



## USER GUIDE HDDVR550



## Introduction

Thank you for purchasing the Gator HD Digital Video Recorder 550. This product is designed to provide high definition recording of your trips for security and evidence in the case of an incident. Being portable, this convenient and durable multi-vehicle driving recorder can be used in a variety of situations for video recording.

## Product Overview

This product is a Full HD Digital Car driving recorder, it can record high resolution video as well as high resolution pictures, using a micro SD card as the storage device which is ultra-small, power saving, easy and convenient to carry anytime. Compared with the traditional video, this product is exclusive design, elegant appearance, does not affect the overall appearance, humanized design concept allows you to enjoy the noble class treatment!

The DVR has a recording resolution of up to 1920x1080P and it can also shoot 16 mega pixel still images. The DVR uses a Micro SD card as storage because it is compact, power-saving and easy to carry. The DVR can also use the HDMI interface to transmit your media directly to a high-definition LCD TV for high-resolution playback.

## Product Features:

- 170-degree ultra-high definition wide-angle lens.
  - 1920x1080P/30FPS Full HD resolution.
  - Compression technology with advanced H.264 photography.
  - 2-inch LCD screen.
  - Parking Monitor
  - Wide Dynamic Function
  - Looping Recording
  - G-Sensor Function
  - SOS Lock Function
  - Car Number Stamp
  - Digital zoom 4X
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- Do not put the DVR into a damp working condition; The DVR down not has any waterproof function.
  - Do not try opening the shell or trying to repair the DVR by yourself. If the accessories for the DVR have any problems, please take it to an authorized repair agent for repair.
  - Do not use a chemical substance, clean solvent or cleaner to clean the DVR, please use a moist soft cloth if you would like to clean the DVR.
  - Do not use the DVR under conditions where dust and density is too large, to avoid affecting the video.
  - Please care for the environment, do not discard this machine randomly; do not throw the DVR into a fire, as it may explode.
  - Please pay attention to cleaning the lens surface, use a moist soft cloth to clean the lens before use, to avoid poor video footage.

