

STREAMING SERVICES AVAILABLE ON SMART TVs AND VIDEO DEVICES

This is not a full list of every Streaming Service Available.

Left off the list are those services that offer “multi-channel” packages. These services are increasingly being used by many people to “Cut The Cord”, which basically means you have internet service but no cable service, instead using a multi-channel package to replace cable.

Here at the Peninsula we have a Verizon package included in our overall community fees so Cord Cutting is not an option. **BUT**...that doesn't mean you cant use some of these services to replace Premium Channel Packages from Verizon and cut some costs.

Acorn TV

Price: \$5 per month or \$50 per year.

Who it's best for: Lovers of British TV fare. Goodies include TV dramas (“A Place to Call Home”), mysteries (“Agatha Raisin”), and comedies.

Latest news: Acorn TV is now available on Comcast's Xfinity X1 cable box, accessible via Xfinity on Demand, and on the go via the Xfinity Stream app. Among the exclusives on the service is “Jack Irish,” an Aussie noir thriller starring Guy Pearce. Also in the mix: “The Witness for the Prosecution,” an original Agatha Christie movie with Kim Cattrall.

Amazon Prime Video

Price: \$119 per year or \$13 per month, with free shipping. A video-only subscription costs \$9 per month.

Who it's best for: Anyone who's already paying for an Amazon Prime membership. The service now has a solid roster of original shows, including “Z: The Beginning of Everything” and “The Grand Tour.” Amazon Prime has some exclusive series, such as “Downton Abbey” and “The Americans,” plus HBO's back catalog of shows. You can add HBO, Showtime, and other premium channels for \$9 to \$15 per month.

Latest news: Amazon and Google have apparently ended their long-standing feud. As part of a new deal, Amazon Prime Video will soon be available on Google's Chromecast and Android TV

devices. In return, Google's YouTube, Tube Kids, and YouTube TV will soon be available on Amazon's Fire TV devices.

A new Amazon original mystery series called "Homecoming" stars Julia Roberts as a former government caseworker struggling with the truth about her old job. You can also catch a 10-episode anthology series, "Philip K. Dick's Electric Dreams." The company has picked up the sci-fi epic "The Expanse" for a fourth season after its cancellation by the SyFy channel. But perhaps the biggest news is that the company is working on a new "The Lord of the Rings" prequel, which should hit Prime Video by 2021. Also on tap: "The Hunt," from Oscar winner Jordan Peele, and "Utopia," from "Gone Girl" author Gillian Flynn.

AT&T WatchTV

Price: Free for AT&T Unlimited and Unlimited Premium wireless subscribers, \$15 per month for everyone else.

Who it's best for: AT&T phone subscribers with unlimited plans—either Unlimited & More or Unlimited & More Premium—or those who don't want to pay for sports and can get by with a limited channel lineup.

Latest news: AT&T WatchTV is the company's newest streaming offering. (The company also offers the DirecTV Now streaming service.) It has about 30 live channels but no local broadcasts. In addition to Turner fare such as Cartoon Network, CNN, TBS, Turner Classic Movies, and TNT, the lineup includes AMC, A&E, Discover, Food Network, HGTV, IFC, and TLC. And AT&T says Viacom channels such as BET, Comedy Central, Nicktoons, and VH1 will be added soon. WatchTV also offers more than 15,000 TV shows and movies on demand.

CBS All Access

Price: \$6 per month with ads or \$10 per month ad-free.

Who it's best for: Cord cutters looking for major-network fare without using an antenna. The service provides full-length episodes of CBS programs, plus live programming streams of local CBS affiliates in 124 markets. CBS All Access also includes complete back catalogs of most of its current series.

Latest news: CBS and the NFL have extended and expanded their deal, which now runs through 2022. As a result, CBS All Access subscribers will get the NFL on CBS schedule. And you'll now be able to stream the games on mobile devices, such as [smartphones](#) and [tablets](#).

Earlier, CBS executives said there would be six or seven new original series on CBS All Access in the next 12 months. And the company said that later this year it will launch two new streaming services, CBS Sports HQ and Entertainment Tonight.

