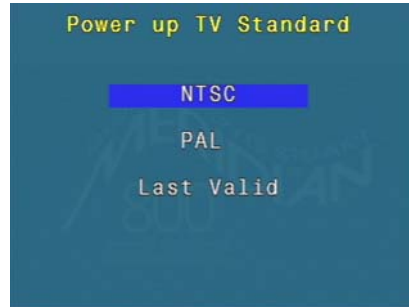


- Press ▼ or ▲ to highlight the option you want, and press **Enter**.

Choose **Auto** if your television can display both PAL and NTSC video, or choose **NTSC** or **PAL** to match the format supported by your television.

If your television is capable of displaying both formats the recommended setting is **Auto**, which supplies the unconverted video signal.

A separate **Powerup std** option lets you specify the standard to be selected when you bring the 800 out of standby:

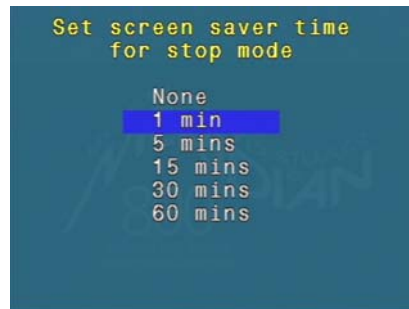


- Press ▼ or ▲ to highlight the option you want, and press **Enter**.

To specify the screensaver options

- Highlight **Screensaver** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Screensaver options** menu is displayed:



These options allow you to ensure that a static image does not remain on the display; this can damage certain types of display.

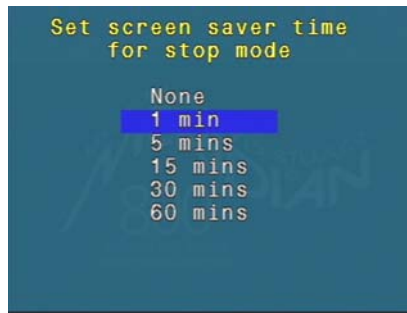
The **Stop timeout** automatically fades the screen to black if the 800 DVD/CD Player is left in stop mode and no key is pressed for the specified time.

The **Pause timeout** automatically switches the 800 from pause into stop mode if no key is pressed for the specified time.

- Highlight **Stop timeout** or **Pause timeout** in the **Screensaver options** menu, and press **Enter**.

⋮

The appropriate menu is displayed:

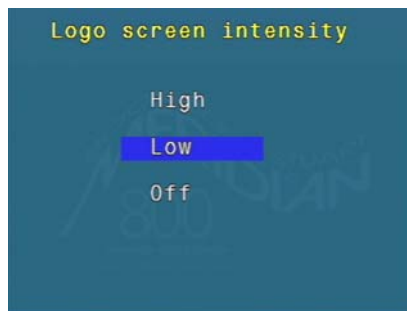


- Press ▼ or ▲ to select the timeout delay, and press **Enter**.

You can also adjust the intensity of the logo screen.

- Highlight **Logo screen** in the **Screensaver options** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Logo screen intensity** menu allows you to select between **High**, **Low** or **Off**:



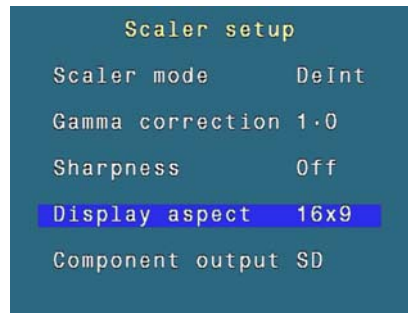
To set the scaler options

These specify how the interlaced video signal from the DVD should be upconverted to the HDMI and component outputs.

- Highlight **Scaler setup...** in the **Video setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

⋮

The **Scaler setup** menu is displayed:



- Press ▲ or ▼ to highlight the setting you want to change, and press **Enter**.

The **Scaler mode** options are explained in the following table:

Scaler mode	Description
Deinterlace	Converts 480i (NTSC) to 480p and 576i (PAL) to 576p.
720p	Upconverts to High Definition standard 720p progressive video.
1080i	Upconverts to High Definition standard 1080i interlaced video.
Auto	Automatically selects the best resolution for the display device connected to the HDMI connector.

The **Gamma correction** affects the grey scale, and can be set to **1.0**, **0.8**, **0.9**, or **1.1**. If the picture has poor detail in the dark areas choose a **Gamma correction** below 1.0. If the picture has poor detail in the light areas choose a **Gamma correction** greater than 1.0.

