It’s Easy To Be DTV-Prepared

To be DTV-Prepared, ALL TVs in your house must be able to receive digital TV signals in one of three ways:

1. By cable or satellite TV service;
2. With a digital tuner built into the TV; or
3. Through a digital-to-analog converter box.

If any TV in your house receives TV signals over-the-air using a rabbit ears or rooftop antenna and it doesn’t have a built-in digital tuner – maybe an older TV in the kitchen, garage, or spare bedroom that’s not connected to cable or satellite – you will need a digital-to-analog converter box.

Does Your TV Have a Digital Tuner?

Generally, TVs made after March 1, 2007 have digital tuners and TVs made before July 1, 2004 have analog tuners. The manufacture date is labeled on the back of the TV. TVs labeled ATSC, HDTV, EDTV, SDTV, Digital Tuner, or HiDef have digital tuners, but TVs labeled NTSC, HD-Ready, Digital-Ready, or Digital Monitor do not have digital tuners. Check your TV manual or contact your TV manufacturer for specific information.

If your TV is not connected to cable or satellite and it does not have a digital tuner, then you are not yet DTV-Prepared.
Try Your Box, Scan Channels, and Test Your Antenna

You can enjoy digital TV right now. Follow the channel scan instructions so your converter box will scan for new digital TV signals, and periodically re-scan.

Most digital TV signals will be sent using the UHF spectrum. If your TV receives UHF analog signals now, you may not need a new antenna.

Try using your existing rooftop or rabbit ears antenna with a converter box before buying a new antenna. Most roof-top antennas receive VHF and UHF signals. A straight rabbit ears antenna receives VHF signals, but also needs a loop or shaped wire to receive UHF signals.

Some DTV/VHF/UHF antennas are available for less than $20.

Buy a Converter Box

Buying a converter box with a coupon is the least expensive way to become DTV-Prepared. Coupons will not be refunded once spent, so review converter box features – such as closed captioning fonts, limited or expanded program descriptions, and remote control buttons – in stores or on-line at www.fcc.gov/cgb/consumerfacts/converterboxfeatures.html before you buy.

Boxes currently sell for $50 to $60 in Fairfax County at Best Buy, BJ’s, CVS, K&O Satellite, K-Mart, Micro Center, MyerEmco, Office Depot, Radio Shack, Rite Aid, Sam’s Club, Sears, Shoppers Food Warehouse, Target, and Wal-Mart. Coupons may be used to purchase boxes over the Internet but shipping charges may apply.

Boxes labeled with the “Energy Star” logo meet energy-efficiency guidelines.

Recycle Your Old TVs

TVs should not be put into the trash. TVs may be dropped off without charge at Fairfax County community recycling events each year. Go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/recycling or call 703-324-5230 for dates and information, as well as additional recycling options.

Working TVs can be donated to charities or to people in need, such as nursing home residents. Goodwill Industries accepts working TVs at drop-off locations in Arlington, Sterling, and Manassas. The Salvation Army accepts working TVs other than console, projection, and wood-grain TVs at drop-off locations in Annandale and Manassas, or call 703-642-9270 to schedule a pick-up if other items are also being donated.

For More DTV Information
www.fairfaxcounty.gov/cable
703-324-5900 or TTY 711

To request this information in an alternate format, call the Communications Policy and Regulation Division at 703-324-5900 or TTY 711.

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<table>
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<tr>
<th>How Are TV Signals Being Received?</th>
<th>What Type of TV Set Will Be Viewed On June 13, 2009?</th>
<th>Must Anything Be Done?</th>
<th>What Must Be Done To Keep TV Signals Viewable?</th>
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<tr>
<td>Over-The-Air</td>
<td>Analog traditional television with a built-in <strong>analog</strong> tuner. To learn whether a television set has an analog or digital tuner, see the other side of this brochure.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong></td>
<td>Purchase a digital-to-analog converter box. Every household may request up to two $40 coupons from the federal government to redeem towards the purchase of converter boxes. Coupons must be redeemed within 90 days after they are issued.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Digital-ready TV with a built-in <strong>analog</strong> tuner is being used. Digital High Definition Television (HDTV) or digital Standard Definition Television (SDTV) with a built-in <strong>digital</strong> tuner is being used.</td>
<td><strong>YES</strong></td>
<td>Purchase a digital-to-analog converter box.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition.</td>
<td><strong>NO</strong></td>
<td>Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
|                                   | Digital HDTV or SDTV with a built-in **digital** tuner or digital-ready TV with a built-in **analog** tuner and:  
  • No set top box is being used (cable connects directly into the television); or  
  • Analog or digital set top box, or digital adapter, is being used; or  
  • CableCARD or tru2way device is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. Note: If the cable provider operates a mixed analog/digital cable system, subscribers may continue to view broadcast channels without using a set top box. If the cable provider operates an all-digital system, then a set top box, digital adapter, CableCARD, or tru2way device will be required to view digital signals on an analog television. |
|                                   | Digital-ready TV with a built-in **analog** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **Maybe**            | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |
|                                   | Digital HDTV or SDTV with a built-in **digital** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **Maybe**            | If local broadcast channels are being received over-the-air using an antenna, purchase a digital-to-analog converter box. |
|                                   | Digital-ready TV with a built-in **analog** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |
|                                   | Digital HDTV or SDTV with a built-in **digital** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |
| Cable Service                     | Analog traditional television and:  
  • No set top box is being used (cable connects directly into the television); or  
  • Analog or digital set top box, or digital adapter, is being used; or  
  • CableCARD or tru2way device is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |
|                                   | Digital HDTV or SDTV with a built-in **digital** tuner or digital-ready TV with a built-in **analog** tuner and:  
  • No set top box is being used (cable connects directly into the television); or  
  • Digital set top box is being used; or  
  • CableCARD or tru2way device is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |
|                                   | Digital-ready TV with a built-in **analog** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **Maybe**            | If local broadcast channels are being received over-the-air using an antenna, purchase a digital-to-analog converter box. |
|                                   | Digital HDTV or SDTV with a built-in **digital** tuner and a satellite receiver is being used. | **NO**               | Nothing. The television is ready for the DTV Transition. |