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Z edge dash cam troubleshooting

Glenn Stok is a technical writer with a Master of Science degree. He likes to evaluate products and can clearly explain their properties. The Z-Edge S3 Dash CamPhoto by Glenn StokAccidents is also among the best drivers. Sometimes it just can't be avoided because of the mistakes other drivers make. This is when having a quality video of the event comes in in need for insurance purposes. The car dash cam provides peace of mind to prove who is to blame in the accident. In addition, if you can record video parked, it provides details of what happened while you were away from your vehicle. The Z-Edge S3 does both, and I've found it does its job well. There are two parts of this article below (analysis and guidelines): The first half is my analysis of the S3 Dash Cam system, including answers to questions people ask me. If you are considering buying a dash cam for peace of mind, and you decide on this, my use of the instructions in the second half of this article will come in handy. What features should I look for in dash cam? I feel the best dash cam features are those that provide high quality video in all driving conditions and automatic features that make it easy to use. You'll want to make sure your dash cam includes the following features:1. HD Videos important that the dash cam can capture and clearly display license plates. A high-resolution image is required. The Z-Edge S3 has various HD settings of up to 1440p.2. Low-Light RecordingNighttime rides need to be captured just like in the daytime. The Z-Edge S3 uses WDR technology to provide excellent low-light compensation.3. Motion or impact detectionYou'll want a dash cam that saves and protects video recording in an easy-to-find folder when it detects an accident. During parking, it should also record the impact of another vehicle. Any sudden vibration causes the Z-Edge S3 dash cam to wake up and record what's happening for a few minutes under its own battery power.4 Time and date on Dash Cam VideosThe Z-Edge S3 places the date and time in the lower left corner of the videos. This feature can be turned off, but I recommend keeping it turned on to prove all situations that need to be used for insurance purposes.5 Secure Attachment DesignI likes the fact that the Z-Edge S3 does not use suction suction. Sua carbon suppets have large traces, which are very visible from the outside. In addition, suppets tend to fall off the windshield. The S3 is attached with a small adhesive holder. You can remove the unit from the holder by turning counterclockwise or by swiping to the right. The image below shows how the attachment is ed from the adhesive holder. If you connect it to the left of the rear-view mirror, leave enough space to extrud it to the right. Adhesive attachment holder. Photo by Glenn StokWhat is the best position for Dash on the windshield? I found it better to place the camera as high as possible to avoid detection from outside. The Z-Edge S3 is small enough to mount high behind the rear-view mirror. This location also prevents driver distraction. You don't have to watch it anyway. Some states may have rules against windshield installation, so check local laws before installing. What I found out about the Z-Edge S3 Dash CamSimite for most dash cams, records on the memory card TF / Micro SD flash. When it fills up, it deletes the oldest data to continue recordingThe key feature is that it automatically saves the video when an accident occurs, so you don't lose that important information. I discuss this in detail below under Automatic Video Protection.I once was rear-ended when I needed to stop quickly on the highway. I stopped in time because I kept a lot of distance, but the guy behind me was too close and couldn't stop early enough. I learned from the importance of having a dash cam that records video of what's going on behind you as well as forward. When I tested the front and rear cameras, I found that it covered a wide range that almost completely surrounds the car. The front and rear cameras have wide-angle views of 150°. Photo: Glenn Stok Front camera is 1440p and rear camera is 1080p. This provides enough detail to display license plates when the entire screen is displayed on your computer. I reduced the following sample image to load quickly on your browser, but when I get it on my computer, the license plate is clearly visible. After I noticed that my camera was set too low, and the hood of my car was visible in the pictures, I raised the camera angle to the next notch, and it worked perfectly. A view of the day taken from the dash cam video. Photo: Glenn StokWDR and low light conditions with rear cameraWirodynamic technology (WDR) helps compensate for exposure to light and darkness. I found that it works best when the exposure is left to the default (+0.0)I noticed a problem with the rear camera. It does not have the same low light compensation as the front camera. At night, the back video is somewhat dark. This is really the only problem I have encountered and I think other features more than make up for it. Night view from the dash cam