The company reports that there are now a combined 5 million subscribers to its two paid streaming services, CBS All Access and Showtime, roughly split half and half. Some of the rising numbers can be traced to the series "Star Trek: Discovery." That series started off free on broadcast TV, but the remainder of the episodes can be seen only on CBS All Access. In addition to "Star Trek: Discovery," original series include "The Good Fight," the sequel to "The Good Wife."

The Criterion Channel

Price: \$11 per month or \$100 for an annual subscription.

Who it's best for: Rising out of the ashes of the now shuttered FilmStruck, the [Criterion Channel](#) classic movie streaming service offers "constantly refreshed selections of Hollywood, international, art-house, and independent movies, plus access to Criterion's entire streaming library of more than 1,000 important classic and contemporary films from around the world," according to the company.

Latest news: The new service kicked off in early April. You can access the Criterion Channel via desktop, Apple TV, Amazon Fire, and Roku streaming players, plus iOS and Android mobile devices.

The stand-alone Criterion Channel is the result of a special deal with WarnerMedia, which shut down the FilmStruck streaming service late last year. The Criterion Collection film library, which had been part of that service, is also expected to be included in a new WarnerMedia streaming service later this year. (See below for more details.)

ESPN+

Price: \$5 per month or \$50 per year for the basic service. You can pay an additional \$25 per month each for the full MLB.TV baseball and NHL hockey seasons.

Who it's best for: Hardcore sports junkies looking to add out-of-market baseball and hockey games to their menus, college sports fans who want a broader assortment of collegiate sports than they can get with traditional TV, or those who have an interest in niche sports, such as rugby and cricket. It will also have documentaries and scripted series.

Latest news: ESPN+ just launched, and it's now part of the main ESPN app. It's available for Android and iOS mobile devices, Apple TV, and Chromecast media streamers. You can also watch it online at ESPN.com. We assume there will be more device support—smart TVs, and perhaps Roku and Amazon Fire TV media streamers—in the future. Some early shows include an original “30 for 30” film called “The Last Days of Knight,” about the Indiana basketball coach Bobby Knight, and “Detail,” where Kobe Bryant gets into the minds of basketball players as he analyzes the previous day’s game.

FilmStruck

FilmStruck, which offered indie, art-house, and classic movies as part of a joint venture between Turner Classic Movies and the Criterion Collection, has now been closed. However, Criterion has launched its own classic-movie service, called the Criterion Channel. (See above for more details.)

HBO Now

Price: \$15 per month.

Who it's best for: HBO fans who don't want to pay for cable. Sign up to get all the network's series, movies, specials, and documentaries. If you already get HBO through your cable package, remember that the HBO Go app lets you watch HBO on your phone, tablet, and other devices.

Latest news: HBO Now has passed the 5 million subscriber mark, and it's now available on more devices, including Amazon Fire TV, Apple TV, Chromecast, Microsoft Xbox, Roku, Samsung TVs, and PlayStation Vue. It's also available via a growing number of cord-cutting streaming services, including DirecTV Now, and as part of Amazon Channels.

Hulu

Price: \$6 per month with ads or \$12 per month without ads.

Who it's best for: Cord cutters who don't want to miss out on broadcast TV. Hulu has current shows from ABC, Fox, and NBC; older ones from CBS; plus the "Seinfeld" library. Original content includes "The Path" and "The Handmaid's Tale."

Latest news: Hulu is cutting the price of its least expensive ad-supported service, from \$8 to \$6 a month. The ad-free version remains unchanged, at \$12 a month. (The company also just raised the price of the Hulu With Live TV cable-style service, listed below.)

In other news, Hulu's deal with Viacom brings the full run of MTV's animated sitcom "Daria," and several other shows and movies, to the streaming service. Also part of the deal are TV shows such as "Nathan for You" from Comedy Central, MTV's "My Super Sweet 16," and Nickelodeon's "Every Witch Way." Movies include "School of Rock." The deal is for Hulu, not the cable-style Hulu With Live TV streaming service.

