FOR NOVASTAR LED SIGNS

ViPlex Express Guide

Run your sign from a Windows PC



ViPlex Express is NovaStar's Windows program for LED signs that run on a **Taurus** player (TB30, TB40, TB50, TB60 and similar). Build a playlist of pictures, video and text on your computer, then send it to your sign over Wi-Fi or a network cable.

SECTION 1 **Install** → SECTION 2 **Connect** → SECTION 3 **Make a playlist** → SECTION 4 **Publish**

WHICH VERSION DO I NEED?

VERSION	USE IT FOR
ViPlex Express 4.1.1 Windows 10 or 11, 64-bit	Players on firmware V4.7.4 or later, such as the TB10 Plus, TB20 Plus, TB30, TB40, TB50, TB60, T30, T50 and T60, and the 4G models TB1-4G and TB2-4G. **This guide shows this version.**
ViPlex Express 3.0.5 Windows 7 SP1 or later, 64-bit	Players on firmware below V4.7.4, including older models such as the TB1, TB2, TB3, TB4, TB6, TB8, T3 and T6, and PCs running Windows 7 or 8.1. See page 8.

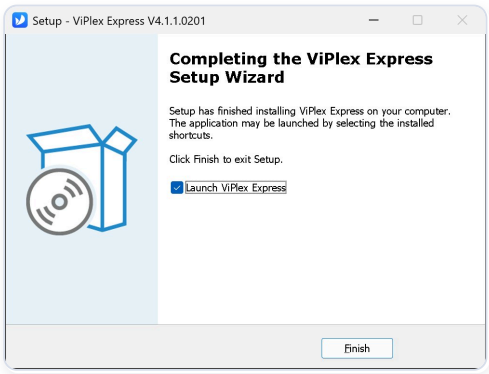
The model is printed on the player's label. Players on firmware V5.0 or later need version 4.1.1. Not sure which one you have? Ask iCatcher.

BEFORE YOU START

- A Windows 10 or 11 PC or laptop (64-bit).
- Your sign's login password (from iCatcher).
- Your sign's Wi-Fi name and password, or a network cable from your sign to your router.
- Pictures or videos sized to your sign's resolution.

1 Install ViPlex Express

1. Go to **icatcher.com.au/downloads** and download **ViPlex Express 4.1.1** (about 340 MB). The button downloads it straight from NovaStar.
2. Right-click the downloaded zip file, choose **Extract All**, then click **Extract**. In the folder that opens, double-click **ViPlex Express V4.1.1.0201 Setup**. If Windows asks for permission, click Yes.
3. Choose English and click **OK**. Click **Next** on each page, leave Create a desktop shortcut ticked, then click **Install**.
4. Click **Finish**. ViPlex Express opens.



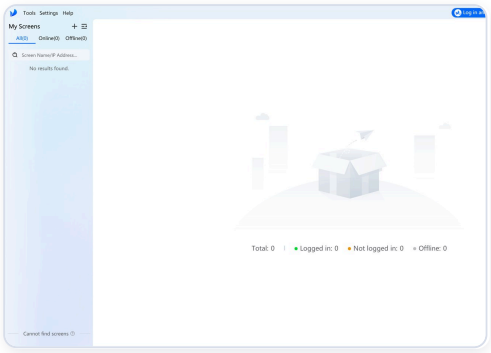
Click Finish. Launch ViPlex Express is already ticked.

2 Connect to your sign

ViPlex Express finds your sign by itself when your PC and the sign are on the same network. Connect one of two ways:

- **The sign's own Wi-Fi.** Join it on your PC like any Wi-Fi network. Its name is the player model or AP, followed by numbers. The password is from iCatcher.
- **Your network.** If the sign is plugged into your router or venue network, connect your PC to the same network.

1. Open ViPlex Express. Your sign appears under **My Screens** on the left.
2. An **orange** dot means it still needs a login. Right-click the sign, choose **Log In**, type the password from iCatcher, tick Auto Login and click **Log In**. If a Change Resolution box opens, check W and H match your sign's resolution, then click **OK**.
3. A **green** dot means you're connected and ready. Grey means the sign is offline.

