

“Cutting the Cord”

W. James MacLean

How many of you subscribe to ...

- ... Internet services?
- ... telephone?
- ... cable/satellite TV?
- ... or like listening to radio?

Why all 3 paid services?

- ❑ you might want to consider ...
 - ❑ Internet TV
 - ❑ Internet Phone
- ❑ This is “cord cutting”
- ❑ But how does it work?

First: make sure you have bandwidth!

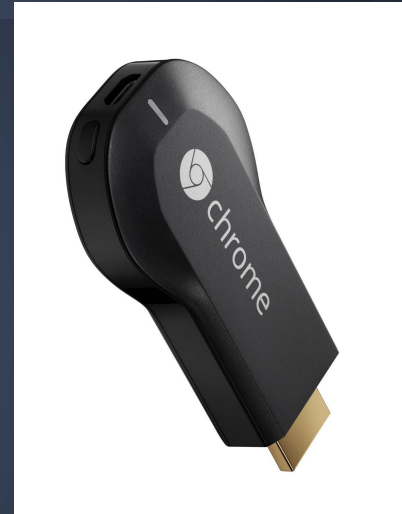
- ❑ video especially eats bandwidth quickly
 - ❑ can choose regular or HD resolutions
 - ❑ HD uses more bandwidth
- ❑ but so does audio
- ❑ ... telephone not so much

How to get started?

- ❑ You need some hardware
 - ❑ ChromeCast / Nexus Player
 - ❑ Apple TV
 - ❑ Roku Streaming Stick
 - ❑ Your laptop / desktop

ChromeCast

- ❑ Least expensive (\$39)
- ❑ Control from your smartphone
- ❑ Streams
 - ❑ Video
(Netflix/YouTube/Cast from Device/
many other sources)
 - ❑ Audio (Google Movie)
 - ❑ Photos (from your personal albums)
 - ❑ Your Laptop Screen (this presentation!)



Chromecast (II)

- ❑ also streams audio
 - ❑ e.g. Google Music
- ❑ also streams images
 - ❑ public images from Internet
 - ❑ NASA
 - ❑ Trey Ratcliffe-esque
 - ❑ private images from online albums
 - ❑ makes your TV a (large!) digital picture frame

Roku

- ❑ similar to ChromeCast
- ❑ more expensive
- ❑ comes with dedicated remote



Apple TV / Nexus Player

- ❑ More expensive again (~\$110)
 - ❑ dedicated remotes
 - ❑ can add gaming features
- ❑ Apple TV interfaces with iTunes



Getting Your Video

- ❑ Separate content source from supply
- ❑ Netflix
 - ❑ share with 3 (or more) family members
 - ❑ ... in different locations
 - ❑ ... take it travelling with you
- ❑ CTV/Global: free streaming of live TV
- ❑ Others: Google Play Movies, iTunes, Viewster (free), ...

Travelling With Your Video

- ❑ Hotel WiFi is shared, not suitable for your devices ...
- ❑ Use a WiFi hotspot on your phone
 - ❑ pin content before you go
- ❑ Or you can take a “travel router” with you



Travel Routers

- ❑ More secure (you control encryption)
 - ❑ many cases of “packet sniffing”, corp. espionage
- ❑ Keeps connections “alive”
- ❑ Simplifies multiple devices
- ❑ Run your ChromeCast / Roku / *etc.* on your private WiFi segment
- ❑ Small!

Internet Phone

- ❑ dedicated VOIP solutions (e.g. TekSavvy)
- ❑ simpler: just use your laptop!
 - ❑ requires microphone, but you already have that for video chat, right?
 - ❑ great for calls to businesses ... (why?)
- ❑ Google Hangouts
 - ❑ free calls to landline phones in North America
 - ❑ works with your smartphone
- ❑ Skype

Internet Phone (II)

- ❑ between a cell phone account and internet phone, why keep your landline?
- ❑ at least save on long distance
 - ❑ can 'disable' LD on your landline to avoid mistakes

Internet Radio / Audio

- ❑ can 'cast' audio to ChromeCast
 - ❑ including radio: e.g. TuneIn Radio
- ❑ also can get higher-fidelity audio
 - ❑ e.g. Sonos
 - ❑ network drive
 - ❑ iPod / smartphone
 - ❑ internet (Google Play / iTunes / songza / etc.)
 - ❑ radio (via internet)



Part II

Answers to some questions ...

Searching Labels in Android GMail

- ❑ this feature exists
- ❑ include “`label:mylabel`” as a search term
 - ❑ just like in desktop GMail
 - ❑ both talk to the same server (I think!), so feel free to experiment

Marking Google+ Posts as 'read'

- ❑ doesn't exist as a feature
 - ❑ can always 'mute' posts when you're done with them
 - ❑ Google+ is meant to look like a "stream of posts"
 - ❑ old posts "fall off the bottom"
 - ❑ can re-surface if new comments added

Please submit feedback!

- ❑ the best way to request features and report bugs is to use the “submit feedback” feature in Google products
 - ❑ feedback is read carefully
 - ❑ common themes are noted, and can lead to product changes
 - ❑ <http://www.google.com/tools/feedback/intl/en/>