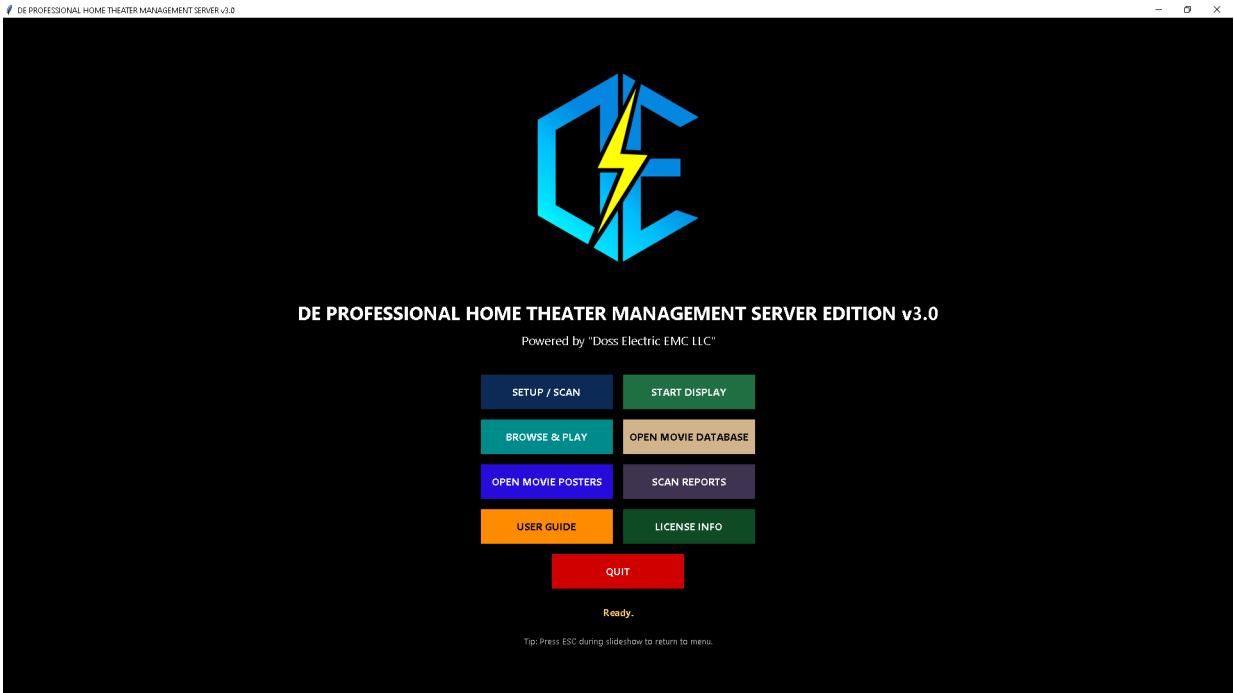


DE THEATER PROFESSIONAL v3.0

Server Edition and Display Client

User Guide, Installation Guide, and Commercial Deployment Manual



DE Theater v3.0 Server main menu

Product	DE Theater v3.0 Professional Server Edition and Display Client
Publisher	Doss Electric EMC LLC / DE Software LLC
Documentation Files	User Guide DOCX, User Guide PDF, Quick Start PDF, Install Notes TXT

Install the Server on the primary theater control computer. Install the Display Client only on additional display computers or remote display targets controlled by the Server.

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Printing note

The PDF version is the recommended print copy. The Word DOCX version is included so the customer can save, print, or review the guide in Microsoft Word if desired.

1. Product Overview

DE Theater v3.0 Professional Server Edition is a commercial-grade theater display management platform designed for home theaters, private cinemas, screening rooms, entertainment venues, lobby displays, concession displays, projectors, televisions, kiosks, and multi-display environments.

Version 3.0 adds a Server / Client architecture. The Server is the master control program. The Display Client is installed on additional display computers or remote display targets that will receive poster commands from the Server.

