

Lower monthly TV/Cable/Internet bill

What do you watch – a check list for what is needed?

- What TV service do you use?
 - Cincinnati Bell
 - Spectrum
 - Some other provider
 - Bundled with phone and/or Internet
- What weekly TV shows
- What TV specials
- What movies
- What local TV stations
- What sports
 - NFL
 - NBA
 - NHL
 - MLS
 - College Sports
 - Conferences
 - One college
- What news stations
 - CNN
 - MSNBC
 - FOX News
- How many cable boxes
- How many recording boxes
- Do you record and watch later to eliminate ads?
- Where is the cable modem
- If Spectrum, where is COAX feed to TVs

What phone service do you use?

- Cincinnati Bell
- Spectrum
- Cell Phone only

What Internet service do you use?

- Cincinnati Bell
 - Fiber or DSL
- Spectrum
- Some other provider

Do you use DVR?

Pull the plug

What you will need?

- Phone Service
 - Stay with Spectrum or Cincinnati Bell
 - MagicJack
 - Ooma
 - Google Voice
 - Vonage
- Streaming Capabilities
 - Smart TV – built-in
 - HDMI connected
 - Smart Blu-Ray DVD Player
 - Xbox One
 - Playstation 4
 - Android device
 - PC or iMac – browser driven
 - Roku \$40
 - Amazon Firestick \$20 to \$30
 - Apple TV \$150 to \$200
 - Google Chromecast \$30
- Antenna – Local stations
 - Indoor
 - Outdoor – Ebay Antenna, 40' COAX, mount and amplifier \$40.00
 - Amplifier - Antennas Direct 4-Port TV Distribution Amplifier \$46.00.
- TV
 - 4K
 - UHD, UHR, LED, OLED
- Streaming service(s)
 - Free and subscriptions
 - Movies, TV series, Sports or bundles
 - Pick and choose
- Internet service (minimum speed 20+ megabits/sec)
 - Cincinnati Bell
 - Spectrum
 - Hotspot – Cell phone service
 - NO data cap
 - FMCA hotspot (unlimited data)
 - \$85.00 to join
 - \$40.00 device purchase
 - \$50.00/month for service

- DVR
 - Fire TV Recast
 - \$230.00 Equipment
 - Requires Fire TV device
 - TiVo
 - \$200.00 Equipment – first TV
 - \$180.00 Second TV
 - \$15.00 month - \$150.00 year
 - Tablo
 - \$130.00 Equipment – Unlimited TVd
 - \$50.00 year - \$150.00 lifetime

TV antennas and cabling

- Found these antennas on the internet have not tried any except Old attic antenna.
- Found these prices on Amazon.

○ Mohu ReLeaf – Indoor	(30 mile range)	\$35.00
○ Winegard Elite 7550 – Outdoor	(70 mile range)	\$100.00 to 150.00
○ Mohu Arc Pro – Indoor	(60 mile range)	\$60.00
○ 1byone Amplified – Indoor	(50 mile range)	\$20.00 to \$40.00
○ Mohu Leaf Metro – Indoor	(25 mile range)	\$20.00
○ McDuory Amplified Digital – Outdoor	(150 mile range)	\$31.00
▪ 20 inches long		
▪ Rotating		
▪ 2 direct connections		
○ Supersonic SC- 618AT	(30 mile range)	\$25.00
▪ Can reach Dayton.		
▪ Small inconspicuous		
○ Old attic antenna		
- Antenna Amplifier
 - Some of the antennas come with boosters
 - May help signal
- Results of antennas can vary with weather and location.
- Use a very good RG6 or Flex6 jumper cable to connect your antenna. The difference in cheap versus good is totally unbelievable!

Phone alternatives

- These all require Internet service
- All these services get free calls in US

Stay with Spectrum of Cincinnati Bell

- Spectrum \$15.00/mo
- Cincinnati Bell \$15.00/mo

MagicJack

\$60.00 (plus shipping and taxes – est \$15.00)

- Specials - sometimes \$40.00
 - 12 months included
- Renewals
 - One Year \$40.00
 - Three Years \$100.00
 - Five years \$140.00
- Keep current number (1 time) \$20.00
- Conference call feature
- Forwarding to cell available
- Dial all 10 digits number
- Automated call screening (Spam) (All or nothing – dial number)
 - Rotating number (0 through 9) to complete call.
- Call blocking 999 numbers
- No monthly fees
- Requires phone App to determine if call is missed
- Included voice mail box.
- Listen to voice mails on smart phone app
- Difficult to set your name on outgoing calls.

