

# Cut the Cord

Get Your Live TV Programming Over The Internet

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# What is Live Streaming?

Get TV programs over the internet rather than from cable or satellite.

**hulu**



**PlayStation Vue**

**DIRECTV  
NOW**

**sling**<sup>TM</sup>  
TELEVISION

**You Tube TV**

# Why Stream?

- Get rid of contracts.
- Have more programming content choices.
- Save money.

# What Do You Need?

- Reliable internet service — stable with rare outages
- A live streaming service provider (provides the programming)
- A streaming device (sends the programming to your TV)
- Streaming does NOT require a computer (unless you use a Chromecast streaming device)

# Internet Requirements

## Speed

- 10 Mbps should be sufficient for a single user.
- 15 Mbps or higher probably OK for multi-user households.
- At least 25 Mbps for streaming 4K movies.

— Internet service must be stable and reliable —

# Streaming Service Providers

Here are the top live TV streaming services as of June 30 according to a [cordcuttersnews.com](https://www.cordcuttersnews.com) survey of users.

- DIRECTV NOW 30%
- YouTube TV 15%
- Sling TV 15%
- Hulu Live TV 5%

# DIRECTV NOW

## TV GOTTA-HAVES

Load up on the channels you love.

LIVE A LITTLE

**\$40**/month

Get 65+ Channels

JUST RIGHT

**\$55**/month

Get 85+ Channels

GO BIG

**\$65**/month

Get 105+ Channels

GOTTA HAVE IT

**\$75**/month

Get 125+ Channels

TODO Y MÁS

**\$45**/month

Get 90+ Channels



# YouTube TV

Orlando/Daytona Beach/Melbourne Area





# Shop Around

Streaming service providers do not require a long-term contract. They bill on a monthly basis and you can “come and go” at will.

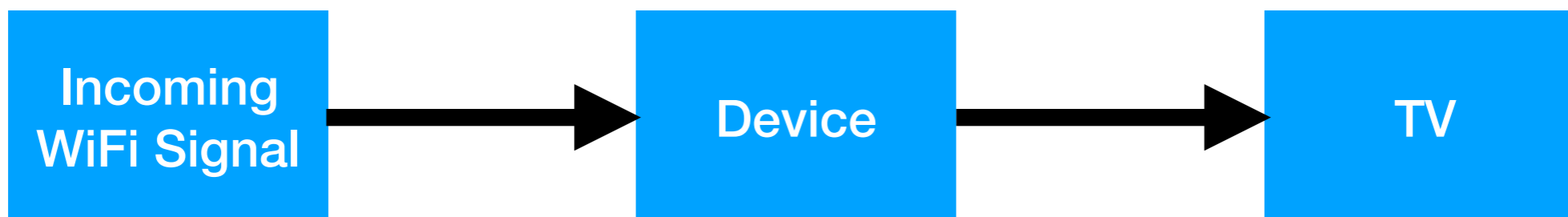
- They all offer free trials.
- They all have on-screen program guides.
- They all have add-on premium channels.
- Most have DVR “in the cloud.”
- Some have access to on-demand programming.

# Local Station Availability

- Most streaming services carry local Orlando stations - ABC, NBC, CBS, Fox, etc.
- DIRECTV NOW does not currently carry the Orlando CBS station.
- PBS is not included in packages but PBS Passport (\$5/mo) provides access to all PBS programming.
- The Weather Channel is currently not included.

# Streaming Devices

- Some smart TVs
- Apple TV
- Roku
- Amazon Fire



# Monthly Streaming Cost

- DIRECTV NOW                    \$40 - \$75
- YouTube TV                    \$40
- SlingTV                    \$25 - \$45
- Hulu Live TV                    \$40 - \$60
- PBS Passport                    \$5

Compare this with your current bill for TV service. I pay \$140 for DirectTV. What do you pay?

# How Do I Start?

1. Determine your "must have" channels.
2. Look at the services to see which ones offer the channels you want.
3. Make sure you have a streaming device for each TV — some services give you a device with a 2 month purchase of services.
4. Try several services using the free trials.

# CAUTION

Do not cancel your current cable or satellite service until you have determined that a streaming service will meet your needs.

# How to Subscribe

1. Go to the website for the service.
2. Follow the instructions to create an account. You will need a credit card, but if you cancel before the end of the trial period you won't be charged.
3. Turn on your TV and select the streaming device.
4. Go to the device's app store and search for the streaming service. Follow instructions to install the service.
5. Open the service and follow the instructions to activate it.

You will need to do this once for each TV. Then you are off and running. Enjoy!

# Cost Savings

Be sure to consider the impact of unbundling services.

- I'm paying \$140/mo for DirectTV satellite service. I expect this to jump by at least \$20 at the end of my 2-year contract.
- I've tested DirecTV NOW, YouTube TV, Sling TV, and Hulu Live TV.
- I'm currently testing Hulu Live TV + PBS Passport for a total of \$65/mo. My savings will be a minimum of \$75/mo or \$900/year!
- You can combine services to get the channels you want and still save money.



# Pros and Cons

## Pro

- No contracts.
- Many live streaming options (more each day).
- Potential for significant cost savings.
- Access to on-demand programming.
- Watch TV from multiple TVs, mobile devices, computers.

## Con

- Some onscreen guides may be confusing and will require some adapting. Guides are different for each service.
- May need to use more than one service to get your “must have” stations.
- DirectTV Now DVR is not ready for prime time.

# Resources

- This presentation: [tech42.net/notes/cut.pdf](http://tech42.net/notes/cut.pdf)
- The beginners guide to cord cutting: <https://wp.me/p4xqkb-85L>
- The case for combining live TV streaming services: <https://goo.gl/pE1ABZ>
- Three common mistakes and how to avoid them: <https://wp.me/p4xqkb-2rW>
- Channel list for top 8 services: [tech42.net/notes/channel-list.pdf](http://tech42.net/notes/channel-list.pdf)