- **Server Edition:** installed on the primary theater control computer and used to scan the movie library, manage posters, assign zones and targets, run displays, and administer remote controls.
- **Display Client:** installed on mini-PCs or other display computers connected to TVs, monitors, projectors, lobby displays, or concession displays.
- **Remote Administration:** allows control from a local web page, cell phone, tablet, or live remote dashboard when configured.
- **Trial and Licensing:** a 14-day free trial is included, with yearly and lifetime license options available.

Professional deployment rule

Do not install the Server on every display computer. Install one Server on the main control computer, then install the Display Client on the additional display computers that the Server will control.

2. Download Package and File Names

The website download page should provide separate Server, Client, and Documentation downloads. This keeps the installation professional and prevents customers from installing the wrong program on the wrong computer.

Download Item	File Name	Purpose
Server Installer	DE_Theater_Server_v3_Setup.exe	Main installer for the primary theater control computer.
Server ZIP	DE_Theater_Server_v3_Setup.zip	ZIP backup version of the Server installer for browsers or security software that block direct EXE downloads.
Display Client Installer	DE_Theater_Display_Client_Setup.exe	Installer for additional display computers, mini-PCs, TVs, projectors, kiosks, and remote targets.
Display Client ZIP	DE_Theater_Display_Client_Setup.zip	ZIP backup version of the Display Client installer.
Documentation ZIP	DE_Theater_v3_Documentation.zip	User Guide DOCX, User Guide PDF, Quick Start PDF, and Install Notes TXT.

Recommended contents of DE_Theater_v3_Documentation.zip:

- DE_Theater_v3_User_Guide.docx
- DE_Theater_v3_User_Guide.pdf
- DE_Theater_v3_Quick_Start_Guide.pdf
- DE_Theater_v3_Install_Notes.txt

3. System Requirements

Actual hardware needs depend on the size of the movie library, the number of displays, network speed, poster resolution, and whether the system is used in a home theater or commercial environment.

Component	Recommended Requirement
Operating System	Windows 10 or Windows 11, 64-bit.
Server Computer	Modern desktop or theater PC with reliable storage for the movie database and poster library.
Display Client Computer	Windows mini-PC or display computer connected to a TV, monitor, projector, kiosk, or lobby display.
Network	Wired Ethernet is recommended for commercial deployments. Wi-Fi may work for smaller systems but is less predictable.
Storage	Enough local, USB, NAS, or mapped drive storage for the movie library, poster directory, and database.
Browser	Modern browser for Web Admin and Live Dashboard access.
Media Integrations	Plex, Kodi, Jellyfin, or Kaleidescape are optional and depend on customer configuration.

Commercial reliability recommendation

For lobbies, venues, multi-zone theaters, and long-running display systems, use wired Ethernet, stable Windows mini-PCs, fixed computer names, and reliable power. Avoid sleep mode on Server and Client machines.

4. Installation and Activation

4.1 Install the Server Edition

1. Download DE_Theater_Server_v3_Setup.exe or the Server ZIP from the website.
2. Install the Server Edition on the primary theater control computer only.
3. Launch DE Theater Server Edition v3.0.
4. Start the 14-day trial or activate with a purchased yearly or lifetime license.
5. Use Setup / Scan to configure the movie library location, poster directory, and database location.

4.2 Install the Display Client

1. Download DE_Theater_Display_Client_Setup.exe or the Client ZIP from the website.
2. Install the Display Client on each additional display computer or mini-PC.
3. Start the Display Client and enter the Server address or use Auto Discover Server when available.
4. Choose a clear Client Name, such as Lobby Left, Lobby Right, Concession Display, Projector 1, or Theater Entrance.
5. Click Step 1 - Connect / Register, then approve and assign the client on the Server.
6. After approval and assignment, click Step 2 - Start Display Service and then Open Display.

