

Over The Air (OTA) TV Broadcast Over the Internet TV Broadcast

Hello Members,

If you're curious about what options you will have if you cut the cord, I've put together some information on using Over The Air (OTA) TV Broadcast and Over the Internet TV Broadcast. If you are within 35 miles of a TV broadcast antenna and your TV has a digital tuner built into it, you should be able to pick up your local channels by connecting a coaxial cable to the TV input on the back of the TV. The other end of the coaxial cable does not have to be plugged into anything. The TV just has to recognize something is connected to the TV input. After connecting coaxial cable, run the auto-tune from the setup menu on your TV. After the scan is complete, you should have a signal from 20 to 26 local channels depending on your location and distance from the nearest major city. If you are in an area where obstacles and terrain hinder reception, you may need an antenna to receive OTA (Over the Air) signal. There are antennas on the market you can plug into the TV input that can receive signals from farther than 35 miles. I purchased the *Billing TV Antenna for Digital TV Indoor, 80-120 Miles TV Antenna Indoor Amplified HDTV Antenna, Digital HDTV Antenna Long Range with Amplifier Signal Booster - 16.6 Feet Coax Cable/USB Power Adapter* from Amazon for \$15.99.

From my location in Dayton using coaxial cable only, the TV picks up 22 stations. Using this antenna, we receive signals from Cincinnati and Indianapolis as well.

Over the Internet TV Broadcast

If you want more choices than just the local channels without paying more and you have Internet service with the right device, you can use streaming video apps.

Smart TV vs. Firestick vs.Roku

When Smart TV's were first sold a limited number of apps were preinstalled with easy access buttons on the remote. You could try to install other apps you desired, but only a limited number of apps were available. If you bought a Smart TV that has a limitation on the apps that can be loaded on it, you could make your Smart TV smarter by connecting a streaming video device to it to expand your choices for video content.

There are hundreds of apps to stream video content from. The Roku streaming stick and the Firestick from Amazon are two that most apps can be installed on.

Some apps like Netflix, Hulu, Prime Video, YouTubeTV, Philo and SlingTV come with a monthly subscription fee while others are free. Free apps like Pluto TV, Crackle, IMDb, #AtHome, and TubiTV have a vast library of TV shows, TV series, news, movies, games, and more. I recommend you load them and explore the choices they offer.

Roku and Firestick devices cost begin at \$29.00 to \$119.00. The price depends on features like storage capacity, voice command, the distance of control, hearing aid capabilities, point anywhere remote control, headphones, etc. The best TV is a free TV

Hope this was helpful.

Karen Harker, Secretary