

Many of the later model Sony TV's have a built in Self- Diagnosis function. If the timer/standby indicator is blinking, this could be an indication of the problem with the unit. The diagnostic blinking will occur automatically with no action required by you to engage it.

The timing of the blinking you see would be as follows: two to eight blinks (depending on the fault) about a third of a second apart, then pauses for 3 seconds, then the two to eight blinks about a third of a second apart again.

Here is a list of the problems that might have occurred indicated by the number of blinks. The words in parentheses are those which you will see for each of these faults on a diagnosis screen described later in this article.

Unit is dead and there are no blinks---Problem in the standby power section. Might check fuse, R607, Q601, IC601, R612 and VDR601 (should show open)

Continuous Blink Once A Second, No Pausing As Discussed Above---

No reply from the jungle IC301 (data bus is busy, shorted to ground or held high), IK video path is defective.

ONE Blink--- not used for the self-diagnosis

TWO Blinks---B+ over current protection (OCP) , unit goes to the standby mode then displays the 2 blink fault. Could be a short in the power supply of any of the circuits.

THREE Blinks---B+ over voltage protection (OVP), unit goes to the standby mode then displays the 3 blink fault. This is also a problem in the power supply circuit, check T603 and R672.

FOUR Blinks---No Vert. Deflection (V STOP), Screen goes to a single horizontal line then the video signal muted. Check IC1509, Q1505

FIVE Blinks---AKB circuit (AKB), the timer/standby indicator blinks for about 30 seconds then goes to the self-diagnosis function. Something is wrong with the video. Check video out, Q705, 732, 761 and other components on the C board, also check Q218, 219, 220 on the A board. Also unit be in IK blanking, try turning up screen slightly.

SIX Blinks---No Horizontal (H STOP), no raster, goes to the blinking self-diagnosis function immediately. Check C515 & 516 and the jungle IC, IC206.

SEVEN Blinks---High voltage shutdown. The high voltage has exceeded 33k and the unit goes immediately into safety shutdown. Check power supply regulation and horizontal circuits.

EIGHT Blinks---Problem with the audio (AUDIO), unit goes to standby and blinks the self-diagnosis code. Check IC406 audio amp, PS401 and 402.

Intermittent problems ?? This is a great feature. You can also bring up these fault codes ON-SCREEN to see a list of the problem numbers with the abbreviation of the problem and the number of times this problem has occurred. This is slightly different than entering the service mode. To see the diagnostic screen, Press the following buttons:

Display, Channel, 5, Vol Minus, (Not plus) then Power. This brings up a screen with a list of the problems and number of times they have occurred. Each of the problem names is abbreviated as, "OCP", "OVP", "V STOP", ETC. We have repeated them in parentheses in the text for the "Blinks" described above so you can correlate between the diagnostic screen and the blink codes.

So, now that you know about these self-diagnostics, how do you use them? Say that you

have a set with a black screen. You see that the LED is blinking 4 times....This would tell you that you have no vertical and that is why the video is muted. If it was blinking 6 times, you would know that you have a horizontal fault.

It's not a sure cure, but it's a little better than a poke in the eye with a sharp stick.

IMPORTANT: after you repair the unit, PLEASE clear the values on this diagnostic screen. These codes do not reset themselves after the fault is corrected, so if you don't clear them, you'll be seeing "old" fault codes the next time you enter this screen.

Clearing is done by going into the service mode (display, channel, 5, volume plus, then power) then press 8 and Enter, which of course returns everything to the factory preset condition.