
Those with DirecTV please chime in.

Posted by craigoscarsen - 2008/02/22 08:44

So this is pretty much a no brainer for me living in Kansas City to switch from cable to directv; however I was hoping to get some info from those that currently have directv. Apparently directv doesn't have an internet option, so I'm still looking at cable for internet I suppose.

I guess it's not a matter of whether or not it's better than cable, even if it isn't I'm still switching for BYU football. But I guess it wouldn't hurt to get information from current subscribers of the pros and cons. My guess is this announcement will affect tens of thousands of BYU fans; maybe even hundreds of thousands.

This is what I'm looking at

<http://www.directstartv.com/localchannels/Kansas/11/Kansas%20City>

Re:Those with DirecTV please chime in.

Posted by Slugger - 2008/02/22 08:48

I had DirecTV a few years back and loved it. But ended up switching just to get the Comcast high-speed internet (nothing better, honestly). In my opinion, DirecTV offers the best television and Comcast offers the best internet. I'm really glad that folks like yourself have an option now. I hate The mtn as much as anyone, but I've been lucky enough to have it the past couple of seasons. Hope this all works out! (I would still prefer BYU dump the MWC altogether, it is an anchor on a ship that's ready to sail).

Re:Those with DirecTV please chime in.

Posted by harlinestillopen - 2008/02/22 08:53

I've got DirecTV. I think we did a deal with qwest to get phone/internet/dish for about a 100 a month. That was just about a year ago. I'm not sure if they're still doing a deal like that or not. The internet is not as fast as comcast's but its not as slow as dial up. Direct TV can not be beat. Especially if you have HD. They are getting more and more channels in HD every day.

Re:Those with DirecTV please chime in.

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/02/22 08:55

I would wait until mid to late July to make your final decision--the MTN will not air on DirceTV until Aug 1. Dish Network offers a nice high-speed internet alongside their TV, so if they follow DirecTV and add the MTN, you could drop the cable all together.

Dish has a much nicer DVR as well, but they offer less HD programming for twice the price of DirecTV, so it really would come down to weighing what you really want out of you Dish provider.

Then again, if the DirecTV proves to be an exclusive agreement or Dish doesn't add the MTN, you decision in July becomes easy.

Re:Those with DirecTV please chime in.

Posted by njcoug - 2008/02/22 09:01

My parents did a Qwest package complete with DTV. They enjoy it. Comcast's Internet is ordinarily faster than Qwest's except when you are downloading large files. Comcast will slow down the rate at which a user can download a large file, which then makes it DSL speed. Plus for normal web surfing, DSL doesn't make a difference.

Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by Uncle Iroh - 2008/02/22 09:39

I wish I had all of my providers, internet through Comcast, phone through Vonage, and TV through Direct TV. I might pay a little more each month, but I believe I have the best of all worlds. Direct TV is hands down the best TV option, I am happy as a clam they have picked it up. I'd wish I had if I were you, it might be a little more, but it is well worth it in my opinion.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by penn cougar - 2008/02/22 09:48

I had direct tv for the last year but when I moved to North Carolina I moved back in to an apartment temporarily (sucks) and was stuck with Time Warner. My favorite thing with Direct tv was that when you ordered a pay per view movie, you could record it to your dvr so you could watch it again and again. With cable they won't let me record pay per view. I also enjoyed the packaging options with Direct tv better than the cable I have now or the Comcast I had when I lived in Utah.

These are just my opinions but even before the mtn deal was set in stone (is still really isn't though) as soon as I get a new address to move to, I'm calling Direct TV to get my service back.

Oh, and I have found their customer service to be superior to anyone else. When I moved to NC, I was charged an early cancellation fee because I had a two year contract because I had DVR. I wrote a letter explaining that I preferred Direct TV, but was forced by my apt complex into cable. Without any questions, they took the fee off my account and sent me a nice letter and a gift certificate for a free pay per view movie when I signed back up, with no expiration date.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/02/22 09:48

I would never switch to Dish, but I might switch to DirecTV. I have had 3 TV carriers: Comcast (absolutely loved it, best quality and service of the three), Dish (absolutely hated it, worst quality and service of the three), and Time Warner Cable (quality not as good as Comcast because it goes out more, but not as much as Dish did, and service is adequate when you finally get done waiting on hold).