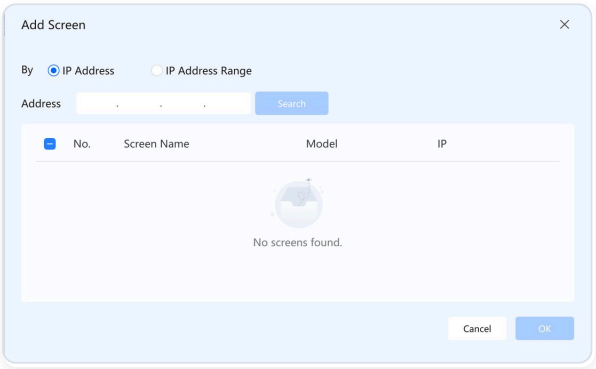


The main window. Signs appear under My Screens.

TIP Your PC may warn that the sign's Wi-Fi has no internet. That's normal. Stay connected. If Windows Security asks about ViPlex Express, tick both network boxes and click Allow access.

SIGN NOT SHOWING?

1. Click the **+** next to My Screens and choose **Add Screen**.
2. Type the sign's IP address (from iCatcher) and click **Search**.
3. Tick the sign and click **OK**. Still nothing? See Quick fixes on page 10.

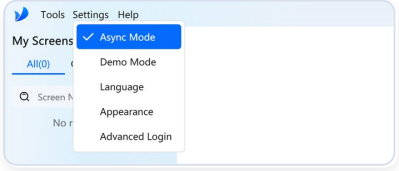


Add Screen finds a sign by its IP address.

PRACTISE WITHOUT A SIGN

Demo Mode gives you a pretend sign, so you can try everything in this guide first.

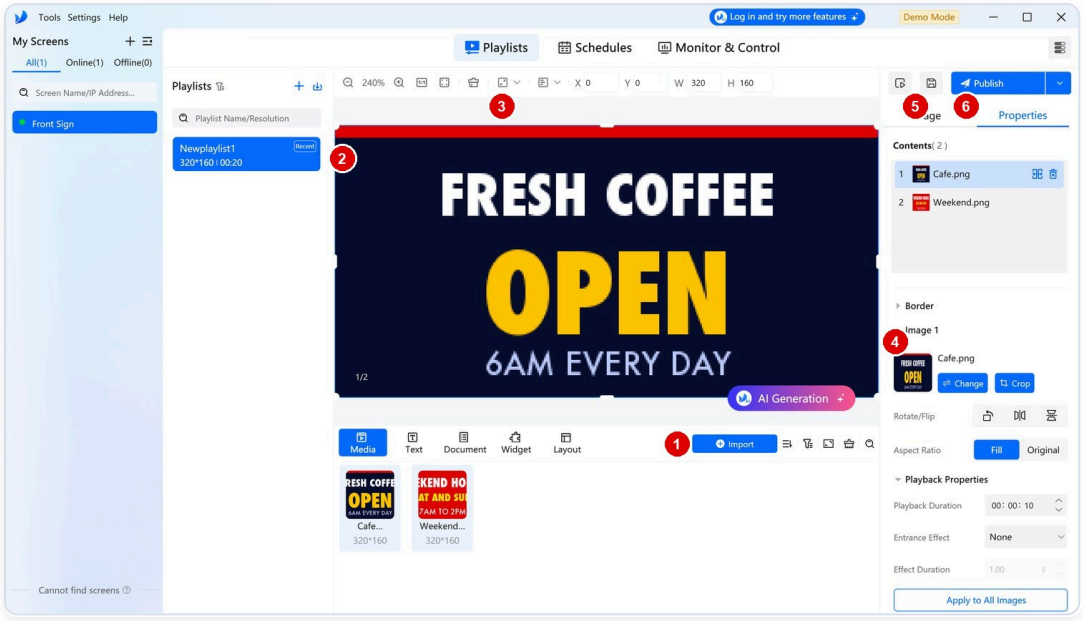
1. Click **Settings** at the top left and choose **Demo Mode**.
2. Click **+**, choose **Add Screen**, pick a model, type a name and your sign's size (W and H), and click **OK**.
3. Switch back with **Settings** › **Async Mode** to use your real sign.



Settings switches between Async Mode (your sign) and Demo Mode.