**Package Components:**



HD DVR 550



Mounting  
Bracket with  
Charger



USB to Mini USB



Car Charger

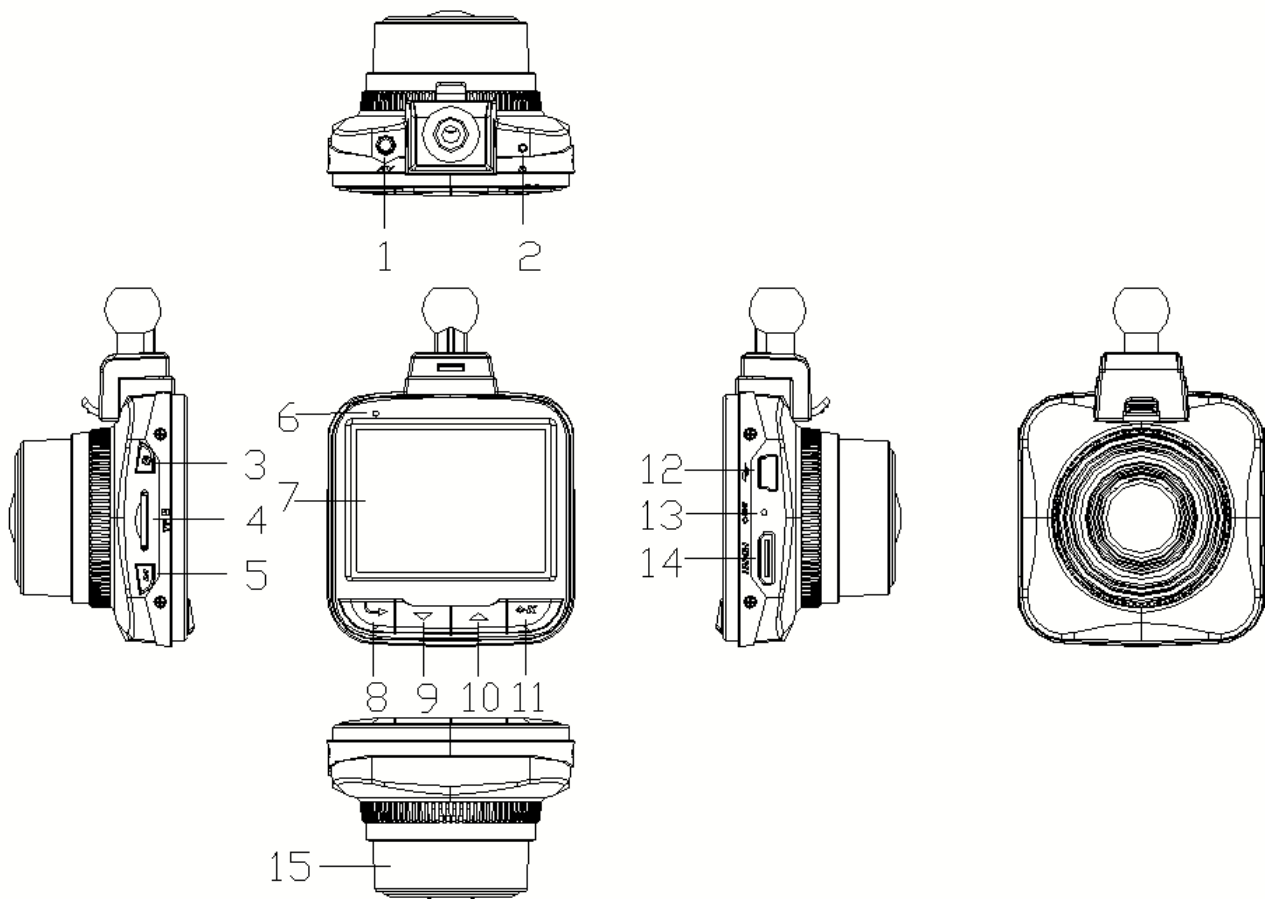


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HD DVR 550  
User Guide

## Product Structure:



- 1) AV Out
- 2) Reset Button
- 3) Power Button
- 4) Micro SD Slot
- 5) Menu Button
- 6) Indicator LED
- 7) LCD
- 8) Mode Button

- 9) Down Button
- 10) Up Button
- 11) OK Button
- 12) USB Port
- 13) MIC
- 14) HDMI Out
- 15) HD Camera

## **Button Instructions**

### **Menu Button:**

Pressing this button once will open the menu. Pressing the menu button again while in the menu will change to the second settings tab. Pressing the menu button while recording will activate the file protection (A key will be present on the top of the screen if activated).

### **Up Button:**

The up button is used while in the menu to move the highlighted area for selecting. The up button can also be used to zoom in under the standby or shooting mode.

### **Down Button:**

The down button is used while in the menu to move the highlighted area for selecting. The down button can also be used to zoom out under the standby or shooting mode.

### **OK Button:**

The OK is used to start recording in video mode. Pressing the button again in video mode will stop the recording. In photo mode, the OK button is used to take a picture.

The OK button is also used to select a setting in the menu.

### **Mode Button (Mode Switch):**

Press the mode button to switch between video mode, photo mode and the file browser interface. If the Mode button is pressed during recording, it will disable or enable the MIC.

### **HDMI Port:**

The HDMI port provides a HD output interface using the mini HDMI to HDMI cable provided that can be plugged into a HDMI in supported device.

### **Micro SD Slot:**

Where the Micro SD card is inserted (Max size is 32GB).

### **USB Interface:**

The USB port can be used to charge the device or be connected to a computer for data transmission.

### **Reset:**

To hard reset the device in the case of a system jam or crash.

### **Power Key:**

When the DVR is turned off, press it once to turn it on. While the system is on, hold down the power button to turn it off.

