

Getting the Right HDTV

The Ultimate Guide (2011-2012)

ByTopHDTV.org

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Foreword

High Definition technology has been around since the late 1930s but this is the term described for the ancient technology of yesteryear. The British started trials of HDTV broadcasts in 1936 followed by the French in 1938. The familiar U.S. NTSC system followed soon enough in 1941 which was improved by the French in 1949.

Color evolved in 1953 and then utilized both PAL and SECAM formats that utilize 525 lines of resolution. This is a big leap over the 30 line resolutions prevalent during the 1930s. The desire for more picture clarity eventually morphed into the digital revolution.

An **HDTV** can be simply be defined as a revolutionary way to watch television as the picture and color reproduction utilizes at least 2 million pixels per line for amazing clarity. The first HDTV demo in the United States dates back to 1981 and was further improved and integrated along with the digital revolution.

The **Plasma** and **LCD television** was able to bring justice to the new digitized **HDTV format**. The introduction of Plasma and LCD television sets has set a new way on how people define their viewing experience. But there is no way to better describe the compatibility of an HDTV format than by the introduction of the **LED TV**.

Although more costly than standard definition TV sets, LED has presented a new way on how to enjoy pristine picture quality matched with unparalleled detail. LED technology has also enabled TV sets to be thinner, larger and wider while still retaining the same amount of clarity on every surface of the screen.

As television broadcasts continue to improve and adapt to the world of high definition, expect HDTV to further improve from the existing technology of today. All of these are for the benefit of the customer in providing a viewing experience like no other.

1. Today's Top 5 HDTV Market Players

Many manufacturers of HDTVs are tightly competing in the market at present. These companies produced wide range of high-definition televisions with excellent features together with their brand names to easily persuade consumers worldwide to patronize their various products. And there are top 5 HDTVs players that lead the competition in the market right now at 2010, and these are the following:

Samsung



Located in the Seoul, South Korea, this multinational corporation is the world largest company in terms of its revenue. In the end of March of 2010, this company has claimed earning a profit of 31 billion dollars with just one of its affiliation businesses that is the Samsung Electronics, which is known as the largest company of technology in terms of its sales.

Other Samsung Groups include the Samsung Heavy Industries, Samsung Engineering, Samsung C&T, Samsung Life Insurance, Samsung Everland, and Shilla Hotel.

Samsung Corporation have been producing new versions and models of television every year, and these HDTVs include the include its **LED TVs**, **LCD TVs**, **Plasma TVs**, and its SlimFit TVs.



The latest HDTV released by this company is the Samsung LED 9000 Series which has the capability to convert 2D into 3D content and has a very thin width similar to a pencil number 2. Plus, all its technological specifications and its features are simply outstanding.

Vizio



This is a private company mainly involved in producing consumer electronics that was founded in 2002 by William Wang with its first company name as V Inc. This electronic firm is found in California, USA which focuses in producing and selling LCD HDTVs.

At present, Vizio is known as the number one LCD HDTV Company in the US being able to sell the largest number of LCD HDTVs in North America and earned revenue of 2.5 billion dollars last year in 2009.



Its newest television product has been released known as the Vizio Internet App HDTV, which is a flat screen TV with various choices of internet content. And its latest product has different models and sizes that consumers can choose from.



This Japanese media firm is known as the fifth largest multinational corporation, which is based in Tokyo, Japan. This outstanding company is founded by Masaru Ibuka and Akio Morita who created the famous brand, “Sony” that have originated from the Latin word “sonus” which means smart and presentable.

This conglomerate is earning revenue of more than 77 billion dollars at 2010 with its various business operating segments.





The latest HDTV product of this company is the Sony 3D Bravia Television, which is purchased by millions of people around the globe because of its high-quality and unique features that this widespread media corporation always guarantee.

LG



This corporation, which ranks as the second largest Korean company, is founded by Koo In-Hwoi. This conglomerate has three group families which include its electronic industries, chemical industries, and telecommunications. For only the first quarter of this year 2010, the LG Corporation has already earned about 13 to 14 billion dollars.



The LG Infinia LED TV is one of the best HDTV in 2010. This model is known as the thinnest LED TV worldwide and has various high-tech features, amazing sounds, and high-quality image resolution.

