Cutting the Cord
My Story on Dropping DirecTV

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Situation

- DirecTV on main and secondary TV (+tax)
  - Programming - $60/mo
  - DVR - $10/mo
  - HD - $10/mo
  - Whole Home DVR - $3/mo
  - Secondary TV - $8/mo
  - Protection - $6/mo

- Secondary TV only used 1-2 hours per week

- Whole Home DVR (record on either, playback on either) per DirecTV programming schedule – i.e., record program-A (new episodes or any episodes) when ever it plays

Cutting the Cord

- I bought antenna (fancy rabbit ears) from Amazon (includes amplifier) $18
  - Amplifier uses USB power adapter
  - I just placed behind mirror
  - No attempt to check reception in other positions
- But 2005 LCD TV did not support digital signal

- Then I bought Digital Converter Box $33
  - Has own remote control
  - Connects to HDMI on TV (or RCA or coax)
  - Scans for and remembers available channels
  - Can pause / resume via DVR functionality
  - DVR records by time to optional USB thumb drive

Channels I receive

Channel	Station	Notes	
18-001	KLRU-HD		PBS Austin
18-002	KLRU-CR		
18-003	KLRU-Q		
18-004	PBSKids		
24-001	KVUE-DT		ABC
24-002	KVUE-TV	Spanish	
24-003	KVUE-3		
36-001	KXAN-DT		NBC
36-002	COZI		
36-003	ION		
42-001	KEYE-DT	Marginal reception	CBS
42-002	NEYE-TV	Spanish, Marginal	

Channels (con't)

Channel	Station	Notes	
46-001	KNCT-DT		PBS Killeen
46-002	PBSKids		
46-003	Create		
54-001	KNVA-HD		CW
54-002	GRIT		
54-003	LAFF		
62-001	KAFW-DT	Spanish	Fort Worth
62-002	KTFO-CD	Spanish	
62-003	GETTV		
62-004	Escape		

antennaweb.org says I should be able to get 46 channels vs. 22 actually seen

N.B., Reception quality varies by time of day, local weather

What I might add

- Amazon FireStick or Roku Express with apps on secondary TV
  - Will need to free the one HDMI port on TV by moving digital signal converter to use composite video cables
  - Netflix - $8/mo (I already have for main TV)
  - Acorn - $5/mo (I already have for main TV)
  - Sling for networks - $20-30/mo ++ extra bundles [if first two months prepaid then get a Roku Express free?]