

Digital TV

Did you know...

- In early 2009, broadcast television will complete a transition from analog to digital technology?
- Digital television, or DTV, will provide an interference-free signal and make new services possible?
- If you own a traditional analog TV set, it may no longer work unless you take action?

After February 17, 2009, a television receiver with only an analog broadcast tuner will require a converter box to receive full power over-the-air broadcasts with an antenna because of the Nation's transition to digital broadcasting. Analog-only TV's should continue to work as before to receive low power, Class A or translator television stations and with cable and satellite TV services, gaming consoles, VCR's, DVD players and similar products.

DTV is advanced technology that allows broadcasters to provide higher quality pictures and sound, as well as advanced services such as transmission of multiple video streams or other data over a single channel. DTV also makes more efficient use of the airwaves, and the Federal Communications Commission will make the airwaves that are freed up by this transition available for advanced communications services for commercial and public safety use.

The transition to DTV is underway now, and it is not too early to start preparing.

How can I learn more?

To learn more about DTV:

www.dtv.gov
888.835.5322

To learn more about the special
converter box program:

www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon
888.388.2009



www.thinkpolar.com

800.284.7222

A television revolution is underway - you may have to take action to continue watching your favorite shows

How do I know if I'm ready for the DTV transition?

If you subscribe to Polar Cablevision TV services, there is nothing for you to do except enjoy your favorite programming after the switch to digital TV (DTV). Polar will take care of the transition for you!

Will I still be able to use my analog television set?

If you rely on an outside antenna or indoor "rabbit ears" to receive broadcasting signals through your analog television, you can use a digital-to-analog converter. If your analog television is connected to a set-top box provided by Polar, then you will need a separate converter.

How do I tell if I have an analog or digital television set?

Since March 1, 2007, all new TV sets have been required to include a digital receiver. In addition, since May 25, 2007, retailers have been required by law to prominently label any analog-only TV remaining in stock.

If you have an older TV, you should check the labeling on the TV set or the manual that came with the TV to determine if it has a digital tuner. If you still are unable to determine what type of tuner you have, you should ask your electronics retailer or the manufacturer for information about your specific TV model.

What if I have a "Digital Ready" or "HDTV Ready" TV?

These labels do not mean you have a digital receiver. You will likely need a separate set-top box with a tuner in order to view DTV programs.

How can I obtain a digital-to-analog converter?

If you require digital-to-analog converters for your analog TV's, you may purchase them from your electronics retailer.

In order to assist you with the transition to DTV, Congress has established a program administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to help with the purchase of converter boxes. Between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, each US household is eligible to obtain up to two coupons worth \$40.00 each to be used towards the purchase of certain converters at participating retailers. You should not request your coupons until you are ready to buy your converters, since the coupons expire 90 days after they are issued.