Others: Panasonic, Sharp, Philips, Toshiba, JVC, and Hitachi

Panasonic **TOSHIBA** **PHILIPS**
JVC **SHARP** **HITACHI**

These various companies also produce excellent HDTVs that can surely compete in the market in terms of its qualities and features.

All of these corporations are also earning billions of dollars with its different types of televisions and models. And all of them are continuing to grow with their sales within the electronic industries.



2. Types of HDTVs in the Market

At this day age where technology has become so advanced, every aspect of life has certainly changed for the better. From black and white TVs, colored TVs were introduced. Now standard televisions have become a thing of the past, as HDTV has become the future of televisions.

The lowest resolution of an HDTV is 1280 x 720 and newer versions today have a minimum resolution of 1920 x 1080. CRTs, **LCD TVs**, and **LED TVs** all come in high definition. Provided below is a detailed outline of each HDTV type.

LCD TVs

Perhaps two of the biggest advantages of **LCD TVs** are size and picture clarity. An LCD TV offers a clearer resolution than a standard TV or a CRT but they are much more expensive. Since they are very thin, much like tablets, you can mount them on a wall and it will blend right in.

You also get access to much bigger sizes so you can enjoy full HD viewing at the comforts of your own home. You can go as much as 70 inches if you have the space for it.

The primary disadvantage of getting an LCD TV is that you really have to spend to get the best quality of images, as some of 60Hz models can offer very poor picture quality.

Plasma TVs

Plasma HDTVs generally have better picture quality and resolution than LCD TVs at a much cheaper price. However, high end plasma televisions can be as expensive or even double the price of a regular LCD TV.

Plasma televisions offer very little options when it comes to size, as they don't go lower than 40 inches so you really have no choice but to get a big television if you want to go plasma, which can prove to be rather problematic if you don't have the space for it.

LED TVs

LED TVs have become the television of choice these days. This is because **LED TVs** combine the sleekness of an LCD TV with the clarity of the plasma TV. An LED TV is also generally much thinner than an LCD TV and you can really go all out when it comes to size.

The viewing angle of an LED TV is also much better than LCD televisions, as you can view it from up to 75 degrees without affecting the contrast levels. Of course, the biggest disadvantage is the price, as LED televisions can be very expensive.

There are certainly a lot of options when it comes to HDTVs. **LED TVs** nowadays even come in 3D versions where you can enjoy full-length 3D movies right at your own home. The future of televisions has certainly advanced at such a short period of time and it is up to the consumer to decide which one is the best.

CRTs

CRT stands for cathode ray tube. While CRT televisions are still available in standard resolutions, newer versions are not HDTV ready. CRTs are reliable and have faster response time than **LED TVs** or LCDs but they don't offer images as clear as the newer television models these days.

CRTs also take up more space, as they are generally bulky. While they also have flat screen equivalents, they still have bulky backs that have to be hidden behind a wall cabinet to create a flat screen effect.

3. Buying a HDTV - Some Critical Points That You Need to Consider

Screen Size

If you are thinking of getting yourself a new HDTV, then one of the most crucial aspects you should keep in mind is size. While having a TV with a very large screen can be appealing, it is important to keep in mind that large TVs are not applicable for everyone. Ideally, the HDTV screen size you choose should depend on your viewing distance.

It can be impractical and not to mention such a big headache to get such a big TV for such a small room. However, if you have enough space to accommodate something like a 70" TV, then by all means go for the biggest you can find. The following HDTV buying guide may help you decide as to what screen size you should choose:

Screen Size Vs. Viewing Distance

This is the most important aspect you should take into consideration when choosing your **HDTV screen size**. The viewing distance will always depend on the size of your room. Get a size that will allow you to appreciate what you are watching but make sure that it is not big enough that it would hurt your eyes.

The most **common mistake** that people make when buying HDTVs is getting a size too big for their room, making it difficult to watch properly.

Screen Size Vs. Budget

Your budget would, of course, determine the kind of HDTV screen size you can afford. The larger the television, the more expensive it would be.

If you plan to get an LED TV or a 3D TV, you should expect to pay a whole lot more than with a regular LCD TV. Determine your budget first so that you can properly choose.

Screen Size Vs. Picture Quality

Keep in mind that the picture quality in large TVs tend to decrease especially if you are watching cable TV or satellite TV. Since not everything you will be watching will be on Blu-ray, you have to decide if you are willing to sacrifice picture quality for size. Larger TVs are meant for movie viewing rather than regular viewing.

