

Android Remote Driver Installation and Usage Guide



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chowmainsoft

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Overview

The Chowmain Android TV Driver for Control4 delivers seamless IP control of a wide range of Android TV based streaming devices including Google Streamer, Chromecast with Google TV, Nvidia Shield, Xiaomi Mi Box, DirecTV Stream Device, AirTV, Sky Pod (New Zealand) and many more. This is a software only solution with no additional hardware required, allowing full navigation of the Android TV interface using the Control4 Halo and SR-260 remotes. No rooting or system modification is required.

The driver supports direct app launching through the Apps driver, dedicated mini app drivers for popular services, coloured button shortcuts, and full programmatic control for automation sequences.

Integration is enabled via the Zank Remote application, available on the [Google Play Store](#). Chowmain works directly with the Zank development team to ensure ongoing compatibility, performance, and feature expansion as part of the integration ecosystem.

Features

- Compatible Devices
 - Android TV devices
 - AirTV
 - Chromecast with Google TV
 - Google Streamer
 - DirecTV Stream Device
 - Nvidia Shield
 - Xiaomi MiBox
 - Sky Pod (New Zealand)
 - Other Google / **Android TV** set top box devices. Note it will not work with displays / projectors running Android TV OS as it cannot power the device on/off nor can it switch inputs.
- IP Based communications
- Auto Discovery of Box
- Mappings
 - Up
 - Down
 - Left
 - Right
 - Select
 - Cancel
 - Page Up
 - Page Down
 - Menu (Home)
 - Volume Up
 - Volume Down
- List installed apps and launch applications from navigator
- Launch applications from coloured buttons
- Launch applications via programming
- Launch Youtube video via programming
- Audio End-Point assignment for volume up and down functionality
- Video End-Point assignment

Change Log

Version 20260311 - 11-MAR-2026

- Added action to clear button mapping to launch apps.
- Renamed Chromecast with Google TV to Google Streamer

Version 20251212 - 12-DEC-2025

- Resolved issue effecting power on command being issued when selected in a distributed video solution multiple times.
- Resolve intermittent issue where some controllers may no longer be able to connect to Android TV (All Media Players)

Version #20251211 - 11-DEC-2025

- Dropped support for Amazon Fire TV due to new hardware changes as well as increased security on existing hardware.
- Zank added new API for faster keycodes for ADB based commands.
- Added ability to launch a specific youtube video via programming command
- Added additional mini apps - Steam Link, Stremio
- Improvements to mini app launching

Version 20250630 - 30-JUN-2025

- Revert Channel Up / Down button selection buttons to original behaviour. An issue with halo's has been identified causing a "There's no response to this request" error. This will require a controller reboot to take place (All Media Players)

Version 20250623 - 23-JUN-2025

- Improve Reliability of connection to Android TV devices when Auto Discover is enabled (All)
- Resolve issue with Auto Discovery Properties not showing in some cases (All)
- Improve Handling of Discovery and IP Changes (All)
- Improve Troubleshooting and Diagnostics (All)
- Maintenance Code fixes (All)
- Display Channel and Page buttons in Tablet/phone UI (All Media Players)
- Resolve issues with Discovery not operating correctly (All Media Players)
- Add additional troubleshooting information to the driver (All Media Players)
- Display Related Diagnostics is added (All Media Players)

Version 20241211 - 11-DEC-2024

- This version is now compatible with Control4 X4 (All)

- Rewrite Communications for the following benefits: (All)
 - This resolves intermittent issues some people may have encountered where discovery may have failed
 - Improved performance/responsiveness
 - Full X4 Compatibility
- Remove the remainder of the DriverCentral Code. Minor Performance/network usage improvement (All)
- Fix Halo Support for Apps

Version 20240930 - 30-SEP-2024

- Improve Licencing

Version 20240813 - 13-AUG-2024

- Support for Chowmain Licencing
- Improved Troubleshooting
- Performance Improvements
- Fix Minor Driver Anomaly sometimes experienced on First Time load

Version 20231101 - 1-NOV-2023

- Added Sky Pod driver for New Zealand

Version 20231002 - 02-OCT-2023

- Updated documentation

Version 20221130 - 30-NOV-2022

- Update Debugging and Diagnostics
- Improve Page Up / Page Down Control (All Media Players)
- Improve Documentation

Version 20210726 – 26-JUL-2021

- Changed Zank Default (Advanced) to the default control method. Zank default (Advanced) is a new extremely fast control method that supports pretty much all apps and is speedy!
- Added Stop command option between media stop and back.
- Added Fire Tv driver now that Zank supports fire tv.

Version 20210218 – 18-FEB-2020

- Fixed issue introduced in yesterdays version for the select / enter button

Version 20210217 – 17-FEB-2020

- Fixed issue with mini app launching (timing on certain directors weren't right)
- Implemented menu command. Mapped to input. This is the same as a long press on the center.
- Added Foxtel Now as a supported box

Version 20210211 – 11-FEB-2020

- Implemented ADB based control option.

Version 20210203 – 03-FEB-2020

- Implemented skip_fwd, skip_rev, play/pause commands

Version 20210114 – 14-JAN-2020

- Rewrite of driver. Now uses Zank Remote instead of LANmote

Version 20170710 – 10-JUL-2017

- Migrated to driverCentral.

