

NEWS UPDATE

JANUARY 2017

Your regular briefing from Freeview and Digital UK - working together to support the UK's most-watched TV service.

About Freeview

Launched in 2002, Freeview is a subscription-free TV service offering 70 standard and 15 high-definition TV channels, radio stations and interactive services through an aerial. It is managed by DTV Services Ltd, a company owned and run by its five shareholders - BBC, Sky, Channel 4, ITV and Arqiva.

About Digital UK

Digital UK provides operational management of DTT and leads innovation on the platform, including the development of Freeview Play. The company is owned by the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Arqiva.

Find out more online at: freeview.co.uk and digitaluk.co.uk



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HD NOW STANDARD ON ALL NEW FREEVIEW PRODUCTS

All new TVs and boxes carrying the Freeview logo must be compatible with HD signals from January 2017, it has been [announced](#). The Freeview brand has been withdrawn from any new products that can only display standard-definition channels. Guy North, Managing Director of Freeview, said: 'Moving Freeview to a fully HD product line-up is a landmark moment for the UK market and continues our track record of striving to deliver the best subscription-free TV service. I'm delighted we are playing our part in making the best picture quality available to everyone and are already gearing up for Ultra HD standards, which form part of the latest Freeview Play technical specifications.'

FREEVIEW PLAY NOW AVAILABLE ON HISENSE TVs

Freeview Play has launched across a number of [Hisense TVs](#), increasing the choice of products on offer to viewers. Anyone with a compatible connected set will be prompted to download the upgrade, which lets them access catch-up programming from the BBC, ITV, STV, Channel 4, Channel 5 and UKTV straight from the TV guide. Hisense joins the growing number of manufacturers offering Freeview Play, including LG, Panasonic, Humax and JVC.

MINISTER PRAISES PROGRESS OF LOCAL TV CHANNELS

Culture Minister Matt Hancock has highlighted the progress made by [Local TV channels](#) across the UK. Speaking at a reception in the House of Commons organised by the Local TV Network earlier this month, Mr Hancock told MPs, peers and industry leaders that local stations had made impressive strides since the first was launched three years ago. Twenty-one channels are now on air with a further dozen scheduled to launch in the first half of 2017.

ITV HUB+ UPDATE BRINGS EXTRA CHOICE FOR VIEWERS

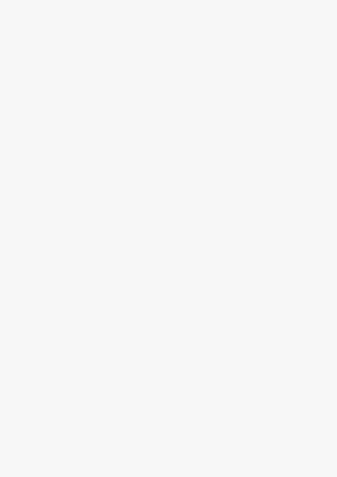
Freeview viewers with TVs and boxes that include the ITV Hub app will soon be able to sign up to get additional features from the popular catch-up service. For an optional £3.99 a month, ITV Hub+ offers benefits including ad-free programmes and personalisation options. More information on the Hub is available on the [ITV website](#).

BLOGS HIGHLIGHT TOP TV TECHNOLOGIES AT CES

Guy North, Managing Director of Freeview, and Simon Hunt, Digital UK's Strategy and Business Director, have reported on this month's Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. Check out their pick of the top technologies coming to a TV near you on the [Freeview](#) and [Digital UK](#) blogs.

MOVIE MOVES LEAD LATEST CHANNEL UPDATES

Film lovers with Freeview may have noticed some recent changes to the channel line-up on their TV guide. Movie Mix at 32 has changed to the Sony Movie Channel, while Bollywood movie fans can now get their fix with Rishtey Cineplex on Freeview channel 88. With the festive season over, True Christmas has also switched back to True Movies at 74.



Elsewhere in the guide, viewers can now catch-up with programmes on More4 an hour later than billed with a +1 service on 86 and shopping channel Shop 8-12 is now Sewing Quarter at 78.

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