You have to keep all these things into consideration whenever deciding on your HDTV screen size to ensure that you can fully utilize your new television.

Main Purpose and Usage

Not all HDTVs are created the same, and some are better than others when used for certain purposes. This part serves as a guide for those who are seriously considering getting a high-definition television for their own homes, with the different purposes the unit serves taken into consideration.

Buying an HDTV is an investment, given that it's not really a cheap appliance, so care should be taken when choosing the right one for your home.

We hope that below point will help you make the best choice according to your purpose for purchasing.

Sports Games

If your goal is to watch the big sports game on high-definition TV, you need to pick one that can handle fast action, since you wouldn't want to see your favorite players as ugly blurs.

This phenomenon, called motion blurring or smearing, is an unfortunate effect occurring when your TV's response time is unable to keep up with the action on your screen. In general, plasma TVs are less prone to motion blurring than LCD TVs.

Entertainment (Movie, Drama, or Concert)

If you want an HDTV for a home entertainment system, we recommend a TV with a screen that has a 3:2 compensation, or has a film mode, so you can really feel as though you are watching flicks from the theatre itself.

Check to see if there are also stretch and zoom modes to fill up screen space. If you like action flicks that have high motion, like martial arts movies, you can also look for HDTVs that have minimal motion blurring, like in the HDTVs for sports, so you will be able to see fight scenes in all their glory.

It's a given that it must fully support accessories, such as Blu-Ray players and speakers, so you will be able to watch your collection the way the movies should be watched.

Gaming

The same principle applies in gaming. The HDTV you buy should be one that can fully support your gaming console. Furthermore, if you're a gamer, you will want the HDTV that has the lowest input lag that your money can buy.

Input lag is the amount of time it takes for the console to translate not only the game itself, but also the actions you're doing, into the screen.

Ideally, the TV should have an input lag of 20-30 ms (where 1 ms = 1/1000 of a second). Some HDTVs claim to have a built-in Gaming Mode to address input lag, but not all of these deliver to this promise. The best way to see if it does have this capacity is to test it out before you buy it.

Security or Monitoring

If your reason for buying the unit is for security and monitoring purposes, you will want one that doesn't have frame-rate delays, for obvious reasons.

The purpose of this part of guide is to let you have a bird's eye view of the differences between HDTVs. Make sure you consider these before you go to the store and buy your own unit.

Technical Support, Replacement, Warranty & Extended Warranty

Warranty

A warranty comes with most major appliances today, HDTVs included. A warranty is what makes sure that the product being sold is in perfect working condition and shall remain so for the remainder of the warranty period.

If the product turns out to be defective and breaks within the given time period, then it will be the manufacturer's responsibility to fix or replace the product.

Needless to say, it is very important that anybody who is interested in buying a new TV should definitely inquire about the warranty. They should ask how long it will be for and what will it cover.

Duration

Most warranties normally last for a year and this is usually a good amount of time already given the newer TV models available today.

What most people already know is that the TVs made today will last much longer than previous TV models and a warranty past a year is normally unnecessary. Most people do not know that the most likely period for their TV to break down is during its first year. Anything past that will normally last for a long time.

A warranty can affect several components of a TV. This makes it doubly important that a customer checks with the salesman about the full details and coverage of the warranty. A typical warranty will normally cover the parts of the TV that are broken along with the repair fee.

This is normally enough as long as the damage to the TV is not shown to be due to malpractice such as modifying it in any way or tampering with the mechanisms.

A warranty is void if any of the aforementioned things have been proven to occur. Other things that may void a warranty are proven misuse of the TV, accidents such as dropping the TV, and natural disasters.

Extended Warranty



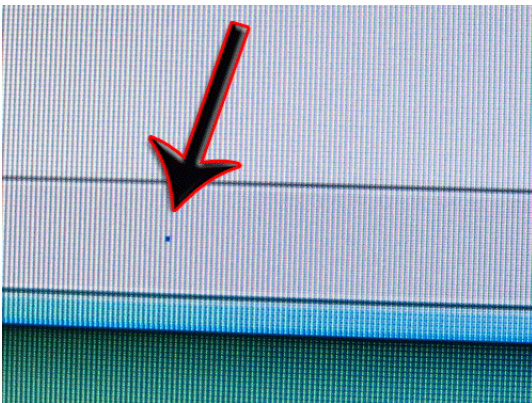
Most stores offer to extend the warranty for a given price. Take note that most extended warranties normally come from the retailer and not the manufacturer. There are a few manufacturers and a few companies that offer extended warranties as well.