The **Sharpness** can be set to **Off**, **Low**, **Medium**, or **High**. It adds edge detail, but can cause picture artefacts.

Gamma correction and **Sharpness** only affect the analogue outputs.

Display aspect allows you to perform aspect ratio conversion on the scaled outputs; ie progressive analogue or HDMI. Set **Display aspect** to the shape of your screen, or **Native** to disable aspect ratio conversion.

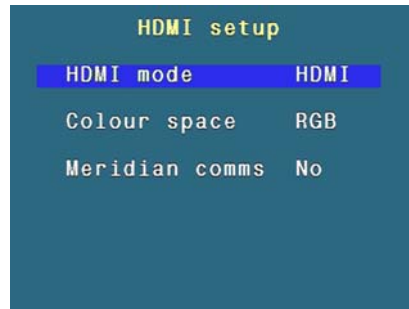
Component output allows you to choose what is available on the component output socket. **Standard Definition** gives an SD interlaced component signal. **Scaled** gives a deinterlaced signal; for this option the **Scaler mode** should be set to **Deinterlace**.



To set the HDMI options

- Highlight **HDMI options...** in the **Video Setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **HDMI setup** menu is displayed:



- Press **▲** or **▼** to highlight the setting you want to change, and press **Enter**.

The **HDMI mode** can be set **DVI** or **HDMI**. Only choose **DVI** if you are connecting to a DVI input using a suitable adaptor cable.

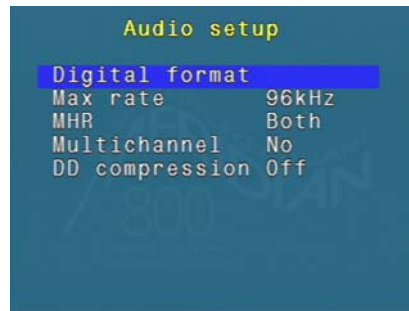
The **Colour space** can be set to **RGB** or **YCrCb**.

Meridian Comms determines whether Meridian Comms is supplied on the HDMI cable, and can be set to **No** or **Yes**.



Selecting the audio settings

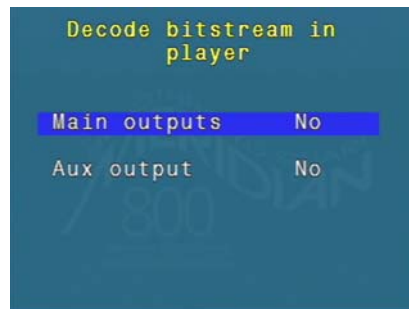
The **Audio setup** menu lets you change the audio settings of the 800 DVD/CD Player:



To specify the digital format

- Highlight **Digital format** in the **Audio setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The following menu is displayed:



- Press **▼** or **▲** to select the output you want to configure, and press **Enter**, then press **▼** or **▲** to select **Yes** or **No**, and press **Enter** to confirm the setting.

Main outputs specifies the setting for the main multichannel outputs.

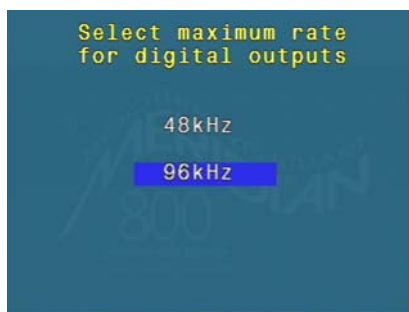
Aux output specifies the setting for the auxiliary output.

- Select **No** if you are connecting the specified output to an external decoder and you want the external decoder to decode the bitstream; for example Dolby Digital, DTS, etc.
- Select **Yes** if you want the 800 DVD/CD Player to convert the audio to two-channel PCM on the corresponding outputs for connection to an 861 via a Meridian multichannel link, or for direct connection to Meridian DSP Loudspeakers or a digital preamplifier.

To specify the maximum sampling rate

- Highlight **Max rate** in the **Audio setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The following menu is displayed:



- Press **▼** or **▲** to choose between **48kHz** and **96kHz**, and press **Enter**.

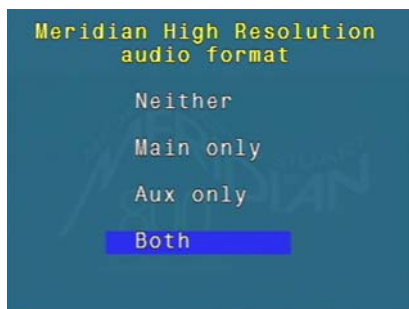
Choose the appropriate rate for the decoder or preamplifier your 800 DVD/CD Player is connected to.

