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For more information on digital TV, visit: [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)

# Don't Let Your TV Go Blank



## Full Power Analog TV ends February 17, 2009 Be prepared for the Digital TV Transition

**For more information about DTV:**

**1-888-CALL-FCC (Voice)**

**1-888-TELL-FCC (TTY)**

**Visit: [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)**

**Get a \$40 DTV coupon  
from the  
federal government –  
call 1-888-DTV-2009  
or visit:  
[www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov)**

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*Debbie Wasserman Schultz*  
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Official Business

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# All Digital TV is Coming.

TV broadcasting has been analog for over 60 years. That era is coming to an end.

Soon TV stations will be digital.  
This Q&A is a handy way to understand what it all means to you.

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or visit:  
[www.dtv2009.gov](http://www.dtv2009.gov)

**Q What is the deadline?**

**A** All analog TV signals will end February 17, 2009.

**Q Why are we switching to digital?**

**A** In 1996, after a decade-long study, the FCC recommended that broadcast and cable signals convert to digital. Congress enacted legislation that year. Digital TV is better for viewers. It lets broadcast stations offer better picture and sound quality and a lot more programming options.

It's also better for public safety and national security. It unclogs analog frequencies for use by police, fire, emergency rescue and first responders.

**Q Who is affected?**

**A** If you have cable or satellite service, you should not be affected. Contact your cable or satellite provider to see if you will need any additional components.

A lot of condo residents and homeowners have analog sets and watch free over-the-air TV using rabbit ears or the condo's master antenna. These TV sets will not receive these broadcasts after February 17, 2009 without a DTV converter.

**Q What should analog viewers do?**

**A** Analog TV watchers will need to buy a converter, subscribe to cable or satellite or buy a TV set with a digital tuner.

**Q What if you can't afford a converter?**

**A** Converters cost around \$70. From January 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009, you can call 1-888-DTV-2009 or go to <https://www.dtv2009.gov> and apply for a \$40 coupon toward a converter. The limit is two coupons per applicant. It will be first come, first served.

**Q Will I be able to use my portable battery-operated TV during a Hurricane if it's not digital?**

**A** For the 2008 Hurricane season you will be able to use your portable television. But in 2009, it will become obsolete. Today the market is very limited in portable digital TVs. You can buy one for around \$200. The hope is, as we get closer to the digital switch prices will drop on those TVs.



**Congresswoman Debbie Wasserman Schultz:**  
*Alerting you to issues that affect South Florida.*

For more information, contact my office, visit my Web site [www.house.gov/wassermanschultz](http://www.house.gov/wassermanschultz)  
or the Federal Communication Commission's Web site: [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)