



FREEVIEW RECORDER

Record to the max

Sky+ may have finally met its match

WITH TWIN TUNERS, a 160GB hard disk and a great EPG, could this be the Freeview recorder that helps you forget about Sky+?

The twin tuners mean you can watch one channel while recording another, or alternatively, record two channels at the same time. Like other Freeview boxes, this one supports the seven-day electronic programme guide that makes it easy to schedule recordings. However, the Humax goes one better, because you can type in the name of the programme you want to record and have the PVR search through the EPG data to find when it's on. This method is very fast, and entering the name using the remote is easy, like texting on a mobile phone.

In fact, this box has a whole bundle of useful little tricks up its sleeve. For example, the Ad Skip button enables you to quickly jump forward in either 15-, 30- or 60-second bursts in order to zap your way through an ad break on a recording. What's more, you can also use the editing function to remove ads altogether from recordings. This is particularly handy should you want to back up a movie onto a DVD recorder.

There's also a handy USB port on the front for downloading MP3s and pictures onto the PVR and uploading recorded videos straight to your PC. The only real feature that's missing is the ability to watch the start of a show while the end is still recording, something that many rival products support.

But that's a relatively minor issue on what is in all other respects a fantastic PVR. With its responsive controls, easy-to-use menu system and superb range of features and gadgets, we'd go so far as to say that this is the best Freeview PVR currently available, and the perfect alternative to Sky+. **NM**

HUMAX PVR-9200T £230

www.humaxdigital.com/uk

TECH 160GB hard disk. Twin tuners. 7-day EPG. 2 Scarts. USB port.

LOVE Easy to use. Superb EPG. Plenty of great features.

HATE Doesn't support chase play.



WE SAY This is a top-notch PVR that's easy to use and boasts a whole host of innovative, useful features.

Also consider
The **Apple iPod nano 4GB** is much pricier at **£180**, but you pay for quality.

iRiver's H10 Colour 6GB is **£170**, and for the extra cash you get a colour screen and an FM tuner.



Guide tour

The EPG on the Humax is the best we've seen on a Freeview box. As well as providing the usual daily view, it enables you to search for programmes by name or call up lists of forthcoming entertainment shows, films and sports events.