

CUTTING THE CORD



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Terminology

⇒ **Bandwidth:** The term bandwidth has a number of technical meanings but since the popularization of the internet, it has generally referred to the volume of information per unit of time that an internet connection can handle. The higher bandwidth can move a set amount of data much faster than an internet connection with a lower bandwidth.

Bandwidth is typically expressed in bits per second, like 60 Mbps or 60 Mb/s.

⇒ **OTA (Over the Air),** also known as terrestrial television, refers to TV signals transmitted “over the air” and received by antenna. OTA requires an HD antenna, and then a receiver (built into TV/Monitor OR using equipment like an HD Homerun to disseminate the signal into streaming media formats.)

⇒ **Cable TV** refers to TV signals which are transmitted by wire from a transmissions service to home, requiring equipment in the home to decode the encrypted signal. Cables Boxes do this, or in self-bought equipment, Cable Cards (available from your Cable TV/ISP).

⇒ **Satellite TV** refers to TV signals transmitted by satellite from outer space to a dish which is mounted on your home (usually towards the southern sky) to receive.

⇒ **Internet Provider** in most cases is the same company that provides cable TV. Also known as “ISP” (Internet Service Provider)

⇒ **Streaming Media** refers to either the act of streaming video/audio media from the Internet, or a streaming media device used to receive and transmit to a display device (TV or monitor) the streaming media. Streaming media can be transmitted on demand (Netflix, Hulu, Crackle, etc) or Live (Sling TV, Playstation Vue, YouTube TV) and some services provide both on demand and live services (Amazon Prime, Sling, Hulu, MLB, WWE, etc).

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Websites

- ⇒ **Cord Cutting Guide** - <https://cordcuttingreport.com/cord-cutting-guide/>
- ⇒ **Bandwidth Test** - <http://speedtest.net>
- ⇒ **WOW Way** - <http://www.wowway.com/products/internet/cord-cutting>)
- ⇒ **Comcast/Xfinity**—<https://techcrunch.com/2017/07/27/comcasts-instant-tv-service-for-cord-cutters-could-launch-by-year-end/>)
- ⇒ **AT&T/U-Verse**—<http://www.telecomtv.com/articles/at-t/at-t-offers-unlimited-data-on-u-verse-but-if-you-re-a-cord-cutter-it-s-30-extra-13454/>
- ⇒ **NOCABLE.ORG** - <https://nocable.org/availability-report/zip/48168-northville-mi>
- ⇒ **Streaming Services Comparison** - <https://www.cnet.com/news/youtube-tv-vs-sling-tv-vs-directv-now-vs-playstation-vue-channel-lineups-compared/><https://www.geek.com/geek-pick/cut-the-cord-and-subscribe-to-these-streaming-tv-services-1704574/>
- ⇒ **Save Money on Streaming with the Library** - <http://blog.credit.com/2017/12/how-i-replaced-700-worth-of-monthly-subscriptions-with-my-library-card-180083/>
- ⇒ **Huff Post - 100 hours to find the best streaming services** - https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/we-spent-100-hours-streaming-live-tv-to-help-you-cut_us_59a5cc07e4b0d81379a81be4
- ⇒ **Consumer Reports Guide to Cutting the Cord**—<https://www.consumerreports.org/streaming-video-services/guide-to-subscription-streaming-video-services/>

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Streaming Media Providers

- ⇒ Netflix (<http://www.netflix.com>)
- ⇒ Amazon Video (<https://www.amazon.com/Amazon-Video/b?node=2858778011>)
- ⇒ Hulu (<http://www.hulu.com>)

Live Streaming Providers

- ⇒ Hulu TV (<https://www.hulu.com/live-tv>)
- ⇒ Sling TV (<http://www.sling.com>)
- ⇒ Direct TV Now (<https://www.directvnow.com/>)
- ⇒ Playstation Vue (<https://www.playstation.com/en-us/network/vue/>)
- ⇒ Fubo TV (<https://www.fubo.tv>)

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Real World Cord Cutting—Equipment, Services, and Costs



SiliconDust HDHomeRun CONNECT. FREE broadcast HDTV (2-Tuner)

Connections: Coaxial cable from HD Antenna and network cable to WiFi router.

Device: Windows, Android, MacOS, iOS, tvOS, Kindle Fire/TV, Playstation 3 or 4, n-Vidia Shield

Cost—about \$96 on Amazon



1byone 85 Miles Digital Amplified Outdoor / Attic / Roof HDTV Antenna with VHF and UHF Band and Mounting Pole, Extremely High Performance

Connected the Antenna cable directly into the Cable Input on the outside of the house so that all cable jacks are running local channels. Currently connected to 5 TVs and the HDHomeRun.

Cost—\$about 45 on Amazon



Roku 4 and Roku Streaming Stick (Free w/2 months Sling TV subscription)

Cost—Roku 4—about \$90 and Streaming Stick about \$35



Amazon Fire TV Stick

Cost—about \$38



Chromecast

Cost —about \$35

Streaming Viewers include N-Vidia Shield Tablet, AT&T Primetime Tablet, Samsung Galaxy S8+ and Samsung Galaxy Note, and a 32" TCL 720p Roku Smart LED HDTV.

Using a TP Link AC3200 Tri-Band Gigabit wireless router.

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Real World Cord Cutting—Equipment, Services, and Costs

Cable/Internet Costs—BEFORE & AFTER

Charter Spectrum Cable & Internet—Most premium channels including HBO, Starz, Showtime, 4 DVRs and 2 digital cable boxes = \$250/mo

Streaming Services

Sling TV Streaming—Orange + Blue Package. 4 Extras Deal—Comedy, Kids, News and Lifestyle, Cloud DVR + 1 Stream (total of 3 simultaneous streams) - \$55/mo

Netflix—4 streams + Ultra HD—\$11.99/mo

Hulu—Basic Package—\$5.99/mo

Emby Streaming Server—Allows you to stream and record live broadcast television onto Windows computer. Can also stream local movies, music and photos stored on PC to any number of devices.

Allows you to configure use profiles for each member of the house to prevent the kids from watching R-rated movies and allows only adults to stream and record broadcast television and view picture library.—\$119 lifetime for Premier

Cost of INTERNET + STREAMING SERVICES per month = \$136.98

Approximate monthly Savings = \$113.01

Streaming Media Equipment + Emby Premier Service Costs = \$317