Version 20161027 - 27-OCT-2016

- Updated to support newer LANmote Deluxe updates

Version 20160926 - 26-SEP-2016

- Major Update.
- Added support for new Chowmain Android Mini drivers.
- Added MSP to list and launch all apps installed on the android box.

Version 20150818 - 18-AUG-2015

- Implemented Dealer Demo Licencing

Version 20150407 - 07-APR-2015

- Resolved issue where logs on 2.6 systems would fill out controller storage causing system stability issues. This only affects systems where people have set the debug logs to 'print and log' or 'log' and have forgotten about it over longer periods of time.

Version 20141201- 01-DEC-2014

- Initial Release

Install and Configure Device

Background

This driver utilises the **Zank Remote - Remote for Android TV Box** to control the Google TV / Android TV device (Nvidia Shield, MiBox etc)

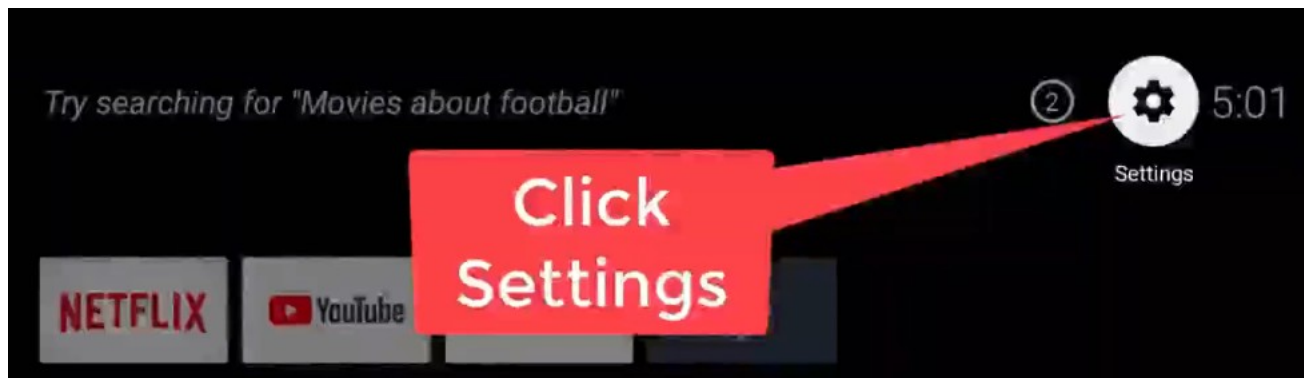
All communication between this driver and the Android device is done via this app.

Prepare the Android TV device

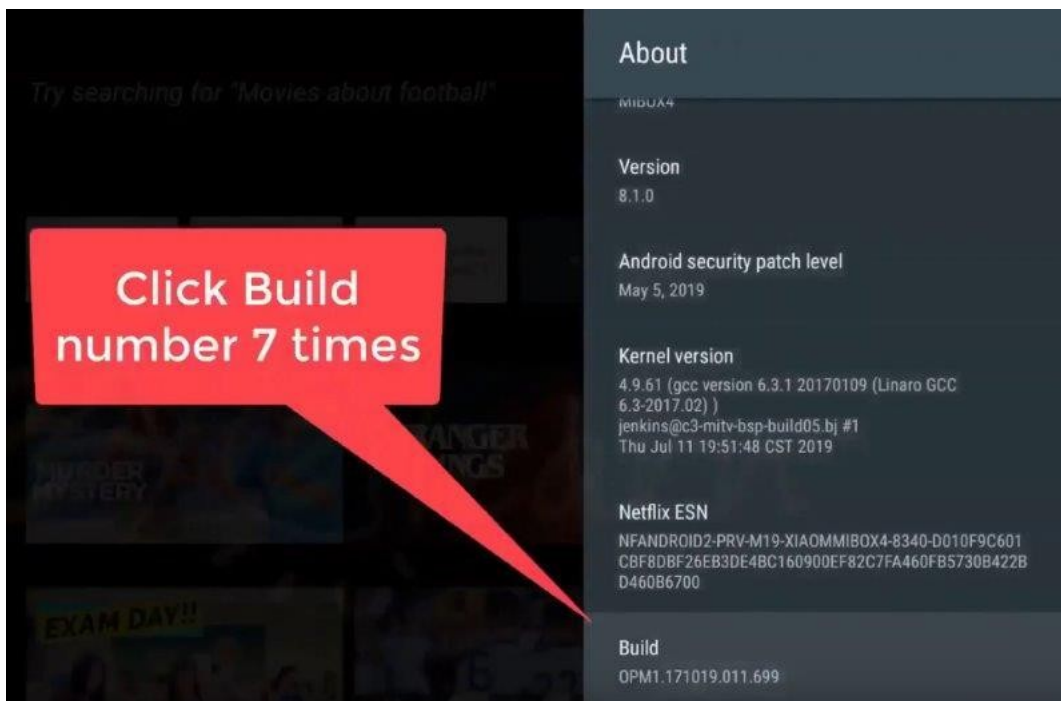
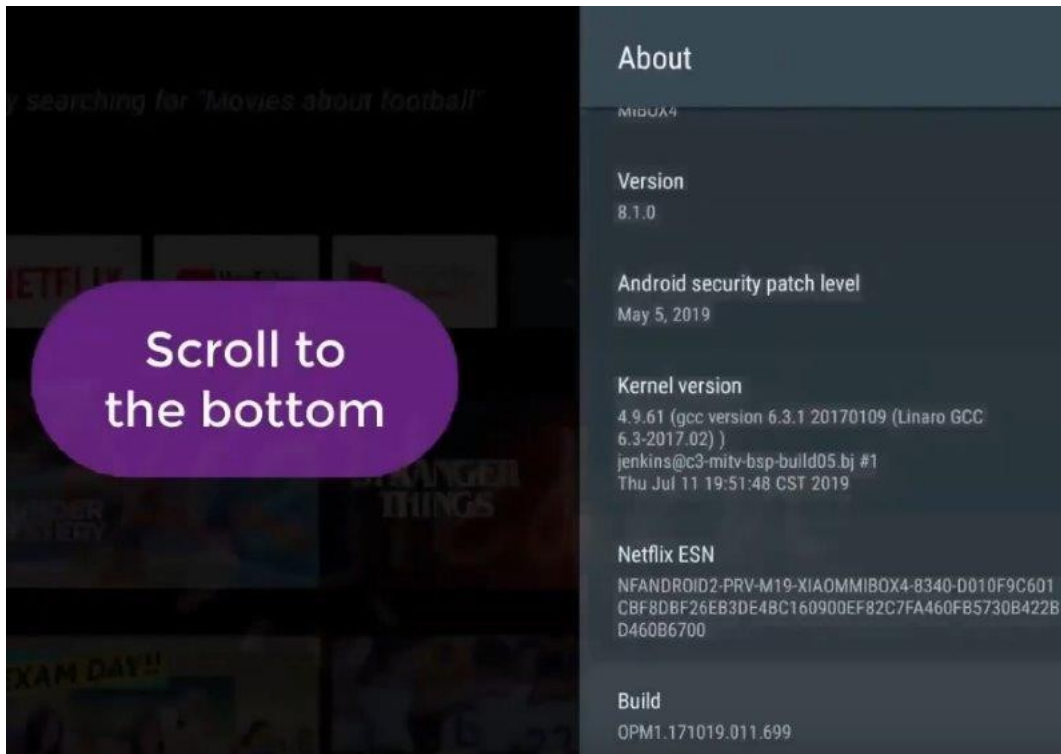
The Zank Remote requires the following settings to be enabled to function properly

