BILL'S HOME TECH
Home & Small Business Tech Solutions

BILL'S COMPLETE MANUALS

Sports Without Cable

Find every game that matters to you, from the Browns to the Buckeyes, without paying for cable

A plain-English guide for every sports fan

Take your time — you can't break it

Written for you by Bill — Bill's Home Tech

(330) 200-8042 · BillsHomeTech.com

For the 2026–27 seasons · facts current November 2026

What's Inside

This is your manual for watching sports without cable. Read it in any order and at your own pace; there is no test, and you can't fall behind. Start with Part 2 (the free antenna), then jump to your sport. Everything was checked in November 2026 for the 2026–27 seasons. Sports TV deals and prices change often, so check the price on the screen before you subscribe.

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PART 1

Start Here

Why sports got so complicated, the five ways to watch, and the handful of words that make every "where's the game?" question easy to answer.

CHAPTER 1

A Note from Bill

Hello, and welcome. If you've ever sat down on a Sunday, turned on the TV and found that your game simply wasn't there, this manual is for **you**. You are not imagining it, and you didn't do anything wrong. Watching sports has become one of the most confusing things about television. Games that used to be on one or two channels are now spread across a dozen different places, and the list changes every season.

I'm Bill. For more than 30 years I've helped people make their technology work for them, and here in Portage County the question I hear most from folks thinking about dropping cable is some version of *"But what about my games?"* It's the question that keeps a lot of people paying for a cable bill they'd rather not have. So I wrote this manual to answer it, plainly and honestly, sport by sport.

What this manual does for you

- Shows you exactly which service carries which games for the 2026–27 seasons: pro football, baseball, basketball, hockey, and college games.
- Starts with the cheapest option of all, a TV antenna, which still brings in a surprising number of big games for free.
- Covers our home teams in Northeast Ohio: the Browns, Guardians and Cavaliers, plus Ohio State and Kent State.
- Helps you build a simple, season-by-season plan so you pay only for what you'll actually watch.
- Warns you about the pirate streams and fake "activation" sites that target sports fans.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

The short version

Most people don't need cable to follow their teams. With an antenna and one or two well-chosen services, timed to the seasons you care about, you can usually see nearly every game that matters to you, often for less than half of a typical cable bill.

A promise about the facts

Sports TV deals change constantly. Everything in this manual was checked against league, team and service websites and major sports-business reporting in November 2026. Where a fact couldn't be confirmed, I left it out rather than guess. Prices change too, so I'll always tell

you to check the price on the screen before you subscribe.

And if you'd like a hand, call me at **(330) 200-8042**. We'll figure out your teams, your TV and your budget together, with no judgment and no sales pitch.

— Bill

CHAPTER 2

Why Sports Got So Complicated

For decades, watching sports was simple. Your local channels had the big games, and cable had ESPN and a regional sports channel for your hometown teams. If you had cable, you had nearly everything.

What changed

Leagues sell the right to show their games to the highest bidders, usually for several years at a time. In the past few years, the bidders have changed. Streaming companies like Amazon, Netflix and NBC's Peacock now pay billions of dollars for games, and they use those games to sell subscriptions. That's why a Browns game might be on Prime Video one week and on your regular CBS station the next.

At the same time, the regional sports channels that carried local teams have been falling apart. The network once known as Fox Sports Ohio, then Bally Sports Ohio, then FanDuel Sports Network Ohio, has shut down. Our local teams responded by starting their own streaming services, and in some cases putting more games back on free, over-the-air TV.

Checked against Sports Video Group and Cleveland 19 reporting on November 13, 2026.

The good news hiding in the mess

- **More games are on free TV** than many people realize. The NFL still puts most of its games on regular broadcast channels you can get with an antenna.
- **You can subscribe by the month.** Unlike a cable contract, nearly every streaming service lets you sign up for football season and cancel when it ends.
- **Local teams are reaching out directly.** The Guardians and Cavaliers now sell their own streaming passes, and both put some games on free local channels.

FROM BILL

Think in seasons, not forever

The single most money-saving idea in this manual is this: you don't need every service all year. You need the right one or two services *while your sport is being played*. Chapter 25 walks you through building that plan.

CHAPTER 3

The Five Ways to Watch

Every way of watching sports without cable falls into one of five groups. Once you know them, every "where's the game?" question gets easier.

Way to watch	What it gives you
1. A TV antenna	Free local channels: CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX and more. Carries most NFL games, the Super Bowl, many college football games, some NBA and NHL games, and some March Madness. One-time cost for the antenna, no monthly bill.
2. Free apps	Some leagues and teams offer free highlights, radio broadcasts and the occasional free game. Useful extras, but rarely the main way to watch.
3. Single streaming services	Prime Video, Netflix, Peacock, Paramount+, ESPN's app, Fox One, HBO Max. Each carries some games. Typically about $9.00 to $32.00 a month each.
4. Live TV streaming services	YouTube TV, Hulu + Live TV, Sling, Fubo, DirecTV Stream. These work like cable delivered over the internet: many channels in one place. Typically $40.00 to $100.00 a month.
5. League and team packages	NFL Sunday Ticket, MLB.TV, NBA League Pass, the Guardians' and Cavaliers' own streaming passes. Best for following one team or league closely.

A quick way to decide

- **Mostly the Browns and big network games?** Start with an antenna. You may need nothing else except Prime Video for Thursday night.
- **Following one local team closely?** Add that team's own streaming pass for its season.
- **Lots of ESPN, TNT or Big Ten Network games?** Add ESPN's app, Fox One, or a live TV service for the months you need them.
- **A favorite team from another city?** Look at that league's out-of-market package.

Most people end up with a combination: an antenna as the free foundation, plus one or two services chosen for their sports. Very few people need all five.

GOOD TO KNOW

You need something to stream with

Groups 2 through 5 need an internet connection and a way to run the apps on your TV, either a smart TV or a small streaming device such as a Roku, Amazon Fire TV Stick, Apple TV or Google TV. Our Cutting the Cord and Smart TVs manuals cover choosing and setting those up.

CHAPTER 4

The Words You'll Hear

Sports TV has its own vocabulary. You only need a few words, and once you know them, most of the confusion goes away.