Take note that extended warranties are not be cheap but the upside is that it will make sure that you will have a working TV for a few extra years.

As mentioned above, extended warranties are useful for other products and older TVs but are not really necessary for newer TVs.

As most research by companies point out, most modern TVs today do not normally break after the first year and that the average cost of repairs, in the event the TV were to break past the warranty period, would normally be the same as the price for extended warranty.

Dead Pixels



One common problem between newer TV models would be dead pixels. While most people would not really notice one or two dead pixels on their screen, there are still some who insist on having a problem like this fixed.

Ask the salesman if the warranty covers dead pixels as well especially if you are getting an extended warranty. Some extended warranties do not cover dead pixels, which just makes them more useless to purchase.

Time Frame of Part Exchange/Replacement

The time it takes to repair a TV under warranty depends completely on the manufacturer. Some manufacturers are known to be quite quick about it and will cause no fuss while others are not so admirable.

There are some reports of manufacturers taking as long as a month to repair a TV that is under their warranty. It would be best to stick with a brand that is known for excellent service and quality when it comes to purchasing a new TV rather than the cheaper models.

Installation



Its not just the actual HDTV unit that will determine your choice of television set. Installation is also a factor that you should consider when you select which one you want, a fact that some shoppers take for granted up to the time that they bring their brand new HDTV at home only to realize they have no idea how to set it up.

HDTV buyers can either choose to set up their HDTV by themselves, or get professionals to set it up for them. Both have their own shares of advantages and disadvantages, and this article is dedicated to help you choose which of the two you should go with.

Advantages of Hiring an Expert

Professional HDTV installation has a lot of advantages to offer. First of all, because the people you hire are experts in the field, you will know that they will be able to do a good job of it provided that you get people who really know what they are doing.

Check with your dealer before you purchase

Research on the company or dealer to make sure you are getting your money worth. After all, you are not just letting them set up a very expensive appliance, you are also going to give them go signal to change the setup of your home and maybe even drill and hammer your walls, so its best to be safe than sorry.

Let the expert do the rest

With that in mind, HDTV installation experts would also know the best way to set up your new TV. They can get the best accessories, such as speakers and movie players, as well as put it in the best possible spot in your home to enhance your viewing experience.

Safety

You will also be guaranteed of neatness and safety, since good HDTV installation experts will guarantee that there are no wires, live or otherwise, sticking out to serve as a health hazard. Of course, the downside is that you will have to spend more money on top of the cash you shelled out for the television, which might be hard on your budget.

D.I.Y and what should you beware of

If your new entertainment system isn't that complex or if you have a bit of background on setting up components, then its possible for you to set up your HDTV on your own.

The basic things you will need to set it up, aside from the actual TV, are the cable lines and/or a tuner or decoder from your service provider, speakers, an HDTV antenna, DMI cables, video cables, digital coaxial cables, and RCA.

Choosing the right mounting



You will also need to choose the type of mount if you want to put it on your wall. Common HDTV mounts are the standard version - the tilt wall mounts, which you can use to rotate your HDTV, and ceiling mounts.

You might also need to know about using power tools, if your intent is to install the wires inside your walls for a clean look.

Make it neat

Whether you set it up in your walls or not, you may want to use plastic twist ties to organize the cables neatly. You can also benefit from speaker shelves to mount your speakers.

Certainly, this will be a little more time-consuming than hiring someone, but at least you get to save some money, provided that you know what you are doing. However, if you are not really knowledgeable about the way it should be set up, hire a professional instead.

Appearance/Design

A television is one of the most important items in a house. It dominates almost any room since the rest of the furniture is arranged around it. When it is turned off, it should still be an attractive addition to the decor. That is why you should keep in mind that design (casing and appearance) of HDTV, is a critical point when buying one.

HDTVs are not only nice for watching but they also add glamour and beauty to home furnishings. It is important that a shopper consider the effect the television will have in the room's overall atmosphere.

