

LG, Sony, Sky, Virgin & other TVs | Medium | 1 min read

How to use ARC and eARC with a soundbar on your TV

Please note: independent guidance. Vision Tech is not affiliated with the maker. Menus differ between models and software versions, so check the manual or on-screen help.

ARC and eARC let your TV send sound to a soundbar through one HDMI lead. When it is not working, the cause is usually the socket, the lead or a setting. Menu names differ by brand and year.

What it means

ARC stands for Audio Return Channel. It sends the TV's sound out to the soundbar over HDMI. eARC is a newer, better version that carries higher quality sound.

Use the right socket

On the TV, find the HDMI socket labelled **ARC** or **eARC**. Plug the soundbar into that socket. A normal HDMI socket will not work.

Use a suitable lead

Use a good HDMI cable. If eARC is not working, a newer cable labelled High Speed or Ultra High Speed may help.

Turn on the settings

- **LG:** **Settings, All Settings, Sound, Sound Out**, then choose **HDMI ARC** or **eARC** if offered.
- **Sony:** Look under **Settings, Display and Sound** for **Audio output**.
- **Hisense and Panasonic:** Look in the **Sound** menu for the audio output or speaker choice.

Wording varies, so look for any choice that names the soundbar or HDMI.

HDMI-CEC

Many TVs need **HDMI-CEC** switched on so one remote controls both. It has brand names such as **Simplink** on LG and **Control for HDMI** on Sony. Look for it in the settings menus.

Restart the order

1. Switch everything off.
2. Unplug the soundbar for 30 seconds.
3. Switch on the TV, then the soundbar.

When to get more help

Get help if sound is still missing after the steps above, if sound cuts out, or if lip movements do not match the sound.

Still stuck? Email admin@visiontech336.com and tell us what you can see on the screen. Menus and button names can differ slightly between versions and makes. If something does not match, stop and ask rather than guess. Please never send passwords or card details.