Hulu also has a deal with DreamWorks Animation for the exclusive streaming rights to future DWA feature films, as well as catalog titles, including "Shrek," "Shrek 2," and "Shark Tale," and new kids' series it will develop. Starting this year, the service will also get new theatrical releases, including "How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World" and "Trolls 2." Hulu also signed a deal with Sony for the on-demand streaming rights to "The Good Doctor." And it signed on for a third season of "The Handmaid's Tale."

Additionally, Hulu has teamed up with the music service Spotify to offer a combined bundle to college students for just \$5 per month. Because Spotify Premium for Students usually costs \$5 per month, it's like getting the basic Hulu service free. Hulu also has an exclusive deal with Magnolia Pictures to stream the company's films after their theatrical release.

Netflix

Price: \$9 per month for standard-def video on a single screen; \$13 per month for high-def video on up to two screens; \$16 per month for 4K Ultra High Definition video on up to four screens.

Who it's best for: Everyone. Netflix is still the king of binge. It has a vast library of movies and TV shows, plus now-classic original shows ("House of Cards," "Orange Is the New Black") and newer hits ("Stranger Things"). It even has original movies ("Beasts of No Nation"). A deal with Marvel has spawned "Daredevil" and "Jessica Jones." Netflix subscribers currently have access to some Disney titles, but Disney will be pulling those films later in 2019, along with Pixar movies and some Marvel titles, when it launches its own streaming service, Disney+.

Latest news: Netflix upped its subscription rates, its biggest increase ever and its first since 2017. Its most popular plans will now cost \$2 a month more, while the basic one-user plan gets a \$1-a-month hike. The price increase was effective immediately for new customers, and then rolled out to current subscribers.

Earlier, Netflix updated its home screen, which now has a left-hand navigation bar that makes it easier to search for and view new content. It's also easier to locate the shows and movies you've bookmarked for later viewing in My List.

In other news, the Academy Award-winning filmmaker Guillermo del Toro is about to start production on an animated feature film, "Pinocchio," which will be a stop-motion musical. It's his first movie since winning an Oscar for "The Shape of Water." Netflix is also co-financing and distributing Michael Bay's next film, "Six Underground," which stars Ryan Reynolds. It's the first time either has worked with Netflix. The movie is expected to appear on Netflix in 2019.

The company says it spent about \$8 billion on content in 2018 and will probably spend even more in 2019 as it fends off competition from new services from Apple, Disney, and Warner NewMedia.

Showtime

Price: \$11 per month, or \$9 per month when purchased through certain services, such as Amazon Prime and Hulu.

Who it's best for: Showtime fans. Like HBO Now, this service lets you watch a cable network without the cable. You get all of Showtime's movies, plus original shows such as "Billions," "Homeland," and "The Affair." If you subscribe to Showtime through your cable provider, Showtime Anytime lets you watch Showtime fare on your phone, tablet, and other devices.

Latest news: Showtime has had to delay the debut of "Purity," a 20-episode drama starring Daniel Craig, until next year because Craig is reprising his role as James Bond in a new film. The network is now showing the documentary "Eric Clapton: A Life in 12 Bars," which was released theatrically in 2017, as well as "Patrick Melrose," a new original series starring Benedict Cumberbatch, based on the semi-autobiographical novels by Edward St. Aubyn.

Starz

Price: \$9 per month.

Who it's best for: Like HBO and Showtime, you can now get Starz without a pay-TV subscription. Content includes such shows as "Outlander" and "Power," plus movies, including "Star Wars: The Force Awakens."

Latest news: The Starz streaming service is newly available on DirecTV Now for \$8 per month. The much-anticipated series "American Gods," based on the Neil Gaiman book, is now available on the service. Newer original series include "Sweetbitter," about a 22-year old arriving on the New York's restaurant scene, and "Vida," about two wildly different Mexican-American sisters returning to their old neighborhood.

THE NEW DISNEY CHANNEL WILL BE A GAME CHANGER