My decision will be based on three things: 1) is DirecTV's service quality better than Dish (ie, does it actually not go out during a small rain storm), 2) what pricing tier will it be on, and 3) will the channel be picked up by Time Warner (probably not, because they don't even pick up the Big 10 network here in Ohio). If I am not convinced that DirecTV is not better than Dish, then I will have to be content with 6 games again next year.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/02/22 09:59

penn cougar wrote:

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TV, but was forced by by apt complex into cable. Without any questions, they took the fee off my account and sent me a nice letter and a gift certificate for a free pay per view movie when I signed back up, with no expiration date.

You just answered my question about the customer service. I may not find it better than Comcast, but it sounds better than Dish. The apartment I moved into when I moved to Ohio highly discouraged satellite (I had signed up for it before leaving Utah, because I didn't want to deal with Time Warner). I had to pay a fee to have it, and it couldn't be attached to the building. Dish refused to waive the disconnect fee, and even though cable internet is much cheaper in Ohio than in Utah as a stand alone option, Dish and internet cost more than Comcast's digital package in Utah, even before the fee from the apartment. The last straw with Dish was that they wanted a hundred dollar setup fee when I moved to my house, and they couldn't come out to set it up for a week. Time Warner guaranteed they would have it installed the next day.

Convince me that it will not go out 9 times during the middle of a game, and I'm sold (true story, happened during a Jazz playoff game last year with Dish).

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by BYUtx - 2008/02/22 10:13

I had a very different experience with Dish. Our Comcast cable has gone out far more frequently than Dish ever did (I've had both here in Provo). As far as I'm concerned, Dish has a far superior product than Comcast at what seemed to be half the price. When I ended my service contract with them they were really nice and promised me I could restart service at any time without any fees. I think I'll try DirecTV next because they were the first satellite carrier (may be the only one if the deal is exclusive) to pick up the mtn.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by Ygridiron4ever - 2008/02/22 10:15

I've had DirecTV for about 12 years now. Actually started with some Hughes company before they became DirecTV. I have absolutely loved it. The product and service are great as far as I am concerned. When my wife and I moved from Utah to California 8 years ago I did about a 2 month stint with Cox cable. The service sucked. The quality of the broadcast sucked. Luckily DirecTV welcomed me back in to their fold without hassle and allowed me to keep my long-time customer status.

Now with the home theater and large plasma TV, I love the high-def channels DirecTV has (even versus is available in high-def so I have high hopes for the Mtn), I love my high-def DVR and the pay-per-view movies in high def that I can record and watch later.

I love BYU sports, but never once considered dropping Directv in support of BYU!

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by craigoscarson - 2008/02/22 10:34

Ygridiron4ever wrote:

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Time Warner has always been the status quo in Kansas City but I'm more than prepared to go to dish or directv. I would actually like to keep my internet and tv on one bill, so I may wait until closer to Aug 1 to see what Dish will do in response to this; however, I'm getting the impression that nearly everyone with directv is happy with it, while dish subscribers are 50/50 but they can combine their internet, good to know.....THANKS

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by azcavalier - 2008/02/22 10:36

I had Dish for about 8 years in Arizona and Illinois, and loved it. However, in Illinois, we had issues when the local channels became available. They said that to get them, I had to install a "SuperDish" which was pretty large. They would not put it on the roof, because they said it was too big and winds would rip it off, so they would only put it in the yard. But our yard was hemmed in by trees and houses to the south, so there was no signal. They told me, "Too bad." So, I called DirecTV, and they said, "Nah, we'll just put two dishes on your roof". So I did that. I also got a DVR, which at the time was a TiVo box, and it ROCKS. Then later, my inlaws moved in with us, and they bought another DVR for their bedroom, but left it when they left since they don't have satellite TV. Then when we moved to Virginia, DirecTV said that since we moved, we qualified for another receiver. I got a third DVR, for free! I don't like the DirecTV DVR as much as the TiVo boxes, but i'll take it.

Their customer service has always been good, and the price as compared to Dish is about the same. I get all of the regional sports channels anyway so that I can watch PAC-10 hoops. So i'm stoked for the mtn. to come!

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by Hawkwing - 2008/02/22 10:50

I have DirecTV too, I'm in Eagle Mountain, Utah (no comcast available) and I love it too. Their quality of the broadcasts is so much better than I had on Comcast when I lived in Orem. And their service seems a lot better too. I had a case when an installer came out to hook up our DVR and didn't realize I had an HD receiver in another room and hooked it up wrong, so that receiver no longer had a signal. They apologized and gave me a years worth of HD for free.

