



# ADVISORY

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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.  
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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## 6 DAYS AND COUNTING TO DTV TRANSITION

### *Good Antenna Key to Making the Switch*

**Washington, D.C.** – You’re going to need good ears and a bow-tie to make the transition to digital television (DTV) on June 12.

Ears, as in the rabbit ears of an indoor TV antenna, to pick up channels 2 through 13. And a bow-tie, as in the metal bow-tie or often, a loop, on the antenna to get channels 14-51.

While some modern antennas have traded rabbit ears and bow-ties for more stylish components, any quality antenna, no matter the shape, must be capable of receiving channels 2 through 51.

The digital signal will provide most viewers with better sound and picture, and more channels. But there are many reasons why a good antenna is important for DTV:

- The “digital cliff” effect: if your reception is weak, you won’t get snow. You’ll get no picture.
- The U’s: More stations are moving to the UHF range – channels 14-51 -- so you’ll need that bow-tie or loop, or its update, to pick them up well.
- The V’s: You need rabbit ears or a more modern equivalent to pick up the channels that remain in the VHF range – channels 2-13.

Some viewers may have to install roof top antennas. But try good ears and a bow tie first. You may be pleasantly surprised by how good they’ll make your TV picture look.

On June 12, all full-power TV in the U.S. will stop analog broadcast service and transmit only digital signals. Consumers who do not subscribe to pay television services and have analog

#### *Antenna Resources*

##### **FCC Antenna Guide**

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/consultants/factsheets/dtvantennas.html>

##### **FCC Reception Maps:**

includes instructions on how to use FCC interactive maps to choose, aim an antenna  
<http://www.fcc.gov/mb/engineering/maps/>

##### **AntennaWeb**

<http://www.antennaweb.org/>

##### **Resource for antenna distributors**

[http://www.dtv.gov/antenna\\_data.html](http://www.dtv.gov/antenna_data.html)

##### **Consumers Union DTV Guide**

[http://www.dtv.gov/dtv\\_made\\_easy.pdf](http://www.dtv.gov/dtv_made_easy.pdf)

televisions will need to have digital-to-analog converter boxes – and a good antenna -- attached to their televisions in order to continue receiving over-the-air television programming.

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Resources for reporters covering the DTV transition are available in the DTV Media Toolkit at [http://www.dtv.gov/media\\_toolkit.html](http://www.dtv.gov/media_toolkit.html)