



Are You Prepared For The Digital Television (DTV) Transition?

On February 17, 2009, the nation will undergo a change in the way television broadcasting is transmitted over-the-air, and it may affect television viewing in your home. On that date, all television stations will stop broadcasting in analog format. Thereafter, only digital signals will be transmitted.

The DTV transition will provide television viewers with clearer pictures and more program choices, and it will free up major portions of the airwaves for public safety communications as well as new broadband wireless services.

If you have an analog television set that is connected to cable or satellite, those service providers will make sure that your television set receives a viewable image after the transition. If you already have a digital television set, your television is ready for the DTV transition.

If you have an analog television set which receives signals by means of rabbit ears or an over-the-air antenna and you desire to keep this set in service, you will need to attach a small digital-to-analog converter box to your television set in order to continue receiving over-the-air television broadcasts. The converter box will permit analog-only televisions to receive and display the new digital signals. These converter boxes are available nationwide at retail stores and online. In addition, the federal government has a coupon program to help offset a portion of the cost to purchase converter boxes.

All U.S. households may request up to two \$40 coupons to go toward the purchase of up to two digital-to-analog converter boxes, which cost between \$40 and \$60 each. The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), a federal government agency, is in charge of the Digital-to-Analog Converter Box Program. Upon request, the NTIA will mail up to two coupons and a list of local retailers in the area that sell converter boxes. The converter box coupons expire 90 days after they are issued.

For more information about the Coupon Program and how to apply for the coupons, go to the NTIA website www.dtv2009.gov or call 1-888-DTV-2009.

For additional information about the DTV Transition and what you may need to do to prepare for it, visit the Federal Communications website <http://www.dtv.gov>

DIGITAL TELEVISION TRANSITION - February 17, 2009 – WILL YOU BE READY?



What Is Happening?

Your TV signal is switching to “digital.” For more than fifty years, TV broadcasters have sent their shows to your TV using “analog” signals. After **February 17, 2009, most of the old analog signals will be gone and most of the stations you watch** will use only the new digital signals.

Why Is The Government Switching to Digital?

- For improved public safety for everyone. The transition to digital will help police, fire, and other public safety departments to communicate more easily with each other during emergencies.
- For you, digital TV offers better picture and sound quality, as well as more channels and programming choices.

What Does This Mean To You?

- If all of your TVs are hooked up to cable or satellite, you will continue to get your TV after the switch. Just check with your cable or satellite company to be sure.
- If you have a digital TV, you are ready for the switch. (If your TV is more than 10 years old it probably is not digital. If it is less than 10 years old, ask the manufacturer if your TV is “analog-only.”)
- If you have an analog-only TV with a roof top antenna or “rabbit ears,” you will not be able to watch most TV stations after February 17, 2009 unless you get a “converter box.”

Converter Box?

- The converter box will attach to your TV and let you go on getting free TV.
- With the converter box you can get a better picture and more channels. The antenna you have should work with the box.
- You can buy a converter box at a retail store. The boxes will cost \$40 to \$70.
- You can get two \$40 coupons per household from the US Government to help you pay for up to two boxes. (One coupon per box only.)

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE DIGITAL TRANSITION

CALL 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) (voice) or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) (TTY)

OR GO TO WWW.DTV.GOV

FOR INFORMATION ABOUT CONVERTERS AND COUPONS

CALL 1-888-388-2009 (voice) or 1-877-530-2634 (TTY) Or Go To: www.dtv2009.gov