

Antenna Glossary of Terms

Presented by Jasco Products

Antenna:

A passive or active device for sending and receiving radio waves. Broadcast signals are transmitted over the air via a system called ATSC (Advanced Television Systems Committee). These signals can be picked up with an HD Antenna and fed into an ATSC Tuner (such as the one built into your TV).

Amplified Antenna:

Antenna equipped with the radio frequency amplifier to improve antenna sensitivity to weak signals.

Bandwidth:

The difference between the lowest and highest frequency of operation as defined by a 2:1 SWR. Bandwidth is the range of consecutive frequencies comprised of a band over which an antenna shall perform without the need of any adjustment.

Beamwidth:

In an antenna, the angular sector in degrees of the radiated power pattern at the half-power (3dB) point.

Coaxial Cable:

Cable consisting of a single copper conductor in the center surrounded by a plastic layer for insulation and a braided metal outer shield. Coax is used to transfer radio frequency energy from the transmitter to the antenna.

Cord Cutting:

Cord cutting is the term used for anyone who cancels their cable or satellite subscription in favor of alternative options like streaming video services and antennas for free over-the-air (OTA) broadcasting.

Directional Antenna:

An antenna having a preference of receiving signal more effectively in some directions than others.

HDTV Programming:

High definition content provided by networks.

Interference:

Buildings, hillsides and other large objects can weaken or interfere with your TV antenna reception. Concrete or brick can significantly degrade a TV signal that passes through it. Wireless signal sources that are close enough or powerful enough can also interfere with TV antenna reception.

Omnidirectional antenna:

Antenna transmitting (receiving) equal radiation in (from) all horizontal directions. This type of antenna is used when coverage in all directions is required.

Over-the-air HDTV:

Over-the-air HDTV broadcasts. Other HDTV sources are satellite and cables HDTV programming.

UHF:

Ultra High Frequency (UHF) band. TV channels 14 to 69 are transmitted in UHF band in frequency range 470-806 Mhz.

VHF:

Very High Frequency (VHF) band. TV channels 2 to 13 are transmitted in VHF band in frequency range 54-72 Mhz, 76-88 Mhz, 174-216 Mhz.