The word	What it means
In-market	Games involving a team in your home area. For us, the Browns, Guardians and Cavaliers are in-market. These are often *not* on the out-of-market packages.
Out-of-market	Games between teams from other areas. A fan of the Packers living in Ravenna wants out-of-market games.
Blackout	When a game is blocked in your area, usually because another channel has the local rights. A blackout is about *where you are*, not a problem with your TV.
National exclusive	A game only one service may show nationwide, such as Thursday Night Football on Prime Video. Even local team passes can't show these.
Broadcast / over-the-air	Channels sent out free through the air: CBS, NBC, ABC, FOX and others. You can get them with an antenna.
Cable channel	Channels such as ESPN, FS1 or TNT that were never free over the air. You need a paid service to get them.
Regional sports network	A channel that carried local teams' games. Ours, FanDuel Sports Network Ohio, has shut down.
Direct-to-consumer (DTC)	A company selling its channel straight to you as an app, like ESPN's own app or Fox One, instead of through cable.
Simulcast	The same game shown in two places at once, such as on a team's streaming service and on a free local channel.

TIP

The one question that solves most puzzles

When a game is missing, ask: **"Is this game national or local?"** National games are on a network or a streaming service that everyone in the country gets. Local games are on your local channel or your team's own service. Most "where's my game?" mysteries end right there.

PART 2

The Free Foundation: An Antenna

Before you pay for anything, put up an antenna. It's a one-time purchase, and it brings in the channels that still carry many of the biggest games.

CHAPTER 5

Why an Antenna Comes First

An **antenna** catches the free TV signals that local stations send through the air. It's the same idea as the rabbit ears of years ago, but today's signals are digital and the picture is often sharper than cable, because nothing is compressed along the way.

What an antenna gets you for sports

- **Most NFL Sunday games** on CBS and FOX, Sunday Night Football on NBC, and several Monday night games on ABC.
- **The Super Bowl.** Super Bowl LXI, on February 14, 2027, is set to air on ABC.
- **Big college football games** on FOX, CBS, NBC and ABC, including many Ohio State games.
- **Some NBA games** on NBC and ABC, and in 2026–27, fifteen free Cavaliers games on local stations.
- **Some NHL games** on ABC, and **some March Madness** games on CBS.
- **Baseball on NBC** (Sunday nights and the Wild Card round) and FOX, plus a handful of Guardians games on WKYC.

Checked against Disney and ESPN Super Bowl LXI reporting, NBA Communications and MLB.com on November 13, 2026.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

What this does for you

An antenna typically costs somewhere between about $20.00 and $100.00, once. There's no monthly bill, no contract and no sign-in. For many football fans, an antenna alone covers most of the season.

Is an antenna right for your home?

Most homes in Portage County and the Akron–Cleveland area can pick up the main stations, because the Cleveland towers are not far away. Homes in a valley, behind a hill, or farther out toward the edges of the area may need a stronger antenna mounted higher up. The free tool in Chapter 6 tells you what to expect at your address before you buy anything.

CHAPTER 6

Setting Up an Antenna, Step by Step

Setting up an antenna takes about half an hour. The most important step happens before you buy one: finding out which stations reach your home and from which direction.

Step one: check your address

1. On a computer or phone, go to **fcc.gov/media/engineering/dtvmaps**. This is the Federal Communications Commission's free reception map.
2. Type your street address, including your city and state, and search.
3. Look at the list of stations. Green means a strong signal, yellow moderate, red weak.
4. Note the direction the strongest stations come from. Most of ours come from the Cleveland area, so you'll usually aim the antenna toward the north or northwest from Portage County.

Checked against the FCC DTV Reception Maps page on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

Treat the map as a starting point

The map is a prediction, not a promise. Trees, hills and even your home's siding can change what you actually receive. It's still the best free way to know whether an indoor antenna will do or whether you'll want one in the attic or on the roof.

Step two: choose the antenna

Type	When it makes sense
Indoor flat antenna	Thin and light; sticks to a window or wall. Fine if your stations show green on the map.
Attic antenna	Larger, hidden in the attic, aimed toward the towers. A good middle ground for yellow signals.
Outdoor or roof antenna	Best reception, especially for red or distant stations. Mounting it is a ladder job; it's worth having help.

HEADS UP

Ignore "hundreds of channels" and "200-mile range" claims

An antenna can only receive the stations that actually broadcast near you. No antenna pulls in cable channels like ESPN, and huge mileage claims on the box are marketing. Buy based on what the FCC map says about your address.

Step three: connect and scan

1. Screw the antenna's cable into the jack on the back of your TV marked **ANT IN**, **Antenna** or **Cable/Antenna**.
2. Place the antenna as high as you can, near a window that faces the towers.
3. Using the TV remote, open the TV's **Settings** menu and look for **Channels**, **Broadcasting** or **Live TV**. Choose **Antenna** (not Cable) as the source.
4. Choose **Auto Program**, **Channel Scan** or **Scan for channels**. The TV searches for a few minutes.
5. When it finishes, try channels 3, 5, 8 and 19. If one is missing, move the antenna a little and scan again.

TIP

Rescan now and then

Stations occasionally change their broadcast frequencies. If a channel disappears one day, the fix is usually just running the channel scan again. It takes a few minutes and erases nothing important.

CHAPTER 7

What You Can Watch Free in Northeast Ohio

Portage County is part of the Cleveland TV market, so with an antenna you'll get the Cleveland stations. Here are the ones that matter most for sports.

Channel	Network	Sports you'll find there
3 (WKYC)	NBC	Sunday Night Football, Big Ten Saturday Night college football, NBA games on Sundays and Tuesdays, Sunday Night Baseball, a few Guardians games
5 (WEWS)	ABC	Some Monday Night Football, the Super Bowl in February 2027, NBA Saturday and Sunday games, the NBA Finals, NHL games
8 (WJW)	FOX	NFL Sunday games, Big Noon Kickoff college football (often Ohio State), baseball including the World Series
19 (WOIO)	CBS	NFL Sunday games (most Browns games), college football and March Madness, plus some free Cavaliers games
43 (WUAB)	MyNetwork TV	Some free Cavaliers games in 2026–27

Checked against the Cleveland 19 Cavaliers broadcast announcement and the Browns 2026 schedule on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

NextGen TV is arriving in Cleveland

In July 2026, the Cleveland market began broadcasting NextGen TV (also called ATSC 3.0), a newer over-the-air format that can carry sharper pictures and better sound. You don't need it: regular antenna TV keeps working. If you buy a new TV, a "NextGen TV" label simply means it can receive the newer signals too.

Checked against the ATSC announcement of Cleveland's NextGen TV launch on November 13, 2026.

CHAPTER 8

Recording Games from Your Antenna

An antenna shows games live. If you'd like to record a game to watch later, or pause a live game to answer the door, you'll want an **antenna DVR** (digital video recorder).