Developer Mode

1. From the Home screen, select **Settings >Device Preferences > About**



2. Now scroll down to **Build** and click on Build several (7x as of writing this manual) times until the message appears, "You are now a developer!"

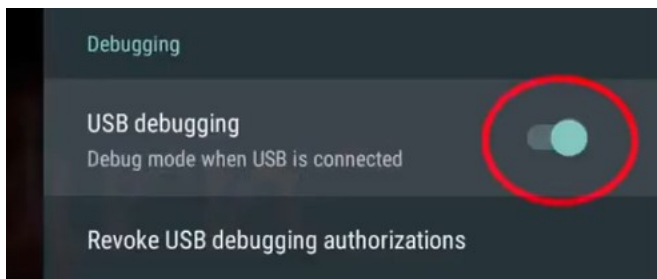
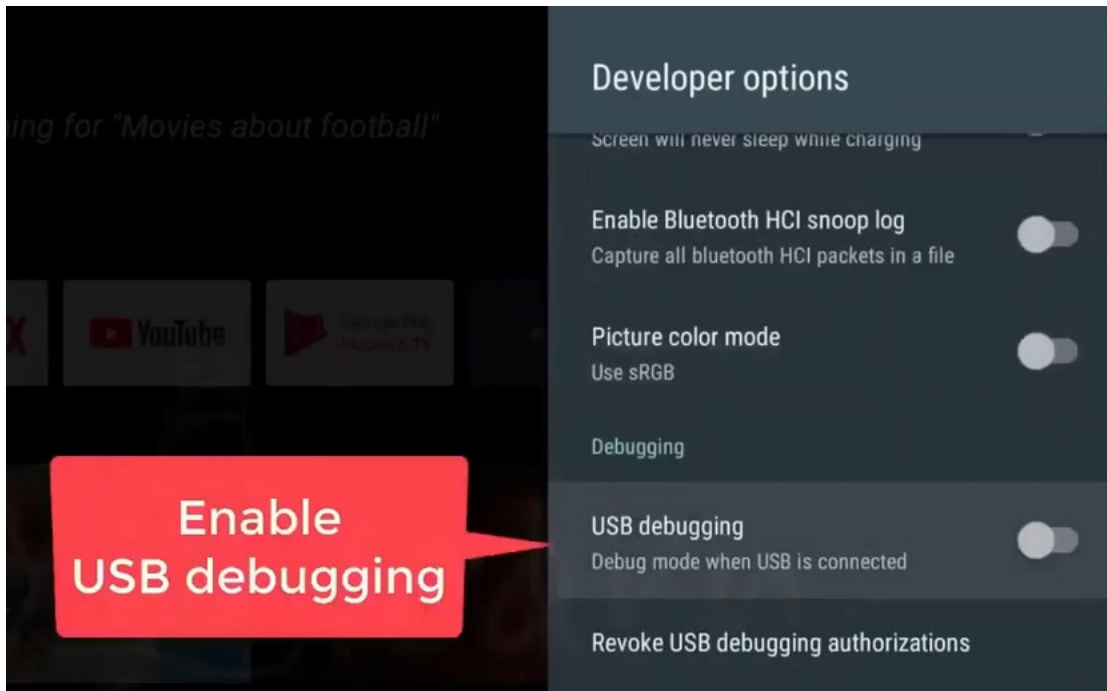


Note developer mode may not be accessible easily on certain devices. In such a case you can utilise 3rd party programs to access developer tools.

