

# Top Ten Video Streaming in fall 2022

Netflix being the creator and the king of the online video streaming are long gone now, in the last years competitors raised and come out for a piece of the pie of the market. The positive aspect of this is the variety that is far beyond a single platform could create, the negative aspect is the cost of the access to it is disproportionated in comparison.

This list addresses the issue of creating a road map through the now dense jungle of video streaming services. In the rank we let you know what types of the content, the cost and general idea what are their strong and weak points.

# 1. Amazon Prime Video

This born as a way to get free shipping on more purchases through Amazon. They extended it with the video streaming services as an add-on. In the next years the add-on turns to be the principal for many of the users. Amazon make itself as an attractive option when they kept launching and adding more benefits for their user. Services such as: Kindle, Amazon Music, and Luma. There is the option of getting only the video streaming for \$9 monthly, and the one with the extra benefits is \$15 monthly.

We'll focus on the video service, which includes a selection of original and catalog content that is a lot like what Netflix and the others offer. In recent years Amazon Prime has increased its original output with award-winning series like *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, as well as highly-regarded genre content like *The Boys* and *The Expanse*.

When it comes to where you can watch Amazon Prime Video, the list of options rivals Netflix. Streaming boxes and smart TVs, whether they're part of Amazon's Fire TV platform or not, are almost a given. Game consoles? Check. The only major gap in compatibility was Google's Chromecast, and it closed that hole in the summer of 2019.

Last but not least, there's one thing Amazon has that you won't get from Netflix, and can't get from Hulu or YouTube: Thursday Night NFL action. Prime Video is now the exclusive home of Thursday Night Football, starting with the 2022 season. — *R.L.* 

Subscribe to Prime Video

### 2. Netflix

Netflix is accessible almost from every country on the planet, the app and website are accessible virtually to any device capable to connect to internet and designed to transmit audio and image. The app has a user-friendly interface that makes even easier the access of the general public. One of the limitations that doesn't make much sense is the platform allows you to download content to keep watching even if you have to go somewhere without internet access, the sad part is only a percentage of the content available and not all.

Netflix is going down and maybe their golden era has ended, after they accustomed their customer an excellency. This excellency is getting cut little by little since the strong of use of not popular ideological ideas, take out the possibility of sharing account, the rise of the subscription, the trial periods forgotten, among others not the best decisions.

F1 Drive to Survive, Stranger Things and Altered Carbon are some of my favorites at the level. The platform count with a huge catalog of more of 5,000 titles of series and movies.

Subscribe to Netflix

# 3. HBO Max

In 2020, HBO decided to take the fight to its streaming competitors with <u>HBO Max</u>. It supplanted the existing HBO channels, as well as streaming via HBO Go or HBO Now by refocusing on original content and rebuilding the service for the modern era. HBO Max has the advantage of linking to one of the deepest (and best) content libraries available, drawing from the premium cable channel's archives, the Warner Bros. vault, Studio Ghibli, Looney Tunes, Sesame Street and Turner Classic Movies.

Since launch, HBO Max has come to more TV platforms and it's now available on Roku, Apple TV, Android TV, Samsung and others. You can also stream it via a browser, Sony and Microsoft's game consoles or with mobile apps on Android and iOS. It also includes support for AirPlay and Google's Cast feature, which help it work with more smart TVs than just the ones listed here.

HBO Max content includes premium stuff that Warner yanked back from Netflix and others, like full series runs of *Friends* and *The Fresh Prince*, or DC Universe-related TV series and movies. The HBO library speaks for itself, with *Game of Thrones*, *The Wire* and older stuff like *Band of* 

Brothers, Flight of the Conchords or Entourage. It's also investing in all-new content for HBO Max, like its Game of Thrones spin-off, <u>House of the Dragon</u>.

#### Subscribe to HBO Max

### 4. Hulu

<u>Hulu</u> started out as a bit of a curiosity — a joint venture by NBC, News Corp and a private equity firm to compete with Netflix by offering new episodes of TV shows. Then, after Disney joined up in 2009, bringing along its content from ABC and the Disney Channel, Hulu became a streaming network worth paying attention to. Today, Hulu's focus is still on recent TV episodes, but it also has a strong library of original series and films (like *The Handmaid's Tale* and *Only Murders in the Building*), as well as an archive of older TV and movies that often puts Netflix to shame.

Hulu subscriptions start at \$7 a month (or \$70 a year) with ads. You can also bump up to the adfree plan for \$13 a month (worth it for true TV addicts). The company's Live TV offering is considerably more expensive, starting at \$70 a month with ads and \$76 a month ad-free, but you do get Disney+ and ESPN+ services bundled in.

#### Subscribe to Hulu

# 5. Disney+

<u>Disney+ came out swinging</u>, leveraging all of the company's popular brands, like Star Wars, Pixar and Marvel. It's your one-stop-shop for everything Disney, making it catnip for kids, parents, animation fans and anyone looking for some classic films from the likes of 20th Century Pictures. And unlike Hulu, which Disney also owns, there aren't any R-rated movies or shows that curious kiddos can come across.