video. Photo: Glenn StokWhat is looping on Dash Cam? The drive will continue recording video even when the memory is full. It's by deleting the oldest video sequence to make room for more. This is known as a loop record. The length of each video sequence can be set to 1, 3, or 5 minutes. I prefer to set 5 minutes because I prefer less individual videos when checking the ride. Of course, individual files can be attached together using a movie editor such as iMovie on Mac.I found that the video overlaps the second or two between is sometimes lost. Automatic video protectionZ-Edge S3 has a G-sensor (accelerometer) that detects an accident caused by vibrations on impact and automatically protects the current video sequence file. It is protected in an emergency folder that is not erased by a routine loop record. Therefore, if a serious condition occurs, the video is saved and later it is easy to find the file. Any movie can also be manually protected and moved to an emergency folder by pressing the menu button during recording. The current sequence will be saved, and the warning icon (an exclamation point in a yellow triangle) will indicate that the file is protected. Video sequences in the emergency folder can only be deleted manually or when memory is reformatted. Motion detectionWhen this function is turned on, the unit stops recording when you are sitting on a red light or at any time when no movement is detected. As soon as movement is detected on the front or rear camera, the recording continues. Although it is a nice feature of the S3, I prefer not to use this option. I decided that because I was hit in the back once while sitting on a red light. If I had a double dash cam at the time that wasn't recorded on the red light, the rear camera wouldn't have seen the zoom and the final impact. The guy who hit me said his breaks failed. Therefore, I prefer to turn off motion detection so that it does not stop when no movement is detected. In this way, you will always catch the approaching problem. Parking mode If parking mode is on, the G-sensor (accelerometer) starts the unit to start recording when vibrations are felt when parking and detects possible handling of the car. I don't consider it a useful feature. A thief can even steal a dash cam. If someone approached the car from the side and tried to break in, they may not capture the image of the person. However, the Z-Edge S3 has such a wide-angle view (150° front and rear total of 300°) that it can actually catch thieves as they approach. This could prove to be a useful feature when parking in a commercial car park, where the dash cam could capture another vehicle crashing into your car. The unit uses its own internal battery when the vehicle is parked and in parking mode because the car power is off. If you are using parking mode for an extended period of time, I would recommend using an external power source such as a portable battery. As you can see, there are many considerations. You have to decide for yourself if you want to use parking mode or not. Functional details of different settings I did a lot of research to determine the exact functioning of each of the following items. This should help clarify the issues that many people have. Motion Detection - The thoughtful purpose of this function is to avoid wasting long periods sitting in traffic or in red light. the front or rear camera does not move and motion detection is turned on, recording stops in 10 seconds. Any movement on the front or rear camera will start recording again. This is useful if you are taken over after being stopped for a while at a red light. He's going to record an oncoming vehicle because he's going to hit you. Motion Detection - OffIt will continue recording even if it stands on a red light when motion detection is disabled. Vehicle power - OffBoth front and rear camera will continue to record for 10 seconds using its own internal battery when motion detection is turned on. It will record for another 90 seconds after the power is turned off if motion detection is disabled. Parking mode - On The dash cam turns on and starts recording when it detects vibrations. This could help catch someone tampering with your car or when another vehicle crashes into your car while parked. As I've talked about before, the 150° wide angle front and rear cameras help capture most of what's going on up to a total of 300° around the car. How to install Dash Cam WireSounal includes a cigarette lighter plug. Most cars reduce power to lighter when the engine is turned off, so the camera turns off automatically. You need to make sure it's the case with your car. Other wires supplied with the dash cam are designed to connect the front and rear cameras. The rear camera is long enough to pass through hidden places and reach the camera in the rear window. There is a tool that pushes the wire into the crevices around the door (see bottom right). If you want, you can install it professionally to firmly repute it in the vehicle fuse box. If you decide to do this, I recommend doing it right by going to your local professional installer. I found out that the Best Buy geek squad would make it about \$50. They