



CLECAT Club

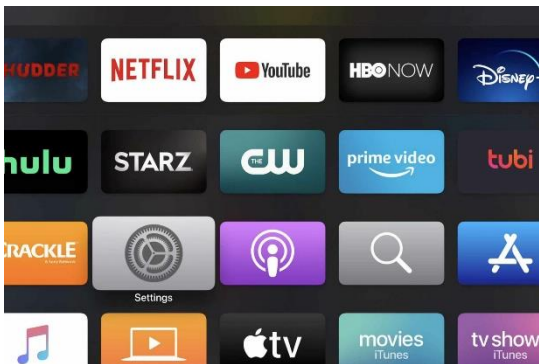
Exploring the technology that touches your life



Cord Cutting: Is Cable or Satellite TV Still the Best Value for You?

Monday, March 7, 2022

Presenter: Rick Hearn



What we will cover

- ▶ Identify your objectives (e.g., minimize monthly charges, view specific channels, newest movies, ease of use, ...)
- ▶ What streaming services are available?
- ▶ Is your internet service fast enough for streaming to the number of screens you want to view simultaneously?

What we will cover (cont.)

- ▶ If local channels are important, will an antenna work at your home?
- ▶ Watching live vs DVR vs On Demand
- ▶ What hardware will you use to stream to your TVs? (Roku, Firestick, Apple TV, Chromecast, built in Smart TV, smartphone, tablet, ...)
- ▶ Are ads ok if it costs less?

Please share your experiences!



Cord Cutting the EASY Way

<https://youtu.be/Qp-xRz0ud6o> (10:06)

	Package	Cost/month	2-year Cost	Channels	Cost/channel
Xfinity	Digital Starter	\$55	\$1,320	140	\$9.42
	HD Preferred	\$75	\$1,800	210	\$8.57
DIRECTV	Select	\$35/\$81	\$1,392	155	\$8.98
	xtra	\$55/\$124	\$2,148	235	\$9.14
Spectrum	Select	\$45	\$1,080	125	\$8.64
	Silver	\$85	\$2,040	175	\$11.65
Slings TV	Blue	\$15.25/\$25.25	\$570	49	\$11.63
	Orange+Blue	\$25.25/\$40.25	\$915	56	\$16.33
Hulu Live	Hulu Live	\$45	\$1,080	60	\$18
YouTube TV	YouTube TV	\$50	\$1,200	70	\$17.14

Is Cord Cutting Actually Cheaper than Cable?

<https://youtu.be/SLfdKQL3dki> (6:47)



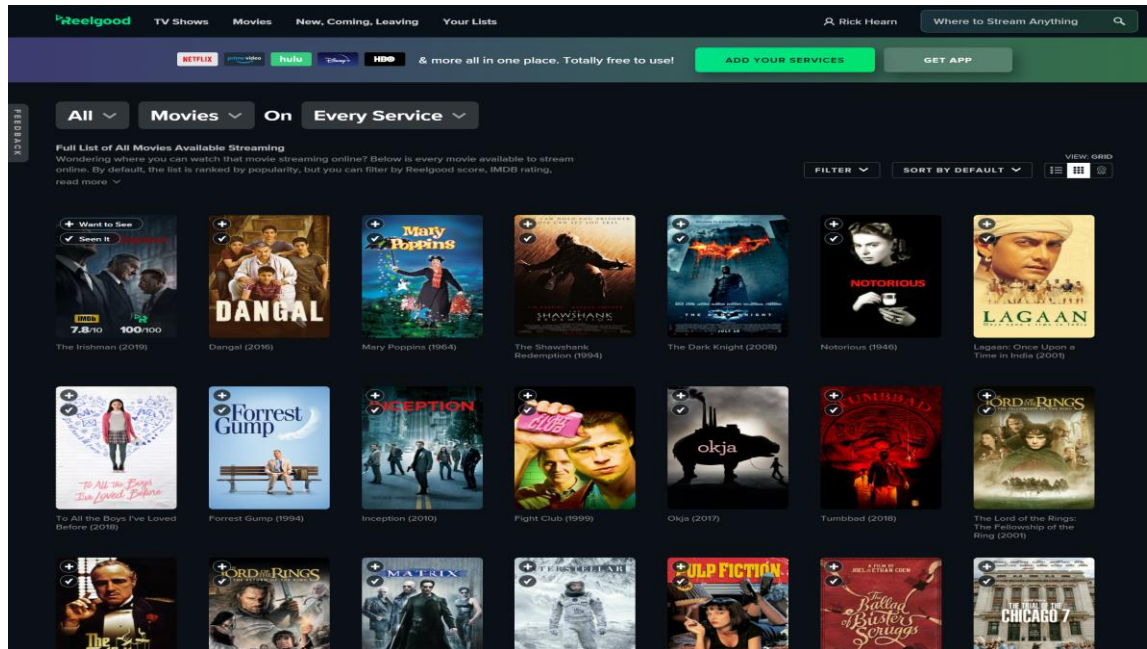
7 Best Live TV Streaming Services Explained in 5 Minutes!