A flat TV has a minimal casing compared to the bulky items that squatted on living room floors a few decades ago, but they are still important considerations.

Color Does Matters



Most casings come in **black**, **white**, or **silver**. Think about the color of the furniture as well as that of the walls. Also, think about what you want the television to do when it is turned off. Do you want a white one that will blend in with the paint behind it or a black one that will make a dramatic statement?

Thickness



Consider, too the thickness you want. Razor thin televisions can be hung on the wall like a picture and they are in fact works of art. Some people leave the television running with a moving picture similar to the animated wallpaper on a computer screen so that the casing becomes, in effect, a picture frame. Slightly thicker models look good standing alone.

Less is More

In modern decor, elegance equals simplicity. Most HDTVs have eliminated the bezel (the rim that holds the screen in place) to give their designs a minimal appearance.

Nothing is added to the casing for the sole purpose of decoration. Scallops, columns, and dust-collecting indentations are not even available for consideration. Even manufacturer's logos are as nondescript as possible.

Surface Finish



One choice the shopper still has though is between a glossy or matte finish. The shopper must decide whether he wants a highly reflective or non-reflective surface. This goes back to the question of what the consumer wants the television to do when it is turned off. A reflective surface will catch the light and attract the eye. Even in a darkened room it will continue to demand attention.

A matte surface is less bold. It tends to sit quietly unnoticed when it is not in use. Even a brightly lit space will not cause it to stand apart from its fellow furnishings.

When deciding between a glossy or matte surface, the consumer should also think about the type of lighting he plans to use while the television is on and how he wants the casing to interact with that lighting.

Lighting

Additional lighting is a necessary feature of a home theater. In addition to aesthetic benefit, lights serve a functional purpose as well - reducing eye fatigue. Watching television in a dark room can create a 'harsh' environment as the room is very dark but the TV is extremely bright. For many viewers this high contrast in light intensity creates eye fatigue.

Two popular supplemental lighting choices are **LED backlights**, and **ambient lighting** hidden somewhere else in the room. Both act as a bias light and provide a transition between the brightness of the TV and the darkness of the room.

A highly reflective casing will pick up and enhance the light becoming part of the light display. A matte surface will stay hidden and out of the way of the viewing experience. Both are good choices.

TV Stand



One piece of furniture that must match the television is its stand. No matter what color or finish a consumer decides the have on his television he should select a stand that will complement his choice. These two items will always be viewed together and will attract the eye as a single piece of art.

Wall Color

If the shopper has decorated his room as a contrast of two colors, (usually black and white contrast very well) then the stand may either compliment or contrast with the television.

If the room is a mix of colors, then the stand and the television should complement each other as well acknowledge the dominant theme (light or dark) of the room.

The shopper has many things to consider when he is selecting a television for his home. He wants to get something that will complement the current decor and add elegance to his room. Ultimately, though, the right choice is that which delights the viewer the most.

Choosing a HDTV For Kitchen



Welcome to the new millennium where every device that was recently conceived seems to keep getting smaller. Small is beautiful after all. It also has many advantages. Take your common television set for example. Back in the day, it would be too impractical not to mention improper to put your TV set anywhere in the house other than the living room. Okay, you can have TV on bed but in the kitchen? Nah. too bulky for your own good. However, the development of technologies leading to the invention of flat panel high definition TV sets has changed this outdated notion.

Today, HDTVs, whether they are LEDs, LCDs, or plasma types are now a common fixture in many homes. And because it tends to get slimmer every time manufacturers introduce a new HDTV model, you can practically stick your TV set anywhere even in your kitchen. Most manufacturers nowadays are dabbling more in the improvement of new LED and 3D TV prototypes. This is good for many consumers who favor a slimmer and more compact TV set.

Apart from these, many manufacturers are also developing mounts that are more practical than its earlier counterparts. The materials that they use are now lighter not to mention more durable.

In choosing the best HDTV for your kitchen, it is important to consider many things. First you have to consider the right style that would suit your kitchen. A great variety of styles can be chosen and it will just depend on your taste. You can also opt for HDTVs with built in mounts. These mounts are made to support the TV set. This is made possible by durable cables that hang HDTVs like a framed picture for display. Flat panel HDTVs like this are ideal for your kitchen for it will not eat up a lion's share of your cooking space.