Eg (Developer Tools)[https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.roysolberg.android.developertools&hl=en_AU]

USB Debugging

1. From the Home screen select **Settings > Device Preferences > Developer Options > USB Debugging** and select **OK**



Install the Zank Remote app

Android TV

Search for and install **Zank Remote** in the **Play Store** on the **Android TV** device

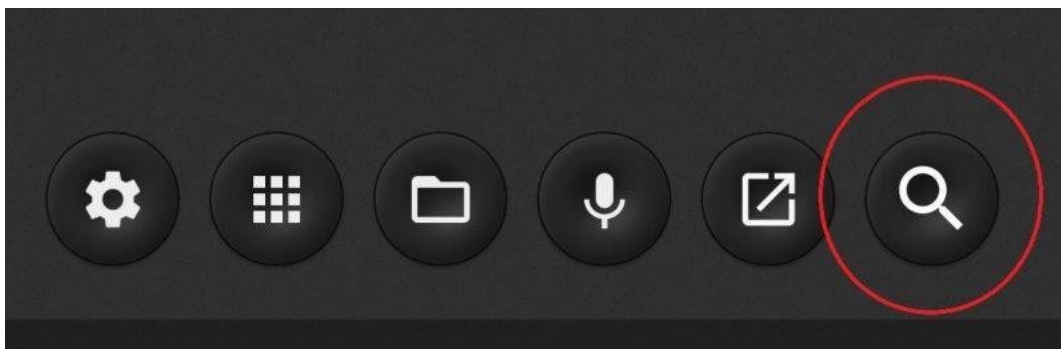
1. Start the app
2. Tick **Always allow from this computer** and select **OK**



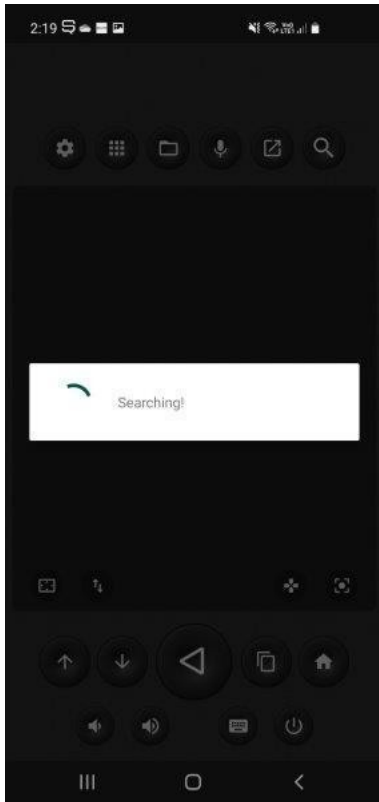
3. Take note of the IP address displayed on your TV. This is what you enter into the drive

Android Portable Device

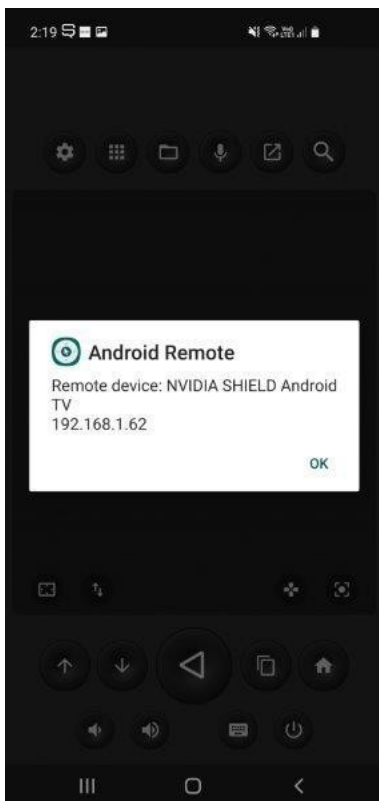
1. Search for and install **Zank Remote** in the **Play Store** on your **portable** device
2. Open the App and press the **Search** button



3. The app will search your network for the Android TV running the Zank Remote app



4. The app will display the device it has found and the IP address



5. Now confirm that you can control the Android TV with your mobile device

Note The developer's installation video is located here; <https://youtu.be/CV0ed7mSEPw>

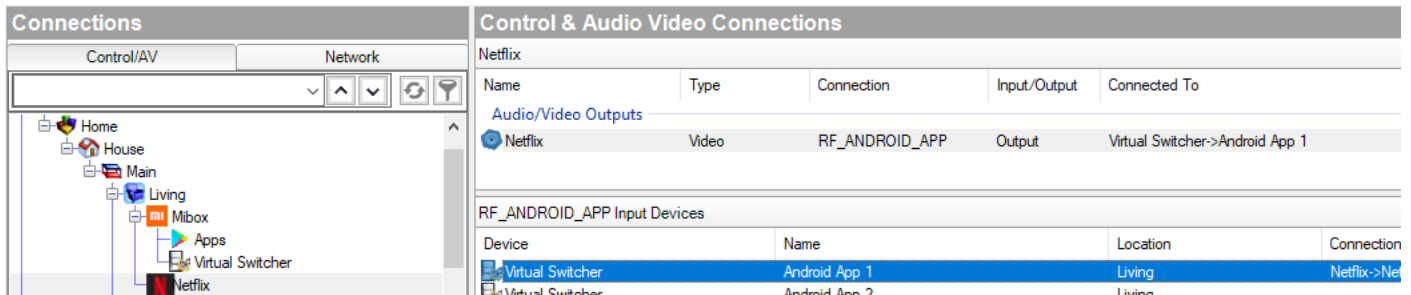
Install the Driver

NOTE: You must complete the steps above before proceeding with the driver install