### **AV Out:**

Analogue Out that can be connected to a TV using a composite cable (Not included)

### **Power Indication Light:**

When the device is turned on, a blue indicator will light up. When the device is recording the blue indicator will flash blue. When the device is charging, the light will glow red.

### **Battery Charging Indication Light:**

After connecting with USB, the indication lamp will light up red for charging, and light off when the battery is at full power.

### **MIC:**

Audio receiver for video recording.

### **Extra Functions**

#### **G-sensor Function:**

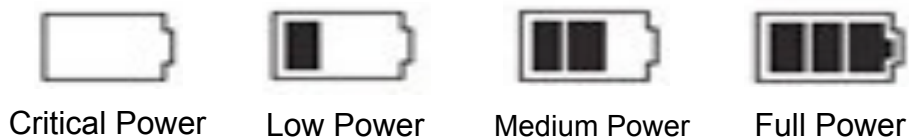
The G-sensor function activates in the case of a car accident by determining the gravitational acceleration ( $1g = 9.8 \text{ meters/second}^2$ ). When this function activates, the DVR will save the accident footage in a non-deletable file in order to protect the footage. The G-sensor sensitivity can be adjusted to Off/High/Medium/Low in the settings menu.

#### **Auto Power On/Off:**

When turned on, once power is connected to the device, like when you start your car up, the DVR will automatically turn on and start recording. When the power is disconnected, or car is turned off, the DVR will automatically save the file and shutdown.

### **Battery Instructions**

Please see below illustration for battery the capacity indications.



When the DVR is charging, a red indicator on the DVR glows red. The DVR takes about 30 minutes to fully charge. When the DVR hits full charge, the red indicator will turn off.

The DVR can be charged multiple ways:

1. Using the power adapter for charging.
2. Using the provided micro USB cable to connect to a USB interface for charging.
3. Using the provided car charger

## **Basic Instructions for video and photo operation**

### **Powering on and off the device:**

To turn on the DVR press the power key once, the red indication lamp will be light up if it is connected to a power source. To turn it off, hold down the power button and the device will turn off.

**WARNING:** The device will automatically turn off once the battery hits critically low levels.

### **Video Mode**

Press the Mode button to switch to video mode if not already. To start recording in video mode press the OK button to start the recording. You know it is recording by the red recording circle indicator on the top left corner of the LCD and by the flashing indicator light.

### **Photo Mode**

Press the Mode button to switch to photo mode. There is a camera icon the top left corner of the LCD to signify you are on photo mode. To take a photo, press OK button. The screen will flash and make a camera sound when a picture is taken.

### **Video/Photo Playback**

Press the mode button until you get to a screen with a video reel icon on the top left. Here you can use the arrow keys to select a video or photo you wish to play back. Press the OK button to select the file for playback. Pressing the Menu button will give the option to delete the file or lock/unlock the file. The lock function in the menu gives you the option to lock/unlock the currently selected footage or lock/unlock all the footage in order to protect the file from deletion. Press the Mode button again to exit playback mode.

### **Menu Settings**

Press the Menu button to get into the menu settings. You can navigate the settings menu by using the Up/Down buttons. To change or edit a selected setting, press the OK button.

Press the menu button again to get to the second set of options. Press the Menu button again to get out of the menu settings.

### **Time Settings**

To edit the date and time, press the menu button twice to get to the spanner and screwdriver tab. Use the up/down buttons to navigate to the date setting and then press the OK button. The year will be highlighted letting you know that it can be changed with the up/down buttons. Press OK to move on to the month. Use the up/down buttons to set the month and then press the OK button to do the same thing to the day and the time. Date and time is automatically set when finishing the date and time setup. (Note: The clock time is formatted in 24 hour time).

### **USB Mode**

When connecting a USB cable with the PC, the DVR will present to options. 'Mass Storage' allows you to transfer your videos and photos to your PC. The 'PC Camera' option allows you to use your DVR as a webcam for your computer.