Your options

- **An antenna DVR box.** Several companies sell small boxes that connect to your antenna and your home Wi-Fi, then let you watch and record antenna channels on your TV, phone or tablet. Some charge an optional monthly fee for the program guide; check before you buy.
- **A TV with recording built in.** Some TVs can record antenna channels to a USB drive. Check your TV's manual for "PVR" or "recording."
- **A live TV streaming service.** Services such as YouTube TV include your local channels and a cloud DVR, which is another way to record. Chapter 24 explains these.

TIP

Record the late games

If a West Coast game runs past your bedtime, record it and watch it the next morning. Just stay off the news and your phone's sports alerts until you've seen it.

FROM BILL

Start simple

Many people never bother with recording at all and are perfectly happy. Get the antenna working first, live with it for a few weeks, and add a DVR only if you find yourself missing it.

PART 3

Football

Pro football is the easiest sport to watch without cable, and the Browns are mostly on free TV. Here's who has which games, plus Sunday Ticket, the NFL's own app, and college football.

CHAPTER 9

The NFL in 2026: Who Has Which Games

The 2026 NFL season is spread across more places than ever, but the pattern is simple once you see it laid out. Most games are still on free broadcast TV.

When	Where it's shown	How to get it without cable
Sunday afternoons	CBS and FOX (the game shown depends on where you live)	Free with an antenna. Also Paramount+ (CBS games) and Fox One (FOX games).
Sunday night	NBC (Sunday Night Football)	Free with an antenna. Also streams on Peacock.
Monday night	ESPN, with some games also on ABC	ESPN's app (Unlimited plan) or a live TV service. ABC games are free with an antenna.
Thursday night	Prime Video (Thursday Night Football)	Prime Video, included with Amazon Prime.
Special dates	Netflix: the Week 1 game in Australia, a Thanksgiving Eve game, two Christmas Day games and a Week 18 Saturday game	A Netflix subscription.
Black Friday	Prime Video	Prime Video.
Out-of-town Sunday games	NFL Sunday Ticket	YouTube TV or YouTube (Chapter 11).
Playoffs and Super Bowl	Split among the networks; Super Bowl LXI on ABC and ESPN on February 14, 2027	Super Bowl: free with an antenna.

Checked against Netflix and NFL schedule reporting (Sports Video Group, Front Office Sports) on November 13, 2026.

Christmas and the holidays

On Christmas Day 2026 (a Friday), Netflix streams two games: Packers at Bears and Bills at Broncos. A third Christmas game, Seahawks versus Rams, is on FOX. Thanksgiving Day games are on the traditional networks (CBS, FOX and NBC), with Netflix carrying a game the night before Thanksgiving and Prime Video carrying the Black Friday game.

Checked against Netflix and NFL Christmas schedule reporting (Sports Video Group, Awful Announcing) on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

Which Sunday game you get depends on where you live

On Sunday afternoons, CBS and FOX each show different games in different parts of the country. Here in Northeast Ohio, they show the Browns whenever the Browns play. On a Browns bye week, you'll get whichever games the networks pick for our area. To watch a specific out-of-town game, you need NFL Sunday Ticket (Chapter 11).

HEADS UP

Prime Video and Netflix games are exclusive

Thursday Night Football and the Netflix games are *not* on your local channels or on Sunday Ticket. If your team plays one of those nights, you need that service, or a friend who has it. In the home city of each team, Thursday games are usually also shown on a local broadcast station.

CHAPTER 10

Watching the Browns

Good news for Browns fans: in 2026, nearly every game is on free TV. Here's how the season breaks down.

Network	Browns games	How to watch without cable
CBS (channel 19)	10 games	Free antenna; or Paramount+
FOX (channel 8)	5 games	Free antenna; or Fox One
Prime Video	1 game: Steelers at home, Thursday, Oct. 1	Prime Video
Week 18 at Cincinnati	Date, time and network announced after Week 17	Check the schedule in late December

Checked against the Cleveland Browns' official 2026 schedule on November 13, 2026.

All of the Sunday games were scheduled for 1 p.m. kickoffs. The NFL can move ("flex") games to different times or nights later in the season, so it's worth checking the week before.

Checking this week's game

1. On a phone or computer, go to **clevelandbrowns.com** and choose **Schedule**.
2. Find this week's game. The **TV** column shows the network.
3. If it says CBS or FOX, turn to channel 19 or 8 with your antenna.
4. If it says Prime Video, open the Prime Video app on your TV about 15 minutes early.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

What this does for you

A Browns fan with an antenna and Amazon Prime could have seen every scheduled 2026 game except possibly the Week 18 game, whose network hadn't been named yet, without paying for cable or a live TV service.

TIP

Listening instead of watching

Many fans like the radio call. Browns games are broadcast on local radio, and on Sundays that can be a nice way to follow along in the car or while doing yard work.

CHAPTER 11

NFL Sunday Ticket & Out-of-Town Teams

If you grew up somewhere else, or your grandson plays fantasy football, you may want games that aren't shown here. That's what **NFL Sunday Ticket** is for.

What Sunday Ticket includes, and what it doesn't

Includes	Out-of-market Sunday afternoon games: the CBS and FOX games *not* shown in your area.
Does not include	Your local Sunday games (those are on your antenna), Sunday, Monday and Thursday night games, the Netflix games, or the playoffs.
Where to buy it	Only from Google: as an add-on to YouTube TV, or on its own through YouTube's Primetime Channels (no YouTube TV needed).

What it costs

Sunday Ticket is sold for the whole season. For 2026, reported prices ranged from about $240 for new customers buying with YouTube TV to $480 bought on its own as a returning customer. YouTube regularly offers discounts, including lower prices partway through the season. Look at the price on the sign-up screen before you buy.

Checked against YouTube's 2026 Sunday Ticket pricing as reported by Android Authority and Front Office Sports on November 13, 2026.

HEADS UP

Browns fans living in Northeast Ohio don't need it

Sunday Ticket is for *other* teams. Because Browns Sunday games are shown locally on CBS or FOX, they are blocked on Sunday Ticket here. If the Browns are all you care about, an antenna is enough.

GOOD TO KNOW

Watching several games at once

Sunday Ticket on YouTube lets you put up to four games on the screen at once, called multiview. Start watching a game, then press down on the remote to see the multiview choices.

CHAPTER 12

NFL+, RedZone & the Free NFL App

The NFL sells its own subscription, called **NFL+**. It's handy for some people and confusing for others, mostly because of one big limit.

