

Changing your menu board

A small box behind your TV plays your menu. A page on your phone changes it. No laptop, no design software, no calling me and waiting three days.

Put a new menu on the screen

1

Open the update screen on the TV

Pick up the remote and press OK. Some remotes call it Select. Your menu slides off and you get a screen with a QR code, a web address, and a six-digit code.

That screen is the only time the box will take a new menu. Close it and the door shuts. Nobody changes your board from the parking lot.

2

Connect your phone

Point your camera at the QR code and tap the link that pops up. On a computer instead, type the web address off the TV into a browser and punch in the six-digit code.

Your phone has to be on the restaurant's WiFi, the same network the box is on. Cell data won't reach it.

3

Send the new menu

Tap Choose file and pick the picture or video off your phone. If your artwork already lives at a web address, paste the link and tap Fetch instead.

JPG, PNG, HEIC or MP4, up to 200 MB apiece. Photos straight off an iPhone are fine. The box converts HEIC on its own.

4

Look at the TV, then apply

The TV shows the new menu as a preview, full size, exactly the way it'll look to somebody standing at your counter. If it's right, tap Apply on your phone. If it isn't, tap Cancel and nothing moves.

Customers never see the preview. Nothing goes live until you tap Apply, and you can preview as many times as you want.

Uploading several menus at once

Pick more than one file and they all land in your list at once, skipping the preview step. Each one takes its name from the filename, so name them something you'll know later. Lunch.jpg. Dinner.jpg. Happy hour.jpg. This is how you load up a slideshow in one go.

Your menu list

Everything you've uploaded stays in the list on your phone page. Four buttons on each one:

- **Show** puts that menu on the screen right now.
- **Rename** gives it a name that means something to you.
- **Schedule** makes it turn up on its own at set times. More on that below.
- **Delete** gets rid of it. Select all and Delete selected clear out a pile at once.

■ *You can also step through your menus with Up and Down on the TV remote and never get your phone out.*

Running a slideshow

Switch on Rotate through all menus and the screen starts cycling on its own.

- **Seconds per slide** runs from 3 seconds to 2 minutes.
- **Shuffle** plays them in random order instead of list order.
- Videos finish before anything moves on, whatever the timer says.
- One menu in the list means nothing rotates. There's nowhere to rotate to.

Scheduling lunch and dinner

A schedule puts a menu up at the right time of day so nobody has to remember to do it at eleven. Tap Schedule on a menu, set From and Until, tick the days it runs.

- Overnight windows work. 22:00 to 02:00 does what you'd think.
- A scheduled menu owns the screen during its hours, over the top of any slideshow or anything you picked by hand.
- When its window ends it steps back out and your normal menus return.
- Schedules run off the TV box's own clock, which sits at the top of your phone page.

■ *Set two things that disagree and an active schedule wins. Slideshow comes next. Whatever you last picked by hand comes last.*

TVs mounted sideways

Under Display, tell it which way you turned the screen: Landscape, Portrait rotated right, Portrait rotated left, or Upside down. Set it the day the TV goes on the wall and forget about it.

Designing a menu that reads well

The box puts out a normal 1080p television picture. Build your artwork 1920 by 1080 pixels for a screen hung the usual way, or 1080 by 1920 for one turned on its side.

- Big type. Somebody reads this from fifteen feet back, not fifteen inches.
- Six items a screen beats twenty crammed in. Run a slideshow or a second screen if you need the room.
- Light lettering on a dark background is kinder on the eyes in a dim dining room.
- Leave a margin. Some TVs shave the outside edge of the picture off.

Things you don't have to worry about

The internet can go out. Your menu won't.

The screen always plays off the box's own storage. WiFi does one job, and that's carrying a new menu across the room when you send one. Your service goes down at noon on a Saturday and the board never notices.

After a power cut it comes back on its own

Power returns, the box boots, your menu is up. Nobody hunts for a remote or picks an app out of a list.

It restarts itself at 4am

A reboot every night while you're closed is what keeps it steady for months at a stretch. You'll never once see it happen.

When something's off

My phone won't load the page.

Two things to check. Your phone has to be on the restaurant's WiFi rather than cell data. And the update screen has to still be open on the TV, because the box only listens while that screen is up. Press OK on the remote and scan again.

It says my code is wrong.

The six-digit code is brand new every time that screen opens. If your phone page has been sitting there a while, reload it and type in whatever code is on the TV now.

I applied a new menu and the screen didn't change.

A schedule is running. A scheduled menu holds the screen through its hours no matter what else you pick, so look down your list for one whose window covers right now.

The slideshow isn't rotating.

Either Rotate through all menus is switched off, or you've only got the one menu uploaded. Add a second and it starts cycling.

The TV lost its WiFi.

On the update screen, hold OK down for about two seconds. That opens the TV's own Settings so you can rejoin the network. Press Back when you're done and your menu returns.

My picture came out blurry or cropped.

Send the original file rather than a screenshot of it or a photo of a printout, and build at 1920 by 1080. Anything much smaller gets stretched to fill a 1080p screen and goes soft.

Still stuck?

Anything in here that doesn't cover it, call or text me. Two minutes on the phone beats your board sitting on last month's prices.

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