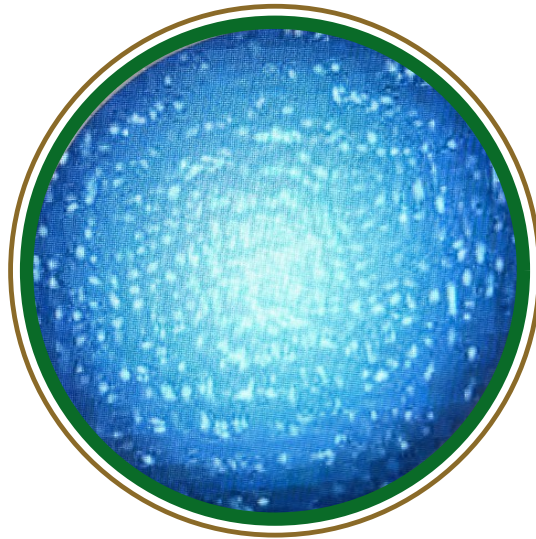




MINI STARGATE

DESK CLOCK

User Setup & Configuration Manual

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1 What's in the Box

- **Mini Stargate Clock** — 3D-printed enclosure with a 1.28-inch round 240×240 colour LCD

IMPORTANT

Power the device with any standard **5V USB-C** charger, computer port, or power bank, via the USB-C connector on the back of the enclosure. The Mini has no battery of its own.

2 Device Overview

The Mini Stargate is a self-contained desk clock that joins your home **2.4 GHz** Wi-Fi and shows one of three visual modes on its round LCD. All settings are managed through a built-in web page on a phone or computer — no app required. Once configured, the device remembers Wi-Fi and settings through power cycles.

There is **no touch panel** and **no speaker** on this hardware. Opening the iris, changing mode, setting the alarm, and loading photos are all done from the Gate Dialing Console.

CLOCK

Analog hands on the Stargate face. Every N minutes the iris opens, the event horizon plays, then the clock returns.

CONTINUOUS STARGATE

Always-on wormhole puddle. On the same interval the gate collapses, holds black, then kawooshes open again.

PHOTO FRAME

Your photos — local JPEG uploads or a public shared album — cycling on a timer you set.

CHEVRON 7

Open and close the iris from the web console. The Mini has no touch panel.

Three display modes plus Chevron 7 iris control. Changing Mode in the web UI applies immediately — no reboot.

NOTE

This radio is **2.4 GHz only**. A 5 GHz-only network name will not join. Use a 2.4 GHz SSID, or the 2.4 GHz side of a dual-band router.

3 First-Time Setup

When powered on for the first time (or after a self-destruct / Wi-Fi wipe), the Mini creates its own temporary Wi-Fi hotspot so you can configure it. The round screen shows the SGC logo, **SGC DIALING COMPUTER**, the portal address, and the hotspot name.

Hotspot name	Stargate-Clock-Setup
Password	none (open network — no lock icon)
Config page	http://192.168.4.1

3.1 Connecting from iPhone (iOS)

- **Open Settings** → **Wi-Fi**. Wait a few seconds for networks to populate.
- Select **Stargate-Clock-Setup**. It appears without a lock icon.
- Dismiss the “No Internet” alert. Tap **Stay Connected** or **Use Without Internet**.
- Open Safari and go to <http://192.168.4.1>

TIP

iOS often drops open networks that have no internet. Stay on Stargate-Clock-Setup until you have tapped **Initiate dialing sequence**.

3.2 Connecting from Android

- **Open Settings** → **Network & Internet** → **Wi-Fi** (some phones: **Connections** → **Wi-Fi**).
- Tap **Stargate-Clock-Setup** (open network) → **Connect**.

- When Android says “Connected, no internet,” choose **Yes / Use this network as-is**.
- Open Chrome and go to <http://192.168.4.1>

TIP

After you save a new Wi-Fi network the device reboots onto that network. Rejoin your normal Wi-Fi, then finish setup at <http://Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local> — the unique hostname is shown on the boot splash and in the console header.

4 Gate Dialing Console

Open a browser to <http://192.168.4.1> (first-time setup) or <http://Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local> (after Wi-Fi is configured). The page is titled **Gate Dialing Console** — green-on-black, matching the SGC look. Changing **Mode** switches the screen immediately. Chevron 7, gallery test, and photo uploads also apply without a full save.