When playing audio at higher rates it will be downsampled to the rate you have specified.

To specify Meridian High Resolution (MHR)

- Highlight **MHR** in the **Audio setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The following menu is displayed:



Meridian High Resolution is a proprietary format using encryption and anti-copy methods that allows secure transfer of audio streams between elements of a Meridian-only system for the purpose of playback only. It provides a secure copyright protection environment and has the very important benefit of lowering jitter and improving sound quality on all material.

- If you are connecting either of the outputs to a Meridian product that is MHR compliant, such as the 861, select the option for the corresponding output to take advantage of MHR.
- Select **Neither** if there are no MHR-compliant Meridian products in your system.

To enable the multichannel outputs

- Highlight **Multichannel** in the **Audio setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

The following menu is displayed:



- Press ▼ or ▲ to select between **No** and **Yes**, and press **Enter**.

Only select **Yes** if your decoder can accept a multichannel input.

To specify Dolby Digital compression

This option is useful for reducing the dynamic range of Dolby Digital soundtracks, such as when watching a film late at night.

- Highlight **DD compression** in the **Audio setup** menu, and press **Enter**.

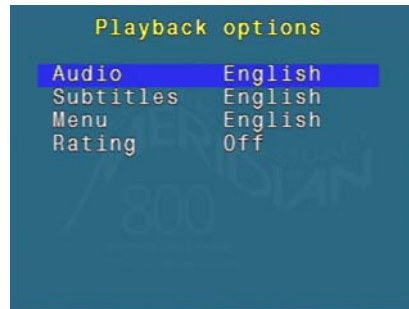
The following menu is displayed:



- Choose **None** for no Dolby Digital audio compression, **Low boost** to increase the level of quiet passages, **High cut** to reduce the level of loud passages, or **Both** for both low boost and high cut.

Selecting the playback options

The **Playback options** menu lets you change the default language for the audio soundtrack, subtitles, and on-screen menus, the parental rating, and the screensaver:

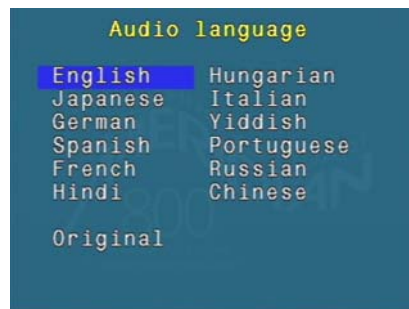


To select the default soundtrack language

Most DVD-Video discs include a selection of soundtrack languages. English is usually the default soundtrack language, but you can use the **Audio language** menu to set a different default language if you prefer.

- Highlight **Audio** in the **Playback options menu**, and press **Enter**.

The **Audio language** menu is displayed:



- Press ◀, ▶, ▲, or ▼ to highlight the default soundtrack language you want to use, or select **Original** to choose the original soundtrack language, and press **Enter**.

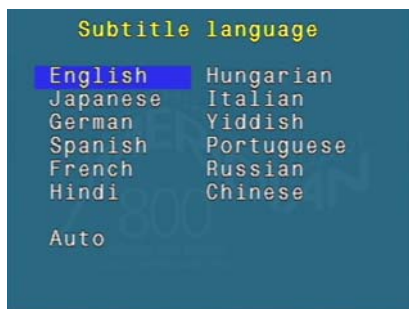
To set the default subtitle language

DVD-Video discs can include subtitles in up to 32 different languages.

The 800 DVD/CD Player allows you to select whether subtitles are displayed by default, and specify the preferred language if it is available on the disc.

- Highlight **Subtitles** in the **Playback options** menu, and press **Enter**.

The **Subtitle language** menu is displayed:



- Press ◀, ▶, ▲, or ▼ to highlight the language you want to use, and press **Enter**.

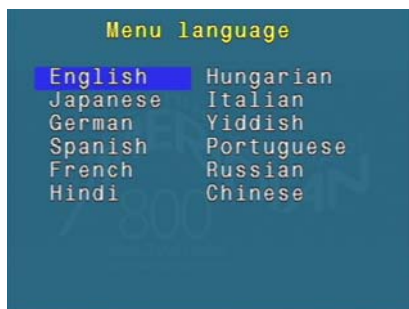
Alternatively, select **Auto** to automatically display subtitles in the specified audio language if no soundtrack is available for that language.

To select the disc menu language

The 800 DVD/CD Player allows you to choose the language for the disc menus.

- Highlight **Menu** in the **Playback options** menu and press **Enter**.