Plan	Price (2026)	What you get
NFL+	$6.99 a month or about $50 a year	Live local and primetime games on a **phone or tablet only**, NFL Network, live game radio broadcasts, preseason games
NFL+ Premium	$14.99 a month or about $100 a year	Everything above, plus NFL RedZone and full game replays after the games end

Checked against NFL+ plan details as reported by Front Office Sports and CableTV.com on November 13, 2026.

HEADS UP

The phone-only rule

With NFL+, live local and primetime games play only on a phone or tablet. They can't be sent to your TV with casting or AirPlay. NFL+ is great for watching on the porch or listening to the radio call, but it is not a way to watch live games on your living room TV.

What is RedZone?

NFL RedZone is a Sunday afternoon channel that jumps from game to game to show every touchdown and big play live. It's popular with fantasy football players. It comes with NFL+ Premium and can also be added to YouTube TV and Sunday Ticket.

TIP

The free NFL app

The free NFL app shows scores, schedules, highlights and news without a subscription. It's a good way to check which channel a game is on.

CHAPTER 13

College Football: Ohio State, Kent State & the Playoff

College football is spread around more than the NFL, but many of the biggest games are on free TV.

Ohio State and the Big Ten

Big Ten games are split among **FOX** (the noon Big Noon Kickoff game), **CBS** (afternoon), **NBC** (Big Ten Saturday Night), and the **Big Ten Network**. NBC's games also stream on Peacock, and Peacock carries some Big Ten games of its own.

Network	How to get it without cable
FOX, CBS, NBC	Free with an antenna (channels 8, 19 and 3)
Big Ten Network (BTN)	Fox One, or a live TV service such as YouTube TV
Peacock-only games	Peacock Premium or Premium Plus

For 2026, Ohio State's home game against Kent State on September 19 aired on FOX, the November 7 game against Oregon was picked by CBS, and the season finale against Michigan on November 28 is a noon game on FOX. Networks usually announce the channel and time for each game six to twelve days ahead.

Checked against Kent State Athletics' MAC television announcement and Big Ten schedule reporting (Eleven Warriors, FBSchedules) on November 13, 2026.

Kent State and the MAC

Most Kent State games, like most Mid-American Conference games, are shown by ESPN. Games listed as **ESPN+** stream in ESPN's app with either the ESPN Select or ESPN Unlimited plan, and some air on ESPN2 or ESPNU, which need the ESPN Unlimited plan or a live TV service. A few games against bigger schools, such as the 2026 trip to Ohio State, land on broadcast TV. Chapter 20 explains ESPN's plans.

Checked against Kent State Athletics on November 13, 2026.

Bowl games and the College Football Playoff

Most bowl games and College Football Playoff games are shown by ESPN, with the biggest ones often on ABC. Check the schedule in early December; ABC games are free with an antenna, and ESPN games need ESPN Unlimited or a live TV service.

TIP

Search the game, not the channel

On most smart TVs and streaming devices, you can press the microphone button on the remote and say "Ohio State football." The TV will often show which app or channel has the game.

PART 4

Baseball, Basketball & Hockey

These sports changed the most in 2025 and 2026. New national partners, new team streaming passes, and more free games than in years. Here's the current lineup.

CHAPTER 14

Baseball: MLB's National Games

Starting with the 2026 season, Major League Baseball signed new three-year deals (covering 2026 through 2028) with NBC, Netflix and ESPN, while FOX, TBS and Apple kept their existing packages. That means the lineup below should hold for 2027 as well, though the details of each season's schedule are announced each winter.

Partner	What it carries	How to get it without cable
FOX and FS1	Regular-season games, the All-Star Game, and the World Series, League Championship Series and Division Series	FOX free with an antenna; FS1 with Fox One or a live TV service
NBC, Peacock and NBCSN	Sunday Night Baseball, Sunday Leadoff games (about noon on Sundays, on Peacock), the Wild Card round, and some special-event games	NBC free with an antenna; Peacock Premium
TBS	Tuesday night games and playoff games	A live TV service (see Chapter 24)
ESPN	A national midweek game	ESPN Unlimited or a live TV service
Netflix	Opening Night, the Home Run Derby, and one special game a year (the 2026 Field of Dreams game)	Netflix
Apple TV	Friday Night Baseball doubleheaders	An Apple TV subscription

Checked against MLB.com's announcement of its 2026-2028 media agreements on November 13, 2026.

MLB.TV for out-of-town teams

MLB.TV streams out-of-market games: every team's local broadcasts except your own team's. Starting in 2026, ESPN sells MLB.TV inside the ESPN app, and MLB still sells it through MLB's own app. ESPN listed MLB.TV at $29.99 a month or $149.99 for the season. A cheaper single-team version is also offered.

Checked against ESPN's MLB.TV page and MLB.com on November 13, 2026.

HEADS UP

MLB.TV blacks out your home team

If you live in Northeast Ohio, MLB.TV will not show Guardians games live, because they're in-market here. Guardians fans need the team's own service, described in Chapter 15. National exclusive games (such as the Sunday night game) are blacked out on MLB.TV everywhere.

CHAPTER 15

Watching the Guardians

After the regional sports network that carried the team for years fell apart, Major League Baseball itself now produces and distributes the Guardians' local games. You watch them through a streaming service called **CLEGuardians.TV**.

How Guardians games reach you

Option	What it means for you
CLEGuardians.TV	The team's streaming service for fans in the Guardians' home TV territory. Shows regular-season games with no local blackouts, except games picked for national TV. In 2026 the full-season price was about $100, with a bundle that adds MLB.TV for other teams. The price dropped late in the season.
Free on WKYC	A handful of games produced by Guardians TV were also shown free on WKYC, channel 3, during 2026.
National games	Games picked by FOX, NBC, TBS, ESPN, Netflix or Apple appear only there.
Live TV services	Some live TV services and cable companies also carry the Guardians' channel. Check before you subscribe.

Checked against MLB.com's CLEGuardians.TV pages on November 13, 2026.

Signing up for CLEGuardians.TV

1. On a phone or computer, go to **mlb.com/guardians** and look for **CLEGuardians.TV** (or go straight to the subscribe page on MLB.com).
2. Create or sign in to a free MLB account with your email and a password.
3. Choose the package you want and pay. MLB checks your location to confirm you're in the Guardians' home area.
4. On your TV, open the **MLB** app (install it from your TV's app store if needed) and sign in with the same account.