4.1 Wi-Fi Setup

Tap **SCAN SUBSPACE** to list nearby 2.4 GHz networks, then pick one from the dropdown. For a hidden network, check **Hidden Subspace Frequency** and type the SSID. Enter the password, or leave the password blank to keep the one already saved.

PRIVACY

Credentials are stored in on-device flash and are never shown on the page.

4.2 Time & Timezone

Once on Wi-Fi the device syncs time via NTP (default pool.ntp.org). **Automatic timezone** is on by default: after joining your network the Mini estimates timezone from your public IP and shows the detected location on the console.

Uncheck Automatic timezone to pick a city from the list, enter a custom POSIX timezone, or point NTP at a different server.

NOTE

The analog clock needs a successful NTP sync. If the hands look wrong, wait up to a minute on first join, then confirm timezone on the console.

4.3 Mode Selection

Clock	Analog Stargate face with hour, minute, and red second hand. Default mode.
Continuous Stargate	Always-on event-horizon puddle. No clock hands.
Photo Frame	Local JPEG slideshow or a public gallery URL, cover-scaled to 240×240.

TIP

The mode dropdown applies on the display as soon as you pick it — no reboot. Your choice is stored so it comes back after a power cycle.

4.4 Gate Re-establish Interval

How often the scheduled gate animation runs, in minutes (1–60, default **38**). The Mini fires when the local clock's minute is a multiple of this interval.

- **Clock** and **Photo Frame**: iris opens → event-horizon puddle → iris closes → back to the face or photo.
- **Continuous Stargate**: wormhole collapse → 5 seconds of black → kawoosh reopen. If the iris was sealed (web close or alarm), the interval instead plays iris-open-from-black then kawoosh.

4.5 Chevron 7 — Gate Control

The Mini has no touch panel. Chevron 7 on the console is a single **Open iris** / **Close iris** button with a live graphic of the iris (open metal rim vs sealed petals). The label and colour follow the gate: teal to open, red to close.

- From Clock or Photo Frame, **Open iris** plays the iris-open clip and holds the event horizon for up to **5 minutes**, then auto-closes and restores the previous face.
- **Close iris** plays the close clip and returns to clock, photo, or a sealed iris.
- In Continuous Stargate the same button seals or reopens the always-on puddle.

NOTE

Chevron 7 is disabled while the setup hotspot is up — the caption reads **Connect to WiFi first**. Finish Wi-Fi setup, then open the iris from <http://Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local>.

4.6 Alarm Clock

Enable the alarm and set a 24-hour time. There is **no speaker** on this hardware — the alarm is visual only. At the set time the iris closes (interrupting a puddle if one is showing) and stays sealed for **60 seconds**, or until you tap **Dismiss alarm** on the console. Clock and Photo Frame then resume; Continuous Stargate reopens the iris.

4.7 Photo Frame Slideshow

Visible on the console at all times; photos appear on the LCD only when Mode is **Photo Frame**. Source is **Local images** or a **Gallery URL**. Slideshow interval is in seconds (default 30). Both sources also run the scheduled gate cycle on the re-establish interval.

Local: pick a JPEG. The browser cover-crops it to 240×240 before upload so the Mini does not have to resize. The filesystem is 2.5 MB and most of it is already the wormhole clips — keep stills small (the console aims for under ~70 KB each). Refresh list, delete individual files, or upload another. An empty slideshow shows the closed iris.

Gallery URL: a *public* shared-album link (anyone-with-the-link). Google Photos (photos.app.goo.gl), an iCloud Shared Album, a JSON list `{"images":["https://...jpg"]}`, one URL per line, or a single JPEG URL. Images are requested at 240×240 cover-crop. **Test gallery** resolves the album immediately; **Clear URL** empties the field. The album list refreshes on the interval you set (5–180 minutes, default 30).

TIP

Private Google Photos links will not resolve — share the album with “anyone with the link.” Square or near-square photos fill the round LCD best. Videos in an album are skipped.

4.8 Save & Self-Destruct

Initiate dialing sequence writes the form. The device restarts *only* if you changed the Wi-Fi network or password. Mode, iris, photos, gallery test, timezone, interval, and alarm apply without a reboot — tap Initiate dialing sequence so they survive a power cycle.

Initiate self destruct asks for confirmation, then erases `config.bin` (Wi-Fi, timezone, mode, interval, alarm, gallery URL) and restarts on the **Stargate-Clock-Setup** hotspot. Uploaded local photos stay on the filesystem until you delete them from the slideshow list.

