



**SNP Productions Ltd**  
 12 Canons Road  
 Old Wolverton  
 Milton Keynes.  
 MK12 5TL (UK)

office: +44 (0)1908 410129  
 mobile: +44 (0)7958 390034  
 fax: +44 (0)1908 310238  
 email: [simon@snp-productions.co.uk](mailto:simon@snp-productions.co.uk)  
 website: [www.snp-productions.co.uk](http://www.snp-productions.co.uk)

SNP V2.5 – 01.01.17

## MacPro 6,1 Screens assignments to match Catalyst V5 PRO 'Display-Index' order

The following tables show screen configurations using active MDP-DVI cables ([Startech](#))

Some configurations include connections to Thunderbolt-PCIe chassis ([Sonnet](#))

Configurations including Apple MDP-DVI-DL USB powered adaptor and Datapath X4 are shown but not recommended.

### NOTES:

- **MDP 1, MDP 2...etc labelling refers to Apple's Multi-display documentation**
- **MDP 1, MDP 2 does not relate to the 'Display-index' or screen order**
- Apple logo appears on Screen 1 (MDP4) during boot
- The MDP port relates to the 'Display-index' in catalyst
- Display Index 1 is always the primary screen
- Assign the Primary Screen to the monitor connected to MDP4.
- Users must move screens in system preferences to match Catalyst 'Display-index' order
- It is easier to attach the screens 1-by-1
- Arrange the screens in a line (1-6) in system preferences.
- Move screen 4 down in the arrangement to make it easier to identify the screens in catalyst (see picture)
- The order will remain the same unless the EDID or screen is changed/removed
- To obtain 6x outputs from MacPro 6,1 Active MDP-DVI adaptors or cables must be use ([Startech](#))
- Only 2 screens can be connected to Thunderbolt bus 2 – either MDP+MDP or MDP+HDMI
- Apple MDP-DVI-DL USB powered adaptor (white) works but is only required for dual-link resolutions
- All outputs should be the same resolution and refresh rate.
- The 'Display-index' in Catalyst V5 n561 is fixed and cannot be changed.

The composite image is divided into four main sections:

- Catalyst Outputs:** A vertical list of 6 outputs, each with a 'Full Screen On/Off' and 'HUD On/Off' toggle and a 'Display Index' number (1-6).
- System Preferences Screen Arrangement:** A screenshot of the 'Arrangement' tab in macOS System Preferences, showing 6 numbered display icons in a horizontal line.
- MacPro 6,1 Ports:** A photograph of the MacPro 6,1 rear panel with labels for MDP 1-6, HDMI, and Thunderbolt BUS 0-2.
- Output 1-6 Grid:** A detailed grid showing the internal system configuration for each output, including display resolution, refresh rate, and system preferences settings.

Table 1

**6x Screens, WITHOUT TB2-PCIe expansion**

**Screen No: MDP Output MDP Output Screen No:**

Screen 6	MDP 1	MDP 2	Screen 2
Screen 5	MDP 3	MDP 4	Screen 1
Screen 4	MDP 5	MDP 6	Screen 3
X	HDMI		



Table 2

**6x Screens, WITH TB2-PCIe and using HDMI OUT**

**Screen No: MDP Output MDP Output Screen No:**

Screen 6	MDP 1	MDP 2	Screen 2
Screen 5	MDP 3	MDP 4	Screen 1
TB2-PCIe Chassis	MDP 5	MDP 6	Screen 3
Screen 4	HDMI		



Table 3

**6x Screens, WITH TB2-PCIe using TB2 Loop through**

**Screen No: MDP Output MDP Output Screen No:**

Screen 6	MDP 1	MDP 2	Screen 2
Screen 5	MDP 3	MDP 4	Screen 1
TB2-PCIe Chassis *	MDP 5	MDP 6	Screen 3
X	HDMI		



\* Screen 4 connected to TB2-PCIe chassis loop-thru using Active MDP-DVI cable

Table 4

**4x Screens + Datapath WITH TB2-PCIe**

**Screen No: MDP Output MDP Output Screen No:**

TB2-PCIe Chassis	MDP 1	MDP 2	Screen 2
Datapath X4 *	MDP 3	MDP 4	Screen 1
Screen 4	MDP 5	MDP 6	Screen 3
X	HDMI		



\* Datapath X4 connected using Apple MDP-DVI-DL USB powered adaptor. *This configuration is not recommended.*