

# Advanced Troubleshooting: Part 1 - Activity

DNS

ATM Training

Technician  
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## Overview

As discussed in the ViP Troubleshooting Series, one of the most important aspects of successful troubleshooting is understanding dBm and IRD. The first Advanced Troubleshooting video discusses dBm in greater detail to give technicians a better understanding behind the "why" of dBm.

This activity will help reinforce the material that was covered in the video. Allow five minutes for this activity; you will need a pen or pencil.

## Why It's Important

Strong dBm is essential to the proper function of a customer's system. By understanding how to interpret the Super Buddy readings and knowing how dBm loss is impacted through cables and components, technicians can more effectively troubleshoot technical issues.

## What I Need to Do

Using the chart below as reference, complete the dBm activities on this sheet.

| Component           | Average dBm Loss |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Connector           | 0.5              |
| Barrel              | 0.5              |
| Ground block        | 0.5              |
| Barreled wall plate | 0.5              |
| Cable (10 feet)     | 1.0              |
| Diplexer            | 1.5              |

### Scenario 1:

One single-tuner ViP installation

Initial reading at the LNB: -30 dBm  
1 connector at LNB: - \_\_\_ dBm  
15 feet of cable to ground block: - \_\_\_ dBm  
Ground block and 2 connectors: - \_\_\_ dBm  
25 feet of cable to the wall plate: - \_\_\_ dBm  
2 wall plate connectors: - \_\_\_ dBm  
Wall plate (barrel): - \_\_\_ dBm

Approximate dBm reading behind the receiver: - \_\_\_ dBm



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## Scenario 2:

One dual-tuner ViP installation

|                                    |           |
|------------------------------------|-----------|
| Initial reading at the LNB:        | -32 dBm   |
| 1 connector at the LNB:            | - ___ dBm |
| 20 feet of cable to ground block:  | - ___ dBm |
| Ground block and 2 connectors:     | - ___ dBm |
| 50 feet of cable to the wall plate | - ___ dBm |
| Barrel along the 50 feet of cable  | - ___ dBm |
| 2 connectors at the barrel         | - ___ dBm |
| 2 wall plate connectors            | - ___ dBm |
| Wall plate (barrel)                | - ___ dBm |
| Diplexer                           | - ___ dBm |

Approximate dBm reading behind the receiver: - \_\_\_ dBm