1. Launch **Composer Pro** and connect to your project
2. In **System Design** select the **Search** tab on the right hand side
3. Type in your media player name (eg: **Chromecast with Google TV**) in the search field
4. Select the result with **(Zank)** in the name and add it to your project
5. Highlight the driver on the left hand side
6. The driver should automatically detect the Android TV device running Zank Remote and configure itself appropriately. *If you have multiple devices running Zank Remote, please set the IP address manually*
7. Select **Zank ADB** under Control Method on the **Properties** tab
8. You can confirm that the driver is connected by going to **Actions > Print Apps** and confirming that the Lua tab has a list of all the installed apps on the Android TV
9. You have now completed the driver installation

Setting up Miniapps

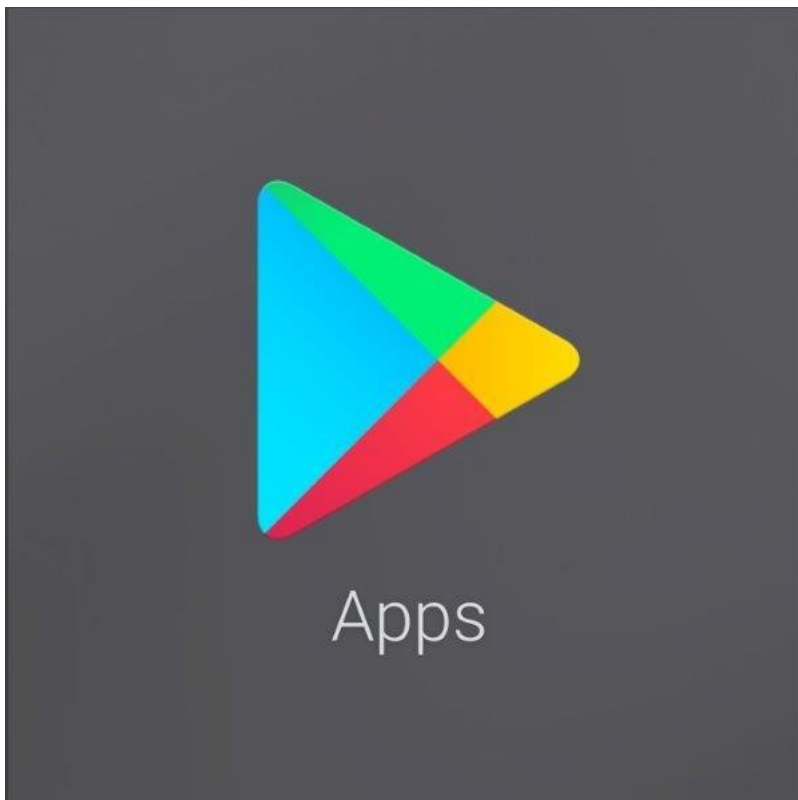
1. Launch **Composer Pro**
2. In **System Design** search for the required miniapp (**Netflix - Zank** for example) and add it to your project
3. In **Connections** select the miniapp you've just added and bind it to any of the **Virtual Switcher** inputs that you added for this driver



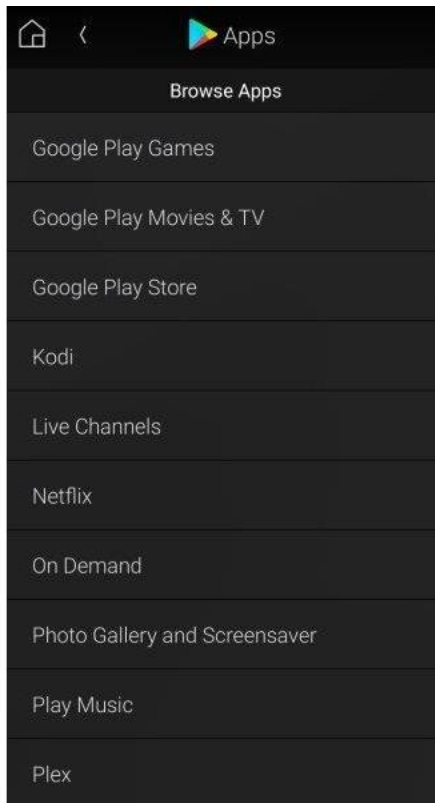
4. Refresh Navigators and you will now be able to launch Netflix directly from Control4

Play Integration

This driver adds a shortcut to all the apps installed on the Android TV device to the Watch experience menu;



This is a dynamically generated list of apps that are available on the Android TV



Keymap

Control4	Android TV
Up	Navigate Up
Down	Navigate Down
Left	Navigate Left
Right	Navigate Right
Select	Center Button
Play	Play / Pause
Pause	Play / Pause
Cancel	Back
Menu	Home Screen
Guide	Home Screen
Skip Forward	Next
Skip Previous	Previous
Scan Reverse	Rewind
Scan Forward	Fast Forward
Stop	Stop (doesn't work on all apps)
Page Up	Page Up on Selected Panel
Page Down	Page Down on Selected Panel
Channel Up	Page Up on Selected Panel
Channel Down	Page Down on Selected Panel
Volume Up	Volume Up (need to set to audio endpoint)
Volume Down	Volume Down (need to set to audio endpoint)

Licensing

Marketplace

To Purchase drivers

Chowmain Drivers are only available to authorized dealers. Integrators can sign up to a Chowmain account via the [Chowmain Website](#). Authorization of dealers can take up to 48 hours; however, you can trial the drivers without an account.

