

Smart TV's

First there was Roku, a way to stream movies and shows from places like Netflix, Hulu and a few more. Now you can get Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Nyrius, TiVo, RQN Android Tv Box, Mifanstech M8S Android 4.4 Tv Box and a host of others that let you live steam from the internet to your TV. Some shows and movies are free and some you must purchase. You would think the older movies would be free or



cheaper but that is not always the case. It depends on the licensee and the popularity of the movie/show. There is also an abundance of channels to choose from now, not just Netflix and Hulu but Amazon, Utube, HBO and sports and music channels to mention a few. Not only that but but they can connect to the internet and you can pull up the web sites you want. But, you may not even need these if you have a Smart TV. Smart TV's have these features built into them. One of my TV's is a smart TV (the other two are stupid)and it does as advertised but I found the connection to the wireless router to be slow compared to myRoku's. As a matter of fact it is actually frustrating, by the time you sign in wait for it to load your selection it is time to go to bed.Newer ones may be better now, mine is about 5 years old which is ancient nowadays. These stand alone devices are easy to install and set up. Some just plug into your USB port on your computer and one plug into your TV. Did I mention you need a computer connected to the web to allow them to operate. Of course you don't need any of these if you want to buy movies from Optimum, they have the some very new releases for less that \$5.00 for a 24 hour rental. I myself use Amazon Prime and stream with a Roku. Amazon Prime has hundreds of free movies in a genre that's to your liking and after watching a few will start to suggest or recommend that type for you although you can do a search for something else at anytime. I use Roku because I have had it for years and I use Amazon Prime because I get free 2 day shipping on almost everything I buy and get a free book for my

tablet every month. All these devices including the Smart TV's need some setting up so you may want your grandchildren around when you go to do it.



Their instructions go something like this -Roku 3 works with virtually any TV with an HDMI® connection. You can plug your Roku 3 directly into your TV or receiver depending on your preference.

Setting up your Roku® player requires that you have a broadband Internet connection, a wireless router (and/or wired for Roku 2 or Roku 3), power , an HDMI® cable (sold separately), and an HDTV. Once you have all of those ingredients, just plug in your Roku player. Our guided set up will walk you through updating and installing channels.

Optimum also has an app that allows you to watch live TV on your laptop and/or tablet. For some strange reason they don't allow it on your desktop though. After signing in with your Otimum password you can watch live TV, On Demand and set your DVR. You need a good wifi or Hotspot to get it to stream well though. The cost for Amazon prime is \$99. per year. Pretty smart, once anything is over a \$100 us seniors think twice (maybe three times). Netflix has many different plans (too many) but their streaming charge is \$10 per month. Hulu is \$7.99 per month. Not every carrier has every movie because of licensing but they all have plenty.

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