1080i

Definition: 1080i represents 1,080 lines of resolution scanned in alternate fields consisting of 540 lines each. 1080i is the most commonly used HDTV format, and has been adopted by most television broadcast, cable, and satellite outlets as their HDTV broadcast standard.

1080p

Definition: 1080p represents 1,080 lines of resolution scanned sequentially. In other words, all lines are scanned in progressively, providing the most detailed high definition video image that is currently available to consumers.

However, since 1080p is not officially part of the FCC's approved HDTV broadcast standards, it is displayed either as a result of video upscaling through a specially modified DVD player, video scaler, or a Blu-ray Disc Player, in combination with a 1080p input capable video display device (such as a Television or Video Projector) OR by on-board video processing within the Display device itself than can upscale all input sources to 1080p.

720p

Definition: 720p represents 720 lines of resolution scanned progressively. A digital TV format that is a part of current HDTV standards. Image detail is at least 30% sharper than 480p. Although 720p is high-definition, it takes up less bandwidth than 1080i.

480p

Definition: 480p represents 480 lines of resolution scanned progressively. 480p is similar to the same resolution of standard broadcast TV (and is referred to as SDTV or Standard Definition Television), but the image is scanned progressively, rather than in alternate fields.

480i

Definition: 480i represents 480 lines of resolution scanned alternately – with all odd lines scanned first, then all even lines. 480i is also commonly referred to as standard video resolution.

Analog Television

Definition: Analog Television refers to a video display device that receives and displays broadcast television signals that are transmitted utilizing technology that is similar to that used in standard radio transmissions. In fact, the video signal of analog television is transmitted in AM, while the audio is transmitted in FM.

Analog TV transmissions are subject to interference, such as ghosting and snow, depending on the distance and geographical location of the TV receiving the signal.

In addition, all analog television signals are transmitted in an interlaced format, in which all the odd lines in the image are transmitted first, then all even lines. These are referred to as fields. Two fields make up one frame of video image.