

# Cable Converter Boxes

Cable converter boxes serve two key purposes:

- Allows TV sets that are not cable-ready to recognize cable input and expand channel capacity
- Allows cable subscribers to view premium/optional channels

To view channels offered in any of our cable services, your TV needs to be "cable-ready" or have a cable box. A TV is cable-ready when it has the capacity to reach a larger number of channels and recognizes cable input. Your TV set is always tuned to channel 3 whenever a cable box is used.

## Viewing Subscription Channels

Some channels on cable are optional "subscription" channels that are not part of your basic or standard services. These subscription channels include HBO, Cinemax, Showtime, TMC, etc. A cable box is required to view subscription channels, even though you have a cable-ready TV. These channels are available for a small monthly fee. If you are a subscriber, the cable box "unscrambles" these channels so you can view them.

## Recording with a Cable-Ready VCR

Similarly, to record cable channel programs with a VCR, a cable box is required for optional "subscription" channels such as HBO or ESPN2. A cable-ready VCR recognizes cable input and can record any subscription-based cable channel. To record from a cable box, the VCR is always tuned to channel 3.

## Variety of Cable Boxes

Besides tuning cable channels, some cable boxes offer a wide variety of features and advanced functions.