The **Menu language** menu is displayed:

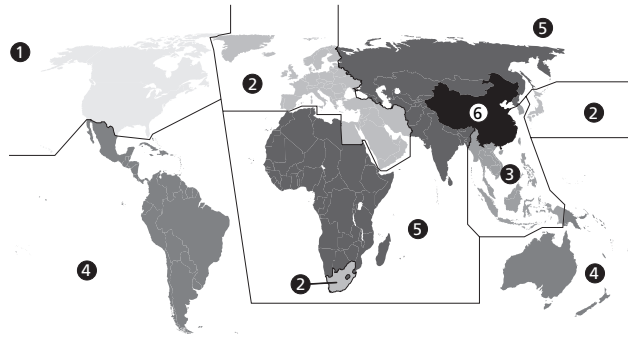


- Use ▲ or ▼ to highlight the language you want to use, and press **Enter**.

Region codes

For commercial reasons many DVDs are encoded with one or more region codes to identify the countries in which they can be used. Every DVD player is assigned a region code to determine which discs it can play.

The different parts of the world are divided into regions 1 to 6 as shown in the following diagram:



1 – USA, Canada	4 – Australia, Central & South America
2 – Europe, Near East, South Africa, Japan	5 – Africa, Asia, Eastern Europe
3 – South East Asia	6 – People's Republic of China

If you try to play a disc which is assigned to the incorrect region code then either a special screen or the following warning will be displayed:



If your 800 Reference DVD/CD Player is not set to your local region, please contact your dealer.



.....

Configuring the DVD/CD player

.....

This chapter explains how to set up the 800 Reference DVD/CD Player for most standard configurations of outputs and sources using just the front-panel controls and MSR+.

For complete control over all aspects of the DVD/CD player's configuration it is recommended that you set up the unit using the Meridian Configuration Program; for full information see the *Meridian Configuration Program Guide*, available separately.



Choosing a standard setting

The DVD/CD player provides several sets of standard settings, called Types, which configure all aspects of the 800 into one of a number of alternative standard configurations.

Types 0 to 5 are factory settings, designed to cater for the most commonly needed configurations of associated equipment.

These standard Types are shown in the following table:

Type	Main output				Auxiliary output		
	Channels	Bitstream	96kHz	MHR	Bitstream	96kHz	MHR
0	6	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
1	6	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
2	2	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
3	6	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
4	6	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
5	2	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No

Choose one of the Types 0, 1, or 2 if you want to connect the auxiliary output to an alternative input on the main decoder, or to a second zone with a suitable Meridian decoder.

Choose one of the Types 3, 4, or 5 if you want to connect the auxiliary output to a non-Meridian decoder or preamplifier.

Choose one of the Types 0, 1, 3, or 4 if you are connecting the main output to a multichannel decoder input. Types 1 or 4 can also be used to connect the main outputs to DSP loudspeakers.

Choose Type 2 to connect the main output to a two-channel decoder such as a non-DVD-Audio 861 or 568.

Choose Type 5 to connect the main output to a single pair of DSP loudspeakers or a two-channel preamplifier.

In addition, your installer may have provided one or more named User Types, with settings appropriate to the configuration of equipment when your 800 was installed.

You can reset the configuration of the DVD/CD player to any of these Types to restore it to the state it was in when it was installed. **Note:** Selecting a Type will clear any configuration and calibration changes you have made.



To select a standard setting

Warning: this procedure will reset any configuration and calibration changes you have made.

- Switch off any power amplifiers that are connected to the 800 and put any digital speakers into standby.
- Put the DVD/CD player into standby by pressing **Off** (front panel or remote).
- Press and hold down **Gain+** (under the front panel).

The display shows:

Type in... 3

- Keep holding down **Gain+** for a further three seconds.

The display shows:

Type- please wait.

Then after a short delay the display shows the current Type.

For example:

Type 3

- Press **▲** or **▼** on the front panel to change the Type number.

The display shows:

Typing, please wait.

- Wait for one second, and then put the DVD/CD player into standby by pressing **Off** (front panel or remote).
- Switch on again to use the standard settings you have selected.

Setting up the DVD/CD player with other Meridian equipment

If you are using the 800 with other Meridian equipment, such as the 861 Reference Digital Surround Controller, you should set up the comms with the following automatic setup procedure:

- Switch all the units to standby.
- Press **Clear** (remote).

Each unit will display:

Auto

The 800 will then be designated as the controller, and display:

Controller





This is the unit that will respond to the remote.

All the other units will be configured as non-controllers, and display:

Not Con.

