

Dolby Vision: the new video standard on home cinema receivers from Pioneer

Whether sunset, blue sky, autumn leaves or evening shadows, nature offers a huge variety of impressions of colour and brightness that video formats until now have not been able to represent. Dolby Vision closes this gap by enriching the existing HD image standards with colour and light dynamics, which for the first time truly equals the natural model and human perception.

Dolby Vision already supports numerous 2017 model Pioneer home theatre receivers on all HDMI connections: SC-LX502, VSX-LX302, VSX-932 and VSX-832 transmit Dolby Vision signals and metadata in pass-through mode from the player to the display.

This capability will be retrofitted to many 2016 model receivers in the form of a free firmware update in December 2017, these are: SC-LX901, SC-LX801, SC-LX701, SC-LX501, VSX-1131 and VSX-831 receivers.

Why the blue sky has not been so bright in the home theatre until now

The brightness range of even the current video standards used on Blu-ray discs is limited, because they are still based on the display capabilities of classical CRT monitors. Dolby Vision is the first to take full advantage of the dynamics of current and future displays, increasing the reference brightness from the original 100 candelas per square meter to up to 10,000 cd/m². The result is not just a bright picture – that would also be possible without Dolby Vision – but a combination of colour intensity and saturation as it exists quite naturally in nature, but that we could not reproduce until now.

All the colours, all the contrasts, as the director wanted them – guaranteed!

Dolby Vision also gives home theatre users the certainty that they are seeing movies exactly as directors and lighting designers have created them. Several functions interact precisely to achieve this. On the one hand, equalised reference monitors are used for mastering, while all Dolby Vision-certified displays and TVs are calibrated by the manufacturer in cooperation with Dolby technicians on the other. Dynamic metadata in the video signal also transports the settings used from the studio to the living room or home theatre.

The decisive step towards a more natural image

Digital images can be brought closer to reality in three basic ways: with more pixels, faster pixels and better pixels. With 4k and 8k resolution and high frame rates, existing HD standards have already gone down the first two paths. Dolby Vision more consistently takes care of the third leg – better pixels – than previous HDR standards: With a huge range of colour, contrast and brightness, every single pixel takes a decisive step closer to the natural model it is a representation of.