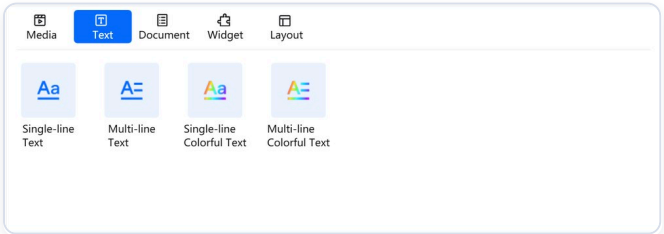
3 Make a playlist

A playlist is what your sign plays: one or more pages of pictures, video and text, shown in order.

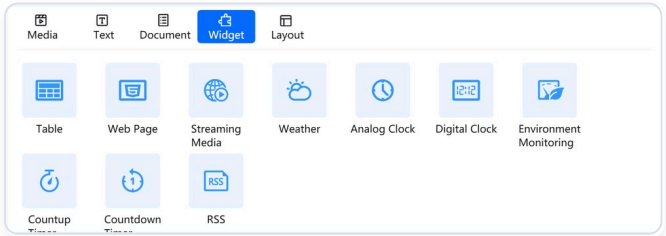


The playlist editor. The numbers match the steps below.

1. Click your sign under My Screens, then **Playlists** at the top. Click the **+** next to Playlists to start a new one. It is sized to your sign. Click **Import** and choose your pictures and videos. They appear under the canvas.
2. Drag a file onto the black canvas. Drag more files onto the same spot to make a slideshow. They play in the order shown under Contents.
3. To fill the whole sign, click the fill button and choose **Fill the Entire Screen**.
4. Click an item to change it on the right, for example Playback Duration (how long a picture stays up) and Entrance Effect.
5. Click the preview icon at the top right to watch it, then the Save icon (the floppy disk) next to it. To rename the playlist, right-click it in the Playlists list.
6. When you're happy, click **Publish**. See section 4.



For words, click Text under the canvas and choose a type such as Multi-line Text. Type on the Properties tab.

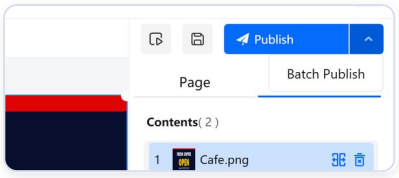


Widget adds a clock, weather, a web page, a countdown and more.

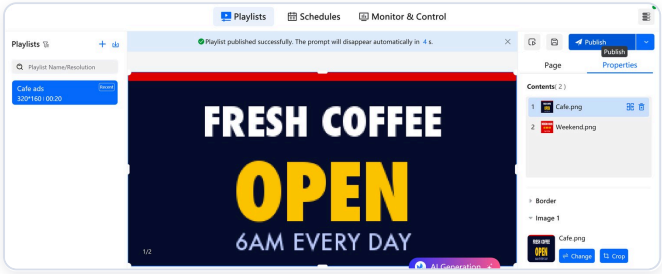
TIP Use your sign's exact resolution. If a banner says the playlist doesn't match the screen, click Change to Screen Resolution. Weather, web pages and RSS need the sign to be connected to the internet. The Log in and try more features button at the top is for NovaStar's online tools, not your sign.

4 Publish to your sign

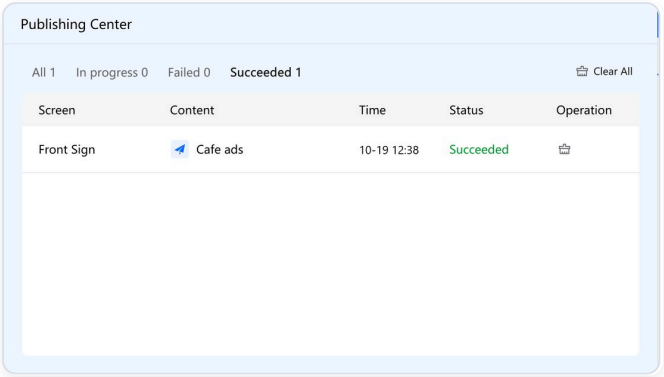
1. With your playlist open, click **Publish** at the top right.
2. ViPlex Express checks the playlist and sends it. A message at the top says Playlist published successfully.
3. To send to several signs, click the arrow next to Publish, choose **Batch Publish**, tick the signs and click **Confirm & Publish**.
4. To check how it went, click the Publishing Center icon at the top right. It lists sends that are in progress, failed or succeeded. Click Failed to see any that didn't go through.



The arrow beside Publish opens Batch Publish.