will also run a cable on the rear camera for about \$130. It is hard work to do a well-concealed cable in weather strips and floor runners. From left to right: cigarette lighter plug, Micro-USB cable, front vacle cable, rear vacle cable, wire installation tool. Photo: Glenn StokDetailed Instructions for useMi a small guide, which is part of the unit, is difficult to follow. I had to spend some time experimenting with all the features to learn how to use it. Therefore, I have written the following step-by-step instructions to help you become much more useful. When you buy a Z-Edge S3 Dash Cam, go back to this article and follow this guide. Automatic on/off There is no need to turn the device on and off. It automatically turns on and starts recording when the car starts and the power is applied to the cigarette lighter plug. When the car is turned off, the unit completes and saves the current recording sequence using its own battery power. (Recording sequences are 1, 3, or 5 minutes in length, depending on the settings you have chosen). Unit also turn on or off manually by pressing and holding the medium power button for three seconds. Settings MenuThe first time you start your Z-Edge S3, go through all menu settings and feature settings and adjust them to your preferences. When I did this, it helped me figure out what options were available. Some things were not understood when I first went through the menu, so I left it by default. You can always come back later and experiment with different settings like I did. Enter the menu:Stop recording by pressing OK. See picture below. Press the menu button (left button) for Menu Settings. Press the menu button for the Feature Settings menu again. Select any item on any menu you want to change, and then press OK. Press the menu button again to return to normal recording mode. Menu settings (Screen 1 of 5)Photos Glenn StokSettings Menu DescriptionsMenu ItemDescriptionResolutionSample pixels size and frames per second that you want to use. The best is 2560p from 1440p at 30 fps.. Screen Display Front, Rear, PIPLoop Recording1, 3 or 5 minutesAudio Record On/OffExposureSet the exposure level. I find that the high environment is too sensitive when the sun sets in the evening and you go west. It is best to leave it to the default settings. Date stamp on/offlanguage English is the default. Date and time You must set once the first time you use it. On/off tone on/off off button Off Select 1, 3 or 5 minutes or choose Off for none. It turns off as well when the car is turned off and the power is removed from the cigarette lighter plug. LCD Auto Off Select 1 or 3 minutes or choose Off for always on. I suggest 1 minute because the driver shouldn't be looking at it anyway. WDROn/OffAnti-Flicker Settings Select 50 Hz or 60 Hz to match your computer monitor. Memory card format: This data will be erased. Do this for the first time and if you ever have file corruption caused by your computer. Format formatting alerts or Off. It's good to reformat every few months. However, a reminder pop-up prompt causes the camera to stop recording. Restore the default settings if you ever need to start over. VersionDisplay software version number. Setting menumenu ItemDescriptionDrive Warning time 1 hour, 2 hours, 4 hours or NeverLow Light Warning On / OffMotion Detection On / Off - See details earlier in this article. On/off parking mode - See details earlier in this article. G-Sensor sensitivity Set the accelerometer to low, normal, or high sensitivity. Set Off to ignore vibrations. Function settings menu (screen 1 of 2) Glenn Stok PhotosHow to take still images of the Z-Edge S3 can be used to take individual This is useful if you have had an accident and want to post detailed photos of the damage. Just remove the bag from the holder. Its own battery allows you to take pictures. To take pictures:Pause slides:Pause recording by pressing OK. Press the up arrow button to enter photo capture mode. Press the up arrow button again to hold the joints. Video playback modeYou can view videos directly on screen 2.4, but I recommend copying files to your computer so you can watch them on a larger monitor. The details will, of course, be much better. However, if you want to view video segments on camera, here's how: Pause recording mode by pressing OK. Then press the down arrow twice to go into playback mode And select the file folder you want to check: Normal Files, Safe Files, or Photos. Press OK. Select the video or photo you want to see using the up and down arrows, and then press OK. To play a video or view a photo, press the up arrow or the down arrow for more. The deletion will be confirmed Yes or Cancel. Press the Menu button to return to the previous menu. Computer connectionAll can be copied to your computer without removing the Micro SD card. Just connect the Micro-USB cable that is included with the drive. That's the shorter one. The long cable is designed to connect the power supply of the unit from a cigarette lighter, and this cable will not work for transferring files to your computer. When you connect the drive to a USB port, the contents of the memory card appear on your