

Make sure you're correctly licensed

People who are not correctly licensed risk prosecution and a possible fine of up to £1,000. TV Licensing understands, however, that some people find it hard to pay the annual fee of £145.50 for a colour TV Licence or £49 for a black and white licence in one go. For this reason, there are a number of different ways to pay for a TV Licence, including a cash payment plan. The options are as follows:

Payment cards

TV Licensing payment cards make buying a TV Licence easier for those who struggle to pay in one lump sum by allowing them to spread the cost into weekly, fortnightly or monthly payments. They are open to everyone and payments can be made by cash or a debit/credit card at any one of nearly 20,000 PayPoint outlets nationwide or over the phone.

Anyone wishing to find out more about signing up for a cash payment plan should give TV Licensing a call on 0300 790 6078.

Savings card

The TV Licensing savings card is designed to help people save towards the cost of their next TV Licence in small, manageable amounts. People can make a payment at any time either online, by text, at any PayPoint outlet or over the phone. Call 0300 790 6078 for further information.

Using PayPoint

People wishing to pay or save for their TV Licence in person can use PayPoint's growing network of outlets using cash or debit card payments. PayPoint outlets can be found in newsagents, convenience stores, supermarkets, petrol stations and other retailers. To find their nearest PayPoint, people can visit www.paypoint.co.uk/locator.htm. Alternatively they can call 0300 790 6078 for more information.

Other ways to pay

More people are choosing to pay by Direct Debit, now used by over 12 million licence fee payers, while others choose to pay via our website by using a debit or credit card over the phone or by putting a cheque in the post.

If you would like more information, or want to buy a TV Licence, please call 0300 790 6063 or visit www.tvlicensing.co.uk.

If you are aged 75 or over

Anyone aged 75 or over is entitled to a free TV Licence. The free licence is now issued and then automatically renewed twice before a further paper licence is sent – it is effectively a free, three year licence.

Although it is free, you do still need to apply for the licence by providing TV Licensing with your date of birth and national insurance number. Once these details are verified, the free licence will continue to be renewed automatically and you won't need to apply for a new one when it expires. If you do not have a national insurance number, you can ring TV Licensing (0300 790 6073) to arrange other proof of your date of birth.

If your 75th birthday will fall in the year covered by the next licence, you can buy a short-term licence to cover you until your birthday, or you can claim a refund on an existing licence for the months since you reached the age of 75.

Blind concession

There is a 50% discount on the licence fee if you are blind or severely sight impaired (not partially sighted) – £72.75 for a colour TV, £24.50 for black and white.

When your licence is due for renewal, send your renewal form and a photocopy of the certificate from your local authority or ophthalmologist indicating that you are blind or severely sight impaired to Concessionary Licensing Centre, TV Licensing, Bristol BS98 1TL. For further enquiries ring 0300 790 6071.