FROM BILL

Wait for Opening Day news

The Guardians' 2027 plans and prices hadn't been announced when this manual was written. Watch for the announcement in late winter, before spring training, and check whether a free trial is offered.

CHAPTER 16

The NBA's New Lineup

The 2025–26 season started a new eleven-year NBA deal with three partners: Disney (ABC and ESPN), NBC (NBC and Peacock) and Amazon (Prime Video). TNT no longer carries regular NBA games.

Partner	When you'll usually find games	Without cable
NBC	Sunday nights and Tuesday nights (Tuesday games vary by region), opening night, and the All-Star Game	Free with an antenna; all Tuesday games also on Peacock
Peacock	Monday night doubleheaders	Peacock Premium
ABC	Saturday primetime, Sunday afternoons, Christmas Day games, and the NBA Finals	Free with an antenna
ESPN	Mostly Wednesday nights, some Fridays	ESPN Unlimited or a live TV service
Prime Video	Thursday doubleheaders from January, Friday doubleheaders, some Saturdays, the NBA Cup knockout rounds, the Play-In Tournament	Prime Video

Checked against NBA Communications' official announcement of the 2025-26 through 2035-36 agreements on November 13, 2026.

In the playoffs, the first two rounds are split among all three partners. The Conference Finals alternate between NBC and Prime Video (with ABC and ESPN carrying the other series), and the NBA Finals are always on ABC.

NBA League Pass

NBA League Pass shows out-of-market games. For 2026–27, NBA.com listed League Pass at $16.99 a month or $109.99 for the season, and League Pass Premium (no commercials, more streams) at $24.99 a month or $159.99. Like MLB.TV, it blacks out your local team and national exclusive games.

Checked against NBA League Pass prices as reported from NBA.com by AmericanTV on November 13, 2026.

TIP

The NBA app points the way

The NBA's own app is meant to send you to whichever service has each national game. Open a game in the app and it tells you where to watch.

CHAPTER 17

Watching the Cavaliers

For the 2026–27 season, the Cavaliers made a big change. Their local games now stream on **DAZN** (pronounced "da-zone"), and fifteen games are free on local TV.

The Cavaliers on DAZN

A DAZN Cavaliers subscription shows every regular-season game not picked for national TV, plus preseason games and team programs. It's available across the Cavaliers' home territory, which includes most of Ohio.

Plan	Price	What you get
Monthly Pass	$19.99 a month	Two streams in one home, downloads
Monthly Pass Ultimate	$24.99 a month	Five streams in two homes, multiview, alternate camera angles
Season Pass	$119.99 for the season	Two streams in one home, downloads
Season Pass Ultimate	$139.99 for the season	Five streams in two homes, multiview, alternate camera angles

Checked against the Cleveland Cavaliers' official Cavaliers on DAZN announcement on November 13, 2026.

Fifteen free games on local TV

Fifteen regular-season games are shown free, over the air, on Cleveland 19 (WOIO, CBS) and Cleveland's 43 (WUAB), and on Rock Entertainment Sports Network around Ohio. With an antenna, you can watch these for nothing. The schedule runs from late October 2026 to early April 2027; the stations publish the list, and some later games were still marked "to be announced" when this manual was written.

Checked against Cleveland 19's announcement of the free Cavaliers broadcasts on November 13, 2026.

Signing up for the Cavaliers on DAZN

1. On a phone or computer, go to **dazn.com/cavaliers**.
2. Choose a plan and create a DAZN account with your email and a password.
3. On your TV, install the **DAZN** app from your TV's app store and sign in with the same account.

GOOD TO KNOW

National games aren't on DAZN

When the Cavaliers play on NBC, Peacock, ABC, ESPN or Prime Video, the game is only on that national service. Check the Cavaliers' schedule at **cavs.com**, which lists the channel for each game.

CHAPTER 18

Hockey: The NHL

National NHL games are split between two companies through the 2027–28 season: Disney (ABC and ESPN) and Warner Bros. Discovery (TNT, TBS and truTV).

Where	What's there
ABC	Weekend games, especially Saturdays later in the season. Free with an antenna.
ESPN	About 100 exclusive games in 2026–27, including opening night on September 29. Some stream only in the ESPN app, and some also on Disney+ and Hulu. ESPN Unlimited covers them all.
TNT, TBS and truTV	Regular-season games and playoffs. The 2027 Stanley Cup Final is on TNT. These stream on HBO Max or come with a live TV service.
NHL Network	Extra games, through live TV services.

Checked against the ESPN Press Room and NHL.com 2026-27 national TV schedule announcements on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

Local teams

Northeast Ohio doesn't have an NHL team of its own. If you follow the Columbus Blue Jackets or the Pittsburgh Penguins, check that team's website for how its local games are shown this season, because many teams changed their local TV plans recently.

CHAPTER 19

College Basketball & March Madness

College basketball runs from November to early April, and games are spread across many networks. The good news is that some of the biggest games, including much of March Madness, are on free TV.

The regular season

- **Big Ten games** (Ohio State) are on FOX, CBS, NBC, Peacock and the Big Ten Network.
- **Kent State and the MAC** are mostly in ESPN's app, with some games on ESPNU or ESPN2.
- **Other conferences** are on ESPN, FOX, CBS, TNT and their own networks.

March Madness

The men's NCAA Tournament is shown by CBS and by TNT Sports (TBS, TNT and truTV). CBS games are free with an antenna and also stream on Paramount+. In 2026, HBO Max streamed the games shown on TBS, TNT and truTV, but only on its Standard and Premium plans, not Basic with Ads.

Checked against HBO Max Help's 2026 March Madness article on November 13, 2026.

TIP

Check which network has the Final Four

CBS and TNT Sports take turns with the Final Four and championship game. Before March 2027, check the NCAA's broadcast page at **ncaa.com** so you know whether your antenna will be enough.

GOOD TO KNOW

The women's tournament

The women's NCAA Tournament is shown by ESPN, with the biggest games often on ABC, which is free with an antenna.

PART 5

The Services, One by One

What each sports streaming service actually includes, what it costs, and who it's right for. Prices were checked in November 2026 and change often.

CHAPTER 20

ESPN's Own App: Select or Unlimited

In August 2025, ESPN began selling its channels directly to viewers through the ESPN app, no cable required. There are two plans, and the difference between them matters.

