

How Much Storage Do You Need for Your Mobile Video Recording Setup?

Selecting the right amount of data storage for your mobile video recording setup can be a daunting task. Select too little storage, and you risk running out of room too quickly, potentially missing an important event that could exonerate your driver.

To answer this question, we will have to answer some other questions first, including:

How many days or weeks of footage do you need to be stored on the device before it is deleted?

A 256 gigabyte SD card has more than enough room to capture a week's worth of video footage before the DVR begins writing over previously recorded video.

But if you need to keep recordings from the last month or longer, you may want to upgrade to a 500 GB or 1 terabyte solid-state drive.

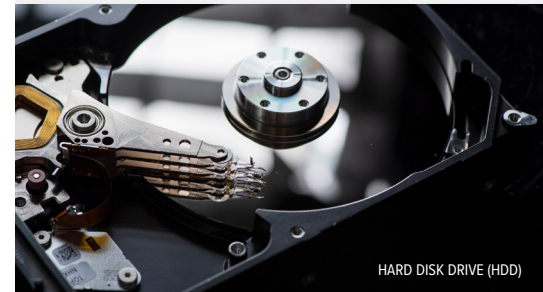
For example, if you manage a fleet of public buses, you will be recording for most of the day, and you may need to keep that footage for up to a month after it happened. Complaints from passengers may not be reported immediately, so it's important to have the footage to determine if the complaint is warranted.

For commercial fleets, property damage claims happen regularly, and having continuous recordings could exonerate a driver or company from baseless claims.

Do you only need video in the event of an accident?

If so, a 64 or 128 GB SD card is the best choice between affordability and reliability for all vehicles running fewer than four cameras with this need. However, as we'll discuss later, continuous recording could be helpful in several scenarios.

continued



HARD DISK DRIVE (HDD)



SOLID-STATE DRIVE (SSD)



SD CARD



How many hours per day and days per week are the vehicles in operation?

Many vehicles vary on how many hours per day and days per week they are in operation on the road. Specifically, we're talking about hours per day the vehicle ignition is on. Some industries like utility services are solely using the vehicles to go to and from job sites, so the vehicles are only on a fraction of the day, making a small storage device last many more days before reaching capacity.

How many cameras do you want to record on each vehicle?

While some vehicles run only a single dashcam, others run four or more cameras, essentially filling up the storage device four times quicker or more. The simple formula is more cameras will require more storage.



Would you like to record from ignition until vehicle turnoff or just around specific events?

Some DVRs offer event-based recording, which means events such as a hard start, stop or turn will be recorded automatically and will not be recorded over when the DVR runs out of space.

This saves you from having to continuously record and take up unnecessary space on your DVR, although you won't have video footage of events that aren't automatically recorded or flagged manually with an event button in the cab.

Commercial vehicles, for example, are heavy-duty vehicles that can accidentally sideswipe car mirrors, doors, mailboxes and more. The G-force impact of these accidents would not be enough to automatically trigger a recording, so if you need to prove the accident wasn't your driver's fault, you won't have that evidence without continuous recording. A general rule of thumb is it's better to have too much video evidence than not enough.

Do you want to record video after the vehicle has turned off?

Pro-Vision's system allows up to 24 hours of run time after the vehicle is turned off. Outside of vandalism and security situations, anywhere from 5 to 15 minutes is the recommended setting. If this setting is used, then consider how many times per day and week the vehicle will be turned on and off.

A delivery truck, for example, may turn on and off multiple times per day. Recording after ignition could determine whether a delivery was made or if cargo was stolen from the truck. Recording after vehicle turnoff also can help verify whether a pre- or post-trip inspection happened on the vehicle.

continued



Determine Your Needs

Answering these questions should give you a good idea of how much storage capacity you will need. Remember, if you select a system that includes event-based recording, those events will not be recorded over should you reach the limit of your hard drive or SD card. However, certain events will not trigger the automatic recording, meaning you might miss an important detail.

About Pro-Vision

Founded in 2003, Pro-Vision is a leading video technology solutions provider trusted by thousands of organizations in 58 countries. Pro-Vision solutions include vehicle video recording systems, body-worn cameras, data management and cloud-based storage solutions. Pro-Vision's transit, law enforcement and commercial partners utilize these solutions to enhance safety, increase productivity and protect critical assets.



PRO·VISION VIDEO SYSTEMS

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