Phone alternatives - cont

Ooma

- Purchase \$100.00
- Keep your current phone number \$40.00 (one-time)
- Basic monthly \$5.00 (estimated taxes and fees)
 - Basic phone service
 - 911 and 911 text alerts
 - Low-cost International
- Toggle call forwarding
- Premium monthly \$10.00 (plus taxes and fees, est. \$5.00)
 - All of above
 - Call blocking
 - Second number

Google Voice

- Service Free
- Smartphone or computer
- Text message available
- Requires Google account
- New or existing gmail account
- **It is possible** to keep your current landline number
 - ObiCom device VOIP to Analog \$75.00
 - Throw-away phone and service \$35.00 to \$50.00
 - Transfer to Cell phone \$20.00
 - Then transfer to Google voice \$20.00

Vonage

- Purchase \$100.00
- Basic \$25.00 (plus taxes and fees) /mon
 - Unlimited calls – U.S., Canada, Puerto Rico
 - Unlimited SMS (texts)
 - Unlimited team messaging
- Premium \$30.00 (plus taxes and fees)
 - All of above
 - Unlimited video for up 100 persons
 - CRM integration
- Advanced \$40.00 (plus taxes and fees)
 - All of above
 - Call recording
 - Call group
 - Visual voicemail

Streaming

- For all services (Free and Subscription), prices are monthly fees unless otherwise noted
- All of these services (Free and Subscription) are Ad supported, there will be commercials (unless otherwise noted)
- If using browser connection must turn off ad-blockers

Free Streaming Services

Tubi

Free

- TV Series
- Movies – over 20,000 (I didn't count them)
- Place items on personal list
- Wide selection
- Easy to navigate
- Favorites list
- Commercial sound is reduced in volume

Hoopla

Free

- Library Card Needed
- Smart TV App
- Create account
 - Gmail email will work
 - Verify with email account
- Movies & TV shows
 - No Ads
 - Watch as many times as desired for 3 days
- Favorites list
- Easy to navigate
- Limit on number of rentals per month
 - Butler County – 15
 - Clermont County – 8
 - Hamilton County – 20

Kanopy

Free

- Much like Hoopla
 - Each time you watch movie counts against limit
- Library Card Needed
- Favorites list
- Found it difficult to navigate

- Vudu** Free
- Windows 10 App
 - Need an email account
 - Movies
 - Check a box to be shown only free Movies – Free with Ads

- Crackle** Free
- Movies
 - Library is limited

- Popcornflix** Free
- Windows 10 App
 - Movies
 - Not easy to navigate
 - TV shows
 - Must turn off ad-blockers

- Pluto TV** Free
- 50 hours Cloud DVR
 - ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN3, ESPNU
 - HULU on-demand library \$6.00

- Peacock** Free
- Not very easy to navigate
 - Standard
 - NBC
 - Movies
 - TV Shows
 - Live Sports
 - Live News – Not local stations
 - Kids Movies
 - Some Spanish-language TV shows
 - If blue in upper-left corner with white feather will be a charge
 - Premium Plus \$5.00
 - All of above
 - Added movies
 - Premium Plus – No ads \$10.00
 - All of above
 - No Ads

- IMDBTV** Free
- Movies
 - Search is confusing

XUMO

- Movies

Free

Monthly Subscriptions

(Prices listed are monthly unless otherwise noted)

Amazon Prime Video

- 30 – day free trial
- Prime video only \$9.00
 - Movies
 - Extra charge for some movies
- Bundled with Amazon Prime \$13.00 \$119.00 / Year
 - Above
 - Prime shopping feature

HMNow.com \$5.00

- 7-day free trial
- Hallmark movies
- Watch on many devices

Netflix

Unlimited movies and TV shows

Watch shows on TV, Phone and tablet

- Basic \$ 9.00
 - 30-day free trial
 - 1 screen
 - 1 download
 - Standard TV
- Standard \$13.00
 - 2 screens
 - 2 downloads
 - HD available
- Premium \$16.00
 - 4 screens
 - 4 downloads
 - HD and Ultra HD available

BritBox \$7.00

- British shows

Discovery Plus \$5.00 \$7.00 – Ad Free

- HGTV, Food, TLC, A&E, Lifetime, History, DIY, Discovery, and more
- 7-day free trial

Acorn \$6.00 - \$60.00/year

- British shows

ESPN+ \$6.00

- Does not include
 - ESPN
 - ESPN2
 - ESPNU
 - ESPN Classic
 - ESPN News

Disney Plus \$7.00

- No live shows
- 4 screens

Hulu Library for all levels

- Basic \$6.00
 - 2 Screen
 - News channels
 - DVR – 50 hours \$10.00
 - Unlimited Screen \$10.00
 - DVR & Unlimited Screens \$15.00
- Premium \$12.00
 - Ad free
 - 2 Screen
 - News Channels
 - DVR – 50 hours
 - Unlimited Screen \$10.00
 - DVR – hours & Unlimited Screens \$15.00

