



Welcome to RMUG

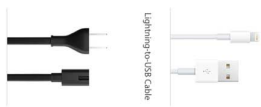
Today's program:



The new fourth generation Apple TV

What's in the Box.

Lightning USB Cable



Siri Remote
Remote

Apple TV
(Cable sold separately)

Power cord
Cord



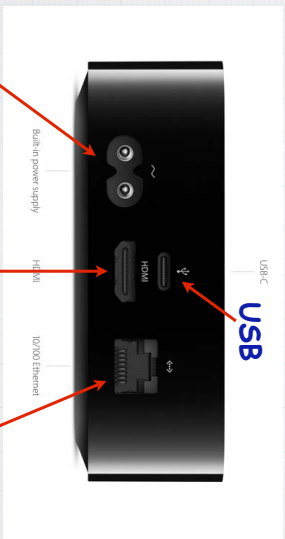
New



Old

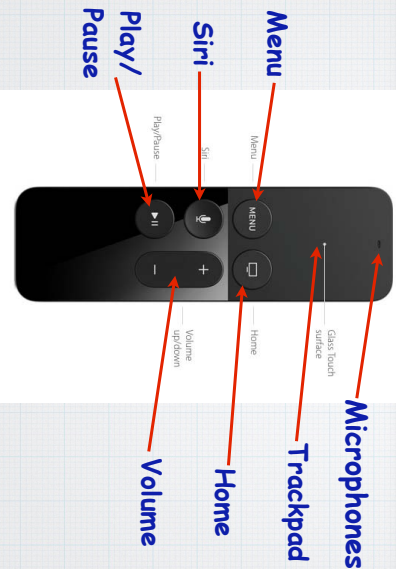
The new Apple TV on the left is the same footprint, but taller than the older boxes with a totally new remote featuring a trackpad & Siri.

The ports on the Apple TV

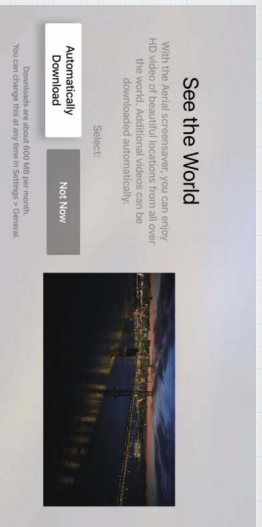


Power Supply HDMI Ethernet

The new Trackpad Remote



Select "Automatically Download" for the Aerial Screensavers. They are spectacular HD flyover videos of famous cities and landmarks.



Choose to automatically setup your new Apple TV from your iPhone settings to save a lot of re-entry of passwords.

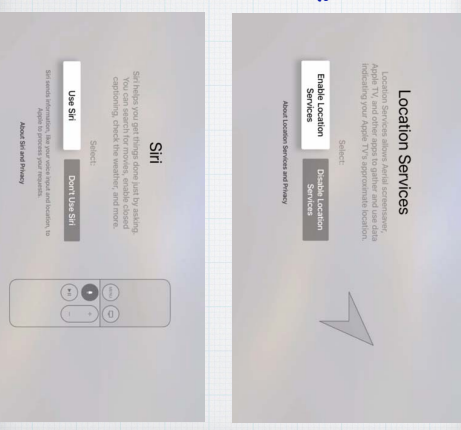


The initial setup screens take only a short time to complete and cover details like selecting your language and country.



Location Services is like the GPS on your iPhone and helps the box set up your service properly.

Using Siri shows the magic of the new Apple TV!



The New Apple TV

The new fourth generation of Apple TV runs on a variation of iOS called appropriately tvOS.

The new Apple TV (*ATV*) box is pretty similar to past generations but features a new remote. Includes a power cord and a USB to Lightning cable as the remote is rechargeable. The box is the same footprint as prior generations but slightly taller with a much more powerful A8 64 bit chip like a new iPhone. Available in two memory configurations, 32GB for \$149 or 64GB for \$199. I recommend the smaller configuration as you won't be storing much on the box itself.

On the back of the box there are four ports - Built-in Power Supply, HDMI for your HDTV, 10/100 Ethernet and a new USB-C port. The Ethernet port is used if you can't access your Wireless (WiFi) Network and the USB-C port is for maintenance. The Optical Out port used to hookup a separate speaker on older units is now replaced with the HDMI Video/Audio cable.

The new remote is quite nice, it's rechargeable, with a glass trackpad on the top for navigation, Siri for voice command, plus Play/Pause, Menu and Home buttons. Even an IR Volume Control that automatically connects and controls your TV's volume. Plus a built-in Accelerometer and Gyroscope for gaming. Just be careful to not be holding it upside down as the bottom of the remote, although smooth, is not a trackpad!