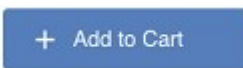
1. Navigate to the login page of Chowmain website: [Chowmain - Login](#)
2. Sign in using credentials provided after sign up request approval
3. Ensure you are logged into the website using website's header: registration and sign up buttons are replaced with cart icon and user icon



4. Navigate to the drivers page: [Chowmain - Drivers](#)
5. Alternatively, you can use the global search input in the header to find the driver



6. Search for and locate the driver you are interested. Click *Add To Cart*



7. Once you have added all drivers to your cart, navigate to the shopping cart: [Chowmain - Cart](#)
8. Click *Checkout & Pay*. Follow the directions



9. Purchase confirmation will be sent to your email, all orders can be viewed in the [Chowmain - Orders](#)
10. Once the payment is processed, the driver will be available in your account: [Chowmain - My Drivers](#)

Create Chowmain Project and obtain Project Code

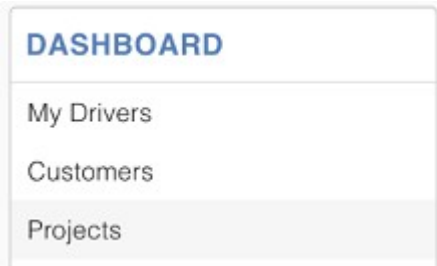
Note:

- Showroom Projects contain all drivers of its Control System
- Paid licenses cannot be assigned to Showroom Projects
- Only 1 Project is required per home
- If the Project has already been created, do not create a second one
- If controller already has a Project code created by another installer, please contact the original installer for access. If the original installer is unavailable, contact [Chowmain - Support](#)

- If the controller has been replaced and the license needs to be transferred to a new controller you can do so yourself via the website

1. Ensure you are signed into the [Chowmain Website](#)

2. Navigate to [Dashboard => Projects](#)



3. Click *Create Project*:



4. Complete the details for the Project (*Project Name, Customer Name, Control System*)

5. Upon completion, take note of the **Project Code**. This is required to link the Control System to the newly created project

To Assign purchased drivers to Project

NOTE: Driver must already be purchased and a Project Code must be created as per above 'Create Chowmain Project and obtain Project Code' section

1. Navigate to [Chowmain Software - Projects](#). Click the *Project Name* you wish to assign the driver to

Project Name	Project Code	Licensed	Showroom	Platforms ↑
⋮	XXXXXX	0	✓	
⋮	XXXXXX	0	✗	

Rows per page: 15 ▾ 1-2 of 2 < >

2. Click the *Add License(s)*:

Add License(s)

3. Select Drivers you wish to assign to the project, and click *Add Selected Drivers*:

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Add Drivers to Project". At the top, there is a close button (X) and the title. Below the title, the project information is displayed: "Project #XXXXXX:" and "Project Name Example". A list of five drivers is shown, each with a checkbox and the text "1 available". The first two checkboxes are checked, while the others are unchecked. At the bottom right of the dialog is a blue button labeled "Add Selected Drivers".

4. Alternatively you can add in drivers via the [Chowmain - Drivers](#)

5. The driver will be added to the project with the license status *Licensed*

Driver Name	Version	License	Health	Autoupdate	Logging Approved	Log Level
<input type="checkbox"/> ▾		licensed	-	false	-	-
<input type="checkbox"/> ▾		licensed	-	false	-	-

Control4

To Download and install Chowmain drivers:

NOTE: Licensed Chowmain drivers come with a complimentary 90-day trial period. To license the driver, installation of the Chowmain Project Agent is required. The Project Agent is also required for automatic driver updates. Throughout the 90-day trial period, Chowmain Drivers operate without any limitations. After this period, the driver will be disabled unless properly licensed.

All Chowmain Licensed drivers require a minimum of OS 3.1.3 to operate correctly unless specified.