The evolution of fixed mount designs makes the latest HDTV models less bulky and cumbersome to operate. It is highly suggested that you go for those with wall plates so you can easily route it through your kitchen wall. However, you should also put into consideration that fixed mounts only work best in a room where TV height and screen glare is not an issue. To avoid clutter, you can even make your TV look as if it is attached onto the wall of your kitchen. Many flat panel HDTV manufacturer are now creating mounts with about 0.31" clearance to the wall. Neat huh?

In choosing a HDTV for your kitchen, including the type of mount suitable for your place, it is important to consult the manufacturers first. They will provide you excellent suggestions on what type of HDTV you should choose and also the mount that is most suitable for your kitchen. If you are worried about the price of a high quality flat panel HDTV then you must check out excellent online resources first. You will be surprised at the price ranges of many high quality HDTV sets. Just be careful when watching TV while doing some cooking in your kitchen. You might not like the results.

Buying HDTV for your Bedroom

Buying HDTV for your bedroom should depend on your taste. The bedroom is supposed to be a comfortable haven so it should be as tidy as possible. Installation should be easy and gadgets should be kept in an orderly arrangement. Rear end projection and front end projection HDTV units provides cinema quality pictures but the setup is time consuming and the screen size is quite overwhelming. It is best to reserve these models for the living room. A perfect bedroom entertainment setup would be an HDTV set mounted on a wall or in a depressed area such as a bookshelf or a cabinet to maximize the space in the bedroom. So before getting a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT), Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) and the Plasma HDTV, here are some things you need to consider before making your purchase.



Before getting one, be sure to browse through several models. The CRT is considered the most affordable HDTV set that produces good picture quality. The Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) has a flat screen that is thin, mountable, and lightweight. It may be more expensive than its CRT sibling but produces an excellent picture quality and its anti-reflective screen does not produce glares. Plasma HDTV, on the other hand, are also becoming increasingly popular although the price tag they come with is a bit steep. It has a flat screen with wide viewing angles, a high resolution, and saturated colors.

Consider the viewing distance from the TV and size when buying HDTV for your bedroom. The size of a television set should never be overwhelming, especially in a bedroom. The ideal viewing distance should be about 1.5 to 3 times the diagonal screen size.

Lighting should be taken into consideration as well when it comes buying HDTV for your bedroom. See, getting one will be an investment so make it worthwhile by complementing it with proper lighting. For CRT users, be wary of the glares. Do not position the CRT HDTV in such a way that it is facing the light. There are flat screen CRT models that have reduced glares but dim the lights accordingly to see the pictures vividly. Adjustable curtains and blinds help subdue lighting. Standard flat screen LCDs can tolerate bright light while it is better watch Plasma with very minimal lighting.

Now when it comes to setting them up, you can work with several option in installing an HDTV in your bedroom. You can opt for TV tables but to maximize space, it is highly recommended to install the HDTV units in bookshelves and cabinets. Create a depressed area for the TV set. Hire a seasoned carpenter to discuss where to drill holes for the wiring or do it yourself. The holes are important to conceal the wires as much as possible. It is important to keep this in mind before buying an HDTV for your bedroom since scattered wires are not only an eyesore, they're also potentially dangerous. If you intend to mount your HDTV set on the wall, follow the instructions in the owner's manual and keep the following by your side: a power drill, a stud finder, a measuring tape, pencil, a screw driver, screws, ratchets, and of course, the mounting plate. Drilling holes on the wall for wires to pass through should be done with care to avoid unnecessary damage to the other parts of the house.

Buying HDTV for your bedroom may sound difficult but it's definitely worth it especially once you see the quality it's able to dish out.



Buying HDTV for your kids Bedroom

A few years ago buying an HDTV would have been a cost prohibitive task, some models almost costing as much as a second hand car or even a small fortune. Nowadays, as the technology becomes more and more accessible, a lot of homes have multiple flat screens at home and CRT TVs have all been but forgotten. Since mommy and daddy don't seem to want to watch kids shows in the living room all day, some families have resorted to procuring HDTVs for their kids in the children's play room or even their kids' bedrooms.

A lot of manufacturers have caught on to this trend and jumped on creating High Definition TVs specially designed for the young ones. Some models having the standard parental controls and be able to monitor and restrict what and when kids watch.