Important

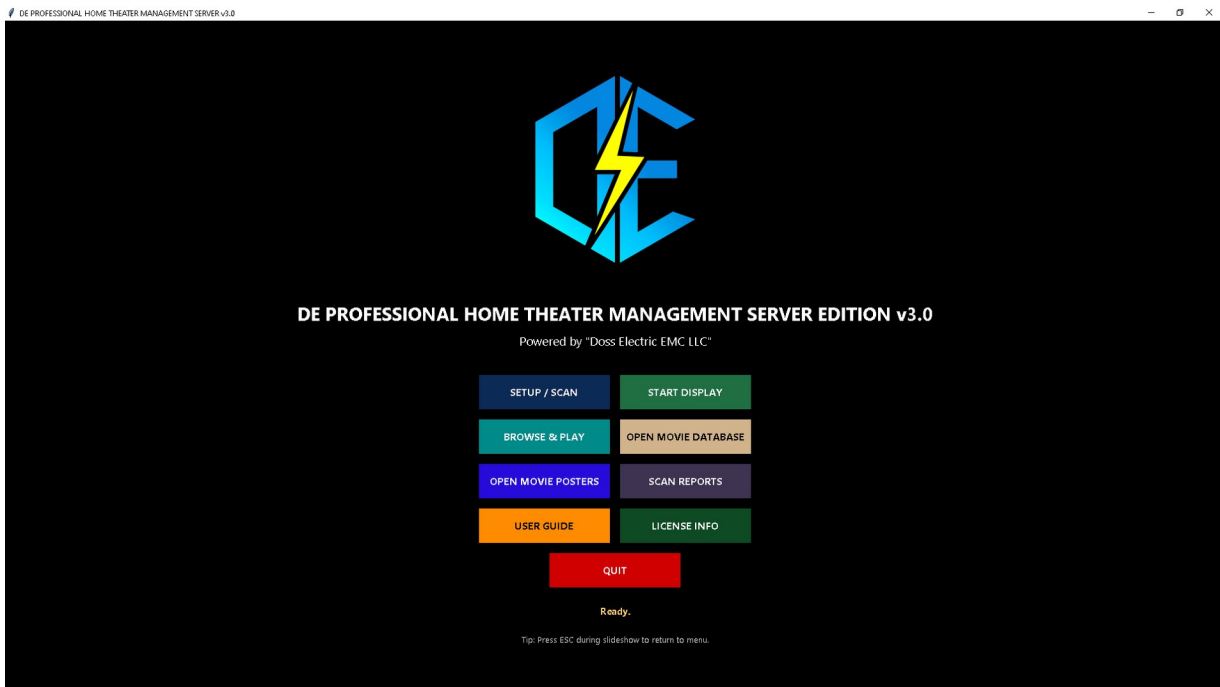
The Client must be approved and assigned on the Server before it can reliably receive display commands. The Client screen should show registered, heartbeat, token, zone, and target status after setup is complete.

5. First Startup Workflow

A clean first startup avoids most setup mistakes. Use this order for a new installation.

1. Install and open the Server Edition.
2. Activate the trial or license.
3. Open Setup / Scan.
4. Set the movie library location, poster location, and database location.
5. Run Fresh Scan for the first full build of the movie database and poster reports.
6. Open Browse & Play to confirm the library loads.
7. Run Start Display from the Server to confirm local display operation.
8. Install Display Client software on additional display computers.
9. Register, approve, and assign each Display Client.
10. Test each zone and target from the Server or Web Admin.

6. Server Main Menu Overview



Server Edition main menu shown after startup.

Button	Purpose
Setup / Scan	Configure paths, scan the movie library, build the database, and generate reports.
Start Display	Starts the poster display engine from the Server.
Browse & Play	Browse the movie catalog, choose titles, and control poster display actions.
Open Movie Database	Opens the movie database file for review.
Open Movie Posters	Opens the poster directory.
Scan Reports	Opens generated scan reports such as missing posters and incomplete metadata.
User Guide	Opens product documentation.
License Info	Shows trial, yearly, lifetime, or license activation status.
Quit	Closes the Server application.

7. Setup / Scan System

Setup / Scan is the backbone of the Server Edition. It tells DE Theater where the movie library is located, where poster images are stored, and where the movie database should be created or updated.

7.1 Fresh Scan

Use Fresh Scan for a new setup or when the database needs to be rebuilt from the movie library. Fresh Scan indexes the library, prepares the database, checks existing posters, and writes the reports needed by the display system.

7.2 Update Scan

Use Update Scan after new movies are added or existing folders are changed. Update Scan is intended to update the existing database and reports without requiring a complete manual reset.