Given the company's new focus on streaming, <u>Disney+</u> has quickly become a must-have for families. And at \$8 a month (or \$80 a year), it's a lot cheaper than wrangling the kids for a night out at the movies (or even buying one of the Disney's over-priced Blu-rays).

#### Subscribe to Disney+

# 6. Apple TV+

<u>Apple</u> spared no expense with its streaming platform, launching with high profile series like *The Morning Show*. While they weren't all hits initially (*See* you later, get it?), Apple TV+ has since amassed a slew of must-watch programming like *Ted Lasso*, *Severance*, and *For All Mankind*. Clearly, the iPhone maker is taking a different approach than Netflix or Disney, with a focus on quality and big celebrity names, rather than bombarding us with a ton of content. But that strategy seems to have paid off.

### Subscribe to Apple TV+

### 7. YouTube TV

<u>YouTube TV</u> is a great option for cord cutters who still want to watch live TV without having to sign up for a contract. It carries over 85 different channels, so it's highly likely that you won't miss your cable or satellite subscription at all if you switch over. YouTube TV even carries your regional PBS channels, which is a rarity on most streaming services.

Where YouTube TV really shines is in the sports department. Not only does it offer sports-carrying channels like CBS, FOX, ESPN, NBC, TBS and TNT, it also offers specific sports coverage networks like the MLB Network, NBA TV and the NFL Network. You can even opt for a Sports Plus package for an additional \$11 a month if you want specific sports channels like NFL RedZone, FOX College Sports, GOLTV, FOX Soccer Plus, MAVTV Motorsports Network, TVG and Stadium. Unfortunately, however, YouTube TV recently lost the rights to carry Bally Sports regional networks, which means that you won't get region-specific channels such as Bally Sports Detroit or Bally Sports Southwest.

One particularly strong selling point for sports fans is that instead of always remembering to record a particular game, you can just choose to "follow" a specific team and the DVR will automatically record all of its games. Plus, if you happen to have jumped into the match late, there's a "catch up with key plays" feature that lets you watch all the highlights up until that point so that you're up to speed.

Subscribe to YouTube TV

## 8. ESPN+

### ESPN / Disney

Without a doubt, <u>ESPN's standalone service</u> is <u>the best deal</u> in sports streaming. No one can compete with the network when it comes to the sheer volume of content. The platform hosts thousands of live college sporting events, plus MLB, MLS, NHL, NBA G League games and more. There's plenty of pro tennis as well, and ESPN+ is an insane value for soccer fans.

On top of select MLS matches, ESPN+ is the US home of the Bundesliga (Germany) and the EFL cup (Carabao Cup). It's also the spot for the UEFA Nations League international competition in Europe.

Subscribe to ESPN+

# 9. Paramount+

#### ViacomCBS

Formerly CBS All Access, <u>Paramount+</u> may get the most attention for originals like *Star Trek: Discovery, Star Trek: Picard* and *The Twilight Zone*, but it's becoming a sports destination as well. The app began streaming <u>NWSL soccer matches</u> last summer when the league returned to the pitch. CBS also announced that All Access would be the streaming home of the US women's league. Unfortunately, you can't watch every match there, but it's a start.

Soon after, CBS added <u>UEFA Champions League and Europa League</u> soccer to its sports slate. The Champions League is the biggest competition in club soccer, pitting teams from various countries around the continent against each other to see who's the best. Europa League does the same, but with less glory. Paramount+ is now the home of Series A soccer (Italy) and will broadcast CONCACAF World Cup qualifiers, which the US Men's National Team will participate in. At \$6 a month with limited commercials, or \$10 a month ad-free, Paramount+ isn't a must have sports destination just yet.

#### Subscribe to Paramount+

### 10. The Criterion Channel

While it's easy to find modern films on Netflix and other streaming services these days, classic cinema is often tougher to find. FilmStruck tried to solve that problem, but it couldn't find a large enough audience to survive. Now there's the Criterion Channel, which delivers a rotating array of its cinephile-approved library for \$11 a month or \$100 a year. (Where else can you stream something like the incredible ramen noodle Western Tampopo?)

It's a service that's built for movie lovers: It's chock full of commentary tracks, conversations with writers and directors, and some of the company's renowned special features. The Criterion Channel also does a far better job at curating viewing options than other services. Its double features, for instance, pair together thematically similar films, like the classic noir entries Phantom Lady and Variety. What's more, its editors make it easy to find all of the available films from a single director, for all of you auteur theory connoisseurs.

Sure, it costs a bit more than Hulu and Disney+, but The Criterion Channel gives you access to a library that's far more rewarding than the latest streaming TV show. You can watch on up to three devices at once, and there's also offline viewing available for iOS and Android devices. It also supports major streaming devices from Apple, Amazon and Roku, but as far as TV's go, it's only on Samsung's Tizen-powered sets. Unfortunately, The Criterion Channel is only available in the US and Canada, due to licensing restrictions. — *D.H.* 

Subscribe to Criterion Channel