Some things to consider when getting an HDTV for kids are the features of the TV along with where it will be placed. Remember that the biggest possible screen is not always the best choice. There is such a thing as a safe and suitable viewing distance. Case in point is stuffing a 42inch HDTV inside a cramped room of a child will not only be ill advised it will also have the tendency to wreak havoc on the vision of the child since the things that he will be watching will be too bright and too big and will probably contribute to damaging his hearing and vision.

Also, do consider where it would be best to place the HDTV, is it ideal for the child to be able to reach it or is there a higher degree of the child hurting himself or damaging the equipment if it is within his grasp. Should it be mounted up the wall or stacked on top of a table? These things matter should you want to move stuff around in the future. Table mounts are more flexible, however wall mounted TVs offer a distinct advantage of it becoming less of a hazard to a young child. But one must ensure that the installation was done properly lest the equipment crash down and injure someone in the process. One excellent tip is to have it done professionally. Sometimes, appliance stores offer free installation for certain purchases. Do take advantage of these types of offers.

In other cases, when the equipment is delivered, one may simply ask the delivery guy to help you mount the screen for a just a small fraction of what it would have cost a team of pros to do the installation. Before making the purchase, learn the jargon of LCD TVs so you don't purchase a lemon. You don't want your hard earned money being spent on a crappy screen or one of low quality. Remember that there are better brands out there that don't necessarily cost as much as the leading ones. Do your research, and you will find that some of these companies, in the process of joining the fray for a space in your home, have tied up with child friendly brands or even cartoons that your kids are probably already watching.

Buying HDTV for your Living Room



Buying HDTV for your living room can definitely increase the entertainment experience of household members and guests. There are lots of HDTV sets to choose from in the market. There's the liquid crystal display (LCD), light-emitting diode (LED) TV, Plasma, rear-end projection, and front-end projection. Buying HDTV for your living room does not have to be time consuming so this article has narrowed down the possible choices of models.

If you do not have the luxury of time to painstakingly set up an HDTV set, the LCD, LED and the Plasma are your best options. The LCD is the most common TV set since it's thin and light. They provide excellent picture quality and the screens are perfectly flat and it has zero geometric distortion. However, the LCD has limited ability to produce perfect blacks because it uses fluorescent bulbs. This problem has been addressed by the LED TV, and improved version of HDTV. LED lights are used instead of fluorescent. They are located at the back or side of the TV. LED TV has significantly improved the

blacks and contrast of the old LCD model. The lag of motion in LCD TV was also addressed in the LED TV. LED TV, however, is 50% more expensive than LCD.

Now if your budget permits, consider a Plasma HDTV when buying HDTV for your living room. It's wide viewing angles, saturated colors and high picture quality will definitely be the object of envy among your guests. Like its LCD counterpart, all models come with a flat screen and can be easily mounted on any wall as well. Just be a careful user of this set because there are slight risks of burn-ins and its lifespan is relatively short.

The LCD, LED and Plasma HDTV are also pretty easy to install. First of all, pick a good location for the set. Make sure that the screen is positioned at eye level. The ideal viewing distance from the set should be 1.5 to three times the diagonal size. The LCD, LED and Plasma TV can be placed on any table or even in a depressed space in a bookshelf. Remember that the HDTV set will come with a lot of cables and wires so conceal them as much as possible to make the living room neat and presentable. A depressed space with drilled spaces is ideal for hiding the wires.

Drilling holes on the walls - if you decide to mount them - is complicated and requires a lot of planning to avoid unnecessary damage. Keep the necessary materials handy when mounting an HDTV set: a stud finder, drills, screws, screw driver, and the mounting pieces. Carefully follow the instructions on the manual and make sure to hold the set securely upon mounting.

Do not forget that when buying HDTV for your living room, lighting plays a big role in ensuring that you get better picture quality. Extremely bright lighting will disrupt television watching because reflection on the TV screen will distort the image. Invest in curtains and blinds to subdue natural light. Do not position the screen facing any natural light source to minimize the glare. If you decide to choose a Plasma model, it is best to watch TV in a dark room. However, since the extremely bright colors can damage your eyes, install a lamp with subdued lighting behind or beside the set.

Keep in mind that buying HDTV for the living room should be like buying a car. The set will be frequently used so make sure to pick out something to your liking.

