

A GUIDE TO CANCELLING YOUR TV LICENCE



STEP 1: DO YOU NEED A TV LICENCE?

A TV licence is required under section 363 of the Communications Act 2003 if you:

- Watch or record live broadcasts on any UK or international TV channel; or
- Use BBC iPlayer to watch or download any content, whether live or on-demand.

You do not need a licence if you:

- Only use on-demand platforms such as Netflix, Amazon Prime, or the on-demand features only of services like ITVX and YouTube; and
- Do not watch or record any live TV or use BBC iPlayer.

It does not matter whether your TV is capable of receiving live broadcasts. What matters is whether you actually use it to watch or record live broadcasts or BBC iPlayer. There is no legal obligation to hold a TV licence merely because you own a TV.

If you choose to stop paying your licence fee, you will no longer be able to legally watch live TV channels. Your TV will still be capable of receiving these channels, but this does not give you the right to legally watch them.

Live TV includes any UK or international TV channel showing live, simultaneously streamed and broadcasted content. It does not solely apply to the BBC, but includes any live channel shown on Sky, Virgin, Freeview, or similar. It does not include on-demand content (for example Netflix) or watching live streams by private individuals (for example streamers on YouTube or Twitch), but remember that iPlayer is included.

STEP 2: NOTIFY TV LICENSING

If you have resolved that you no longer wish to pay for a licence to watch live TV or BBC iPlayer, you have two options.

Option 1: Notify TV Licensing online

1. Visit the official declaration page at tvlicensing.co.uk/no-licence-needed.
2. Follow the steps to declare that you do not watch or record live TV and do not use BBC iPlayer.
3. Cancel your direct debit with your bank.

Notify TV Licensing online

You may be eligible for a refund and will not receive 'enforcement' letters for up to two years.

Option 2: E-mail TV Licensing

You can send the following e-mail to enquiries@tvlicensing.co.uk:

Subject: Declaration that no licence fee is required at my address

Dear TV Licensing,

I am writing to inform you that a TV licence is not required at my address, which is [Your address]. I do not watch or record any live broadcast television on any channel, and I do not use BBC iPlayer. Please update your records accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

[Your full name]

E-mail TV Licensing

CAA has received hundreds of messages from people wanting to stop funding the BBC, a broadcaster that 92% of British Jews consider to be unfavourable in its coverage of topics of Jewish interest. Add your voice!

**SIGN THE
PETITION**

STEP 3: IF AN ENFORCEMENT OFFICER VISITS

In cases where an enforcement officer visits:

- You do not have to let them in. They have no right of entry without a warrant.
- You do not have to speak with them, but you might say something like: “I have a television but I do not watch or record any live TV or use BBC iPlayer. That means I am not legally required to have a licence under the Communications Act 2003.”
- You may ask them to leave, saying: “I do not require a TV licence and do not wish to discuss the matter. Please leave.”
- You may record the encounter and request to see ID.
- They can only prosecute if they witness you watching live TV or BBC iPlayer, or if you admit to doing so.



Our national broadcaster has become a national disgrace.

After decades of bias, the BBC has even had to admit that it sent money to the family of a senior Hamas official whose son was featured in its film “Gaza: How to survive a war zone”.

In the ensuing scandal, tens of thousands of people have signed CAA’s petition calling for the TV licence fee, which funds the BBC, to be suspended pending the result of an independent inquiry into BBC bias and the payment for the film.

So far the Government shows no sign of heeding our call to suspend the licence fee, or even instituting an independent inquiry. The BBC has announced its own “thematic review” but it will be carried out by BBC appointees.

In polling of the Jewish community carried out by CAA, the BBC has consistently scored the

worst out of any media outlet. 92% of British Jews consider the BBC’s coverage of matters of Jewish interest (including antisemitism) to be unfavourable. Among that number, 76% say that it is “very unfavourable”.

Similarly, nine in ten British Jews say that media bias against Israel fuels persecution of Jews in Britain.

Since the outrageous new low of the BBC sending licence fee money to the family of a Hamas official, the BBC has continued to be engulfed in bias, antisemitism and extremism scandals involving its output and its staff.

We will keep campaigning, but in the meantime, this guide explains how you can legally stop paying your TV licence fee for all live TV broadcasts, which means you will have stopped your payments from supporting the BBC.