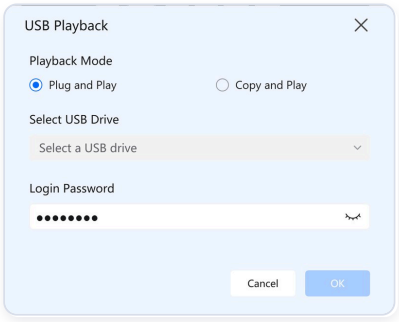
Published. The message at the top fades after a few seconds.



The Publishing Center lists every send and its result.

5 No network? Use a USB stick Optional

1. Plug a USB stick into your PC, then right-click the playlist in the Playlists list and choose **USB Playback**.
2. **Plug and Play** plays straight from the stick, so leave it in the player. **Copy and Play** copies the playlist onto the player, so you can take the stick out afterwards. You can save one playlist to the stick at a time.
3. Pick your USB stick, type the sign's login password and click **OK**.
4. Plug the stick into the player's USB port.

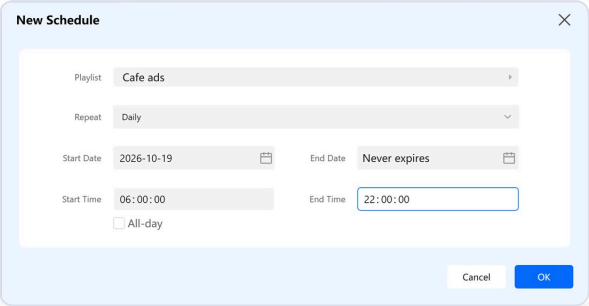


USB Playback saves the playlist to a stick.

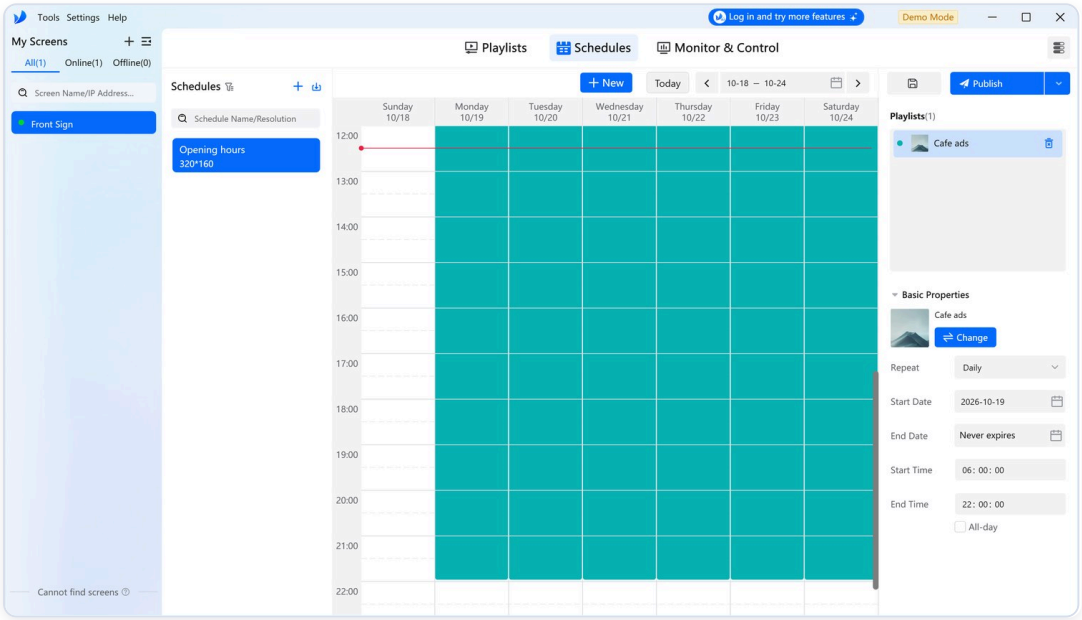
6 Play at set times Optional

A schedule plays a playlist only when you want, such as during opening hours, every day or on set days.

1. Click **Schedules** at the top, then the **+** next to Schedules. Type a name, such as Opening hours.
2. Click **New** above the calendar.
3. Choose the Playlist, how it repeats (Never, Daily, Weekly or Monthly), the start and end dates, and the start and end times. Click OK.
4. The times show as blocks on the calendar. Click the Save icon (the floppy disk), then **Publish**.



