

How will switch-over affect you?

Know
How

Between 2007 and 2012 the government will turn off the current analogue television transmissions in favour of the digital system (DTT). If you have some form of multi-channel digital television satellite/cable or DTT, or multi channel TV via the internet (IPTV) to your main household television, this may not be received by the rest of the equipment in your home. You will need to consider this when upgrading to digital; if you have additional televisions, VCRs, or DVD recorders in other rooms each of these will also require a digital tuner. Your aerial and down lead may also need to be up-graded to receive the digital transmissions.

When will my region be switched over?

For up-to-date info on the progress of the switch-over please visit www.digital.co.uk

Will my current AV equipment receive digital television?

If your current TV is connected to a Freeview box then you will be able to receive digital television in the same manner as you currently do. If you have an IDTV, a TV with a built-in digital tuner, then this will also receive digital TV; your VCR and other equipment such as DVD recorders will not be able to receive digital TV unless they have a built in digital tuner, although they will be able to record the channel you are currently watching.

What equipment will I need to up-grade?

When considering which equipment to up-grade you will need to take into account all of the AV equipment in your home, including TVs, VCRs and DVD recorders. In theory if you would like your system to work in the same way that it currently does then you would need to add a digital tuner to each piece of equipment. So, if your home has three TVs, two VCRs and a DVD recorder you would require six freeview boxes. In many cases this will not be cost effective or practical and your first step to up-grading should be to consider how you use your current equipment - think about whether all your VCRs are used to record or just use to play pre-recorded tapes. If you use your VCR to play pre-recorded tapes then they would not need to be upgraded. Alternatively you could change to a Freeview DVR with two tuners allowing you to watch one channel and record another on the hard drive replacing your video and up-grading your TV at the same time (although you may wish to keep your VCR to play pre recorded tapes). Please note that some TVs on the market have DVRs built-in.

How do I know if my aerial needs upgrading?

If you live in an area which can already receive digital terrestrial we would first recommend that you buy your equipment and try it, if you find that you are missing some channels or the picture breaks up then we recommend that your aerial install is upgraded; alternatively call SmartView for advice.

One important thing to consider is the age of your aerial and cabling; most cabling installed for aerials does not meet the standards required for digital reception. As with any digital system if you have poor reception or picture break up this is normally caused by a combination of things, for example mis-aligned aerial and poor cable. Contact SmartView Digital for an evaluation.

Key considerations

- Make sure you know what your current equipment can do.
- If you are in an area that can receive digital terrestrial, upgrade sooner than later as it may be difficult to find an installer at the time of switch over.
- Installation and equipment connection, and planning for future expansion should all be considered.

SmartView Digital will be happy to provide over the phone advice on any issues regarding switch-off.

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