Bath Room

There is nothing more relaxing than taking a warm bath and watching your favorite TV channel. Thankfully, technology has made it possible to combine our favorites and put them in a single and extremely enjoyable experience.

What you should aware of?

If you plan on buying an HDTV for your bathroom, remember that things might be more complicated as this will require you to put more time in buying the most compatible HDTV to use given your bathroom space, temperature, and frequency of usage. This will also require you to purchase of additional gadgets to protect the HDTV screen and special wiring arrangements.

However, if you're bent on getting one, you might want to start with searching for the perfect HDTV to buy. Given that it is relatively expensive compared to other TV sets, investing in a credible brand is better than buying from stores that are considerably cheaper than the leading manufacturers in the market.

It is advisable to buy from more popular brands because they can save money as they offer programs from your cable satellite that can be transmitted to your TV without the need to purchase an HD Tuner.

Get an extended warranty, if possible

Always remember that you will install it in your bathroom, where complications and the wear-and-tear time allowance is shorter. It would also be strategic for you to look for an HDTV with a longer or extended warranty.



Size does matters

Size is the second thing to consider when getting an HDTV. The HDTV's screen size should be proportional to the over-all area of your bathroom. Also, consider buying an HDTV that does not require antenna since it will take up more space once placed in the bathroom. The installation should make the HDTV an added accessory to

the bathroom, so it should not eat that much space.

Safety first

Finally, it's important for you to consider safety. What makes a bathroom installation tricky is that compared to installation in other areas of your house, the bathroom gets wet all the time. Water is every gadget's ultimate enemy. Loose wiring installation can also be very dangerous as it can cause fire or electric shock.

Get the right accessories

Make sure to get all the necessary accessories to make it absolutely waterproof. You can start by looking for Protective Laminate Safety Glass that is plasma TV compatible. This is an accessory that keeps humidity from entering your HDTV.

For specific wiring concerns, you can talk to your installations officer about how to keep your bathroom safe- and your entire house as well.

Technology has given people so many choices. However, convenience and safety are equally important factors to consider when getting that perfect HDTV for your bathroom.

BONUS Tips!

Buying a Refurbished HDTV = Save Big Money? What should you also consider?

Lots of people want to own an HDTV. Problem is, lots of people also cannot afford an HDTV. This is why many people are looking to buy a refurbished HDTV as the price of one can be up to 30% lower than the original price, sometimes even more.

There are a lot of things to consider whenever buying a refurbished HDTV. You have to keep vigilant and ask the right questions so as to make sure that you are getting a good deal for your money. First thing you have to know is what exactly a refurbished HDTV is.

Any electronic appliance that is refurbished has been returned to the manufacturer by an unsatisfied customer. It is then inspected and will go through any repairs that the manufacturer sees fit. It can also be an extra TV that the retailer was not able to sell.

Pros & Cons

With that in mind, some refurbished HDTVs are in better condition than others. First thing you should ask about the HDTV you have in mind is if it still comes with a warranty. You also have to ask what sort of warranty it comes with.

The best type of warranty would have to be a manufacturer warranty rather than a third party warranty. A manufacturer warranty is more trustworthy as their repairs will be more meticulous but a third party warranty will normally fix your TV faster should there be any faults.

One of the downsides to buying a refurbished HDTV is that while it does come with a warranty, it is normally not as long as a regular warranty. A refurbished TV will usually come with warranty of 90 days. This adds to the reason why some people choose to buy brand new units instead.

Buying tips

Whenever you are out looking for a new HDTV, you can choose to buy either online or through a store. While many people like the convenience of shopping online, it is still best to buy a new HDTV from a reputable store as you will have more confidence about the quality of the HDTV.

Something you can do in a store you can trust that you cannot do on an online store is test out the TV.

If you can get away with it and if the information is available, try asking why the TV was refurbished in the first place. Don't always expect a truthful answer though, but if you are lucky, maybe the salesman is telling truth when he says it was a display model before and not returned by an unsatisfied customer.

Three critical points

There are three things you have to remember about buying an HDTV. The first one is that a refurbished HDTV is normally as good as buying a brand new one.

The second one is that you should avoid buying refurbished sets online or from some unknown retailer and last of all, ask yourself whether or not you prefer a refurbished TV over a brand new one if you can afford it.

Suggestion?Support?or just want to say 'Hi!' - Write to us at support@tophdtv.org

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