7.3 Scan Reports

- Missing Posters Report: identifies titles that do not have matching poster artwork.
- Incomplete Metadata Report: identifies titles with incomplete or missing database fields.
- Database review: helps confirm that the movie count, poster count, and saved locations are correct.

Best practice

After a large movie import, run an Update Scan and then review Scan Reports before relying on automation. This helps catch missing posters and incomplete metadata early.

8. Browse & Play, Collections, and Display Lists

Browse & Play is used to review the movie library and control display behavior. It supports manual selection, collection-based display, and theater presentation workflows.

- All Movies: rotates through the full movie poster library.
- Collections: allows selected groups of movies to run as a curated poster display.
- Display Lists: help manage poster groups for specific rooms, themes, events, or scheduled displays.
- Now Playing / Playing Today / Coming Soon: supports high-priority poster display workflows for active theater use.

9. Poster Display Priority and Automation Rules

DE Theater v3.0 is designed so important theater status displays can override general poster rotation. The exact behavior depends on the active configuration and selected commands.

Display Mode	Typical Purpose
NOW PLAYING	Highest-priority active movie display when a movie is currently playing.
PLAYING TODAY	Used for scheduled or selected movies that should be promoted for the day.
COMING SOON	Used for upcoming titles, promos, or future presentations.
Run Collection Display	Runs a selected collection or display list.
All Movies Rotation	Default full-library poster rotation when no higher-priority display is active.

Operational note

In a commercial or lobby deployment, define display expectations before the event starts. Decide which displays should show NOW PLAYING, which should show lobby rotation, and which should show coming attractions.

10. Server / Client Network Display Architecture

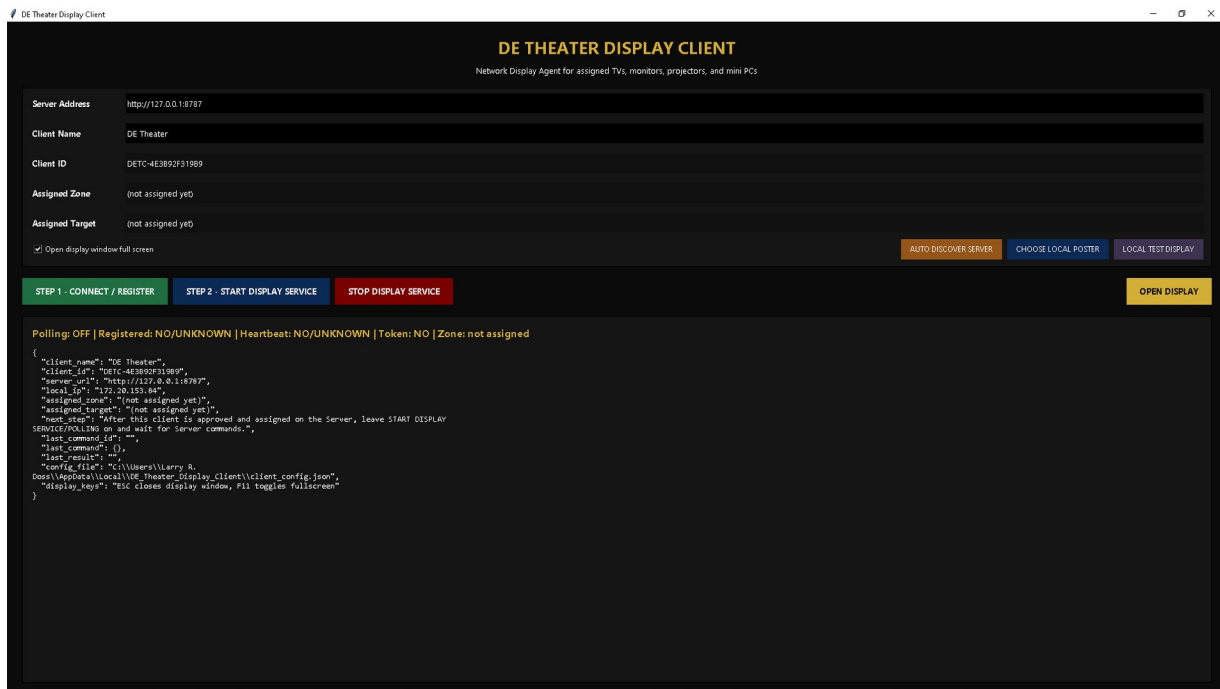
The Server / Client design allows one Server to control multiple network display clients. This is the key difference between Version 3.0 and earlier single-computer display versions.