Hulu Live includes 65 channels live TV

Basic \$55.00
Premium \$61.00

Same feature as above

- Streaming Library of 80,000+ TV episodes and movies
 - Most new episodes the day after they air*
- Watch on your TV, laptop, phone, or tablet
- Up to 6 user profiles
- Switch plans or cancel anytime**
- Watch on 2 different screens at the same time

- Live TV with 65+ top channels. No cable required
- Live TV guide to navigate channels
- Record Live TV with 50 hours of Cloud DVR storage
 - *For current-season shows in the streaming library only
- Hulu + Live TV subscribers gain access to 65+ channels of live TV, including cable news networks, CBS, ABC, NBC, and favorites such as Food Network, Disney Channel, and Discovery.
- For additional monthly costs, Hulu subscribers can add premium cable channels, like HBO, Starz, and Showtime, to their streaming plan, or even bundle the service with Disney Plus and ESPN+.

Bundle – Hulu (Basic), Disney Plus, ESPN+

Bundle Price \$13.00

Vidgo

\$10.00 /First 2 months then \$55.00/month

- 3-day free trial
- 60 channels – includes
 - ABC, Fox, ESPN & Hallmark
 - Not NBC nor CBS

Philo TV

\$20.00

- 7-day free trial
- 60+ channels
- Unlimited DVR
 - Save for 30 days
- 3 streams at one time
- 10 profiles per account
- Add-ons extra
 - Starz \$9.00
 - EPIX \$6.00

SlingTV – Either level

\$30.00

- Common channels
 - A&E, AXS TV, BBC America, Bloomberg TV, Cartoon network, Cheddar business, Cheddar news, CNN, Comedy Central, Comet, Epix Drive-in, Fuse, TNT, Stadium, HGTV, History, IFC, Lifetime, TBS
- Orange level
 - 3-day free trial
 - 1 stream at a time
 - 10 hours DVR
 - Disney
 - TBS, AMC, Food
 - ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN3, ESPNU
- Blue level

- 3 streams at one time
- NBCSN, NBC sports, NBCSN, FS1
- USA, TruTV, TLC, Nick Jr, NBC Sports

YouTube TV \$65.00

- 85+ Channels
- Local news channels
- NBA and MLB Networks
- PBS, BET, MTV, Comedy Central, Nickelodeon
- ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN3, ESPNU
- FS1, FS2
 - Unlimited cloud DVR
 - 3 streams and 6 accounts

CBS \$6.00

Spectrum Streaming services

Spectrum TV Choice \$25.00 (first 24 months then \$35.00)

- Live local stations (10 to 40 – depending on location)
- Choose 10 of 65

Spectrum TV Essentials \$15.00 (first 24 months then \$35.00)

- Spectrum Cable Stations
- No Local Stations
- No Sports Stations

Spectrum - Negotiated \$127.00 (first 12 months)

- Stream all programs currently getting

Over the air Recorders

TiVo BOLT OTA for Antenna	\$170.00
AVerMedia EzRecorder ER130	\$130.00
TiVo Bolt 500	\$166.00
Tablo Dual DVR	\$130.00
Tablo Quad DVR	\$200.00
Amazon Fire TV Recast	\$168.00
Plex	\$120.00

Compare MagicJack and Ooma

MagicJack

- Lower cost
- \$50.00 or \$70.00 to start (keeping same number)
- \$40.00 per year
- Calls ring on home phone and cell phone
- Free Robocall blocker
- No Caller ID

Ooma

- Entry level
 - Higher costs
 - \$100.00 or \$140.00 (keeping same number)
 - \$5.00 per month (taxes)
 - Forward calls to Mobile app, cell phone, or landline
- Premier service – added features
 - \$15.00 per month instead of \$5.00 (includes taxes)
 - Robocall blocker
 - Second phone number
 - Interface to Security bundle

Web pages of interest

On-line Pull the Plug

<https://courses.mainlineschoolnight.org/wconnect/ace/CourseStatus.awp?&Course=20FCO51414%20%20&DirectFrom=Schedule>

Guide to disconnecting

<https://www.creators.com/read/everyday-cheapskate/01/14/how-to-pull-the-plug-on-cable-or-satellite>

<https://www.nytimes.com/wirecutter/reviews/how-to-cut-the-cord-and-what-to-do-if-you-cant/>

CBT Internet

<https://www.visionclick.com/cincinnati/cincinnati/internet>

Streaming news channels

<https://www.makeuseof.com/tag/free-streaming-news-channels-cord-cutters/>

Roku

<https://www.roku.com/how-it-works>

<https://www.techhive.com/article/3173175/best-dvr-for-cord-cutters.html>

AVerMedia EzRecorder, HD Video Capture High Definition HDMI Recorder