Plan	Price (from September 17, 2026)	What it includes
ESPN Select	$13.99 a month or $139.99 a year	The streaming-only games and shows that used to be called ESPN+ (many college games, including most Kent State games, some NHL games, and more). **No ESPN TV channels.**
ESPN Unlimited	$31.99 a month or $319.99 a year	Everything in Select **plus** the ESPN channels: ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNU, ESPNEWS, SEC Network, ACC Network and ESPN Deportes. Monday Night Football, ESPN's NBA and NHL games, and MLB's midweek game.

Checked against reporting on ESPN's September 2026 price change (NewscastStudio, The Streamable) on November 13, 2026.

Ways to get ESPN Unlimited for less

- **Through YouTube TV.** If your YouTube TV plan includes ESPN, ESPN Unlimited content is included inside the YouTube TV app at no extra charge.
- **With Fox One.** ESPN and Fox have offered a combined ESPN Unlimited and Fox One bundle for $39.99 a month. Check the current price on ESPN's site.
- **With Disney+ and Hulu.** Disney sells bundles that pair ESPN with Disney+ and Hulu.

Checked against YouTube TV Help (ESPN Unlimited on YouTube TV) and ESPN's ESPN-FOX One bundle page on November 13, 2026.

FROM BILL

Which ESPN plan do you need?

If you mainly want Kent State and smaller college games, **Select** may be enough. If you want Monday Night Football or ESPN's NBA and NHL games, you need **Unlimited**, or a live TV service that already includes ESPN.

CHAPTER 21

Fox One

Fox One is Fox's streaming service, launched in 2025. It brings together the FOX network and Fox's cable channels in one app.

What's included	Your local FOX station, FS1, FS2, the Big Ten Network, Fox Deportes, and Fox's news channels. That means FOX's NFL games, Big Noon Kickoff college football, Big Ten Network games, and Fox's baseball, including the World Series.
Price	About $19.99 a month. Free trials and discounts come and go.
Who it's for	Ohio State fans who want the Big Ten Network without a live TV service, and people who can't get a good FOX signal with an antenna.
What it doesn't have	CBS, NBC, ABC or ESPN games (unless you buy the ESPN bundle in Chapter 20).

Checked against Fox One plan reporting (Front Office Sports, NBC News) and ESPN's bundle page on November 13, 2026.

TIP

An antenna already gets you FOX

If your antenna brings in channel 8 clearly, you already have FOX's NFL and college games for free. Fox One is mainly worth it for FS1 and the Big Ten Network.

CHAPTER 22

Peacock & Paramount+

These two services are the streaming homes of NBC and CBS. Both carry many games that are also free with an antenna, plus some extras that are not.

Peacock (NBC)

Plan	Price (from August 2026)	Sports?
Select	$8.99 a month	**No live sports.** NBC and Bravo shows only.
Premium	$12.99 a month	Yes: Sunday Night Football, NBA games, Sunday Night Baseball and Sunday Leadoff, Big Ten football and basketball, Premier League soccer, golf and more. With ads.
Premium Plus	$19.99 a month	Everything in Premium, plus your live local NBC station and fewer ads on shows. Live sports still have commercials.

Checked against reporting on Peacock's August 2026 price change (9to5Google, TVLine) on November 13, 2026.

HEADS UP

Pick Premium, not Select, for sports

Peacock's cheapest plan, Select, doesn't include any live sports. If you sign up for the games, make sure the plan on the screen says **Premium**.

Paramount+ (CBS)

Plan	Price (from January 2026)	Sports?
Essential	$8.99 a month	The NFL on CBS games shown in your area, plus other CBS Sports events. Not your full local CBS station.
Premium	$13.99 a month	Everything in Essential plus your live local CBS station around the clock, and fewer ads on shows.

Checked against Paramount+ plan reporting (DealNews, CBS Sports) on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

Do you need either one?

If your antenna gets channels 3 and 19 well, you already have NBC's and CBS's games free. Peacock is worth adding for its *streaming-only* games (the Monday NBA doubleheaders, Sunday Leadoff baseball, and some Big Ten games). Paramount+ mostly helps homes with poor antenna reception.

CHAPTER 23

Prime Video & Netflix for Sports

You may already have one or both of these for movies and shows. For sports fans, each now carries games you can't get anywhere else.

Prime Video

- **Thursday Night Football** all season, the **Black Friday** NFL game, and an NFL Wild Card playoff game.
- **NBA games**: Thursday and Friday doubleheaders, the NBA Cup knockout rounds, and the Play-In Tournament.
- Included with an **Amazon Prime** membership ($14.99 a month or $139 a year when checked).

Checked against NBA Communications, the Browns 2026 schedule and Prime membership price reporting (DealNews, ConsumerAffairs) on November 13, 2026.

GOOD TO KNOW

"Ultra" doesn't add games

In 2026 Amazon renamed its ad-free option **Prime Video Ultra** ($4.99 a month). It removes ads from movies and shows and adds 4K. It does not add any extra games.

Netflix

- **NFL:** five games in 2026, including the Week 1 game in Australia, a Thanksgiving Eve game, two Christmas Day games and a Week 18 Saturday game.
- **MLB:** Opening Night, the Home Run Derby, and one special event game each year.
- Plans in 2026: Standard with ads $8.99, Standard $19.99, Premium $26.99 a month.

Checked against MLB.com, NFL schedule reporting and Netflix price reporting (TheWrap) on November 13, 2026.

TIP

Sign up the week of the game

Netflix and Prime both bill monthly. If you only want Netflix for the Christmas games, you can join a few days before and cancel afterward. Just set a reminder (Chapter 27).

CHAPTER 24

Live TV Services: YouTube TV and the Others

A **live TV streaming service** is the closest thing to cable without a cable company. It streams dozens of live channels, including your local stations and sports channels, through one app.

The main choices

Service	What it's like
YouTube TV	Local channels, ESPN (with ESPN Unlimited content included), FOX Sports, TNT, TBS, the Big Ten Network and more, plus unlimited cloud DVR. The base plan was about $82.99 a month in 2026. YouTube also offers a cheaper Sports plan. The only place to add NFL Sunday Ticket.
Hulu + Live TV	A similar channel lineup, and it includes Disney+ and Hulu's shows.
Fubo	A sports-heavy lineup. Fubo and Hulu + Live TV are now run together by Disney but sold separately.
Sling TV	Cheaper, smaller packages. Usually doesn't include all local channels, so pair it with an antenna.
DirecTV Stream	Satellite-style lineups over the internet, with several plan sizes.

Checked against YouTube TV Help and YouTube TV pricing reporting (Cord Cutters News, Variety) on November 13, 2026.

