

SlingTV: The Ultimate in Customization

Have you gotten on the live TV streaming trend? If you haven't, you should! With so many platforms now offering customized live TV streaming services, it's a great time to ditch your cable subscription forever. Live TV is making a comeback after years of on-demand and niche streaming services dominating the television landscape.

Live TV can be a great way to connect with loved ones and enjoy popular culture. One of the top performers in this new entertainment service category is SlingTV. A live TV streaming subscription that features multiple tiers and a wide array of available channels, this streaming service ends up at the top of the pack when it comes to budget services.

SlingTV is a live TV streaming service that maximizes content flexibility. How much is SlingTV? Starting at only \$35, SlingTV differentiates itself from its competitors by offering two different options. Sling Orange and Sling Blue both offer popular live TV channels as a streaming service. Still, each subscription option features a set of premier channels only available to one or the other.

Sling Orange or Sling Blue: Which Should You Choose?

One thing that makes SlingTV stand out is the option to choose a package that includes sports programming for a lower price than most other live TV streaming services that feature sports channels. Does SlingTV have ESPN? Have you ever wondered how to watch ESPN without cable? With Sling Orange, you get access to ESPN and ESPN2 live sports streaming channels. Featuring games from all major sports leagues—such as the NBA, the NFL, and the MLB—with Sling Orange, you'll never miss a game.

If you ever wondered how you could watch college football without cable for a low price without a cable subscription, look no further! And if you love basketball, you can tune in to the latest NBA TV live stream. Sling Orange also features content from Disney, making it an option that will entertain the whole family.

If sports programming isn't exactly your thing, Sling Blue may be a better option. One of the main features of SlingTV is the flexibility it gives you to only pay for a selection of channels that meets your needs best. Sling Blue includes network programming like Fox and NBC rather than live sports programming like ESPN.

It does have FS1, the Fox-owned network that features live college football programming. If you ever wondered how you could watch college football without cable for a low price without a cable subscription, look no further! You can watch FS1 on Sling Blue. It also features a few more channels than Sling Orange, and it allows for streaming on three individual devices as opposed to one.

An added upside to both options is the ability to customize channels based on what suits your needs best. For example, if you like streaming live sports programming but don't necessarily need ESPN, you can certainly pay for the Sports Extra add-on, with sports programming and webcasts of live games, for only \$5 to \$10 more a month. The channel upgrade option features popular live TV channels like Comedy Central and allows you to only pay for what you want. What cable subscription does that?

One added bonus is that both options feature a free trial. While you can't combine the trial into trying out which subscription you would like, you have the flexibility to try out one first for seven days before making a decision. If you ultimately decide that the lack of live streaming sports on Sling Blue is a deal-breaker, it's easy to switch to Sling Orange and vice versa. The SlingTV free trial is a great way to figure out if this live TV streaming service is for you.

SlingTV also has an upgraded option that combines both Orange and Blue features with five additional, premium channels. If you're looking to have it all, this is a great option. Additionally, the premium feature combines some of the best add-ons from both options, and you can still add bonus features for an additional price every month. The premium plan starts at \$55 a month, which is still less than many other live TV streaming services and cable or satellite TV subscriptions.

Some Considerations for SlingTV

One of the main downsides of this live TV streaming service is that it does not feature local news coverage—including local sports. There is not a SlingTV local channel feature with either basic service. If you follow local and regional sports, this may not be the service for you.

To integrate live sports programming into the service, you may need to purchase a costly add-on or use a local TV antenna to grab local broadcasting. This includes local networks for news and community programming, so if you like your local news fix, this may not be the best choice.

While SlingTV does feature free cloud DVR storage, there are some caveats. First, it doesn't have unlimited storage—this is an add-on that you have to pay extra for on top of the initial subscription. It comes with a free 50 hours of recording space, with up to 200 hours for an additional \$5 a month.

This may be worth it, but keep in mind how much you want to use this feature. Basically, if you miss your favorite show when it airs, you may have to wait for the on-demand version to watch it—you can't store the recording without adding that extra feature if you've maxed out your available hours. This may be something that works for your needs, however. One of the essential components of SlingTV is the idea that your live TV streaming subscription should be fully customizable—you only pay for what you want.

Another downside might be some of its technical specifications. While some other (but also pricier) streaming services such as Hulu and YouTube Live feature 4K video streaming, SlingTV only goes up to 720p. While this may not bother you or affect your viewing experience, if you value crisp and clean video playback for high movement broadcasting such as live sports, you may want to make a note of this feature.

What Platforms Support SlingTV?

One of the deciding factors in choosing a live TV streaming service is, of course, whether or not the service is compatible with your entertainment devices. Are you wondering how to watch SlingTV? One of SlingTV's strong points is that it's available across a wide variety of platforms, including Roku, Apple TV, Google Chromecast, Amazon FireTV, and mobile devices. As with most streaming platforms, you can also view your favorite streaming content on a web browser.

The SlingTV app is also highly intuitive on mobile interfaces. If you like to watch TV on the go, on a tablet, or on a phone, this might be an excellent feature for you. The navigation is easy and smooth on these platforms. Additionally, the SlingTV app is relatively intuitive on Smart TV and streaming devices. Users also report that getting technical support for SlingTV is relatively simple and hassle-free.

As we mentioned previously, different plans have different options for simultaneous streaming. With SlingTV, how many devices can stream at once? While Sling Blue offers the possibility to stream on up to three separate devices at once, Sling Orange only offers an option to stream on one device. This may affect your decision on which plan to purchase—if you have a household that requires multiple streaming options at once, Sling Orange may not be your best bet.

Pros and Cons:

As with any purchase, it's crucial to weigh the pros and cons. Knowing what services fit your needs—and what services don't—can help you make an informed decision on which live TV streaming subscription works for you.

Pros:

- Offers customization for channels and features.
- Has a wide array of channels and networks.
- Sling Orange features access to ESPN live sports streaming programming.
- Sling Blue features a wide array of programming and also popular networks like NBC and Fox.
- Compatible with many TV streaming devices.
- Has a lower price-point than many other live TV streaming services.
- Intuitive app design makes streaming an easy experience.
- 50 hours of DVR storage with no time limit.

Cons:

- Some features require an additional subscription.
- Sling Orange only allows one device to stream at a time.
- Streaming video quality does not support 4k.
- Local news and regional sports networks are not available for streaming.
- Is SlingTV free? No—but it does have a free trial for seven days.

Conclusion

Overall, if you're looking for a robust, budget live TV streaming service, SlingTV is an excellent choice. With its customizable features and a wide array of programming, you will get all the live TV options you want—without paying for what you don't. An added bonus with this customization is that with Sling Orange, you get national sports programming without a high cable or satellite TV bill.

ESPN is a coveted live TV streaming service, and the inclusion of this network in the Orange option is a huge plus. And, if you don't want sports programming, being able to choose a live TV bundle that only has what you need without pricy fees for what you don't is an excellent feature of Sling Blue.

Watching live TV is a great way to connect with family and friends, and it doesn't have to come with a high cable bill. SlingTV is a great option for subscribers looking to save money and still stream their favorite shows.