## Menu setting features explained

Before we begin, firstly there are two things that must be done before using the DVR.

Go into the first menu (**Video menu**) and scroll down using the up/down arrow buttons on the bottom of the DVR until you get to the 'Motion Detection' setting, now highlighted in blue. When setting is highlighted, press the OK button, on the bottom of your DVR, and select motion detection to '**OFF**'. This feature must be set to 'off' if you wish to use your DVR as a loop recorder/crash DVR.

Second, press the menu button again until the spanner and screwdriver in the top left is highlighted in blue (**SETUP MENU**). Scroll down using the up/down arrow keys until '**Auto Power Off**' is highlighted in blue. Then press the OK button to select this setting to '**OFF**'. This feature must be set to off if you wish to use your DVR as a loop recorder/crash DVR as the **Auto Power Off Setting** will turn the DVR off completely and this setting is only meant to work with the motion detect feature.

Your DVR is now in loop record mode and we can go ahead and setup the rest of the menu selections.

**Resolution:** The recommended size should be set at '1080FHD' in order to get the best quality footage.

**Loop Recording:** This feature allows you to set the size of the blocks your DVR will record before saving and creating a video file. We recommend the DVR to be set to '3 minute' blocks.

**WDR (Wide Dynamic Range):** Wide Dynamic Range can allow for better quality footage in areas where both bright light and no light are present.

**Exposure:** This feature will change the white input. We recommend it always be set at '+0'.

**Motion Detection:** This feature is for activating you DVRs motion detect feature when you want your DVR to record if it detects movement such as people who are walking past you vehicle or can be set on when you have your car in an unprotected area.

NOTE: When this feature is activated, your DVR will not loop record and your card will fill up until your DVR says 'CARD FULL'.

**Record Audio:** This Feature will allow you to turn the DVRs recording sound on or off. If you want to stop the DVR recording sound in the cab of your vehicle, set this feature to 'Off'.

**G Sensor:** This feature allows you to set the sensitivity of your Gravity sensor. We recommend this be set to 'Medium' to help stop false or irrelevant readings.

**Stamp:** This feature will stamp the date and time on all your footage produced by your DVR.

**Monitor Parking:** This function, when turned on, will automatically turn the DVR on and record for 10 seconds when the DVR detects a sudden movement when the device is off. This is used when your car is stationary and is hit by another car; the DVR will automatically detect that sudden movement and turn on the DVR to record for 10 seconds. When the DVR finishes its 10 second recording, it will lock the file and turn off automatically. This will only occur when the car is off. (Note: You cannot have this and motion detection mod turned on at the same time.)



**Parking Sensitivity:** You can adjust the sensitivity of the Monitor Parking function by setting it to Low, Medium or High. The default setting is at Medium.

Press the menu button again until you see the following Spanner and screwdriver. **(SETUP MENU)**

**Date/Time:** This feature will allow you to change the year, month, day, time and date format using the up/down arrow buttons and using the OK button to move from year, month then day etc.

**License No. Set:** This feature allows you to put the name of the vehicle user or number plate in the DVR by using the up/down buttons to change the letters and numbers to have whatever name or number you would like, then press the OK button to move onto the next space.

**Auto Power Off:** This feature will turn you DVR off after 3, 5 or 10 minutes and will turn your DVR off completely so we suggest this feature always be set to **'OFF'**.

**Beep Sound:** Allows you to turn off the beeping sound every time a button is pressed.

**Language:** Allows you to choose from a selection of languages that include: English, French, Spanish, Portuguese, Dutch, Italian, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Russian, Japanese.

**TV Mode:** We recommend this be set to 'PAL' as PAL is the Australian standard line frequency and will work on any TV when playing back your footage on TV via provided HDMI cable.

**Frequency:** This feature allows the best recording in conditions where street lights and ac lighting is used. The Australian standard frequency is 50HZ so it should be set to '50hz'.

**Screen Protection:** This feature will turn your LCD off after 3, 5 or 10 minutes but will continue to record regardless. This feature is useful for night driving as having the LCD on could be a distraction.

