



Smart TV vs. HD set-top box? Which is the best?

The development rate of this technology is so great that people often get confused because of the wealth of options that people have to choose from. Both the Smart TV and the [HD set top box](#) are great for entertainment purposes. But a brief analysis will let you know which one suits you more. Let's have a quick look.



Purchases: aesthetics vs functional

For example, if you want to replace your old TV with new TV, you need not purchase another dumb TV meant for streaming entertainment. Because nowadays, most dumb TVs come with some built-in features that are similar to those of smart TVs, A dumb TV will be aesthetically beautiful. However, to make your room functional smart TV is a good option. But if you are a fan of buying another dumb TV, then you can go for a set-top box too that can run a lot of channels.

What happens when you purchase a Smart TV?

- **Applications:** They support a lot of applications like Netflix, Pandora, Accuweather and more
- **Cost:** Entry-level smart TV comes at least \$600 which is not at all a pocket-friendly price. So, if you want to go for a mid-level it will cost double the amount of entry-level i.e. close to \$1500.
- **Not-so-future friendly:** A smart TV is a good choice when we compare a regular TV and a smart TV. It doesn't get outdated so easily with the new technology trends. Sooner or later it will have a chance to win the race but not on a higher note.

What happens when you purchase an HD set-top box?

- **Applications:** They support a wealth of applications much more than a smart TV can ever offer.
- **Cost:** If at any point in time your smart TV stops working, you can easily connect an STB, and make it functional. A good performing STB can be bought at \$100 and an entry-level one for \$50. This is a cost-effective option for sure.
- **Digitization:** Post digitization, users can access watchable channels between 600-700 numbers.
- **Affordability:** A good set-top box provider will offer the user packages so that the user gets to decide what they want to see and accordingly pay for it.
- **Quality:** Apart from the choice of channels, the picture quality is great, especially the HD quality that offers an out-of-the-world experience for its users.
- **Disturbances:** With the usage of the set-top box, all sorts of disturbances are lessened.

The advantages for the rich, upper-middle-class, or working-class are abundant. But for the lower or middle class it just not be the same, as:

There is hardly any scope for free channels. So, unless you pay you are not legible to view a single channel. This feature is okay for the working class, the rich class, and the upper-middle class, but for the lower class or lower-middle class, this can put price constraints on them.

Once you connect a set-top box with a [smart TV](#), it's mandatory to connect it at all times, as, in the absence of it, there will be no entertainment. This reason can put users from the lower class in jeopardy.