computer as if it were a disk drive. This works on a Windows or Mac computer. You'll see three folders that contain files for normal video, emergency video, and images. You can play videos and view images directly from memory, or you can copy them to your computer as you would any file. You can safely remove them from your computer. However, if you try to delete a video that was stored in an emergency folder, you'll see a warning. You can bypass this warning and remove it with an extra click when it asks if you want to delete it as well. Be sure to click on the computer option to pull out the flash memory before disconnecting the USB connection. If you skip this step after deleting files, the micro-SD may be corrupted and you must reformat it. Alternative for Dash Cam: Home Security MonitoringPo I started using this Dash Cam in the car, I experimented with using it as a home security monitor. I plugged the power cord into the standard 5-volt USB connector and set it to follow my front door. I put the rear camera in the living room. It's great for that, too, because its motion detector activates. This can help with reporting thieves to the police in the event of a break-in. A small size can easily be hidden in a library or shelf. I decided to buy a second one so I can leave one permanently in the car while my home is safely protected as well. & Questions AnswersQues question: On the Z-Edge S3 Dual Dashcam, which of the three cables is the right one for the front camera? Answer: Both shorter cables with the front camera. The longer cable is designed for the rear camera. I tested a drive with a short cable that is really designed to connect to your computer to get videos. It works just as well, but too short to be hid. The medium-length cable is the one that is used when you want to run it under the dashboard, around the side and up to where you installed the cam. Q: I can't find my short USB cable, can a long USB cable be used in its place? A: The long USB cable is used for the rear camera and has a different plug than the 5V power cable. Therefore, it will not work as a replacement for the shorter power cord. There is also a very short USB cable to connect to your computer. If it's the one you're referring to, you can use any standard USB cable to replace it if the plug is the same. The power cord for the car can be used to connect to the computer, because this is the standard. Q: What is the driving time warning like on the Z-Edge S3 Dash Cam? A: A driving time warning is a beep that alerts you when you need a break from driving too long. It can be set to 1-3 hours, or never if necessary. It can be very useful for drivers of long-distance trucks or for anyone on a long journey. A tired driver can be a dangerous driver.© 2017 Glenn StokCommentsGlenn Stok (author) of Long Island, N.Y. October 25, 2019: Carmen Banks – Bring a damaged cable to your local Best Buy and see if they have a replacement or if their Geek Squad can plug in a new USB connector at the end. Carmen Banks, October 25, 2019:My USB cable for the rear camera fell apart after a bag of deer com fell on it and ripped it out of the camera. What can I buy as a replacement for a long cable for the rear camera for the S3? Glenn Stok (author) of Long Island, N.Y. June 10, 2019: Donna Gillespie – This warning pops up when you click on the option to format the memory chip. You must select this option by mistake and it is still waiting for you to exterminate or cancel it. Donna Gillespie June 10, 2019: Hi Glenn, My Z Edge worked great for about 4 months, but now shows formatting erases all data every time I turn on the car. Not sure what might be wrong??? Any ideas? Donna Gillespie on April 07, 2019: Thanks a lot Glenn.Glenn Stok (author) from Long Island, N.Y. on January 28, 2019: Donna Gillespie – You Can Leave It a Noose. You do not need to format the memory card unless it is damaged by misuse when accessing it on your computer. Donna Gillespie on January 27, 2019:Love my Dash Cam. I use a 128 GB memory card. Do I have to format it every month? or just leave a loop record? Glenn Stok (author) of Long Island, N.Y. on July 26, 2018: Paul Wakeford – I've never had this problem alone. Did you use the memory on any other device? I suspect you need to format Z3 to make sure it is formatted correctly. You can also you resisted the temptation to reset the drive. I suggest you do it. And then format the memory, respectively. Paul Wakeford on July 26, 2018: Great article Glenn, thank you very much. I installed the Z3 dual without any problems and everything seemed good until I tried to enter the menu. According to your instructions: Ok then the menu worked once. I was able to date the time and several settings. When I tried to finish later nothing worked or OK did not hit the red pin llight. I tried several more times with the same result - nothing. I resisted the temptation to press the reset button.the only thing that occurred when I tried to get the menu settings was a message for formatting the card. the only escape was to accept. the same after they do so. Any suggestions, Kind of goes, Paul W W

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