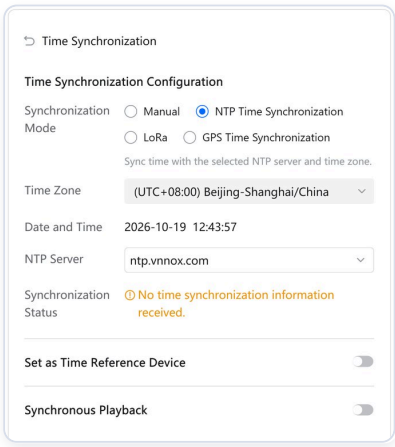
Cafe ads, every day from 6 am to 10 pm, with no end date.



The week view. Each block is a time the playlist plays.

7 Set the right time zone

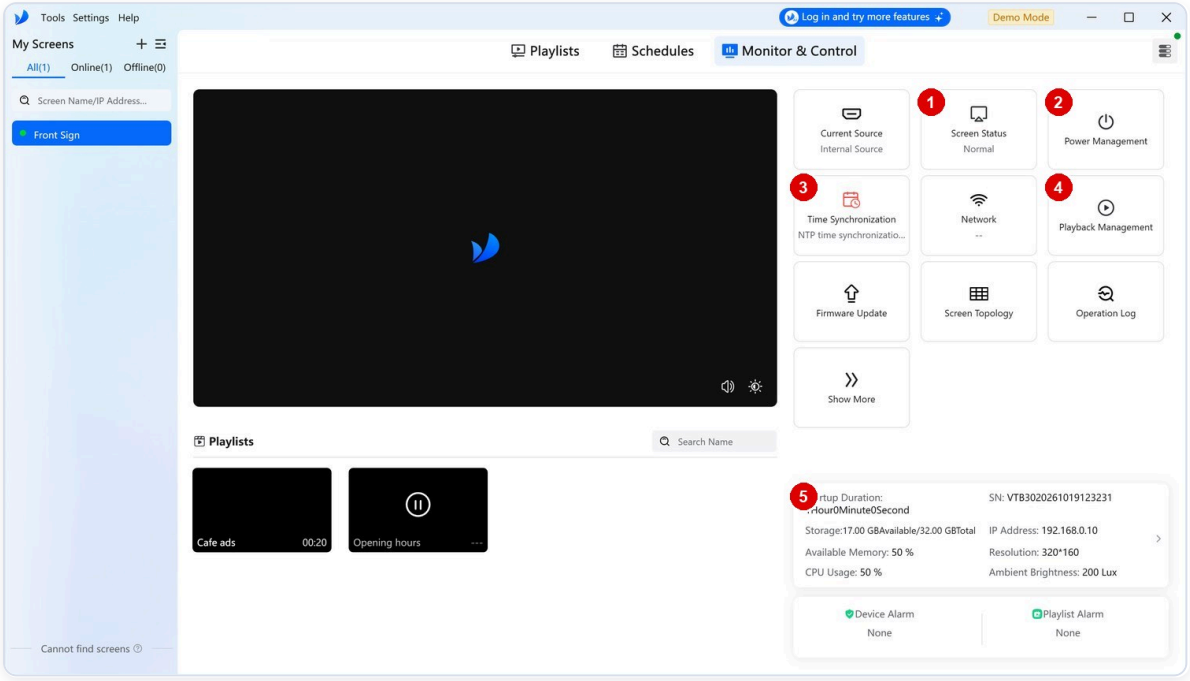
1. Click your sign, then **Monitor & Control**, then **Time Synchronization**.
2. Choose **NTP Time Synchronization** if your sign is on the internet. If it isn't, choose **Manual** so the sign takes its time from your PC.
3. Open the Time Zone list and choose the **(UTC+08:00)** option for Perth, or the option for your own city. If it shows another city, such as Beijing, change it.
4. Click **Apply**. Do this before you use clocks or schedules.



