

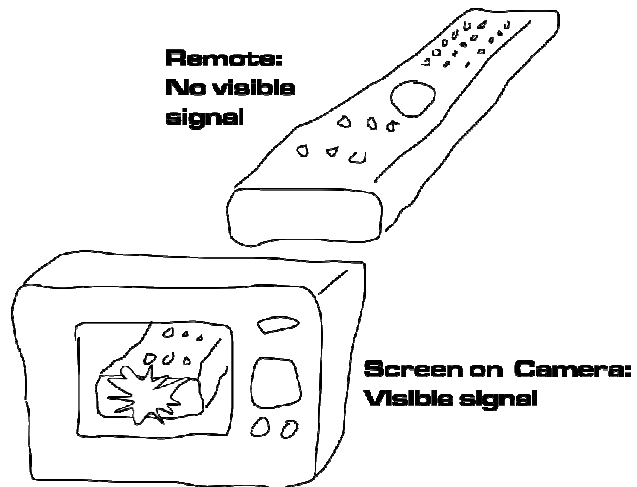
*From the desk of Corky Mork,
Audioplex Tech Support*

How to see Infrared, *or The Digital Camera Trick*

If you have an IR repeating system that doesn't work, it's hard to tell where the problem is because you can't see if the IR emitters are, well, emitting. You would have a better idea where the problem is if you could see infrared. Well you can.

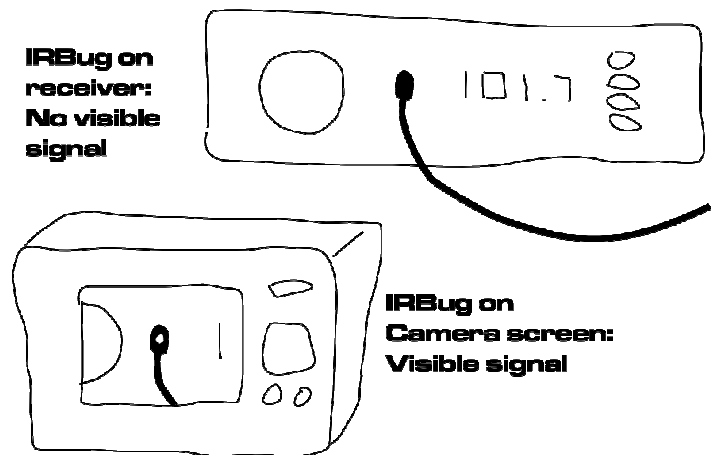
The trick is that almost all digital cameras (phone cameras included) can see IR.

Try this: Turn on your camera as though you're going to take a picture (but you won't). While watching the camera's screen, point any IR remote into the lens and press buttons on the remote. You'll see (on the screen) a bright flashing coming from the remote, but you won't be able to see it without the camera. This is the IR signal from the remote, made visible with the camera.



In the same way, you can look at the emitters in an IR repeating system to see whether they're flashing (most emitters emit out the back side as well as the sticky side).

Look at your emitters while someone is shooting a remote at the target which is connected to the emitters. It won't be as bright as looking at the remote, but if you see any blinking, it's probably OK.



So if you DO see blinking, the emitter may not be placed on the device properly, or in some cases may be too strong for that component. If there's NO blinking, you may have a bad emitter, wiring, or target.