

## What about motorised systems?

To use a motorised satellite system, you need a dish of 80cm minimum, a motormount and a receiver.

With motorised systems, your dish can move from East to West to track the satellites, positioning along what is known as the 'Clarke belt'. When the whole of the dish is facing the satellite it is positioned at firstly 19 degrees, then secondly 13 degrees for example.

The unit that turns the dish is called a DiSEqC™ motormount and utilises a datastream passed up the LNB lead to the mount; this means that only one coaxial cable is needed for installation.

When correctly installed, your satellite system will be able to receive a multitude of TV and radio channels from around the world.

There are several websites that offer lists of satellite channels. It is recommended you go online to see the latest list available.

## Satellite terminology

**Coax or coaxial cable** - used by all satellite TV systems

**Coax connector** - screws on to the ends of the aerial cable

**DiSEqC™** - Digital Satellite Equipment Control system: a communication bus between satellite receivers and peripheral equipment

**Dish** - used to collect signals from a satellite in orbit and focus them to the front of the dish where an LNB collects them and passes the signals on to the receiver

**Feed Horn** - collects the signals at the focus of the satellite dish and channels them to the LNB

**LNB** - Low Noise Block device located on the front arm of the dish that receives the bounced satellite signals from the dish reflector. Amplifies the weak signal and lowers the signal frequency to be capable of travelling down a coax cable

**Monobloc** - two LNBs fixed together to provide a signal for two satellites six degrees apart. Only one satellite signal can be received at a time. Not to be confused with a twin-LNB

**Receiver** - the unit which takes signals from a satellite dish and converts them to TV pictures

**Splitter** - distributes a television signal carried on a cable in to two or more paths, sending it to a number of receivers

**Twin LNB** - has two coax connections allowing you to receive two signals independently. Using a twin-tuner, you can record on one channel whilst watching another

**Please note:** you must have a TV licence to watch TV on your PC.

## More information

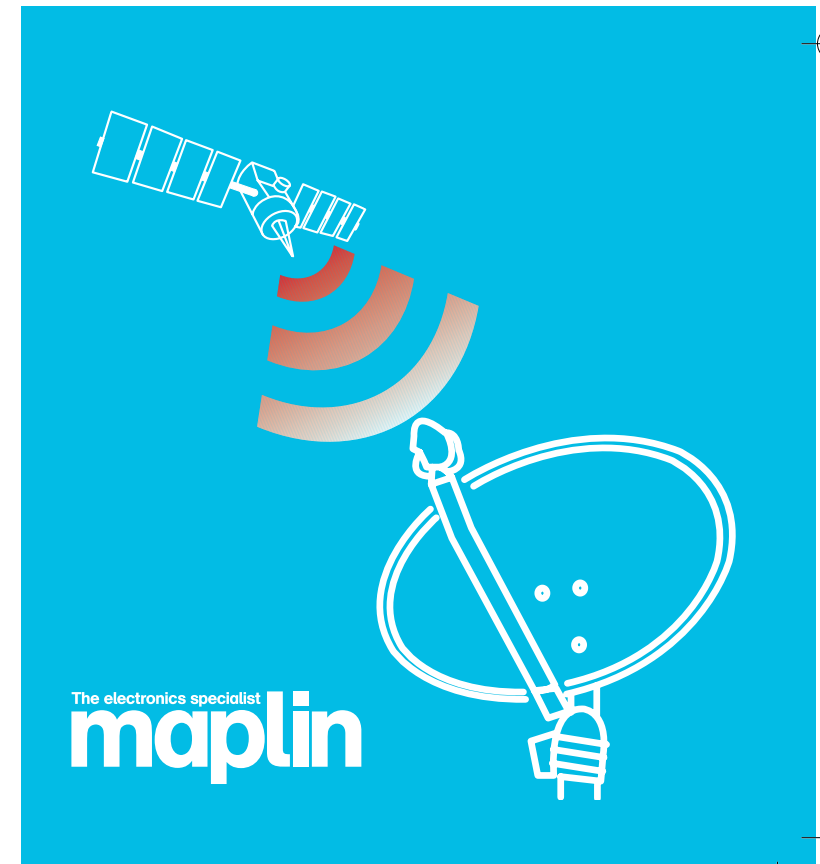
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## Your guide to using digital satellite TV



## Why would I need digital satellite?

**Sometimes a satellite system is the only way to receive TV signals; especially in certain areas in the UK. The advent of digital TV and particularly high definition (HDTV) broadcasts means satellite provides great entertainment.**

