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Logitech Harmony 900 Universal Remote Review

By [Dave Rees](#) / January 25, 2010 / [Reviews](#) / [Audio, Video, TV, HDTV, Remote Control](#) / [10 Comments](#)

This past holiday season, my wife and I remodeled our basement putting in a relatively nice media room with fancy in-the-wall speakers, A/V receiver, big LCD TV, Blu-ray player, AppleTV, and Nintendo Wii. All of those components having their own remote which adds up to a fair amount of juggling just to do something as simple as watch TV. Admittedly, some of those remotes have the ability to control other devices but sadly none can control them all. To alleviate this type of hassle, [Logitech](#) has been making universal remotes for a very long time. Logitech has recently released a new high-end device to their line, the [Harmony 900](#) universal remote that allows you to seamlessly control up to 15 devices in one.



Having helped many friends and family members setup their TV/DVR/DVD systems I know there are a lot of folks out there that could bring a bit more Zen to their Tech-World with one of these.



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The whole purpose of the Harmony 900 and other universal remotes like it, is to replace our ever growing mountain of remote controls with a single all-controlling device.



I purchased a Harmony 880, Logitech's former flagship of a few years ago, early last year, however I never really embraced it. I played with it for a couple of weeks, but after several failed attempts at making it work I boxed it up and went back to the quasi-universal remote that came with my Comcast HD DVR. When I found out that I was going to be reviewing the Harmony 900, I decided to dust off my old 880 to see if I could get it fully operational in the interim. I do not remember the details of why I did not continue using the Harmony 880, but after setting it up I could not believe I had not been using it all along.

As you can see from the above picture, the Harmony 900 is a sleek modern version of Harmony's older remotes....very evolutionary. Along with the new look, better button layout, more controls, and more ergonomic feel; the 900 has a high resolution touch screen, backlit buttons, and RF (radio frequency) transmit capability.

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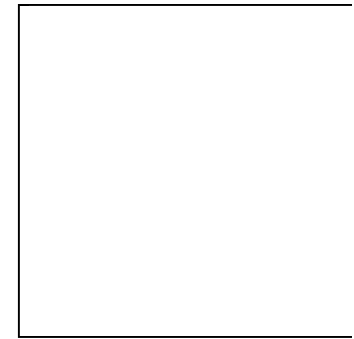


Package Contents:

- Logitech Harmony 900 remote control
- RF receiver
- Charging station
- USB cable
- 4 IR transmitters
- 2 AC adapters
- Lithium-ion battery
- Installation CD
- Installation guide
- Cleaning cloth

Features:

- Includes RF System
- Color Touch Screen
- Ergonomic design
- Sculpted, backlit buttons
- One-touch activity controls
- Replaces up to 15 remotes
- Guided online setup
- Works with 225,000+ devices
- Rechargeable
- 1-year limited hardware warranty



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"Easy, safe travels. Competent drivers. And I've met some of the nicest people while riding." ~ Carolyn

A majority of the Harmony 900 has a high gloss finish with the top black and half the back in light gray. The upper half of the back is a matte black, rubbery material for better grip.



The Harmony 900 has a great ergonomic form-factor, very comfortable to hold and easy to click/reach all of the buttons with your thumb.

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The Harmony 900 has an internal rechargeable battery that charges while in its cradle (charging station). The battery can be removed/replaced if necessary.



The Harmony 900 has a very bright, high resolution screen. It is vibrant, responsive, and relatively large given the limited amount of space available to the Logitech designers. The picture above illustrates just how much better the screen is compared to its predecessor. The two screens on the left are clear and crisp (Harmony 900) where the two on the right are pixelated and bland (Harmony 880).



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