



DIGITAL TELEVISION DEFINED H A N D B O O K

KTWU-TV, 1700 SW College, Topeka, KS 66621
ktwu.washburn.edu 785-670-1111 or toll-free 1-800-866-5898

GET READY for DIGITAL Television

If you subscribe to cable or satellite, you **WILL NOT** be affected by the **February 17, 2009** switch to digital.

If you currently receive television "over-the-air" using an antenna (rabbit ears or rooftop) and have an older television that doesn't have a digital tuner, you **WILL** be affected by the shutdown of analog broadcasts on **February 17, 2009** and need to consider one of (3) options:

OPTION #1



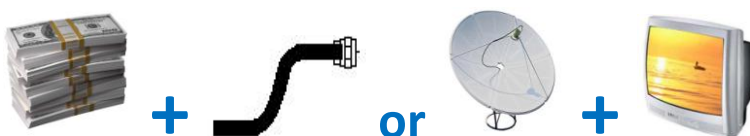
Buy a converter box that plugs up to your existing TV and antenna. Converter boxes cost between \$40 - \$70 and are available at local retailers.

OPTION #2



Purchase a new TV set with a **built-in digital tuner** and connect to existing antenna.

OPTION #3



Subscribe to pay service like cable, satellite or a telecommunications service provider that includes local channels in their line-up.

Converter Box & Coupon Program

What is a converter box?

A unit that sits on top of your existing analog TV set, that receives the Digital TV signal via antenna, then converts it to analog, displaying a converted digital signal on your analog set.



*Digital Stream™ Converter Box
The first Digital to Analog converter
approved by the NTIA coupon program*

Where can I get a converter box?

DTV converter boxes are available at retailers nationwide, including Wolfe's, Best Buy, Radio Shack & WalMart

How much will the converter box cost?

Each converter box costs between \$50 - \$70; coupons are available.

How do I request a coupon for the converter box?

Between now and March 31, 2009, you can request coupons while supplies last in one of (4) ways:

- 1. Apply online at www.dtv2009.gov**
- 2. Call the Coupon Program 24-hour hotline:
[1-888-DTV-2009 \(1-888-388-2009\)](tel:1-888-DTV-2009).**
Hearing-impaired consumers can use our TTY service: 1-877-530-2634 (English/TTY) or 1-866-495-1161 (Spanish/TTY)
- 3. Mail coupon application to:**
PO BOX 2000, Portland, OR 97208-2000.
- 4. Fax coupon application to:**
1-877-DTV-4ME2 (1-877-388-4632).



How long before I receive my coupon?

After making your request, it typically takes 4-6 weeks to receive your coupon by mail. Unused coupons will expire within 90 days.

Frequently Asked Questions

How do I know if I have an Analog or Digital Television Set?

A basic rule of thumb, if your television is square, it's analog and if it's a rectangle, it's digital. But, to be absolutely sure, look at your owner's manual or on the actual set for an indication that it has a built-in ATSC tuner. If your television set is labeled as "analog" or "NTSC," and NOT labeled as containing an ATSC tuner, it contains an analog tuner only. You can also go to the manufacturer's website and search the model number.

How does the converter box work?

By connecting an antenna to the converter box, which is connected to your analog TV set; the converter box receives the digital signal from the antenna and converts it into an analog signal that can be seen on your analog TV set. The box also allows you to see the additional multicast programming offered by most local stations.

Will I need a special antenna to receive digital signals?

All you need is a set of UHF/VHF rabbit ears or a UHF/VHF outdoor antenna that you can mount in your attic or on your roof, to get the quality reception of digital television signals. If you currently use rabbit ears or an antenna to get analog reception, the same should work to get digital reception.

You should not have to purchase new antennas that are marketed as "digital ready" or "HD ready."

Do I Have To Wait Until After February 17, 2009 to watch Digital Television?

No, DTV is available now. If you have a converter box or a television with a **built-in digital tuner**, you should be able to receive all or most of your local stations' digital channels. A new converter-box alternative is a DVD recorder with a built-in digital tuner. DVD recorders with DTV tuners are available in stores now.

Do I have to buy a High Definition Television set?

No. Digital television includes Standard Definition (SD) and High Definition (HD) formats. You can watch High Definition programs on a Standard Definition DTV with a built-in digital tuner, or on an analog TV connected to a converter box; it just won't be true High Definition quality. **Your main concern when purchasing a new TV is that it has a built-in digital tuner.** If you desire high-definition quality, you will need to purchase a HDTV set.

Will I still need a converter box for my analog set if I subscribe to Cable or Satellite?

If you subscribe to a cable or satellite service, you shouldn't have anything to worry about. If the need arises, and you should need additional equipment, your provider will address and should provide. Contact your provider for more info.

How do I know if I already have digital programming through my cable or satellite services?

You have digital programming if you currently subscribe to digital cable and have access to the digital tiers and/or HD package from your provider. However, the digital cable tier and satellite TV service are not necessarily DTV. Your cable or satellite TV system may be using digital technology as a more efficient way of delivering analog programs to you. Check with your cable or satellite TV provider to find out what kinds of programming you can receive, and what equipment you'll need to receive it.

Will I be charged extra for digital programming by my Cable or Satellite provider after February 17th 2009?

Your cable system decides when and whether to carry a channel's programming on a digital tier, which may mean that you may have to subscribe to digital and need additional equipment. Check with your cable or satellite TV provider to find out more information regarding their response to the changes.

What about my VCR, DVD player, camcorder and gaming console? Will I be able to use them with a digital television set?

Yes. Digital television sets are "backward compatible," meaning existing analog equipment (VCRs, DVD players, camcorders, video games, etc.) will work on digital TV sets. However, the video will be limited to the maximum resolution that is available with each analog product.

Digital Broadcasts in the Topeka Area



Digital TV Channel 11.1

WIBW Simulcast 13.1
WIBW My Topeka 13.2



Digital TV Channel 11.2

KSNT Simulcast 27.1
KSNT CW 27.2



Digital TV Channel 11.3

KTKA Simulcast 49.1
KTKA Local Weather 49.2

Helpful Websites & Numbers

KTWU

Website: <http://ktwu.washburn.edu>
E-mail: ktwu-comments@washburn.edu
Phone: 1-800-866-5898 (toll free)

NTIA National Telecommunications Info. Assoc.

Website: www.ntia.doc.gov
E-Mail: eFOIA@ntia.doc.gov
Phone: (202) 482-1816

FCC Federal Communications Commission

Website: www.dtv.gov
E-Mail: fccinfo@fcc.gov
Phone: 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322)

Consumer Electronics Association

Website: www.ce.org
E-Mail: cea@ce.org
Phone: 1-866-858-1555 (toll free)

DTV Transition Coalition

www.dtvtransition.org

DTV Answers

www.dtvanswers.com

DTV Facts

www.dtvfacts.com

Antenna Questions

www.antennaweb.org



KTWU -TV, Channel 11

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