Cutting the Cable Cord

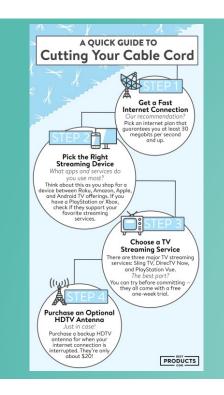




What we will cover

- Things to think about before you cut the cord.
- What are your other options?
 - Antennas
 - what is out there
 - what they do now
 - what to expect
 - How do they work
 - Streaming over the internet
 - basic internet and equipment requirements
 - streaming services
 - equipment to watch the streaming services on.
- I will include resources for all of these





What does it mean to cut the cable cord?

switching from a cable or satellite television provider to :

- streaming your television over the internet
- using a DTV antenna
- some combination of both



Things to think about

- Cost of Cable
- Internet might cost more
- You might not get all of your local channels
- Streaming isn't always reliable
- Number of users may be limited with the subscriptions streaming services
- One service may not be enough to provide all of the you want



general cord cutting resources:

CR Consumer Reports your cable cord. Start here with this article "Take Control of Cable TV!" (Make sure and login to their site for full access free with your library card) https://www.consumerreports.org/tv-service/take-control-of-cable-tv/

GROUNDEDREASON is a website devoted to getting rid of "Pay" TV and still being able to watch your favorite shows. It has whole sections on everything from antenna reviews to how to watch the HBO's True Detectives online (spoiler alert! It is still going to cost \$) https://www.groundedreason.com/

tom's guide

a website that reviews tech products

https://www.tomsguide.com/us/cord-cutting-guide,news-17928.html

Antennas????

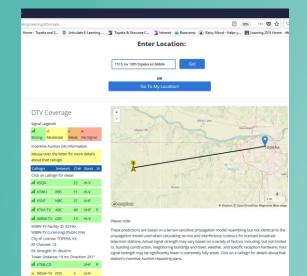
- They fill that gap when streaming services don't provide local channels.
- HDTV Antenna- They are new old fashioned indoor TV antennas that allow you to watch TV "Over The Air". (btw CR mentions that outdoor antennas tend to perform better than indoor)
- TV signals what most of us grew up watching before pay/cable TV.
- You can still watch over the air TV for free and many broadcast TV signals are now in HD (high definition).





PLIRLIC LIRR A

Antenna Resources



Consumer Reports has a great article HDTV Antenna Review and that nice video explanation. <u>https://www.consumerreports.org/antennas/hdtv-antenna-reviews-indoor-tv-antennas/</u>

FCC has lots of great information about Antennas period- from a map of broadcast towers for reception because-- Antennas don't work equally well everywhere you can check your address at the FCC website to see whether you are likely to get good reception or not.

https://www.fcc.gov/media/engineering/dtvmaps (they even have tips about antenna placement)



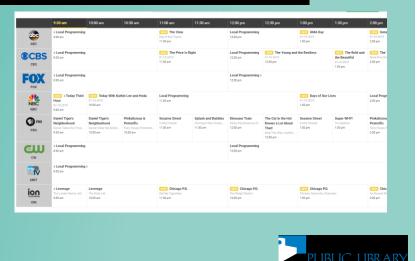
Antenna Resources

www.nocable.org Lots of general cord cutting resources here-my favorite things here?

- broadcast station TV guide!
- a step-by-step guide!

www.Youtube.com Lots of great do it yourself videos on every step things like how to connect your antenna! Check out this one https://youtu.be/U_jxj5ZwKWM

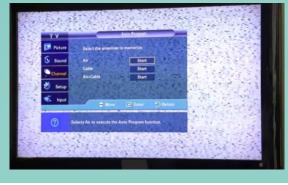
www.antennaweb.org www.TVFool.org



How do they work

- Plug in the antenna on the back of your TV (note what it says where you plugged it in)
- Place the antenna in a good location
- Find the "input" that you made a note of
- Scan for channels on your TV (this might be called different things, auto program, scan, etc.)
- Use your remote to change the channels





Streaming TV: internet

How much internet do you need?

(Broadband speeds are measured in (megabits per second)

Minimum Speed Requirement	0.5 Mbps (500 Kbps)
Recommended Minimum Speed	1.5 Mbps
Recommended Speed for SD (Standard Definition)	3 Mbps
Recommended Speed for HD (High Definition)	5 Mbps
Recommended Speed for Ultra HD	25 Mbps

https://www.highspeedinternet.com/

https://www.consumerreports.org/products/inte rnet-providers/ratings-overview/

<u>https://broadbandnow.com/</u> See plans, prices, & ratings for every internet provider in your area.

<u>https://testmy.net/</u> to test how fast your internet connection is

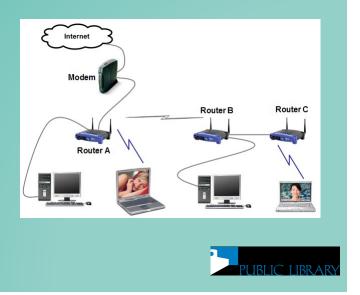


Streaming TV: equipment

How does it work?

Equipment for Wi-Fi (wireless internet) You will need a router.

A router is the box that distributes the internet signal wirelessly throughout your home. (these days it is usually also the box that also receives the internet formerly called a modem.) Many internet service providers will sell or rent you one or you can buy your own



Streaming TV: equipment

Routers

Shop around and do your research to get the features you want and need.

Things to consider

- How fast
- How far
- Security
- Guests



Consumer Reports https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/wi reless-routers/buying-guide/index.htm CNET https://www.cnet.com/topics/networking/ best-networking-devices/ PC Magazine https://www.pcmag.com/article2/0,2817, 2398080,00.asp Tech Radar https://www.techradar.com/news/networ king/routers-storage/best-router-9-topwireless-routers-on-test-1090523



Streaming TV: what to watch

Cable Replacement

- Hulu Live
- PS Vue
- Direct TV Now
- YouTube TV

Subscription stand alones Netflix •Hulu Amazon Prime Video Acorn TV •CBS all Access Free

- Roku--has tons



Shop around!

Consumer Reports https://www.consumerrepo rts.org/streaming-mediadevices/guide-tosubscription-streamingvideo-services/ PC Magazine https://www.pcmag.com/ar ticle2/0,2817,2489103,00. asp **CNet** https://www.cnet.com/new

s/best-live-tv-streamingservices-for-cord-cutters/

PLIBLIC LIBRARY

Streaming TV: how to watch

how do I access this stuff?

- Smart TV
- Roku
- Chrome Cast
- Apple TV
- Video gaming systems
- Computer or smart device
- Amazon Fire stick
- And more I'm sure



Shop around!

Techlicious 蔮

https://www.techlicious.com/guide/5-easy-waysto-get-netflix-video-streaming-services-on-yourtv/comments-/CP2/



https://www.consumerreports.org/cro/streamingmedia/buying-guide/index.htm



Streaming TV: how do they work

- Plug into your TV usually an HDMI port
- Select the input from your TV
- Follow the onscreen instructions to setup and view





ISIGNIA - Roku TV			pm Options a		
ome y Feed ovie Store	Cable TV	Game console	Diversy player	>	
	NETFLIX		@WTIME.		
Streaming Channels Settings	4K	sling	PBS		

Questions?

Shari Schawo Computer Trainer sschawo@tscpl.org 785-580-4607