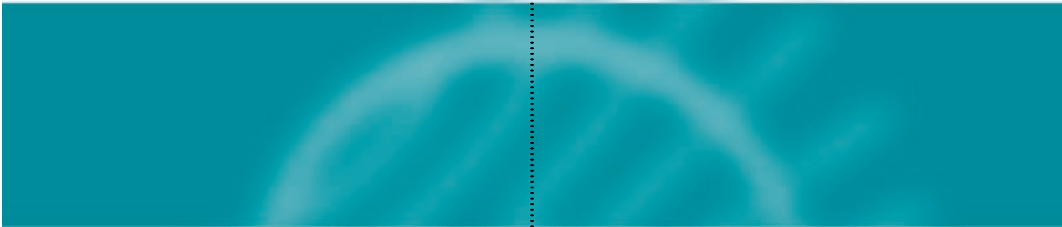
Your system is now set up and ready for use.

If for any reason the automatic setup does not give the configuration you want, restore the default operation by selecting one of the standard Types; see *Choosing a standard setting*, page 52.

If you are using the 800 with an 861, the 861 will be designated as Controller and the 800 will be configured as Not Controller.

If you are using the 800 with an 861 we recommend you set 800 **present** in the 861 configuration; see the *Meridian Configuration Program Guide*, available separately.





Glossary



AC-3

An alternative name for the Dolby Digital format.

Controller

The product in a Meridian system that uses the infra-red signals from the remote to control the system. The controller is normally chosen automatically, but the installer can override this.

CPPM

Content Protection for Prerecorded Media, a cryptographic method for protecting entertainment content when recorded on physical media.

CSS

Content Scrambling System, a method for protecting the copyright in recorded works.

Dolby Digital

A digital surround-sound which provides five full-frequency range channels (left, centre, right, left surround, and right surround) and an additional Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel which is band limited to 120Hz.

Dolby Surround

The encoding system used for the majority of movies on video and many TV broadcasts. Dolby Surround encoded material can be replayed with a surround decoder connected to an array of loudspeakers which normally include at least left, centre, right, and rear surround.

DTS

Digital Theatre Systems originally produced digital audio tracks for motion pictures. A version of this format adapted for consumer video and audio products is referred to as DTS Entertainment. Like Dolby Digital it provides five full-frequency range channels (left, centre, right, left surround, and right surround) and an additional Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel.

DVD

Digital Video Disc or Digital Versatile Disc, a CD-sized disc with nearly 30 times the storage capacity of CD. It is capable of storing digital video, high-quality multichannel audio, or computer data.

DVD-Audio

A DVD containing audio tracks in one or more of a number of alternative formats to provide higher quality or higher capacity than CD, multichannel audio, together with the option of still images or video. A DVD-Audio disc may also include lower quality versions of the material in DVD-Video format for compatibility with players that do not support DVD-Audio.

DVD-Video

A DVD containing video tracks together with one or more soundtracks, menus, and other entertainment features.

HDMI

High-density Multimedia Interface is a high resolution video output standard which provides a single wire connection to compatible displays, and includes high-resolution digital audio, either two channels of PCM at up to 96kHz or a 5.1 channel bitstream.

Menus

The flexible system for choosing options and configuring settings in Meridian products. On the 800 the menus are controlled by the ◀, ▶, ▲, and ▼ keys on the front panel or MSR+.

MHR

Meridian High Resolution is a proprietary secure encoding format using encryption and anti-copy methods that allows secure transfer of audio streams between elements of a Meridian-only system for the purpose of playback only. It provides a secure copyright protection environment and has the very important benefit of lowering jitter and improving sound quality on all material.

MLP

MLP (Meridian Lossless Packing) is an audio format that increases the amount of information that can be recorded on a CD or DVD, without any loss of quality. MLP is a mandatory format for DVD-Audio.

MPEG Audio

MPEG Audio is a digital encoding system developed by the Motion Picture Expert Group. Like Dolby Digital it provides five full-frequency range channels and an additional Low Frequency Effects (LFE) channel.

MPEG Video

MPEG Video is a video compression technique used to encode video for DVD-Video discs.

MSF

Meridian Settings File, a file containing settings and User Types for one or more Meridian Products.

MSR+

The Meridian System Remote or handset.

OSD

On-screen display, which the 800 can superimpose on the video image to give information about the disc.

PCM

Pulse Code Modulation, the method used to encode music digitally, as used on audios CDs.

Source

An input to the system, such as CD or TV. The Meridian 500 and 800 Series provide 12 named sources, corresponding to the names of the 12 source keys on the MSR+. In the 800 you can choose the label displayed for each source, and the input used for it.

Type

A standard configuration of the DVD/CD player. Selecting a Type resets any configuration changes.

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