

Raspberry Pi - VLC auto connect UDP stream

Using a Raspberry Pi as a HDMI QC Video source has never been easier.

See below to configure VLC to auto play a video file or Network stream.

While you should know this already, just in case don't forget to update. Open Terminal.

```
sudo apt update <press enter>
sudo apt upgrade <press enter>
sudo reboot <press enter>
```

Basic: Configure VLC to Auto play a UDP Stream

Open Terminal and run commands:

```
sudo nano /etc/xdg/autostart/display.desktop
{this opens/creates a file in terminal window for editing}
```

Enter the below 3 lines in the file

```
[Desktop Entry]
Name=VlcPlayer
Exec=vlc --fullscreen udp://@239.0.0.xx:2000
```

Press CTRL + O to save the file, and CTRL + X to exit editor.

NOTE: Change the IP address to the multicast IP video feed you want to start on boot.

```
sudo reboot <press enter>
```

If you don't want to use the terminal window edit the file, you can launch mouse pad in Admin mode in the terminal window with this command.

```
sudo mousepad & <press enter>
```

Note turn off the wireless otherwise VLC will might not choose the right interface when you open the stream.

Intermediate: Basic with delay

A Raspberry Pi 5, runs a bit faster than others and it is possible that autostart method above will error. This is because the autostart runs before the network connection is made. Need to add a little delay, the simplest hack to bash script.

```
sudo nano /etc/xdg/autostart/delayvlc.sh
```

Enter the below 3 lines in the file

```
#!/bin/bash
sleep 8
vlc --fullscreen udp://@239.0.0.xx:2000
```

Press CTRL + O to save the file, and CTRL + X to exit editor.

Make the script file executable.

```
sudo chmod +x /etc/xdg/autostart/delayvlc.sh
```

Now update the display.desktop file to

```
sudo nano /etc/xdg/autostart/display.desktop
```

```
[Desktop Entry]
Name=VlcPlayer
Exec=bash /etc/xdg/autostart/delayvlc.sh
```

Press CTRL + O to save the file, and CTRL + X to exit editor.

Production: check and alert

The next logical step is to add watching for the network connection in the script and only starting VLC sudo when it is up.

99% percent of the time the simple sleep method will work fine. Maybe I will make the advance script later.

Configure VLC to Auto play a Video File

Change the Exec line in the display.desktop file you made above to:

```
Exec=vlc --fullscreen /media/usb1/videofile.mp4
```

* This assumes the media is mounted as usb1. The key is you need the fully pathed file name.