Time Synchronization

8 Control your sign

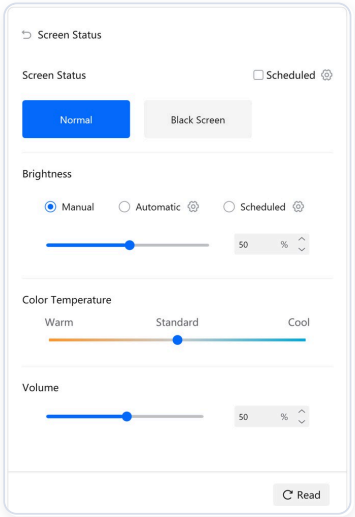
Click your sign under My Screens, then **Monitor & Control**. You see what the sign is showing and its details, such as storage, IP address and resolution.



1. **Screen Status:** brightness, black screen, colour and volume.
2. **Power Management:** restart the player, or switch power if a relay is fitted.
3. **Time Synchronization:** keeps clocks and schedules right.
4. **Playback Management:** what's stored on the sign.
5. **Details:** IP address, storage, resolution and alarms.

BRIGHTNESS AND BLACK SCREEN

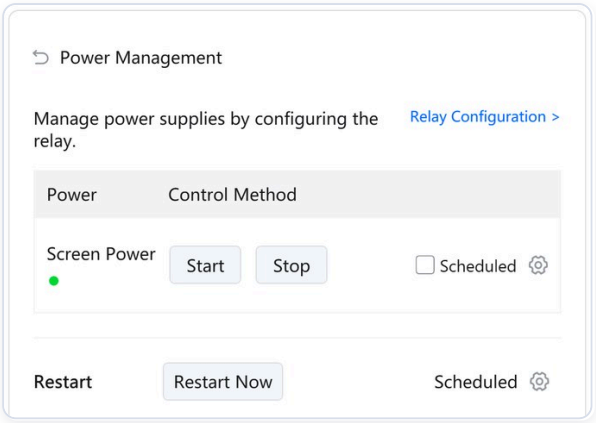
1. Click **Screen Status**.
2. Under Brightness, choose **Manual** and drag the slider. For dimmer at night, choose **Scheduled** and click its gear. Click **New**, set Execution Time (such as 19:00:00) and Brightness (such as 30%), and change Repeat from Never so it runs every day. Click **New** again for the morning (06:00:00 at 100%), then **OK**. **Automatic** follows a light sensor, if one is fitted.
3. To blank the sign while the player stays on, choose **Black Screen**. Choose **Normal** to bring the picture back. To do it every night, tick **Scheduled** next to Screen Status and click its gear. Click **New**, set Execution Time to 22:00:00, Screen Status to Black Screen, and change Repeat from Never so it runs every day. Click **New** again for Normal at 06:00:00, then click **OK**.
4. Volume and colour temperature are here too. There's no Apply button on this panel.



Screen Status

9 Restart the player

1. In Monitor & Control, click **Power Management**.
2. Click **Restart Now**. The sign goes blank for a short time while the player restarts, then comes back by itself.
3. Screen Power Start and Stop only work if your sign has a power relay. Ask iCatcher if you're not sure.

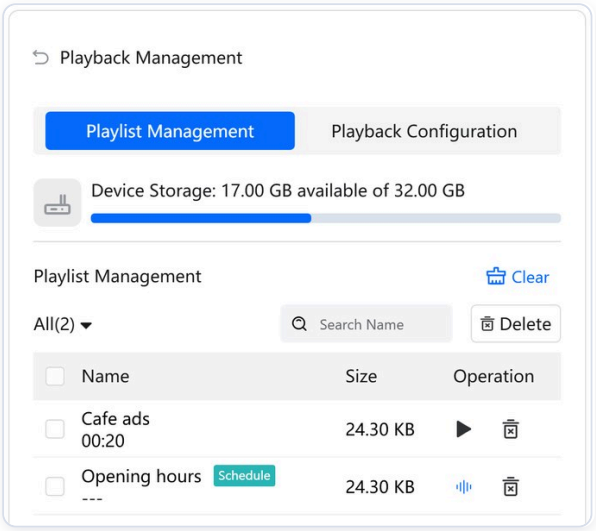


Power Management

10 See what's on the sign

1. In Monitor & Control, click **Playback Management**.
2. The list shows the playlists and schedules stored on the sign, with the storage left. Play or delete them here.

> **NOTE** Leave Firmware Update, Screen Topology and Advanced Login to iCatcher. They change how the sign is set up.



