

Why a Cable Box?

A DVR cable box adds to the TV viewing experience in a number of ways:

- **Program selection is simple.** The cable box can process any signal on the cable seamlessly, whether it be analog or digital, or high-definition digital.
- **Cable boxes never need to be auto-programmed.** Their programming is always up-to-date because they receive their configuration information from the cable.
- **Program guide.** No need for a daily newspaper, as a click of the button shows a grid of all programming days in advance.
- **Program details.** Get program information at the click of a button. View the title of the program and, for most programs, a synopsis and the major actors.
- **Pause live TV.** The DVR stores the program while you're answering the phone or dealing with any other kind of interruption. Another click and the program resumes where you left off.
- **Recording TV.** Bring up the guide and click on future programs that you want to watch. After the programs are recorded, you can watch them at any time.
- **Digital tuner.** Add digital reception capability to an older set. Many HDTV sets made during the early days of HDTV are "monitors" or "HD Ready." Without the digital tuner, many of the secondary and multi-cultural channels on the cable cannot be viewed.
- **Digital Premiums.** Cable boxes are required for the reception of digital packages. Were we to offer all programs to all customers, our rates would be high — but by putting some programs in optional packages, you subscribe to only those that you are willing to pay for.
- **Channel numbers** are simple numbers. No decimal points or dashes to remember or enter.

What's a DVR? (And Why Do I Need One?)

We've all heard it a thousand times: "There is never anything on TV!" Yet there are hundreds of channels now available on the cable. Usually, the problem is that the programs we do want to see are presented at an inconvenient time or run at the same time as another program we want to watch. The Digital Video Recorder (DVR) has solved this problem so well that just about any modern TV has a DVR associated with it. It has become as much of a necessity as a toaster or cell phone.

The best DVR's have two tuners. Since each tuner only receives a single program, two tuners are needed to record one program while viewing another, or to record two programs simultaneously.

The iGuide



The iGuide is an important feature on all DCH or DCT cable boxes, showing a grid of all programming on the cable, detailed information on any selection within the grid, and a reduced image of the current program.

DSR470 Cable Boxes

While these old cable boxes are still supported and continue to provide access to our digital paks, we no longer recommend them for a number of reasons:

- They cannot process any high definition programs.
- They cannot receive digital local channels.
- They cannot receive the Digital Basic pak that we activate on all of the new cable boxes.



DSR470 Cable Box



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DCH6416



Tivo HD



DCT6200



DCT6208

Choosing the Right Cable Box

New HD Cable Boxes

Thanks to FCC rules, all new boxes require a CableCARD. These cable boxes have all the outputs required by current TV sets (HDMI, Component, Composite, optical surround-sound).

DCH6416. DVR with 2 Tuners. \$16.99/mo

This new, state-of-the-art box is quiet and has an attractive appearance. Recording Capacity: 14 hours HD or 60 hours of SD TV.

CableCARD included in lease rate.



TiVo HD. DVR with 2 Tuners. \$599

If you like the older TiVo boxes, you'll love the TiVo HD because it has all the extra features TiVo users expect. Because of the CableCARD, it is a completely self-contained unit that does not require a cable box to receive premium packages as did the older TiVo models.

Rather than using the iGuide, which we provide for the other cable boxes at no charge, TiVo requires its own "TiVo service." The cost of that service, along with the fact that this unit has a slightly larger disk drive, is the reason that the unit is more expensive than the DCH6416, which is otherwise very similar. A telephone or Internet (best) connection is required to access the TiVo service.

TiVo has features not found on other cable boxes, such as Internet downloads, child protection ("Kid Zone"), and access to audio and video files on household computers. If those features are important to you, or if you love the award-winning TiVo menus, you should consider the TiVo HD.

- Recording Capacity: 20 hours HD or 180 hours of SD TV.
- Optional adaptor for connection to wireless Internet: \$60
- Note that the TiVo does not display titles of individual DMX music selections, a feature found on all of our other cable boxes.
- CableCARD lease required (\$3.99/mo).



Pre-Owned, 1 Tuner HD Cable Boxes

These boxes are no longer manufactured because they do not support or require CableCARDS — all decoding functions are built-in. The DCT boxes all have the same iGuide, use the same remote, and are functionally equivalent to the new DCH6416. These units have DVI, component, composite, and optical surround-sound outputs. (DVI-to-HDMI cables are available but, since DVI does not support sound, that option is best reserved for customers with separate surround-sound decoders and sound systems.)

DCT6200. High Definition Cable Box. \$7.99/mo.

Quality cable box without DVR. Because it has no internal cooling fan, it is quiet and well suited for placement in a bedroom. Purchase price: \$359.99 plus tax.

DCT6208. DVR with 1 Tuner. 6.99/month

The DCT6208's bargain price is due to its one-tuner limitation. It otherwise looks and works like the DCH6416. If you are using the DVR feature to record a program, the 1-tuner limitation will prevent you from watching anything on another channel unless you stop the recording. If you rarely use the DVR feature and can live with this limitation, these boxes are a great bargain. Recording capacity: 7 hours of HD or 30 hours of SD TV.

Note: some have objected to the relatively loud fan noise from these boxes, so we do not recommend them in bedrooms. Purchase price: \$189.99 plus



Cable Box for Analog (regular) TV's

DCT2200. \$3.99/mo. (Same as the DSR470 that it replaces)

Cable box with no fan noise and no DVR. Because it does not handle high definition programming, this inexpensive box is ideal for analog TV's. It is especially recommended for those who simply want their analog TV to access the many local digital channels that analog sets cannot receive, such as the foreign language programs on KTSF, KDTV, Azteca, LATV, NTG, MBC, V-me, etc., or the programming from KKPX (Ion), and PBS Life, PBS World, and PBS Kids. It is capable of receiving any of our digital subscription channels except the HD Pak. Purchase price: \$129.99 plus tax.



Lease or Buy? For those who would like to "test drive" a cable box before purchasing it, leasing is a good option. We will apply 100% of the up to three months of lease payments toward the purchase of any cable box.