- The Server is the master control point.
- Each Display Client is a separate display endpoint.
- Clients register with the Server and are assigned to a zone and target.
- Commands can be sent to specific displays, groups of displays, zones, or target roles depending on configuration.
- Each display computer should have a stable network connection and should remain powered on while in use.

Example

A theater lobby may use one Server and multiple Clients: Entrance Display, Ticket Counter Display, Concession Display, Hallway Display, Theater Left, Theater Right, and Projector Promo Display.

11. Display Client Setup and Registration



Display Client setup and registration screen.

Client Field / Button	Purpose
Server Address	The local Server Web Admin address, usually using the Server computer IP address and port.

Client Name	Friendly display name used to identify the client on the Server.
Client ID	Unique generated identifier used by the Server to recognize the Client.
Assigned Zone	The zone assigned by the Server after approval.
Assigned Target	The target display role assigned by the Server after approval.
Auto Discover Server	Attempts to locate the Server automatically on the local network.
Choose Local Poster	Allows local display testing with a selected poster image.
Local Test Display	Tests the Client display window without depending on full Server commands.
Step 1 - Connect / Register	Registers the Client with the Server.
Step 2 - Start Display Service	Starts polling and receiving commands after registration and approval.
Open Display	Opens the display window on the Client machine.

Client approval

If the Client shows not assigned, the Server still needs to approve and assign the Client to a zone and target. This is normal during first setup.

12. Zone and Target Assignment

Zones and targets allow the Server to organize display endpoints in a way that matches the building or theater layout.

- **Zone:** a logical group, such as Lobby, Theater Room 1, Hallway, Concession, Entrance, Arcade, VIP Room, or Screening Room.
- **Target:** the specific display role inside the zone, such as Left TV, Right TV, Projector, Poster Kiosk, Ticket Counter, or Door Display.
- **Assignment:** the Server links a registered Client ID to a zone and target.
- **Control:** commands can then be sent to the correct display or group of displays.

Naming recommendation

Use practical names that match the physical location. Example: Lobby - Left Wall, Lobby - Right Wall, Concession - Menu Side, Theater 1 - Entrance Poster.

13. Web Admin, Cell Phone Control, and Live Dashboard

DE Theater v3.0 includes remote control options for professional administration. Exact availability depends on whether the local Web Admin, LAN access, and Live Dashboard access are enabled and configured.

- **Local Web Admin:** browser-based control from the Server computer.
- **LAN / Cell Phone Control:** control from a phone or tablet on the same network when LAN access is enabled and the network allows device-to-device access.
- **Live Dashboard:** remote dashboard access through the hosted backend when remote access is configured.
- **Remote Setup / Scan:** allows administrative changes from the Web Admin interface where supported.

- Status Monitoring: helps confirm whether devices are connected, polling, registered, assigned, and responding.

Network note

Some routers isolate phones from wired computers or block local device discovery. If phone control cannot connect locally, use the Live Dashboard configuration when available.

14. Integrations

DE Theater v3.0 is designed to support integration workflows with popular media and theater platforms. Integration behavior depends on customer configuration, local network access, and the capabilities of each platform.

Integration	Purpose
Plex	Supports theater workflows that use Plex library and playback information where configured.
Kodi	Supports local theater automation workflows where configured.
Jellyfin	Supports media server automation workflows where configured.
Kaleidescape	Supports premium theater environment workflows where configured.
Local Player	Supports local playback and display workflows where configured.

15. Scan Reports, Database Management, and Posters

The quality of the display system depends on clean data. The Server uses the movie database, poster directory, scan reports, and poster matching rules to determine what can be displayed.