Questions to answer before you sign up

1. Does it carry my local channels in my ZIP code (CBS 19, NBC 3, ABC 5 and FOX 8)?
2. Does it carry the sports channels I care about, such as ESPN, FS1, TNT or the Big Ten Network?
3. How many people in my home can watch at once, and on how many TVs?
4. Does it work on the TV or streaming device I already own?
5. Is there a free trial, and on what date does it turn into a paid plan?

Trying one out

1. On a computer or phone, go to the service's own website (type the address yourself).
2. Enter your ZIP code to see the channel list for your area.
3. Sign up for the trial, and put the end date in your calendar right away.
4. Install the service's app on your TV and sign in using the code method in Chapter 28.
5. Watch a game or two. If it isn't right, cancel before the trial ends.

HEADS UP

Look at the total, not the ad

Live TV services usually cost $40.00 to $100.00 a month once taxes and add-ons are counted, close to what some people pay for cable. They make the most sense if you want many channels, not just a few games. Before signing up, use the service's channel lookup with your ZIP code to confirm it carries the channels you want.

FROM BILL

When a live TV service is the right call

If you watch several sports across many networks and you'd rather have one app with everything, a live TV service during the busiest months can be simpler than juggling four or five apps. You can still pause it in the summer.

PART 6

Planning & Saving

Put it all together: a season-by-season plan, sample setups with honest costs, and how to subscribe and cancel without getting stuck paying for months you don't use.

CHAPTER 25

Build Your Season Plan

The secret to saving money is matching your subscriptions to the calendar. Each sport has a season, and you only need its services while it's being played.

Sport	Regular season	Playoffs end
NFL	Early September to early January	Super Bowl in February
College football	Late August to early December	Playoff ends in January
MLB	Late March to late September	World Series in late October or early November
NBA	Late October to mid-April	NBA Finals in June
NHL	Early October to mid-April	Stanley Cup Final in June
College basketball	November to early March	Final Four in early April

Make your plan in four steps

1. **List your teams.** Write down every team you really want to watch, not just follow in the paper.
2. **Mark the months.** Next to each team, write the months its season runs, using the table above.
3. **Find the services.** Using Parts 3 and 4, write which service carries each team. Circle anything that's free with an antenna.
4. **Build your calendar.** For each month, list only the services you need that month. That's your subscription plan.

Example: a year for a Northeast Ohio home-team fan

Months	What's on	What this fan pays for
January to February	NFL playoffs and Super Bowl, Cavaliers, college basketball	Cavaliers pass (if not a season pass); antenna for the playoffs and Super Bowl
March to April	March Madness, Cavaliers, Guardians start	CLEGuardians.TV starts; antenna for CBS's tournament games
May to August	Guardians, NBA playoffs early in the summer	CLEGuardians.TV only
September	Browns, Ohio State, Guardians finish	Antenna; Prime for Thursday night; CLEGuardians.TV

Months	What's on	What this fan pays for
October to December	Browns, Ohio State, Cavaliers start, baseball playoffs	Antenna; Prime; Cavaliers on DAZN

Notice how few services are running in any one month. That's the whole idea: the bill follows the calendar instead of staying high all year.

WHAT THIS DOES FOR YOU

What this does for you

Instead of paying for everything all year, you pay for each service only during its months. For many households, that cuts the yearly sports bill by hundreds of dollars.

TIP

The overlap months

October is the busy month: football, the baseball playoffs, and the start of basketball and hockey all overlap. If you ever consider a live TV service for just one or two months, October is the one.

CHAPTER 26

Sample Plans & What They Cost

Here are four example setups for Northeast Ohio fans. The prices are the ones listed in November 2026; taxes are extra, and prices change. Use them as a starting point, not a quote.

Plan A: The Browns fan

- Antenna (one time, about $20.00 to $100.00): CBS and FOX games, Sunday Night Football.
- Amazon Prime (many already have it): the Thursday night game.
- **Extra monthly cost during the season: $0.00 to $14.99.**

Plan B: All the home teams

- Antenna for the Browns, Ohio State on FOX/CBS/NBC, and the free Cavaliers games.
- Amazon Prime for Thursday football and Prime's NBA games.
- CLEGuardians.TV for the baseball season (2026 full season: about $100).
- Cavaliers on DAZN Season Pass ($119.99 for the season).
- **Roughly $220 a year for the two team passes**, plus Prime if you don't already have it.

Plan C: The Buckeye and college fan

- Antenna for FOX, CBS, NBC and ABC games.
- Fox One during football season for the Big Ten Network and FS1 (about $19.99 a month).
- Peacock Premium for Peacock-only Big Ten games ($12.99 a month).
- **About $33.00 a month from September to December**, then drop both (or keep them for basketball).

Plan D: The "I want almost everything" fan

- YouTube TV during the busy months (base plan about $82.99 a month), which includes local channels, ESPN with ESPN Unlimited content, TNT, TBS, FS1 and the Big Ten Network.
- Amazon Prime and Netflix for their exclusive games.
- Team passes for the Guardians and Cavaliers, because their local games aren't part of most live TV services.

HEADS UP

Prices move constantly

Every service in this manual raised prices at least once between 2025 and 2026. Before you subscribe, look at the price on the final sign-up screen, and note whether it's monthly or yearly.

FROM BILL

Compare against your cable bill

Get out your current cable or satellite bill and find the total, including fees, equipment rental and the "regional sports fee" many companies charge. Then compare it with the plan you build. That's the honest way to see what you'd save.

CHAPTER 27

Subscribing & Canceling by Season

Streaming services make signing up easy and canceling a little less obvious. A few habits keep you in control.

Before you subscribe

- Decide in advance when you'll cancel, such as "the day after the Super Bowl."
- Check whether you're choosing **monthly** or **yearly**. A yearly plan is cheaper per month but renews automatically for another full year.
- If there's a free trial, note the date it ends. Trials turn into paid subscriptions automatically.

Set a cancel reminder on your phone

1. Open your phone's **Calendar** app.
2. Choose the day you plan to cancel and add an event, such as "Cancel Peacock."
3. Turn on an alert for that morning.
4. When the alert comes, cancel right away, while you're thinking of it.

Where to cancel

Cancel in the same place you signed up. If you signed up on the service's website, cancel on its website under **Account**. If you paid through your Roku, Amazon, Apple or Google account, cancel there instead, in that company's subscriptions list.

GOOD TO KNOW

Canceling doesn't cut you off right away

With most services, when you cancel a monthly plan you can keep watching until the end of the month you've paid for. So it's fine to cancel early; you won't lose the days you've already paid for.

