

wikipedia

Video formats

There are different layers of video transmission and storage, each with its own set of formats to choose from.

For transmission, there is a physical connector and signal protocol ("video connection standard" below). A given physical link can carry certain "display standards" which specify a particular refresh rate, [display resolution](#), and [color space](#). There are a number of analog and digital tape formats, though digital video files can also be stored on a [computer file system](#) which have their own formats. In addition to the physical format used by the storage or transmission medium, the stream of ones and zeros that is sent must be in a particular digital video "encoding", of which a number are available.

[\[edit\]](#) Video connectors, cables, and signal standards

- See [List of video connectors](#) for information about physical connectors and related signal standards.

[\[edit\]](#) Video display standards

[\[edit\]](#) Digital television

New formats for [digital television](#) broadcasts use the [MPEG-2 video codec](#) and include:

- [ATSC](#) - USA, Canada, etc.; a [DVB](#) video standard
- [Digital Video Broadcasting](#) (DVB) - European
- [Integrated Services Digital Broadcasting](#) (ISDB) - Japanese; also a [DVB](#) video standard

[\[edit\]](#) Analog television

[Analog television](#) broadcast standards include:

- [Field-sequential color system](#) - USA, Russia; obsolete
- [Multiplexed Analogue Components](#) (MAC) - Europe, obsolete
- [Multiple sub-nyquist sampling Encoding](#) (MUSE) - Japan, analog HDTV
- [NTSC](#) - USA, Canada, Japan, etc.
- [PAL](#) - Europe, Asia, Australia, etc.
 - [PAL-M](#) - PAL variation. [Brazil](#)
 - [PALplus](#) - PAL extension, [Europe](#) only
- [RS-343](#) (military)
- [SECAM](#) - [France](#), [ex-USSR](#), [Central Africa](#)

An analog video format consists of more information than the visible content of the frame. Preceding and following the image are lines and pixels containing synchronization information or a time delay. This surrounding margin is known as a **blanking interval** or **blanking region**; the horizontal and vertical [front porch](#) and [back porch](#) are the building blocks of the blanking interval.

Many countries are planning a [digital switchover](#) to cease using these analog formats via [terrestrial television](#) broadcast. However, analog television sets expecting these older standards as input will be able to display [standard definition](#) digital signals if coupled with a converter box.