WARNING

A full firmware + filesystem flash also wipes saved Wi-Fi. After that flash, join **Stargate-Clock-Setup** and run first-time setup again.

5 Display Modes

Clock Mode

The Stargate face with 12 glyphs and analog hands (white hour and minute, glowing red second). On the re-establish interval the iris opens, the event-horizon puddle plays, the iris closes, and the live clock returns. Recommended everyday mode.

Continuous Stargate Mode

A looping event-horizon puddle fills the round LCD — no clock hands. On the interval the wormhole collapses, holds black for five seconds, then kawooshes open again. Use Chevron 7 to seal the iris and sit on the closed petals, or to reopen.

Photo Frame Mode

- Each photo shows for the slideshow interval (default 30 seconds).
- Local source: JPEG stills stored on the device, cover-cropped to 240×240. After the last photo the cycle repeats.
- Gallery source: photos stream from the public album while the Mini is online, and the album is re-fetched on the gallery refresh timer.
- The scheduled gate cycle still runs; afterwards the current photo returns.

6 Boot Sequence & Screen Guide

No Wi-Fi saved (first boot or after self-destruct): the Mini goes straight to the AP screen so a phone can join while DHCP answers. Every five minutes of idle setup it plays iris-open → puddle → iris-close, then returns to the AP screen.

Wi-Fi saved: hostname splash for about 8 seconds (Mini Stargate, Viper Dynamics, **Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local**, and the LAN IP), then kawoosh → puddle. Clock and Photo Frame close the iris and show their face; Continuous Stargate stays on the puddle.

AP / setup screen	SGC logo, “SGC DIALING COMPUTER”, portal 192.168.4.1, hotspot name.
Hostname splash	Unique .local address and LAN IP — write these down if .local fails later.
Analog clock	Clock mode — current local time on the Stargate face.
Event-horizon puddle	Continuous mode, a Chevron 7 open, or the scheduled cycle.
Closed iris	Idle between cycles, alarm, or a web close.
Photo	Photo Frame — local still or gallery frame, cover-scaled to the round LCD.

7 Returning to Configuration

Once on your home Wi-Fi, open:

<http://Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local>

The suffix **XXXX** is the last two bytes of the device MAC, printed on the boot splash. Phone or computer must be on the same Wi-Fi. You can also use the IP shown on that splash (or in your router’s client list).

TIP

If .local fails on Windows, install Bonjour Print Services for Windows, or use the raw IP. Need help? Scan the quick-start QR or visit <https://www.viperdynamics.llc/support>.

8 Troubleshooting

Problem	Solution
Screen is black / no display	Check the USB-C cable and 5V charger. Try another port or brick.
Stargate-Clock-Setup hotspot doesn’t appear	Wait up to 45 seconds after power-on. Cycle power. The hotspot starts when no Wi-Fi is saved, or after Initiate self destruct.
Config page won’t load at 192.168.4.1	Stay on Stargate-Clock-Setup (dismiss “no internet”). Refresh. Only 2.4 GHz radios can join the setup AP.
Won’t join home Wi-Fi	2.4 GHz only. Dual-band routers often present a strong 5 GHz signal with the same name — move closer or use a dedicated 2.4 GHz SSID.
Clock shows the wrong time	Needs internet. Wait up to 60 seconds for NTP. Check Automatic timezone, or pick a city / POSIX zone on the console.
Stargate-Clock-XXXX.local not found	Same Wi-Fi as the device. Use the IP from the boot splash. Windows may need Bonjour.
Chevron 7 says Connect to WiFi first	Iris control is off during setup AP. Finish Wi-Fi, rejoin your home network, then open the console at the .local address.
Photo upload fails	JPEG only; the browser resizes to 240×240. Filesystem is 2.5 MB and already holds the video clips — delete unused stills first.

Problem	Solution
Gallery URL finds no photos	Album must be public (anyone with the link). Use Test gallery. Set Mode to Photo Frame and Save so the gate displays them.
Gallery says Could not parse Google Photos album	The share link is private, expired, or not an album. Create a new “anyone with the link” album and Test gallery again.
Alarm made no sound	There is no speaker on the Mini. The alarm closes the iris for 60 seconds (or until Dismiss).
Need to start over / change Wi-Fi from scratch	Initiate self destruct on the console (erases settings, returns to the setup hotspot), or update SSID/password and Initiate dialing sequence (that one change does reboot).

■ MINI STARGATE ■

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