Plug the *ATV* into power and like most Apple devices, it walks you through the setup process quite nicely. If you have iOS 9.2 installed on your iPhone, you can upload a lot of the settings for iCloud, WiFi etc. directly without having to re-enter all the details such as the user names and passwords. Be sure to install the new Aerial Screensaver, featuring some very impressive flyovers of major cities and landmarks. Accept Siri to see the real magic of the new *ATV*.

The opening screen is a lot less crowded than the previous version, just the five primary Apps - Movies (iTunes), TV (iTunes), App Store, Photos and Music across the top. When you select an App with the touch screen, you are given more choices - in Movies for example, the choice to view your Purchased Films, Top Films, Wish List, Genres, Recommended Films and the always available Search field. The Movies, TV and Music Apps are the money makers for Apple, so these are very robust. Lots of free Trailers, Recommendations, Wish List, etc.

Once you have selected and either rented or purchased a movie or TV show, you have very good controls over the playback with Pause plus Thumbnail or Chapters view. Once you actually start viewing the show you can swipe down from the top and get choices for Info, Subtitles and Audio options. Info allows you to learn more about the actors, directors and background on the show. You can repeat the last ten seconds by just clicking the side of the trackpad - or hold down the Siri button and say "What did he just say?" and you'll get a replay of the past ten seconds with subtitles! A very elegant solution to mumbled foreign accents!

Navigation is much improved, with the trackpad you can slide your thumb across to preview at all the Apps without opening them. The Menu button takes you back one level and if you are several levels down in an App, just press the Home button to return to the top of the Opening Screen. Double tap the Home button to open the Task Switcher and you can then swipe left and right to change Apps or swipe up to force quit them from memory, just like on an iPhone.

The Music App is as you'd expect, much like iTunes on your computer with access to Recommendations For You, New, Radio, My Music and Search. Once you sign in to iCloud to access your own music you will see scrolling Album Art and you can scroll down to see lots of options - Artists, Albums, Songs, Genres, Music Videos, etc. Once you select and play a song you can press the trackpad button again and see all the other tracks as scrolling covers and a Timeline on the bottom to advance or rewind the song. I won't try and take you through all the options, otherwise this would be a six hour presentation! Two helpful tips, if you want to start the Aerial View Screensaver without waiting, just double tap the Home button to see the fabulous ever-changing city and nature views 1080 HD images that Apple has collected and changes frequently - or hold the Home button down to put the screen into sleep mode.

Siri is a great addition to the new *ATV*, you can use it to search for many things, just press Siri once for some ideas (weather, sunset in Seattle, turn on subtitles, popular movies, etc.). To search for a particular actor, just press Siri and say "Find me movies with the Nicholas Cage". You are given the option to rent or buy his movies in iTunes and you can see the summary, the reviews, full cast and preview any of them for free - but you will also notice that if the movie or TV Show is available on Netflix or Hulu, this is listed too. So with a Netflix or Hulu account I can watch it for free. You will need to install the Netflix or Hulu App in the App Store to do this.

The *ATV* App Store is new but you will recognize the Featured, Top Charts, Purchased and Search buttons across the top from the iPhone App Store. Start with Recommended and scroll across and up and down the rows with your trackpad to preview the thousands of Apps already available in the App Store. Crossy Road is a free and fun 'gaming app' to try. Top Charts shows you the most popular Apps and Purchased shows all of your owned Apps, sorted by category. Family Sharing is really nice on the *ATV* and allows your grandkids to play their favorite games & music on your TV! Once installed, you can move Apps around like on your iPhone by holding down on the icon till they wiggle, then slide them around with the trackpad, even to the top row.

The entry of User Names and Passwords exposes us to the truly awful keyboard entry system. Definitely consider using the Remote App on your iPhone or iPad or a Bluetooth keyboard for entries as Siri doesn't yet work for filling in passwords.

The Photos App is a work in progress, you can't see all your photos on your computer, just the Shared Albums and your iCloud Photo Library. But it is my favorite *ATV* feature none the less. I build special Slideshows featuring photos of my friends and play them with my Jazz or Pop music during parties. Trust me everyone is surprised and loves them - it is so much better than the old after-dinner slideshows of last summer's vacation our parents used to set up!

Settings is where you go to manage the *ATV*, just like on your iPad or iPhone. Change your Network, add Speakers, Screen-savers, Bluetooth headphones, Remotes - full access to all the controls you could want are provided. Under *General/Usage/Manage Storage* you can see how much storage space on your 32GB Apple TV all these Apps are taking. Delete them by tapping on the Trashcan (you can always restore them later). Airplay allows you to display anything from your iPad/iPhone right onto the *ATV*, including games, photos and videos.

The 4th Generation Apple TV is a tremendous new upgrade to 'Apple's Entertainment Box'. Try one for yourself - and if you want last year's 3rd version instead, it is only \$69!