Playback Management

11 Older players and ViPlex Express 3.0.5

If your player is an older model, or your PC runs Windows 7 or 8.1, use **ViPlex Express 3.0.5** from icatcher.com.au/downloads. It looks different from this guide:

- When it first opens, choose **Async Mode** and click **Open**.
- Your sign is on the **Screens** tab: click **Connect** next to it and type the password from iCatcher. To find a sign by its IP address, click **Search by IP Address** at the bottom left.
- Playlists are called **solutions**: click **Solutions**, then **New**, then **Regular Screen**, and enter a name and your sign's resolution.
- To publish, point at the solution in the list, click its publish button, click **Refresh** if your sign isn't listed, tick it, click **Publish**, then **Done**.
- Monitor & Control is called **Control**. To blank the sign use **Control** › **Screen Status Control** › **Blackout**, and to restart use **Control** › **Restart Configuration** › **Restart Now**.
- Language, working mode and updates are under Settings (the gear) at the top right. Demo Mode is not in 3.0.5.

12 Everyday jobs

Change the words

1. Open your playlist (section 3) and click the text on the canvas.
2. Change the words on the Properties tab on the right.
3. Save, then **Publish**.

Sections 3 and 4

Show a poster or photo

1. **Import** the picture, then drag it onto the canvas.
2. Fill button, **Fill the Entire Screen**.
3. Save and Publish.

Section 3

Play a video

1. **Import** the video and drag it onto the canvas.
2. **Fill the Entire Screen** if it should fill the sign.
3. Save and Publish.

Section 3

Show several things in turn

1. Drag more files onto the same spot: they play in order under Contents.
2. Set each one's Playback Duration.

Section 3

Show the time and date

1. **Widget**, then **Digital Clock** or **Analog Clock**.
2. Set the sign's time zone first (section 7).

Sections 3 and 7

Count down to an event

1. **Widget**, then **Countdown Timer**.
2. Set the date and time of your event in its settings on the right.

Section 3

Play only during opening hours

1. **Schedules**, then a new schedule.
2. Set the playlist, Repeat and the times.
3. Save and Publish.

Section 6

Dimmer at night

1. **Monitor & Control** › **Screen Status**.
2. Under Brightness, choose **Scheduled**, click its gear and add a lower level for the evening that repeats every day.

Section 8

Screen off overnight

1. **Monitor & Control** › **Screen Status**.
2. Tick **Scheduled**, click its gear and add a Black Screen time and a Normal time, each repeating every day.

Section 8

Clock shows the wrong time

1. **Monitor & Control** › **Time Synchronization**.
2. Choose NTP (or Manual) and your time zone, then Apply.

Section 7

13 Quick fixes

IF THIS HAPPENS	TRY THIS
My sign isn't under My Screens	Check the sign is switched on and its Wi-Fi antenna is fitted, your PC is on the sign's Wi-Fi or the same network, and any VPN is off. If Windows blocked ViPlex Express, allow it in Windows Security › Firewall & network protection › Allow an app through firewall. Then use + and Add Screen with the sign's IP address.
The dot stays orange	You're not logged in. Right-click the sign, choose Log In and type the password from iCatcher.
The dot is red	The sign still has its factory network address, so your PC can't log in to it. Call iCatcher.
Publish failed	Open the Publishing Center to see why, then try again.
The picture is stretched or cut off	The playlist size doesn't match the sign. Click Change to Screen Resolution in the editor.
The sign is black	In Screen Status, check Normal is selected (not Black Screen) and the brightness isn't 0.
The clock shows the wrong time	In Time Synchronization, set your time zone, choose NTP (or Manual if your sign isn't on the internet) and click Apply.
ViPlex Express won't install or open	Version 4.1.1 needs 64-bit Windows 10 (version 1809 or later) or Windows 11. If it installs but won't open, install .NET Core 8.0 and Visual C++ V14 Redistributable (both marked For ViPlex Express V4.0.0+) from en.vnnox.com/download, under Documentation & Tools. On Windows 7 SP1 or 8.1, use version 3.0.5 with Framework 4.6.1 and Visual C++ 2017 Redistributable from the same page.

Prefer your phone? NovaStar's **ViPlex Handy** app can also update your sign over Wi-Fi. ViPlex Express 4.1.1 and 3.0.5, ViPlex Handy and all our guides are at **icatcher.com.au/downloads**.

Need help?

Stuck on a step or forgotten a password? Get in touch and we'll help.

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Tell us which sign it is, what you were trying to do and what you saw on screen.