

# HomeView

## STREAMING API DAR

Uniting Streaming Services on One Site

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## Introduction

Unite has considered the following three options for HomeView's streaming API:

- Flixed
- Guidebox
- Watchmode

	<b><u>Flixed</u></b>	<b><u>RapidAPI</u></b>	<b><u>Watchmode</u></b>
<b>Pros</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Contains metadata streaming services use to organize titles which can be used for recommendations</li><li>● Contains external database IDs such as IMDB could be used for actwiki</li><li>● Responsive and Comprehensive user experiences</li><li>● Content recommendations for our Central Media Library</li><li>● Roster of streaming services continuing to grow to include services across the globe</li><li>● Free</li></ul> +0.60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>●</li></ul> +0.40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Able to filter streaming services by country</li><li>● Covers over 200 streaming services</li><li>● Can return links and deeplinks for every specific episode</li><li>● Decent documentation for multiple languages</li></ul> +0.40
<b>Cons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Limited only to U.S. sources (other site says it can do international sources hmmmmmmmm)</li><li>● No one size fits all like other Streaming API</li><li>● Must Request access to use API</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Paid service, only one week free trial</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Free tier limited to 1000 API calls a month</li><li>● Free tier limited only to U.S. sources</li></ul>

	-0.30	-0.30	-0.20
<b>Subtotal 0.30</b>	<b>0.30</b>	<b>0.10</b>	<b>0.20</b>
<b>Metrics</b>			
Number of Countries Supported +0.20	All Countries  +0.20	2  +0.10	4  +0.15
Pricing +0.20	Free  +0.20	One week trial, pricing negotiated afterwards  +0.05	Free, then \$249 a month for increased usage  +0.10
Number of Streaming Services Supported +0.20	200 services  +0.10	240 services  +0.20	200 services  +0.10
<b>Total (out of 1.20)</b>	<b>0.80</b>	<b>0.45</b>	<b>0.55</b>

## Conclusion

Based on the above metrics and research, the Flixed streaming API had scored the most points during the review. As compared to the other APIs, Flixed covers the most countries, services, and continues to grow. In addition, Flixed provides metadata that streaming services do not openly provide, which is necessary for HomeView to create recommendations for users.

For the first calculated subtotal, our team decided to score each API's pros and cons. The highest possible number of points to gain from the pros would be +0.60, whereas the highest possible deduction of points from the cons would be -0.30. To calculate each option's subtotal from the recorded pros and cons, the number of cons would be subtracted from the option's total number of pros. In our case, Flixed API's scored the highest (by having +0.60 pros and -0.30 cons, resulting in a subtotal score of +0.30). Following the same procedure, Watchmode's API placed second with a subtotal of +0.20, whereas Guidebox's API came in last, with a subtotal of +0.10.

After calculating the subtotal, we analyzed the metrics of each option. For the number of countries the APIs support, Flixed scored +0.20 for being available to all countries whereas Watchmode scored +0.15 for supporting 4 countries, and Guidebox scored +0.10 for only supporting 2 countries. For the pricing options, Flixed is completely free giving it the highest score of +0.20. Secondly, Watchmode scored +0.10 for having a free tier and then requiring a payment of \$249 a month if more services are needed. Guidebox, however, had scored +0.05 for only having a one week free trial then requiring a subscription afterwards.

For the last metric of number of streaming services supported, Guidebox scored +0.20 for supporting 240 services. While Flixed and Watchmode both tied in this metric with +0.10 for currently supporting 200 services.

After calculating the subtotal and metrics from each framework, the highest possible scoring was a 1.20. Flixed's API scored the highest, with a score of 0.80, whereas Watchmode's API scored 0.55, and Guidebox's API 0.45. As a conclusion, based on its metrics and pros and cons, our team conclusively and unanimously decided to utilize Flixed's API to gather data from streaming services.

## References

<https://flixed.io/flexible-api-for-developers/>

<https://flixed.io/best-streaming-availability-apis-for-developers/>

<https://flixed.io/complete-list-streaming-services/>

<https://www.guidebox.com/>

<https://api.watchmode.com/>