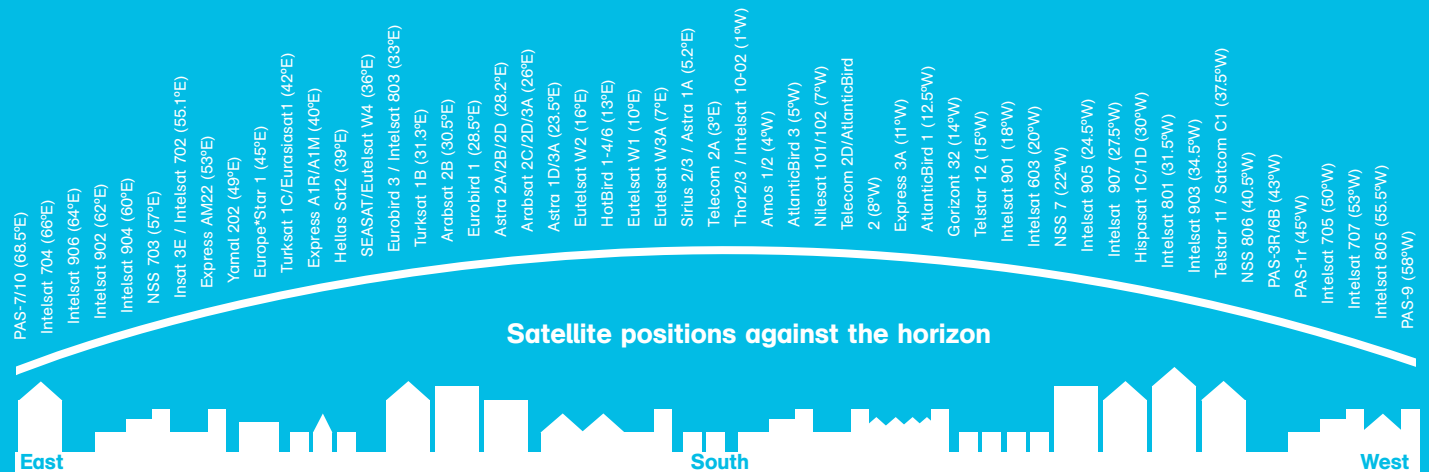
Systems available through Maplin are designed to enable you to make a one-off purchase without any costly monthly subscriptions. You can then open up a world of free-to-air channels.

So, if you have an existing satellite system and are thinking of upgrading your dish or receiver, or you are new to digital satellite TV we have systems and components to fit all budgets.

## How do I set up a satellite dish?

Setting up a satellite system in your home is relatively straightforward and any DIYer can do it. Firstly, you have to ensure that the fixing to which the satellite dish is affixed is secure. Secondly, the dish has to be aligned perfectly otherwise you will not get a signal. To give you an idea it is like pointing a gun at a motor car 22000 miles away, but with a small amount of trial and error. This isn't as complicated as it sounds; Maplin provides the help and gadgets to make it easy!

- 1) To receive satellite signals, the satellite dish has to be in the direct line of sight of the satellite. Trees or buildings will interfere with the signal.
- 2) Work out where you are going to place your dish: it has to be in a south-facing position and be able to move across the sky horizontally.
- 3) Bolt two securing bolts on the wall and affix the dish.
- 4) It is better to set the angle and elevation first. Typically in the UK, this angle varies from 20 degrees in the North to 30 degrees in the South.
- 5) Now you need to position the dish on the horizontal plane (see below diagram): the Astra satellite is 28.2 degrees East of South. A Maplin compass will quickly allow you to set the angle that the signal hits the dish.
- 6) Fine tuning is all that is needed to pick up your satellite signal. We have the tools which can help you: Sat Finder (BZ68) or Sat Beeper (A97FG). Using a meter allows you to align the dish more accurately to the point at which a slight flex of the dish in any direction shows a reduction in signal.
- 7) You are now ready to tune in your receiver and use the on-screen signal strength meter to get it perfect.
- 8) Now sit back and relax, you are ready to enjoy the largest range of TV stations available.



## What's a twin satellite system?

To get even more TV and radio channels, you can receive signals from two satellites through one dish.

What is commonly known as a dual-focus system can be achieved by simply fitting a monoblock low noise block converter (LNB) – essentially two LNBs in one with a fixed spacing between them that fits in your dish's LNB clamp.

The most common use of this type of system is to receive the ASTRA satellite at nineteen degrees and the HOTBIRD satellite at thirteen degrees; for those interested in foreign channels. A monoblock LNB has a spacing of six degrees so allowing both satellites to be received. Generally an 80cm dish is required to achieve this.

Just line up the LNB on the main satellite you require, another satellite will already be lined up due to the preset spacing of the LNB. The switching between the two satellites is done by the (Digital Satellite Equipment Control) commands in your receiver's software (All Maplin satellite systems are equipped with DiSEqC™).

A multi-LNB holder allows the user to put two LNBs (two singles, two twins etc.) up to thirteen degrees apart ie. for Astra 19, Hotbird and a third satellite; effectively creating a 'super dish'. It can hold up to two different LNBs giving it the ability to receive satellite signals from three satellites.