- Keep movie folders named clearly and consistently.
- Keep poster files in the configured poster directory.
- Review the Missing Posters Report after scans.
- Review incomplete metadata if movie information appears incorrect or missing.
- Back up the movie database before major manual edits.
- Run Update Scan after adding new movies or posters.

Poster fallback

If a poster image is unavailable, the system may use the configured fallback behavior. For a polished commercial display, review missing posters and correct them before a live event.

16. Commercial Deployment Guidance

For professional and commercial use, plan the system before installation. Treat each display as part of the theater presentation system, not as an afterthought.

16.1 Recommended Planning Checklist

- List every physical display location.

- Decide whether each display needs its own mini-PC or shares a display output from another computer.
- Name each Client before registration.
- Define zones and targets before the first customer demonstration.
- Use wired Ethernet wherever possible.
- Disable sleep mode on Server and Client PCs.
- Test startup, display rotation, remote commands, and shutdown before the system is used with customers present.

16.2 Example Deployment Types

Deployment	Typical Equipment	Notes
Home Theater	One Server PC plus optional Clients	Good for private cinemas, home poster displays, and room-based display control.
Large Home / Estate	One Server plus multiple Clients	Useful for theater entrance, lobby, game room, hallway, and bar displays.
Commercial Venue	One Server plus many Clients	Use named zones, wired network, stable power, and documented assignments.
Screening Room	Server plus projector/lobby Clients	Useful for NOW PLAYING, PLAYING TODAY, and private event signage.

17. Troubleshooting

Problem	Likely Cause	Recommended Action
Client says not assigned	Client registered but has not been approved or assigned on the Server.	Approve the Client and assign a zone and target.
Client cannot find Server	Wrong Server address, blocked network, firewall, or router isolation.	Confirm Server is running, use the correct IP address and port, and check firewall/router settings.
Display does not open	Display service not started, full-screen setting issue, or Client not approved.	Start Display Service, confirm assignment, then click Open Display.
Movies missing from database	Scan paths are incorrect or library folders are not visible.	Confirm library path and run Update Scan or Fresh Scan as needed.
Posters missing	Poster files are missing or naming does not match database expectations.	Open Scan Reports and review the Missing Posters Report.
Phone cannot reach Web Admin	Phone is not on same network or router blocks local access.	Try Server browser locally, verify LAN access, then use Live Dashboard if needed.
Remote dashboard shows no connection	Server heartbeat or remote access is not active.	Confirm Web Admin and remote access are enabled and the Server is running.
Installer blocked by browser	Browser or antivirus blocks EXE download.	Download the ZIP version, extract it, then run the installer.

18. Support Information

Before requesting support, gather the following information. This makes troubleshooting faster and avoids guessing.

- Server Edition version number.
- Display Client version number.
- Windows version on the Server and Client machines.
- Whether the issue happens on the Server, a Client, Web Admin, or Live Dashboard.
- The exact button or workflow used before the issue occurred.
- A screenshot of the Server or Client status screen.
- Recent scan report results, if the issue involves missing movies or posters.

Support contact information should be provided on the official DE Theater website or the customer download page.

19. Legal Notice, Disclaimer, and EULA Summary

This documentation is provided for product installation and operation. It is not a substitute for a full license agreement reviewed by legal counsel. The following summary language is intended to communicate normal product use expectations.

- DE Theater software is licensed, not sold.
- The customer is responsible for owning or legally accessing their movie library, poster artwork, network equipment, display hardware, and media platform accounts.
- The software does not grant rights to copyrighted media, artwork, trailers, metadata, or third-party platform content.
- Third-party platform names such as Plex, Kodi, Jellyfin, and Kaleidescape are the property of their respective owners.
- The customer is responsible for backups of movie libraries, databases, poster folders, configuration files, and license information.
- The publisher is not responsible for network outages, third-party platform changes, customer hardware failures, media library corruption, or customer configuration errors.
- Commercial users are responsible for confirming that their use of movie posters, artwork, media, and public display content complies with applicable licensing and copyright requirements.

Recommended action

Before public commercial use, have the final End User License Agreement, commercial use terms, warranty language, and support policy reviewed by a qualified attorney.

End of User Guide