



# Cutting the Cable Cord

Learn about popular streaming video services and devices used to stream video content.

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## What do you need?

### Internet, Hardware, Software, and Subscriptions

#### TV Antenna

There are still channels you can get over the air. You can purchase a modern TV antenna and plug the device into the coaxial port on your TV.

The cost ranges from about \$18 to \$40.

The FCC has some great guides, found here: Getting Started- <https://www.fcc.gov/consumers/guides/antennas-and-digital-television>

Reception Map- <https://www.fcc.gov/media/engineering/dtvmaps>  
And some general info: <https://cordcutting.com/how-to/how-to-choose-a-tv-antenna/>

#### Hardware Options

- **Smart TV / Blu Ray-** Many TVs and Blu Ray players have built in options for streaming apps. May have integration with Roku, Amazon, etc.

- **Apple TV** - Small device you plug into your TV. Not to be confused with “Apple TV+” their streaming service.  
<https://www.apple.com/tv/>
- **Amazon Fire TV** -  
Integrates with Amazon Instant Video  
<https://www.amazon.com/Amazon-Fire-TV-Family/b?ie=UTF8&node=8521791011>
- **Chromecast** - Great for those in the Google / Android ecosystem. No remote required, you use your phone.  
<https://store.google.com/product/chromecast>
- **Roku** - Not tied to a content platform. Intuitive and simple.  
<https://www.roku.com/>
- **Gaming Consoles** - XBOX, PlayStation and Nintendo Switch can be used as a streaming device.
- **Computers/Laptops** - Any PC or Mac can access these streaming services, many people just use their laptops to watch shows and don't have a TV.

## Subscription Services Offer

Broadcast TV Shows

Original Content

Films

News

Sports

## Services Compared

What services are right for you?

What are the costs?

## **Netflix**

Cost per month:

Basic is \$9.99

Standard is \$15.49 (HD)

Premium is \$19.99 (Ultra HD)

1 free month trial

Original Content and Broadcast TV Shows, Films, Documentaries

One of the premier streaming services

<https://www.netflix.com/signup/planform>

## **Hulu**

Cost per month:

\$6.99/month, \$12.99 for Ad-Free

\$75.99/month for Hulu + Live TV,

1 free month trial for Hulu, 7 day trial for Hulu + Live TV

Broadcast TV, Original content, movies. Optional add-on channels. Live TV has sports.

Does not have all episodes of all seasons

<https://www.hulu.com/welcome>

## **Disney +**

\$2.99/month add on to Hulu

\$7.99/ month or \$79.99/year

Offers high-profile, exclusive content, including Disney, Pixar, Marvel, Star Wars, National Geographic

Also contains original TV shows and movies.

<https://www.disneyplus.com/>

## **Youtube TV**

YouTube TV provides live TV from 85+ channels. \$64.99/month

Includes local news and sports

Allows cloud DVR recording with unlimited storage space

Up to 6 accounts, 3 simultaneous streams

<https://tv.youtube.com/welcome/>

## **Amazon Prime Video**

\$14.99 a month or \$139 a year for Prime.

\$8.99 a month for standalone Prime Video.

Many movies, some TV shows including original content

Lots of additional a la carte content for purchase, as well as add-on channels.

## **Paramount +**

Formerly CBS ALL ACCESS

\$4.99/month with ads

Does NOT include your local CBS station

\$9.99/month ad free

Does include your local CBS station

Both include NFL on CBS via separate live feed

## **Peacock (NBC)**

Peacock Free: Free (10,000+ hours of content)

Peacock Premium: \$4.99 (80,000+ hours of content)

Ad-Free Peacock: \$9.99

Premium is free for Comcast subscribers.

Offers NBC content, including shows, movies, sports, and news.

<https://www.peacocktv.com/>

## **Premium Channels - HBO Max, etc.**

HBO was the first to split off of cable providers to offer its content directly, with HBO Max.

\$9.99/month with ads \$14.99/month ad free

Other companies that do this include:

ShowTime: \$5.99/month

Starz: \$8.99/month

Cinemax: \$9.99/month

## **Sling TV**

Cost per month:

\$35 for "Orange" or "Blue" plan, \$50 for both.

Different bundles of TV channels, Orange has more sports while Blue has more news.

<https://www.sling.com/>

Has many traditional TV stations including ESPN, CNN, Food Network, A&E, AMC, HGTV, and more

## Sports Services

ESPN Plus: \$9.99/month (can be bundled with Hulu)

<https://watch.espnplus.com/sports>

MLB TV:

<https://cordcutting.com/services/mlb-tv/>

NHL:

<https://www.nhl.com/subscribe>

NFL: <https://www.consumerreports.org/streaming-media-devices/how-to-stream-nfl-games/>

NBA:

<https://www.nba.com/watch/pricing>

GOLF:

<https://cordcuttingreport.com/2019/06/29/stream-golf-channel-live/>

General Info: <https://www.pcmag.com/roundup/368771/the-best-sports-streaming-services>

## NEWS SERVICES

TV Antenna - Local news stations

Apps that offer live TV such as Hulu, Sling TV, or YouTube TV

Network specific apps - allow you to watch clips and highlights of national news broadcasts

Other apps such as NewsON and Haystack TV

## Library services

### Hoopla

Create account with Wilmette Public Library Card

Has both movies and TV series of all kinds, including children's content

15 checkouts per month, each checkout lasts for 72 hours

### Kanopy

Create account with Wilmette Public Library Card

Has many movies, including independent films, world cinema, documentaries, award winners, classics

8 checkouts per month, each checkout lasts for 72 hours

### Additional Resources

<https://cordcutting.com/>

<https://www.tomsguide.com/topics/streaming>

<https://www.tomsguide.com/us/best-streaming-video-services,review-2625.html>

<https://www.digitaltrends.com/home-theater/how-to-quit-cable-for-online-streaming-video/>