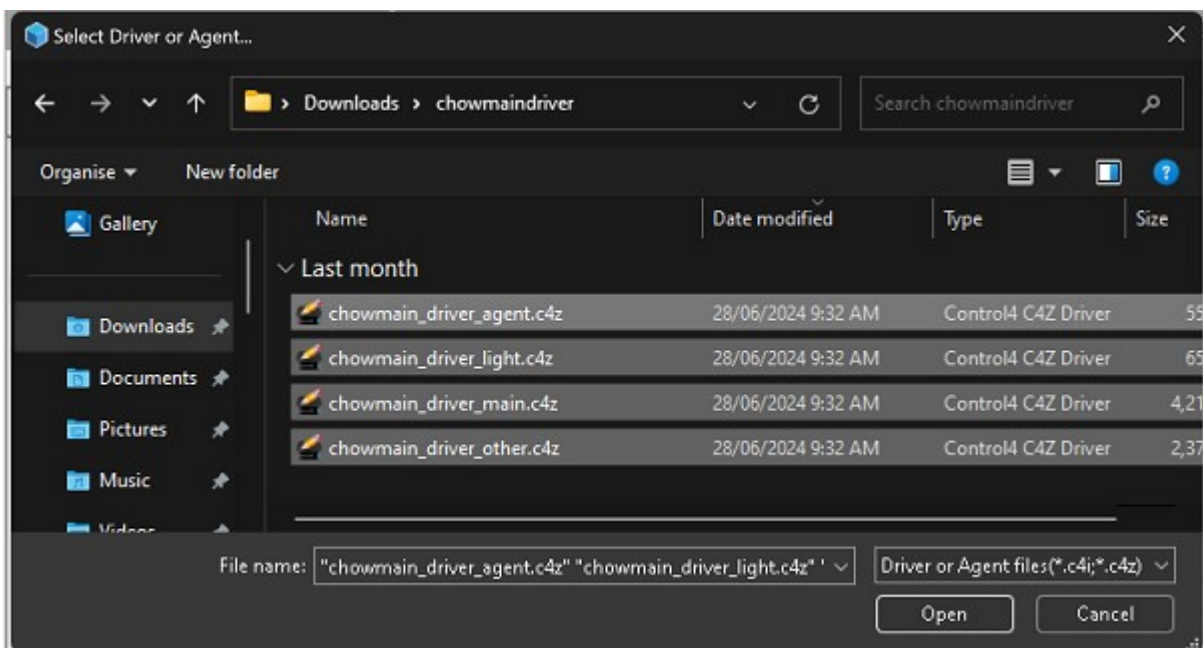
1. Visit: <https://chowmain.software>
2. Search and locate your driver, and click into the details by clicking the picture or heading.
3. Select Download. And extract the contents of the downloaded Zip file to a temporary directory



4. **Please note: For many drivers, it is no longer recommended to copy the contents of most modern drivers directly to your Control4/drivers directory.** The recommended method of updating drivers or installing drivers is in Composer Pro, navigate to the Driver=>Add Or Update Driver Or Agent menu item.



5. Locate the temporary directory containing your C4Z files. You can select and install/update all drivers simultaneously by selecting one and using Ctrl+A. Alternatively, click the top driver+shift+click the bottom. Click the open button. You will be alerted when drivers are installed



6. Install drivers as per normal. Please note, some drivers may be agents, and you must use the Agents tab in Control4 to install the driver. Composer Express does not support Agents, and Composer pro is recommended for all installers.

Install Chowmain Agent

Installation of the Chowmain Agent is required to licence drivers

1. Download Chowmain Project Agent From the [Chowmain Project Agent Page](#)
2. Open Project In Composer Pro. Composer Express does not Support Agents and cannot be used
3. Navigate to the *Driver=>Add Or Update Driver Or Agent* menu item



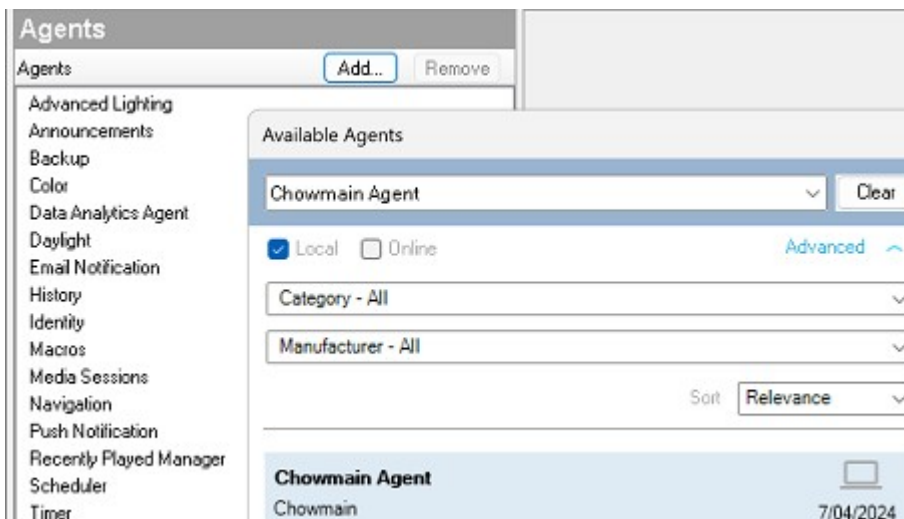
4. Add the *agent_chowmain.c4z* file



5. Navigate to the Agents View in Composer Pro



6. If *Chowmain Agent* is not already added to project, select the *Add* button in Agents and add the *Chowmain Agent* to Project

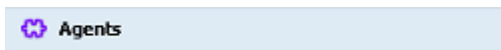


7. *Chowmain Agent* should be listed in the project.



Link Project Code to Control4 Project

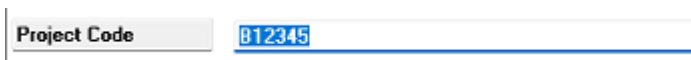
1. Ensure *Chowmain Agent* is installed on primary Control4 Controller. If not, follow the previous information
2. Navigate to the Agents View in Composer Pro



3. Select *Chowmain Agent* in the project



4. Enter the Project Code into the Project Code Property. You would have previously set this up on the *Chowmain* website as outlined in the Website portion of this document. If you have not set up a project you can do so via the [Chowmainsoft - Projects](#) webpage.



