

8x8 HDMI Matrix Switch Installation Tips

Your success during the installation process of the 8x8 HDMI Matrix Switch (C4-8ZVMS) is important to Control4. Below you will find a list of best practices and tips for installing the switch. These are common industry recommendations and tips from beta testers. In addition to this document, we encourage the use of the Design Review Service during initial system design.

Rack Mount Considerations

- When mounting the switch in a rack, take into account its thermal properties. We do not recommend mounting the switch next to devices that radiate heat, such as audio receivers, amplifiers, satellite receivers, and cable boxes.
- Due to the quantity of inputs and outputs on the back of the switch, we recommend that horizontal lacer bars be used for cable management.

Cables and Connectors

- Use only certified High Speed HDMI® cables.
- CAT6 is recommended over CAT5e.
- A single, continuous run of CAT5e/6 cable from the switch to the HDBaseT Receiver is preferred. Intermediate connections can affect video signal reliability.
- Shielded CAT5e/6 cable and RJ45 connectors are highly recommended to reduce unwanted noise.
- Run the CAT5e/6 cabling at least 6 inches away from high-voltage (AC) power, and make any crossings between the two perpendicular.
- When terminating CAT5e/6, use the EIA 568B standard.
- CAT5e/6 allows for a bend radius of 4 times its diameter, but verify this with the manufacturer.

- When bundling groups of cables together with cable ties, make the ties snug but not so much that they deform the cables.
- When pulling CAT5e/6 cable, be careful to not stretch or kink cables. Either can affect video signal reliability.
- Test all cables and terminations.

I/O Ports

- To pass an RS-232 connection over HDBaseT, use the Control4 serial cable (C4-CBL3.5-DB9B) at the switch and HDBaseT Receiver.



Note: The switch creates a cross-over. If a straight serial cable is needed, use a null modem adapter on the HDBaseT Receiver side.

- When a controller is connected to the switch's IR port, a stereo (not mono) 3.5 mm cable must be used.
- When connecting an IR receiver to the HDBaseT Receiver for "Receiver to Switch" mode, you must use a 3.5 mm stereo connector on the receiver end and a standard IR emitter on the switch end.
- When an IR emitter is connected to the switch or HDBaseT Receiver, use the Control4 IR Emitters with Optical Feedback-5 Pack (C4-CBLIRF-BULK).

Programming

- We strongly recommend that you use the appropriate programming actions in the driver when programming the zone locking feature. This will let the other rooms know that the source is locked and in use.

Additional Documentation

- *8x8 HDMI Matrix Switch Quick Start Guide*
- *8x8 HDMI Matrix Switch Installation and Setup Guide*