TIP

Keep a one-page list

Write down every service you pay for, the price, the day it bills, and where you signed up. Our Subscriptions manual has more on staying on top of them.

CHAPTER 28

Signing In on Your TV

Most sports apps ask you to sign in on the TV the first time you open them. Typing a password with a TV remote is slow, so most apps use a simpler way: a code.

How code sign-in works

1. Open the app on your TV and choose **Sign In**.
2. The TV shows a short code and a web address, or a square QR code.
3. On your phone or computer, go to **exactly** the web address shown on the TV screen, or point your phone's camera at the QR code.
4. Sign in with your account, then type the code from the TV.
5. Within a few seconds the TV app refreshes and you're in.

SCAM ALERT

Never search for the activation address

Scammers set up look-alike "activation" websites that show up when people search for things like "activate my sports app." They ask for a fee or a phone call to "activate" your TV. Real apps never charge to activate. Type the address exactly as the TV shows it, or use the QR code.

Using a live TV service to sign in to other apps

If you have a live TV service such as YouTube TV, many network apps let you sign in with it. On the app's sign-in screen, look for **Sign in with your TV provider** and choose your service.

PART 7

Staying Safe & Fixing Problems

Pirate streams and sports scams, buffering and delays, blackouts, and when to call for help.

CHAPTER 29

Pirate Streams & Sports Scams

Big games attract scammers. When people can't find a game, some search for "free stream" and land on sites that are designed to take advantage of them.

Free "live stream" websites

Websites that promise every game free, from leagues and services you'd normally pay for, are almost always showing the games without permission. They're also packed with pop-ups, fake download buttons and tricks to get you to install harmful software or type in a credit card.

SCAM ALERT

A pop-up says your computer is infected

If a sports stream suddenly shows a warning that your device is infected and gives a phone number to call, it's a scam. Don't call. Close the browser. If it won't close, restart the device.

Common sports scams

Scam	What to know
"Activate your TV" sites	Fake websites charging to set up a streaming app. Real apps never charge to activate (Chapter 28).
Fake "streaming support" numbers	Phone numbers in search results claiming to be YouTube TV, ESPN or Prime support. Go to the service's own website to find help.
Too-good-to-be-true boxes	Streaming boxes sold as "every channel free forever." They usually rely on pirate streams and can stop working at any time.
Ticket scams	Tickets sold on social media or by text at low prices. Buy from the team, the league's official ticket exchange, or a well-known ticket site.
Account "problem" emails	Messages saying your subscription failed and asking you to click a link and re-enter your card. Open the app yourself to check instead.

STAY SAFE

The golden rule

If you didn't go looking for it, don't trust it. Open apps and websites yourself, from your own bookmarks or the TV's app store, rather than from a link or a search result.

CHAPTER 30

Fixing Buffering, Delays & Spoilers

A spinning circle in the middle of a big play is frustrating. Most streaming problems have simple fixes.

When the picture freezes or spins

1. Press **Back** and reopen the game. This often clears a hiccup.
2. Close the app completely and reopen it.
3. Restart your streaming device or TV: unplug it for 30 seconds, then plug it back in.
4. Restart your internet router the same way, and wait a few minutes for it to reconnect.
5. If it keeps happening, move the router closer to the TV, or connect the TV to the router with a network cable.

Check your internet speed

1. On a phone or computer connected to your home Wi-Fi, search for **internet speed test** and run one of the free tests.
2. Run it again standing near the TV, since that's where the speed matters.
3. If the speed near the TV is much lower than near the router, the Wi-Fi signal is the problem, not your internet plan. A mesh Wi-Fi system or a network cable usually fixes that.
4. If the speed is low everywhere, call your internet provider, or ask me to take a look.

GOOD TO KNOW

Why streams run behind

Streaming services are usually a little behind the live action, sometimes by 30 seconds or more, and an antenna is usually ahead of them. That's normal. If you're watching on a stream, silence sports alerts on your phone so a score notification doesn't spoil the play before you see it.

Avoiding spoilers on recorded games

- Turn off sports notifications on your phone until you've watched.
- Some apps, including YouTube TV, can hide scores for a team. The help section of your app explains how.

- Ask family members not to text you the score.

TIP

Too much crowd noise, not enough announcer?

Many TVs and soundbars have a **dialogue** or **voice** setting that makes announcers easier to hear. Look in the TV's **Sound** settings.

CHAPTER 31

Blackouts & "Not Available in Your Area"

Sometimes an app says a game isn't available where you are. That's a blackout, and it's about rights, not about your TV.

Why it happens

- **Your team is local.** Out-of-market packages like MLB.TV, NBA League Pass and Sunday Ticket block local teams, because the local rights belong to someone else.
- **The game is a national exclusive.** Only the national network or service may show it.
- **Your location is unclear.** Apps check where you are. If location access is off, or your internet address looks like it's somewhere else, the app may guess wrong.

What to do

1. Check the game's listing on the team or league website to see which channel has it.
2. If you're on a phone, make sure the app is allowed to use your location in the phone's settings.
3. Restart the app, or the streaming device, after changing location settings.
4. If you believe the app has your location wrong, contact the service's support through its own website.

HEADS UP

About VPNs

Some people use a VPN to make an app think they're somewhere else. Streaming services' terms of service generally don't allow this, and they can block or cancel accounts that do it. It's not something I recommend.

TIP

Traveling?

When you travel, local games change to that area's teams. Services like YouTube TV may also ask you to update your home area if you're away a long time. Check your service's help pages before a long trip.

CHAPTER 32

When to Call Bill

This manual should carry you a long way on your own. But sometimes it's simply easier to have someone sit down with you, look at your teams and your TV, and set it all up. That's what I do.

Things I can help with

- Checking antenna reception at your address and setting up an antenna and channel scan.
- Building your season-by-season plan and comparing it honestly with your current cable bill.
- Installing and signing in to the apps on your TV, so they're ready on game day.
- Setting up cancel reminders and a simple list of what you pay for.
- Fixing buffering, Wi-Fi trouble and "not available in your area" messages.

How to reach me	
Remote help	$49 remote · $99 in your home
Phone	(330) 200-8042. If I'm with another customer, Sophie, my AI receptionist, will answer and get you scheduled.
Book online	billshometech.com/book

FROM BILL

No question is too small

"Which channel is the Browns game on?" is a perfectly good reason to call. I've been doing this for more than 30 years, and I'd much rather you enjoy the game than spend the first quarter hunting for it.

— Bill