5. The status property will provide feedback on driver licencing status



6. **Please note:** If project code has been used previously on another controller you can revoke the licence for use again.

LICENCING FAQ

What are the Requirements for Chowmain licencing?

- Driver trials do not require Agent to be installed.
- To activate licenced drivers, *Chowmain Project Agent* must be installed.
- Composer Pro 3.1.3 or later is required to install and configure *Chowmain Project Agent*
- Internet is required during the licence registration process.
- If Internet is lost then the licence will persist the last state.
- If the *Chowmain Project Agent* is removed then licencing will be invalidated. Do not remove the *Chowmain Project Agent* once installed.

How do I know if the deployed driver is using Chowmain Licencing?

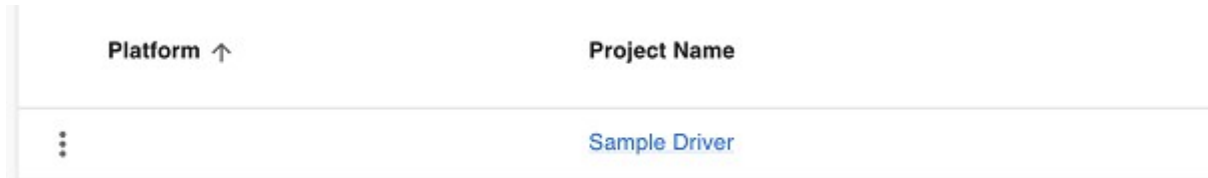
- There are multiple ways:

1. Chowmain licensed drivers have CM: in their cloud status property

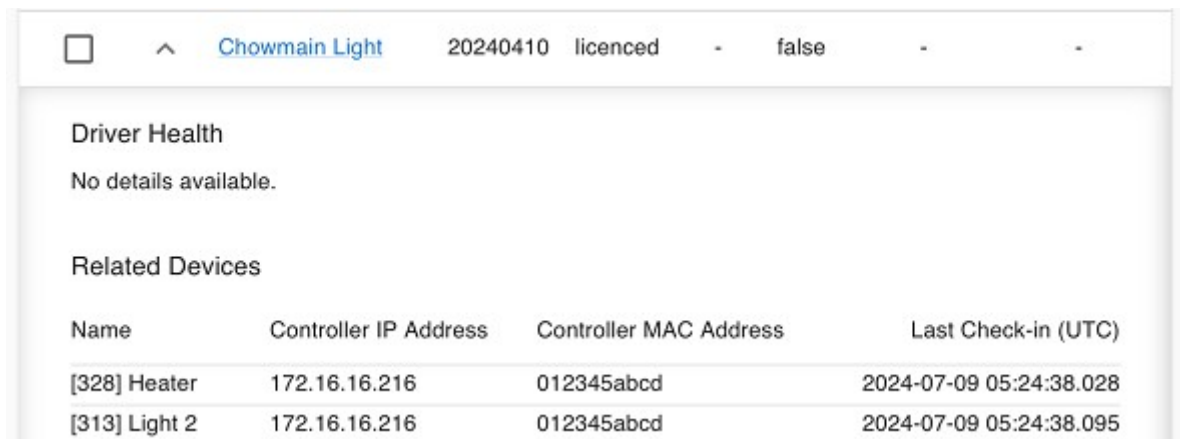


2. If the *Project Code* has been correctly entered in Chowmain Project Agent and the project is registered, you can find the list of Chowmain-licensed drivers deployed on your controller using the Chowmain website.

1. Navigate to [Chowmainsoft Website - Projects](#)
2. Select your Project Code



3. Known Chowmain Drivers will be listed, and if you select the driver, it will list which drivers in the project are known to be CM Licenced. Please note, this list may not update immediately



Name	Controller IP Address	Controller MAC Address	Last Check-in (UTC)
[328] Heater	172.16.16.216	012345abcd	2024-07-09 05:24:38.028
[313] Light 2	172.16.16.216	012345abcd	2024-07-09 05:24:38.095

How does the trial period work?

All Chowmain drivers are free to use for 90 days. When the trial expires the driver will cease to function until you purchase a licence and apply it to the project.

What benefits does Chowmain Project Agent provide?

Chowmain Project Agent provides a number of benefits for projects

- Required for activation of driver licences. Enables the linking of Control4 Projects to Chowmain Project Codes.
- Required for Auto Updates of Chowmain Licenced drivers
- Provides local access to all Diagnostics for all known licenced Chowmain drivers on Control4 system in 1-click
- Bulk Enable and Disable of Automatic Updates of drivers
- Display local licencing information for all known driver
- Update All Drivers in 1 click to latest versions available for that driver

Where do I buy a Licence from?

- Chowmain Control4 Drivers are only available to Control4 installers. Installers can sign up to a Chowmain account using: <https://chowmain.software/signup>. If you are a home owner you should contact your automation installer for support, purchase and installation of drivers
- This driver is developed by Chowmainsoft and can be purchased from the [Chowmain Software Website](#).
- All licences are site licences. This means the one licence can be used to unlock as many instances of the same driver in the same project.

Can I upgrade old versions of drivers from other marketplaces to Chowmain?

- This process is mostly automated.
 1. Install Chowmain Project Agent, and assign a Project Agent as required
 2. Ensure all drivers are up to date, and replace obsolete drivers with updated builds.
 3. Wait 10 mins.