<https://youtu.be/krYgTwqYh8Y> (5:28)



The DEFINITIVE Top 10 Streaming Apps of 2021

<https://youtu.be/AfVfP6HhP9g> (11:38)



Reelgood: A Guide service for content from many streaming services

<https://reelgood.com/movies>



6 Phone Plans That Get You a Free Streaming Service

<https://www.vulture.com/article/mobile-plan-free-streaming-service-verizon-t-mobile-disney-netflix.html>



Roku vs. Fire TV vs. Android TV vs. Apple TV -
Strengths and Weaknesses

<https://youtu.be/BJTvXIFPvF8> (30:29)

Summary

- ▶ Identify your objectives (e.g., minimize monthly charges, view specific channels, newest movies, ease of use, ...)
- ▶ What streaming services are available?
- ▶ Is your internet service fast enough for streaming to the number of screens you want to view simultaneously?
- ▶ If local channels are important, will an antenna work at your home?
- ▶ Watching live vs DVR vs On Demand
- ▶ What hardware will you use to stream to your TVs? (Roku, Firestick, Apple TV, Chromecast, built in Smart TV, smartphone, tablet, ...)
- ▶ Are ads ok if it costs less?

Questions and Comments

- ▶ From Paul Herrick: If an antenna for local stations is part of your solution, here is a YouTube video that should help:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QkroujtyJv0>

- ▶ What is “streaming”?
 - ▶ Over-the-air (broadcast) television only needs an antenna (no other equipment, no internet access)
 - ▶ Cable: the cable company has gotten the signals with an antenna or satellite and pipes them to you over a wire (co-ax) from their facility to the wall of your house.
 - ▶ Satellite: Instead of wire taking the signals to your house, the company sends the signals to a satellite that then beams them to a satellite antenna on your house.
 - ▶ Streaming: The TV signals are encoded onto the internet service (could be cable, telephone, cellular) that you signed up for, and get decoded by an app that you got from the streaming service (e.g., HBO Max). You then use wireless sharing to send them to your TV set.

Questions & Comments (cont.)

- ▶ When the signal goes out, what causes that and what can you do about it?
 - ▶ Of the options, cable is probably the least reliable, over-the-air is the most reliable. Streaming is as reliable as your internet service is.
 - ▶ You may want to ask your internet/cable/satellite providers for troubleshooting (but they all have a terrible reputation for customer service).
- ▶ A general question to ask: if I could save money but it would be a hassle to switch to a different service, is it worth it?
- ▶ Streaming services are often month-to-month contracts so that you can subscribe or cancel at any time.
- ▶ Fullerton is installing fiber-optic internet: Check out fullertongig.com

Questions & Comments (cont.)

- ▶ Is there a website that has all the streaming services and what they offer, to make a comparison?
 - ▶ You might be able to look at a TV Guide-style app like Reelgood to see which services offer which stations.
- ▶ Different streaming services can have slightly different offerings on the “same” channel.
- ▶ There are usually Facebook (and other social media) groups for the different services that can help guide you.