Others of my family have had Dish (I never had) but when I've used their DVR I haven't noticed anything that stands out as remarkably superior. I hear all the time that Dish's DVR is so much better, but maybe someone can actually explain why? My DVR with DirecTV has been fine and done everything I could ask from it. I especially like that I can go online and set shows to record through the web.

With the MTN coming to DirecTV I will probably never switch TV providers again.

EDIT:

As for outages, we've had a number of very heavy snow storms this winter and our TV has not gone out.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by Raul - 2008/02/22 10:52

I am a Direct TV customer in the provo area, and my contract expired last month so I have been debating about switching to Cable to get the Mtn. I am excited that I may not have to now. My question for the other Direct TV customers is that I always hear about these great deals/pricing/Free HD receiver etc., but it always says "New customers only". Does anyone know what options there are for an existing customer to upgrade (I just bought an HD TV)? Do I need to cancel my service for a month, and then resign? Any ideas/experiences?

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

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Raul wrote:

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Raul, they usually have some good deals for existing customers to upgrade. I know I've found some on the website <http://www.directv.com> under the equipment area. You can also call them and ask them.

A good trick is to call them with a Dish offer and say that you can get this this and this if you switch to Dish and they will usually do their best to match it or at least come close.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by imuakahuku - 2008/02/22 11:28

I have had DISH for about 3 years now and almost every night my wife complains about it. We lose the signal during heavy storms (snow and rain). We have to turn off the DVD player in the basement where the main TV is so the remote upstairs will change channels. I called their support a couple of times and get the runaround. I told them I think the dish needs to be adjusted, that it has had various problems with the signal but they want to charge me \$100 to come out and look at it. When I signed up, I signed up for two systems but since I only had two TV's they only installed one. I wasn't home so the installer convinced my wife that that is what had to happen. I am about ready to pack everything in a box and send it all to the home of the CEO of DISH with a description of where he can install the satellite dishes! :angry: If DirecTV goes MTN and DISH doesn't that will be the final straw. My only problem is that my wife is so fed up with DISH that she want Time Warner again. She sees both satellite companies as the same. DirecTV may have a new ohio customer soon though if they really are going to broadcast MTN.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/02/22 14:24

imuakahuku wrote:

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Maybe Dish just sucks in Ohio. It wasn't great in Utah for the time I had it there, but it was unbearable here in Ohio. I think I may have been talked into getting DirecTV. I should go look up their channel selection. Got to make sure the kid has his shows. If the mtn is on the sports tier, that is less than \$5 more a month (at least on the other systems that I've gotten that channel selection).

I went with Dish because I thought that they were the ones getting closer to a deal with the mtn.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by penncougar - 2008/02/22 14:32

I also want to add to the comments I already posted that in the year I had Direct TV, the signal only went out once and it was during the heaviest ice storm pennsylvania had had in 10 years. the entire state was shut down for 3 days.

My mom also has dish and I constantly complain about the quality of the service when I'm at her house. Her hard drive

is small, the channel selection sucks, and the system just seems to be poor quality. Worse than any of the three providers I've ever had

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by Mars - 2008/02/22 22:05

snoscythe wrote:

I would wait until mid to late July to make your final decision--the MTN will not air on DirceTV until Aug 1.

craigoscarson wrote:

I may wait until closer to Aug 1 to see what Dish will do in response to this

"DIRECTV will launch The Mtn. on a nationwide basis in 2008, but no later than September 1."

<http://themwc.cstv.com/genrel/022208aab.html>

The Mtn. first appeared on Comcast Sept. 1, 2006.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by stuckinbig10country - 2008/02/23 08:59

Mars wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

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Wow, thats faster than the distribution deal for ESPN2.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by snoscythe - 2008/02/23 11:07

Mars wrote:

snoscythe wrote:

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craigoscarson wrote:

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The Mtn. first appeared on Comcast Sept. 1, 2006.

SDSU's AD first announced that it would be August 1st if you listen to his press conference, which was all the info I had at the time of my post, which was before the MWC issued the official statement. Thanks for the correction.

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Re:Those with DirectV please chime in.

Posted by WACoug - 2008/02/23 11:51

stuckinbig10country wrote:

imuakahuku wrote:

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I went with Dish because I thought that they were the ones getting closer to a deal with the mtn.

I have had dish for about 5 years now. I live right on the WA/OR border in the Columbia River Gorge. We are surrounded by mountains and it rains a lot. That being said, I can remember less than five losses of signal and I can't remember any longer than about 15 to 20 minutes. I don't have HD so that isn't a consideration for me yet. I have been so happy with Dish that I will wait until the last possible second to even consider switching to Direct TV.

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