**Format:** This feature allows you to format/delete all the files off your micro SD card and also reinstalls your DCIM directory and DVR software on your SD card so the micro SD card can operate with your DVR free of errors.

**Default Setting:** This feature will reset all your settings and return your DVR to the factory standard settings.

**Version:** This simply shows the firmware/software employed by the DVRs hardware.

## Product Specification

Product Feature	HD Camera, HD Recording
G-sensor	Built-in(Used to save the file in case of an emergency, and cannot be deleted if the collision of vehicles happen)
LCD Size	2.0" TFT LCD
Lens	170 Degree Ultra Wide Angle
Language	English/French/Spanish/Portuguese/German/Italian/Simplified Chinese/Traditional Chinese/Russian/Japanese
Video Format	MOV
Video Resolution	1920x1080, 1280x720 60FPS, 1280x720 30FPS, 800x480, 640x480
Video/Audio Codec.	H. 264, Audio: AAC
Loop Recording	Recording with seamless
Auto turn on/off while car power on/off	Supports turn on while car starts. And turn off while car turns off.
Motion Detection	Supported
Year/Month/Day/Hour/Minute	Supported
Still images	16M 4608x3456, 12M 4032x3024, 10M 3648x2736, 8M 3264x2448, 5M 2592x1944, 3M 2048x1536, 2M HD 1920x1080, 1.3M 1280x960, VGA 640x480
Photo Format	JPEG
Memory Card	Micro SD (up to 32GB Max)
MIC	Supported
Built-in Speaker	Supported
TV Output	PAL/NTSC
Frequency	50HZ/60HZ
USB Function	1. Mass Storage 2. PC Camera
Power Interface	5V 1.5A
Battery	90mAh built-in battery

## Frequently Asked Questions

Under normal operating conditions, if there are problems with the device, please refer to the following methods to resolve.

### **Cannot take pictures or record video?**

Please check whether there is enough space on the micro SD card or internal storage.

### **Stopping automatically while recording**

Due to the high amount of HD video data being recorded, please use a high speed micro SD card. To tell if you have the required high speed card, check if it has the 'Micro SDHC' logo on the SD card and the C4, C6 or C10 somewhere on the card.



### **Fuzzy/dirty image**

Please check if the lens is filled with dirt or fingerprints and clean carefully. Please clean lens with cloth before shooting.

### **Dark image when shooting the scene of sky or water**

This is due to the impact of the exposure when there is a big change in the lighting condition across scenes. You can edit the impact of the change by adjusting the 'EV' in the menu settings.

### **The colour is not good in cloudy or indoor conditions**

Please check the 'white balance' in the menu settings and make sure it is set to auto.

### **Horizontal stripes interference in the image**

This is due to the wrong setting of light frequency error, please set the frequency to 50HZ as it is the Australian standard frequency.

### **The DVR is jammed or not responding**

Please reset the device by pushing in the reset button on the underside of the DVR.

### **SD getting full quickly in DVR**

Turn off motion detect in the settings menu and then format card.

### **Why does battery go flat in the DVR?**

The DVR's battery must be frequently charged once a week if the car is not in use.

### **Why does the time and date reset?**

The time resets when the DVR's battery is flat. Make sure the DVR is always charged in order to keep date and time.

### **Why is the battery not charging in the car?**

Please check and make sure that there is power in the cigarette lighter socket of your car.

### **Why does the DVR turn off after 1-5 mins?**

Please check the settings and make sure that 'Auto Power Off' in the menu settings is set to 'off'.

### **Micro SD card not recognised by DVR**

Please format card in the DVR's menu setting's before use.

## Technical Assistance

If you need assistance setting up or using your Gator product now or in the future, call Gator Support.

Australia

TEL: 03 – 8587 8898

FAX: 03 – 8587 8866

Mon-Fri 9am – 5pm AEST

Please retain this user guide for future reference.

